**Office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay & Transgender (LBGT) Student Services**

The office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay & Transgender (LBGT) Student Services provides support, education, and advocacy to the WMU community to create an environment in which all people are supported and welcome, inclusive of their general identity/expression and sexual orientation.

**SpeakOUT! Speakers Bureau Program**
SpeakOUT! is a panel discussion program designed to increase awareness about people of different sexual orientations and gender identities through peer contact and conversation with audience members. Trained panelists share their experiences coming out as LBGT or allies and engage audiences in question-and-answer style discussion. SpeakOUT! panels are requested by a variety of classes, residence halls, and student organizations every semester. Panelists meet regularly to foster a community of support, friendship, and continuing education. Training for new panelists is held each fall and spring semester.

**Fall Fab Fest**
Fall Fab Fest is a welcome event offered at the beginning of the fall semester to support LBGT and ally students in the greater Kalamazoo area. The event features an information tent with representatives from LBGTA-friendly resources available on area college campuses and in the local community.

**First Year Pride Alliance**
The First Year Pride Alliance is a cohort of first year students who meet in a relaxed, inclusive, and safe space to find a peer support while learning more about LBGT history, social justice and LBGT-supportive resources. The alliance prepares first year students to succeed by addressing many of the unique challenges facing LBGT and ally individuals while providing the tools to thrive in a University environment. First Year Pride Alliance builds relationships and knowledge among first year students to support their entire college experience.

**Lavender Graduation**
Lavender Graduation is a celebration that recognizes graduating LBGTA students’ contributions to the university and acknowledges their achievements throughout their college experience. Students are recognized for their leadership, success, and achievement. The ceremony recognizes students, faculty, staff and groups who have made significant contributions to LBGTA-inclusion at WMU.

**LBGT Resource Room and Library**
The Resource Room is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters. As a safe, non-judgment space the Resource Room is open to students, faculty and staff as a place to study, find resources, rest between classes, watch movies, and more. Walk-ins are always welcome.

**LBGT Student Advisory Council**
The Student Advisory Council meets with various university units to inform the Office of LBGT Student Services on diversity and inclusion efforts. The council works to identify areas of opportunity throughout the university with a focus on creating a safe and welcoming campus inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity.