



NEWS RELEASE

Office of College

Advancement

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Links and Alliances Conference Oct. 20 at EvCC

EVERETT, Wash. – Everett Community College is hosting the 16th annual Links and Alliances Conference Oct. 20 for and about lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning youth and allies.

The conference is for youth, parents, educators and the community. The event is 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at EvCC's Student Fitness Center, 2206 Tower St.

The cost is \$25 for adults (including meals and an evening performance). For youth age 14-20, attendance is free.

Advance tickets are available until Oct. 18 by contacting Snohomish Health District program manager Brenda Newell at bnewell@snohd.org or 425-339-5239. Tickets are also available at the door.

The conference will include workshops about coming out, building positive relationships, bullying, staying healthy and supporting LGBTQ youth. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available for this event.

The keynote speaker is Cheryl Kilodavis, author of "My Princess Boy," a book about acceptance inspired by her younger son's love of the color pink, sparkly dresses and other pretty things.

Kilodavis was inspired to write the book during her own process of accepting her son's interest and passions and used it to help her son's teachers and fellow students better understand him. She hopes the book will become part of a movement of acceptance for every child who has ever felt left out or misunderstood just because they're different. Kilodavis will speak 12:45-2:30 p.m.

The conference will also include a presentation by the Seattle-based Bent Writing Institute, which promotes and encourages writing and spoken word by the LGBTQ community

The Links and Alliances Conference is sponsored by EvCC's Outreach, Diversity and Equity Center, Snohomish Health District, Compass Health, Snohomish County Human Services and 29 community agencies from Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom Counties.

For more information about the conference, call Brenda Newell at 425-339-5239.

Everett Community College also plans two other events in October:

John Corvino – "Haters, Sinners, and the Rest of Us: The Gay Debate Today"

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Oct. 10, 2012 at EvCC's Henry M. Jackson Center.

Wayne State University professor John Corvino, editor of “Same Sex: Debating the Ethics, Science and Culture of Homosexuality,” will challenge people from all sides of the debate to rethink assumptions about sexuality, morality and the culture wars using a combination of logical rigor, sensitivity and humor.

Celebration of the Safe Zone Birthday and National Coming Out Day

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 11 at EvCC’s Student Activities Corner, Parks Student Union, outside room 209.

EvCC is celebrating its Safe Zone program and National Coming Out Day with birthday cake and information.

The goal of the Safe Zone program is to create an environment where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and allied students and employees feel safe, comfortable, accepted and supported. EvCC started its Safe Zone program 12 years ago and is one of more than 100 colleges and universities in the country that participate in the program.

At the celebration, participants can learn more about what it means to be a Safe Zone and make a commitment to creating a welcoming environment for EvCC’s LGBTQ community.

For more information about Safe Zone, contact Student Activities Program Manager Lindsay Hudson at 425-388-9508 or lhudson@everettcc.edu.

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