

# KALEIDOSCOPE

## Out and About Newsletter

### In This Issue:

- Meeting Schedule
- LGBTQ+ History
- LGBTQ+ Book Recommendations
- Pride Event Recaps
- Community Events & Opportunities
- Resources

### What We Do:

Kaleidoscope is a community-based LGBTQIA+ program that offers monthly meetings and ongoing virtual platforms in a welcoming atmosphere where teens and young adults like you can find support, guidance, and a sense of community.

Kaleidoscope provides a safe, supportive environment for queer and allied teens and young adults to gather, socialize, organize, and help each other!

### Kaleidoscope July Calendar:

**July 8th:** Sussex County Youth In-person Meeting. Open to youth ages 13-18.

**July 11th & July 25th:** Essex County Youth Meetings. Open to youth ages 13-18. The first meeting is in-person, and the second one is virtual.

**July 12th:** Camden County Young Adult Virtual Meeting. Open to South Jersey young adults ages 18-24. **See more info below!**

**July 15th:** Morris and Sussex County Youth Virtual Meeting. Open to youth ages 13-18.

**July 22nd:** Morris County Youth In-person Meeting. Open to youth ages 13-18.

**July 26th:** Camden County Youth In-Person Meeting. Open to South Jersey youth ages 12-17.

See the calendar below for meeting times.

### Interested in Joining?

Email us at: [kaleidoscope@centerffs.org](mailto:kaleidoscope@centerffs.org)

*“The Kaleidoscope meetings provide a fun space to connect and get along with other members of the community.”*

**-Kaleidoscope Attendee**

To stay up to date on upcoming events and community resources, follow Kaleidoscope on [Facebook!](#)



<https://www.facebook.com/KaleidoscopeNJ/>

### WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE!

In **September**, the Kaleidoscope Young Adult Group will meet out in the community! Until then, we will be holding virtual meetings at the usual time for the rest of the summer.

**We want to hear about what you want to see from our Young Adult Group.** All feedback and suggestions are welcomed! DM or email us with any questions.

## July 2024



## KALEIDOSCOPE

serving LGBTQIA+ teens and young adults

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Omnisexual Visibility Day
7	8 Sussex County Youth Meeting 5:30pm-7pm Nonbinary Awareness Week	9	10	11 Essex County Youth Meeting 5:30pm-7pm	12 Camden County Young Adult Meeting (Virtual) 6pm-7pm	13
14 International Nonbinary People's Day	15 Morris-Sussex County Youth Meeting (Virtual) 5:30pm-7pm	16 International Drag Day	17	18	19	20
21	22 Morris County Youth Meeting 5:30pm-7pm	23	24	25 Essex County Youth Meeting (Virtual) 5:30pm-7pm	26 Camden County Youth Meeting 6pm-8pm	27
28	29	30	31	31	28	29

# LGBTQ+ HISTORY

In July, we celebrate Nonbinary Awareness Week and International Nonbinary People's Day!

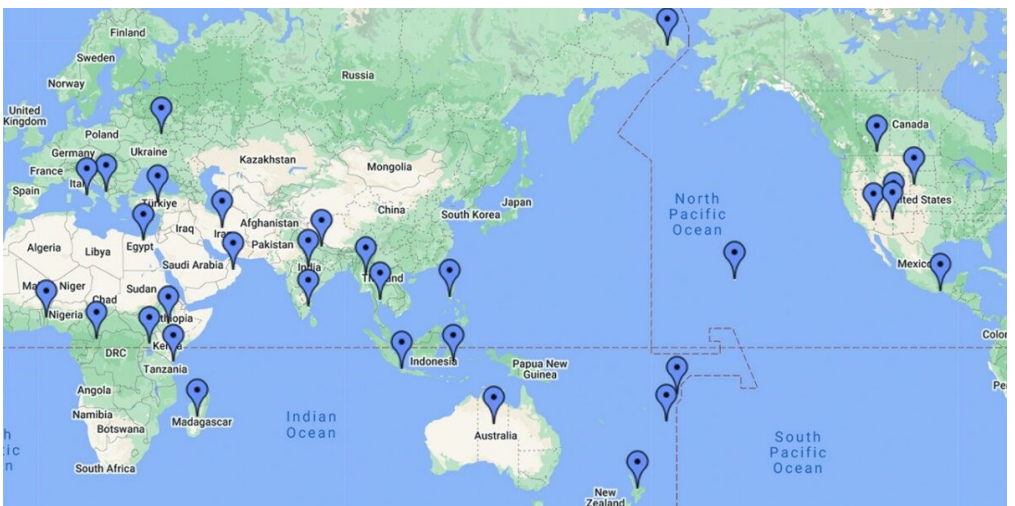
You might hear “pronouns” come up a lot when we talk about the nonbinary community. Many nonbinary people use the singular “they” pronoun, neopronouns (like e/em/eir), or mixed pronoun sets (like they/she/he, she/they, he/she, etc.).

Do you want to learn more about the basics of pronouns and why they are especially important to the queer community? Do you have questions that you're scared to ask? Are you a queer person looking to explore an affirming resource?

Then explore [pronouns.org](https://pronouns.org), a website that breaks down pronouns:

- ⇒ [WHAT ARE PERSONAL PRONOUNS AND WHY DO THEY MATTER?](#)
- ⇒ [HOW DO I USE PERSONAL PRONOUNS?](#)
- ⇒ [WHAT IF SOMEONE MAKES A MISTAKE AND MISPRONOUNS SOMEONE ELSE?](#)
- ⇒ [HOW DO I SHARE MY PERSONAL PRONOUNS?](#)
- ⇒ [HOW DO I ASK SOMEONE THEIR PERSONAL PRONOUNS?](#)
- ⇒ [HOW DO I USE GENDER INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE?](#)
- ⇒ [WHAT ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND LINKS CAN HELP ME?](#)

Feel free to click on any link above, to whichever sections pique your interest. Thank you for taking the time to learn about why honoring people's personal pronouns is important!



[https://www.pbs.org/independentlens/content/two-spirits\\_map-html/](https://www.pbs.org/independentlens/content/two-spirits_map-html/)

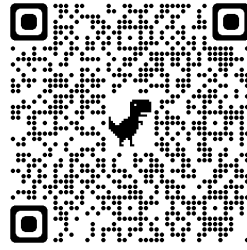
A lot of people think “nonbinary” is a new concept or label. In short, ***it's not new at all***. It's as ancient as the human race itself. Above is a map from PBS of places with a rich history of acknowledging multiple genders and sexual orientations. Scan or click the QR code to interact with their map and learn more about cultures, that since time immemorial, have recognized and revered the beauty of fluidity, an essential part of human nature.

Your support enables us to provide safe spaces for youth and young adults in need of affirmation of their identity! Follow our Facebook, @KaleidoscopeNJ, to stay up to date on resources, information, and events. DM us or email us at [kaleidoscope@centerffs.org](mailto:kaleidoscope@centerffs.org) with any questions about our program or how we can best support you!

Looking for ways to support Kaleidoscope and the queer community? Consider donating to our program, or visiting the resource below to learn more about what it means to be an ally! *More information on how to donate can be found at the end of this newsletter.*



BEING AN LGBTQ+ ALLY



<https://reports.hrc.org/being-an-lgbtq-ally?qa=2.52062313.1341921333.1701987866-649665543.1697045446>

## BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Note for parents: Chapter books are great choices for youth. Usually aimed for ages 7-10, kids younger than or older than this range can still enjoy them, so it depends if that individual book is right for you or your child. Young adult (YA) books are usually aimed for ages 12-18, but again, due to the various amount of subject matter, it shifts by book, some being more mature than others. Adults can also enjoy YA books!

### *Linus and Etta Could Use a Win*

By Caroline Huntoon

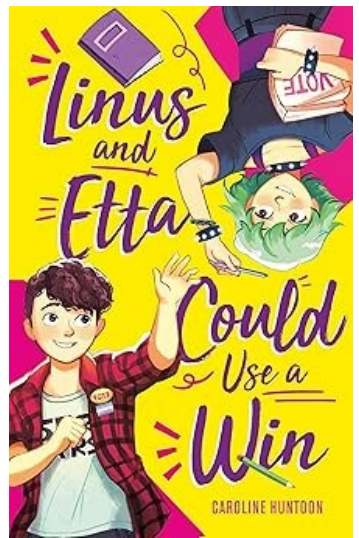
(Youth/Best for ages 8-12)

A hot-headed cynic befriends the new kid—a shy trans boy—when she takes on a bet to get him elected student body president in this new middle grade contemporary novel from Caroline Huntoon, author of *Skating on Mars*.

Linus is the new boy at school, and he's trying to keep it quiet. After coming out as trans last year and managing the attention that came with it, he's more than happy to fade into the background of his new middle school.

Etta isn't like other kids at school, and she's proud of it. The class misanthrope and the owner of the greenest hair at Doolittle Middle School, she's still reeling from a painful friendship breakup, making her more than happy to burn middle-school bridges before she heads off to the local alternative high school next year.

When Etta's over-it-all attitude sparks a challenge from her ex-best friend, Marigold, to get Linus elected student body president, Linus is thrust back into the spotlight. But what started out as a bet quickly turns into a true friendship between Linus and Etta, one that could be in jeopardy if Linus finds out the real origins of his and Etta's connection. Can Linus and Etta's friendship withstand the betrayal of the bet?



### *They Both Die at the End*

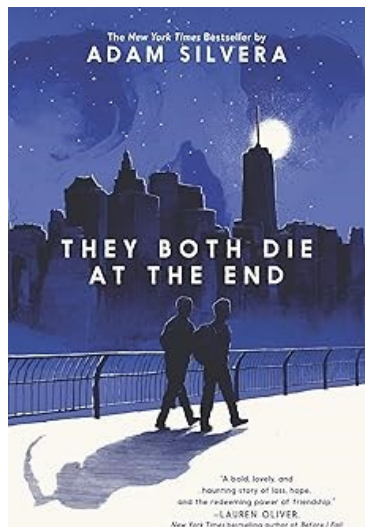
By Adam Silvera

(Young Adult/Best for ages 13-17)

On September 5, a little after midnight, Death-Cast calls Mateo Torrez and Rufus Emeterio to give them some bad news: They're going to die today.

Mateo and Rufus are total strangers, but, for different reasons, they're both looking to make a new friend on their End Day. The good news: There's an app for that. It's called the Last Friend, and through it, Rufus and Mateo are about to meet up for one last great adventure—to live a lifetime in a single day.

In the tradition of *Before I Fall* and *If I Stay*, *They Both Die at the End* is a tour de force from acclaimed author Adam Silvera, whose debut, *More Happy Than Not*, the *New York Times* called "profound."



Bonus points if you check these out at your local library!

## PRIDE EVENT RECAPS



It was a joy to celebrate Pride with everyone at our many community events last month!

Thank you Haddon Township, Pitman, Collingswood, Princeton, and Merchantville. We already can't wait for next year!



We want to extend another **thank you** to the Power Plant Gym for their Rainbow Rumble Kaleidoscope fundraiser event!

Thank you to everyone who came out to support us and the LGBTQ+ community. It was a blast!

# COMMUNITY EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Stay tuned via our newsletters and our [Facebook](#) to get connected with events and opportunities in your community.

DM or email us with any questions!



## KENKOJUKU KARATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Do you love martial arts? Are you passionate about making the practice accessible, and supporting the LGBTQIA+ community?

Kenkojuku Karate of South Jersey, LLC has partnered with Enter the Johnsons 501(c)(3) (aka ETJ) whose mission is to provide "martial arts and mentoring for our kids who need it the most." ETJ will accept funds as dedicated gifts to support individuals who may lack the financial means for martial arts training. These funds will be allocated as scholarships to benefit LGBTQ+ youth, minority, and community members in need. Click this link to learn more about this scholarship or to contribute a donation:

<https://www.mightycause.com/story/6pdgye>



**Are you a queer adult looking for a chill space to socialize, craft, and hang out?**

Don't negate your local library — they may have exactly what you're looking for!

Check out the LGBTQ+ Crafting Social at the Cinnaminson Branch of the Burlington County Library System! Bring your own creative project and meet people with similar interests.

The next socials are on Monday, July 8th, and Monday, August 5th, from 6:30-8pm! Register today: <https://www.bcls.lib.nj.us/events/10881>

# COMMUNITY EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

## OASiS

Open and Safe Inclusive Space  
**Weekend Arts Retreat**  
at Appel Farm  
**August 9 - 11, 2024**

Build Community

Explore Creativity

Open to ages 12-17

### What you can expect

#### August 9th

- 10am Check In
- Orientation & Tour
- Lunch
- Art Workshops
- Swimming
- Dinner
- Acoustic Campfire

#### August 10th

- Early Bird Yoga
- Breakfast
- Art workshops
- Lunch
- Art Workshops
- Swimming
- Dinner
- Dance Party & Campfire

#### August 11th

- Early Bird Art
- Breakfast
- Art workshops
- Lunch
- Even more art workshops!
- 4pm Check Out



PHOTOGRAPHY THEATER

Join us for a weekend of cultivating connection and community through the arts, centering youth from the queer community and welcoming their allies.

VISUAL ARTS

SCAN TO LEARN MORE & REGISTER TODAY!



Appel Farm  
Arts & Music Center

457 Shirley Rd. • Elmer, NJ 08318  
appelfarm.org

## SAMPLE WORKSHOPS

### Cyanotype Printing



Explore the process of photography through experimental prints.



Craft some cozy creations with yarn and fabric.



### Theater Improv Games



Practice thinking on your feet and character creation in improv.



### Clay Sculptures



Play with clay to make unique creatures!



### Acoustic Campfire

### Sports & Swim

Enjoy our tennis courts, gaga pits, and swimming pool.



Make and share music with new friends by the campfire with s'mores.

Campers will choose daily workshops and affinity groups!

Help is just a call away.

NJ PRISM, a 24/7 statewide hotline providing information and referrals to New Jersey's LGBTQIA+ Community, offers resources including prevention and support services, medical care access needs, community safe space groups, advocacy and legal resources.

Get connected by calling 844.NJPRISM (657.7476).



Help is just a call away.

# 844.NJPRISM

24/7 statewide information and referral hotline for NJ's LGBTQIA+ community



You can make a difference in the lives of LGBTQIA+ youth and young adults.

Your gift in any amount will create a supportive, affirming environment for a young person seeking community with other members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

If you are interested in donating, scan the QR Code to access the Center for Family Services donation page. At the bottom of the page there is an option to select "Donate to a Specific Program" and you can note that you'd like your donation to be for Kaleidoscope.



<https://centerffs.org/get-involved/donate>