



Transcript: Demystifying the LGBTQIA+ Spectrum, Welcome

Welcome to Demystifying the LGBTQIA+ Spectrum, a course by Kaleidoscope Youth Center. In today's session, you'll reflect on gender messages and expectations, learn the basics of gender and sexuality, understand terminology related to the LGBTQIA+ acronym, take note of language to avoid, and explore personal gender pronouns. Some of these segments are also available as short clips on our online platform. If you're interested in a live workshop facilitated by a Kaleidoscope Youth Center educator, please find us at kycoho.org.

We'll start today with a crash course intro on what we do at Kaleidoscope Youth Center! We're located in downtown Columbus, Ohio, and we're the largest and longest serving organization in Ohio that's solely dedicated to serving and supporting LGBTQIA+ youth.

KYC is informed by the practices of restorative and transformational justice, intersectionality, anti-oppression, racial justice, and trauma informed, healing engaged care. We are committed to providing supportive and collaborative services that acknowledge that all people are the experts in their own lives.

Our drop-in center programming is for ages 12-20. In this confidential space, youth can participate in discussion-based activities, leadership development, social connections, and affinity groups for trans & non-binary youth and Queer People of Color. This programming is 100% free and 100% confidential, and is supervised by vetted, trained, and caring staff and volunteers.

Our Education & Training Program aims to take that safe space we've cultivated within the drop-in center at KYC and extend it into the larger community through community education and professional development for schools, youth-serving organizations and others, as well as through advocacy for LGBTQ youth within the school system.

As a member organization of the National Association of GSAs, Kaleidoscope Youth Center coordinates the Ohio GSA Network, supporting Gender & Sexuality Alliances across the state. Gender & Sexuality Alliances, Gay Straight Alliances, or GSAs, are extracurricular clubs where students can find support with each other, engage in advocacy and change within their school environment, or just hang out with other students with similar experiences and backgrounds.

Kaleidoscope's Community Based Wellness program provides housing support and wraparound services to transition-aged young people, aged 18-24. These programs include rapid rehousing, supportive cohousing, and emergency housing, along with connections to other resources. KYC also provides behavioral health services to our entire age range.

My name is Amanda Erickson, my pronouns are she, her, and hers, and I will be guiding you through this course today.

Kaleidoscope Youth Center is located in what is now called Columbus, Ohio, land that was traditionally cared for by the Kaskaskia, Shawnee, Myaamia, and Hopewell people. We recognize the Indigenous people who have been displaced from their homeland through exclusion and violence, and are

committed to beginning the process of working to dismantle the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism. GSA Network has published a resource called Honoring The Land, which is linked within this course. You can also find more information about the land you are on at native-land.ca.

On this course page you'll find links for the programs I've talked about so far along with additional information to get in touch with us. You'll also find further links, images, and PDFs on each lecture page as you move through the course. A transcript for each video has also been provided in PDF form for those who need it. Please reach out with questions or concerns! We are so glad you're here!