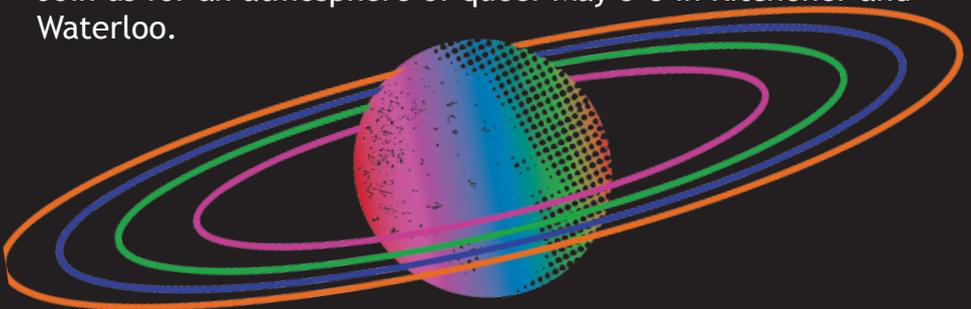


WELCOME TO THE FESTIVAL

For it's 16th year, Rainbow Reels Queer and Trans Film Festival is back with 4 days of film, art, comedy, workshops, parties and community. Queer and Trans community groups, artists, and individuals have collaborated for a diverse and engaging weekend. Workshops that examine the crossover of gender, sexuality, and art. Comedy shows guaranteed to bring really gay laughs. Discussion groups focused on the intersections of queerness and race. Films ranging from two-spirit love stories to lesbian dinner parties.

This year Rainbow Reels is an entirely volunteer driven endeavour from a committee of committed organizers from both universities and the greater community. The festival will be slightly smaller than other years but still packed with engaging and informative expressions of queerness through a variety of mediums. Rainbow Reels Queer and Trans Film Festival strives to be an accessible and safer space.

The festival theme of 'OUT of this World' goes beyond the committee's desire to use terrible space puns and into the concepts of an other worldly queerness. Those who live outside the prescribed hegemony of gender binaries, those whose sexuality doesn't fit neatly onto a spectrum or within a heteronormative world, and those just too gay for this planet - we're calling you out of this world and beyond the constraints put against the queer and trans communities. It will be fun. It will be interesting. You will make new friends and reconnect with old. You'll laugh. You'll think deeply and feel strongly. Join us for an atmosphere of queer May 5-8 in Kitchener and Waterloo.



OUT OF THIS WORLD



RAINBOW REELS QUEER AND TRANS FILM FESTIVAL 2016

FILM - ART - WORKSHOPS - PARTIES - COMEDY

THURSDAY MAY 5

FRIDAY MAY 6

Performance

Tales from the Inside & Inner Pieces

6pm-8pm

Alumni Hall, University of Waterloo

Community/Film

Queer & Trans Folks in Science!

6-7:30 pm

WLU, Science Building,
Room N1002 (150)

Film/Community

Fire Song with the Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre

8-10pm

Alumni Hall, University of Waterloo

Film

Naz and Maalik

8 pm

WLU, Science Building,
Room N1002 (150)

Community

Mercury Retrograys Dance Party

10pm -HepCats Dance Studio,
Uptown Waterloo

SATURDAY MAY 7

Community

Queers in Space Zine Fair

12pm – 5pm

Kitchener Public Library Main
Branch

Workshop

BIPOC Kitchen Table Talk: Self Care in Racist LGBTQ Groups

2pm – 3pm

Kitchener Public Library Main
Branch

Workshop/Performance

Beyond the Binary Workshop and Showcase

3-5pm

Kitchener Public Library Main
Branch

Film(s)

Stories of Our Lives

6pm

Suicide Kale

7:30pm

Princess Cinemas, Uptown Waterloo

Performance

In a Gaylaxy Far Far Away - Comedy Showcase

9:30pm

Princess Cinemas, Uptown Waterloo
(licensed event)

SUNDAY MAY 8

Community/Film

Rainbow Families and Youth Programming

10am – 12:30pm

Apollo Cinema, Downtown
Kitchener

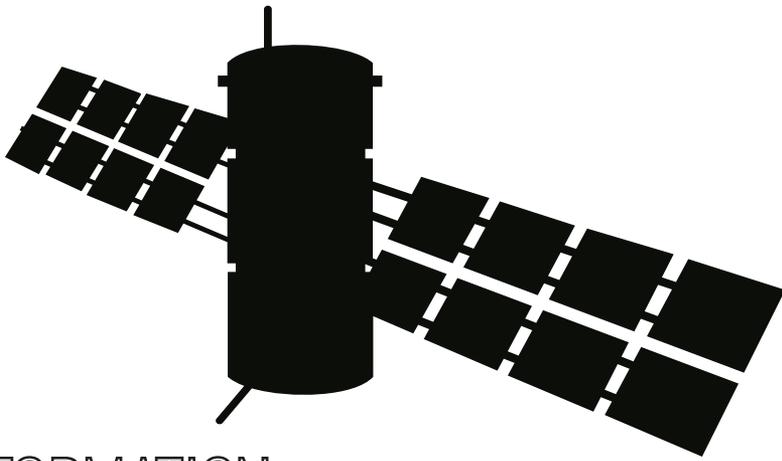
Community/Film

Making a Scene - Local LGBTQ Youth Shorts

1pm – 2pm

Apollo Cinema, Downtown
Kitchener

Did you know this is the 16th year for Rainbow Reels? Check out the amazing work of the Grand River Rainbow Historical Project to see our archives and more!
www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/



INFORMATION

Locations

- Day 1: Thursday May 5, University of Waterloo, Room TBD (200 University Ave W, Waterloo)
- Day 2: Friday May 6, Wilfrid Laurier University (75 University Ave W, Waterloo)
- Day 2: Friday May 6, Hep Cats (42 Erb St E e 117, Waterloo)
- Day 3: Saturday May 7, KPL (85 Queen St N, Kitchener)
- Day 3: Saturday May 7, Princess Twin Cinema (46 King St N, Waterloo)
- Day 4: Sunday March 15, Apollo Cinema (141 Ontario St N, Waterloo)

Check rainbowreels.org for parking information.

Free bus tickets are available at all events - just ask an organizer or volunteer for one!

All events are free with the exception of the comedy showcase. The comedy showcase has sliding scale tickets available for \$5/\$10 and a limited amount of free sponsored tickets. Email rainbowreelsfilm@gmail.com for details or ask a volunteer or organizer.

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

For thirteen years, the Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival has worked hard to increase awareness of queer, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues by showcasing projects from new and emerging filmmakers. We are one of the largest and most recognisable film festivals in South-western Ontario, bringing in attendees from Kitchener-Waterloo, Cambridge, London, Hamilton, Guelph, Toronto and Windsor!

The festival is a project of the Waterloo Public Interest Research Group (WPIRG) and has been since 2000. What started up as a small student-run event, screening films at the University of Waterloo, has since expanded and grown into an important community-wide event.

WPIRG is a student run not-for-profit organization operating out of the University of Waterloo campus. WPIRG's mission is to foster and support students and community members in their activism, research and education, and to take action on social justice and environmental issues. The organization takes aim to motivate community participation through integrative processes, encouraging social diversity and social equality while operating in a consensus based decision making model. To this end, WPIRG started the Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival to satisfy a niche in the community by showcasing a variety of queer experiences on screen. Its objective has been to increase awareness of the many issues that permeate greater queer communities by providing content which spans a diverse range of subject matter and genres. To learn more about WPIRG, visit wpirg.org.

This year's festival could not have been possible without the passionate and hard work of a strong volunteer committee:

Cary Earnest, HL Elash, Suzie Taka, Hannah Batten, Ethan Jackson, and Kheir Ahmed.

ACCESSIBILITY

All events during the festival are free. Films are free for students and unwaged folks, \$5 or pay what you can for everyone else. Bus tickets are available upon request.

All venues are wheelchair accessible and films will have subtitles when available. Licensed social workers will also be available for emotional support for some films, and committee members are always available to answer questions and concerns - look out for their name tags!

We will post about possibly triggering things in the films, and announce them before the film, giving people a few minutes to exit if needed

Washroom Information

Please check our website for individualized washroom information for all locations

Allergies Prevention

We will have free food at many of our events. All food will be nut free and vegetarian. We will have vegan and gluten free options. Food will be clearly labelled.

We hope to have the festival be scent and nut free and appreciate your support in this.

Childcare Service

We will have childcare available on Sunday, May 8 during all programming. Other childcare is available throughout the festival on request - we're happy to help so please email if we can assist!

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT CONTENT AT THE FESTIVAL FROM THE ORGANIZERS:

We have deeply valued our community partners who have put heart and time and soul into creating content for the festival. Part of this process involves giving control of expression to community groups.

ACCESSIBILITY

As organizers of this event, we will try to provide an environment free of harassment, discrimination, and oppression. We recognize that the accessibility of a space can be impacted by the behaviour of the people present in that space and, obviously, cannot make an accessible space happen on our own. Please help us create a really exciting space by:

- Refraining from wearing scented things or bringing food containing nuts to the event
- Whenever possible, keeping aisles and hallways clear at least three feet to ensure greater mobility
- Respecting the use of gender-neutral pronouns and checking in with people about how they identify (e.g. she/he/they) before making assumptions
- Being mindful that children may be present throughout the weekend
- Respecting each other's boundaries and not making assumptions about anyone's level of comfort with physical contact
- Being conscious of the language that you use and being mindful that your behaviour and language impact other people
- Being receptive if someone tells you that your behaviour or language is hurtful, inappropriate, problematic, etc.
- Being conscious of the shared space, and looking out for each other
- Letting us know if there are other ways we could make it more accessible for you!

That being said, we hope to make a safer festival but know that safe is a distant ideal. Please engage with the content you see in many ways including critically. We encourage all feedback - either to rainbowreelsfilm@gmail.com or through forms provided at all events. We thank you in advance for this important info.



FIRE SONG

8-10pm - Thursday May 5
University of Waterloo
Alumni Hall - Free



Waterloo Aboriginal
EDUCATION CENTRE

When a teenaged girl commits suicide in a remote Northern Ontario Aboriginal community, it's up to her brother Shane to take care of their family. Shane was supposed to move to the city for University in the fall, and he has been trying to convince his secret boyfriend to come with him, but now everything is uncertain. Shane is torn between his responsibilities at home and the promise of freedom calling to him from the city. He pushes through barrier after barrier, determined to take care of his mom and earn money for school. But when circumstances take a turn for the worse and Shane has to choose between his family or his future, what will he do?

Director Adam Garnet Jones

Year 2015

Country Canada

Language English

Genre Drama

Length 96 min

Content Warning: Graphic suicide, drug-use, profane language, homophobia, misogyny, violence, and rape.

Organizer Bio: Shawn Johnston is an Two-Spirit Anishinabe from Couchiching First Nation located on Treaty #3 territory. He is currently the Events Coordinator for the Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre located at St Paul's University College at the University of Waterloo. Shawn works with both University and high school students helping to provide access to programs and support services while earning their education. In his spare time, Shawn is a public speaker and an organizer for the Idle No More movement.

TALES FROM THE INSIDE AND INNER PIECES

Thursday May 7 - 6pm-8pm - Alumni Hall - University of
Waterloo - Free

INNER PIECES

Modus Vivendi Theatre presents dancers Jeff Fox, and Tyler
Caughlin

The quest for inner peace is as eternal as it is complex.
Through movement and song, from Tai Chi to Tango, Jeff and
Tyler explore the many different ways we pursue peace within
ourselves as well with the world around us and the other
people in it

TALES FROM THE INSIDE

After the premiere of “Tales from the Inside” at Glow’s 45th
anniversary in March 2016, we are excited to be back for the
Rainbow Reels festival! Members of the University of Waterloo’s
Glow Centre for Sexual and Gender Diversity will take you on a
journey through the colourful diversity of the queer community.
A moving compilation of excerpts from LGBT+ fiction, staged
as a series of monologues that is guaranteed to make you
laugh, cry and everything in between. Get involved during the
interactive parts of our performance or simply sit and watch as
lives unfold around you. Come and listen as we tell the stories
of the characters from literature and films. Tales of fear. Tales
of courage. Tales from the inside...

With:

Shari Brown

Joanna Cleary

Carlotta Ipsen

Jimmy Ji

Andrew O’Malley

Brie Treviranus

Joanna Cleary

Carlotta Ipsen

Modus Vivendi is holding auditions May 24 &
25 for the 2016 Season!

Stay up to date at Modusvivendi.ca

QUEER & TRANS FOLKS IN SCIENCE!

Friday May 6 - 6-7:30pm - WLU - Free

A short documentary about the experiences of queer and trans folks in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields, filmed exclusively for Rainbow Reels 2016. This film highlights the successes and challenges of being queer and trans in these fields, how we came to be where we are today and how our identities are multifaceted. A small panel discussion will follow to discuss relevant and current issues with scientists featured in the documentary



NAZ AND MAALIK

Friday May 6 - 8pm - WLU Science Building room N1002 - Free

Two closeted Muslim teens hawk goods across Brooklyn and struggle to come clean about their sexuality, as their secretive behavior leads them to become the focus of FBI surveillance.

Director Jay Dockendorf

Year 2015

Country USA

Language English

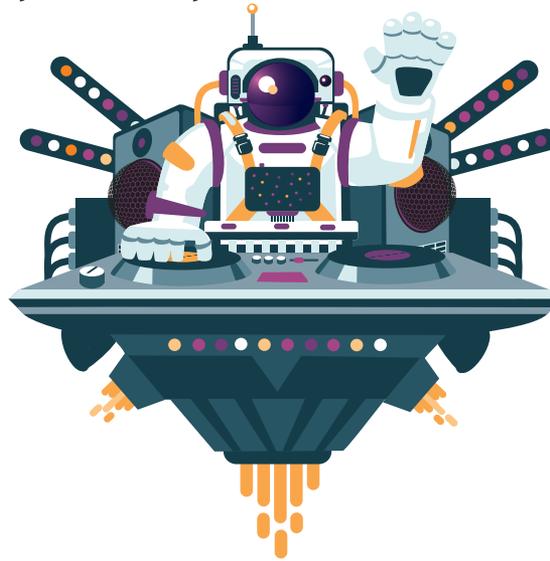
Genre Adventure/Comedy/Drama

Content Warning: The film will contain scenes with police violence, anti-black racism and islamophobia.

MERCURY RETROGAYS

10pm - Friday May 6 2016 - Hep Cat's dance studio - Free

Set during Rainbow Reels Queer and Trans Film Festival 2016, MERCURY RETROGAYS is an all ages queer and trans sober dance party by Plan B Co-operative KW. Plan B is providing (inter)stellar snacks and galaxy drinks for your solace. We're set to land at 42 Erb Street, East, Hep Cats dance studio (back door). Captain log reads the environment as low-scent with cruise control set for wheelchair accessibility. HQ informs us the urination stations are gender neutral.



When Mercury moves, our communication may get lost but we never do. We're here. We're queer: Get used to it. Bring a pal and come hang OUT in SPACE. But actually though. Mercury really is in retrograde from April 28 to about May 22...

Plan B Co-operative KW is an ongoing non-profit community project aiming to create an alternative queer community space. We want to merge three big old things together: a coffee shop, a zine library and people's photocopier, and a wicked feminist sex toy store providing all of your sensual and gender explorative needs! When we're all said and done, we are building a foundation to fund the unfundable: to provide access to funding for queer and trans folks in KW.

Find Plan B online to stay in touch with their many events and updates! Follow them @ [planbcoopkw](#), [planbcoopkw.com](#) or on Facebook!

QUEERS IN SPACE ZINE FAIR

Saturday May 7 - 12-2pm - Kitchener Public Library -
Downtown Kitchener - Free

In partnership with Rainbow Reels Queer and Trans Film Festival 2016 we are excited to present to you: "Out in Space" Kitchener Waterloo's 2nd annual queer zine fair!!!

Find zines and art made by queer and/or transfolk.

Details:

Tabling is free! We are trying to make this event as accessible as possible. What we can offer currently includes physical mobility, gender neutral washrooms, a quiet space location, snacks, low scent, financial and "safer" (to us, this means being open and accountable to people accessing the space). We are working to make it more accessible. If you have specific accessibility needs (financial, physical, emotional, a place to stay for out of towners, someone not being there etc.) that are barriers to being able to fully participate, please let us know and we will work with you to try to make it possible.

About the Organizers

Rayne is a pizza cat currently in a human body. They are a white settler residing on Haudenosaunee territory. They are a queer witchy badass who also happens to be trans and disabled. They enjoy things such as making zines, writing things and stuff, eating vegan cheesecake in their bathtub and long romantic walks to the fridge.

fig is a little weirdo that is actually a little scared of outer space. She is a white settler on Haudenosaunee territory. she is a queer bicycle fairy who enjoys eating donuts while riding her bike, making zines and staring at plants and animals.

BIPOC KITCHEN TABLE TALK

**Saturday May 7 - 2-3pm - Kitchener Public Library -
Downtown Kitchener - Free**

This workshop has three components: a meal shared between individuals facing racial discrimination, a conversation regarding self care techniques for BIPOC individuals, and the creation of self-care kits. It's a known fact that LGBTQ spaces and groups have histories and current uses of anti-Black, colourist, and racist practices. This kitchen table talk is meant to be a healing space for BIPOCs to share their experiences in the LGBTQ community, discuss techniques of self care and healing, and create a self care kit of items that further their healing journey.

BEYOND THE BINARY

**Saturday May 7 - 3-5pm - Kitchener Public Library -
Downtown Kitchener - Free**

Pt 1: Taylor Heywood (they/them) and Ossían MacEachern (they/them), half of the 2016 KW Slam Team, bring you an afternoon of all the poetry your little queer heart can handle. Both non-binary babes, Taylor and Oisín fight to break down oppressive structures like the gender binary and gendered assumptions, and their poetry covers a variety of topics ranging from gender, sexuality, mental illness, and trauma. Both Taylor and Oisín write about difficult topics, and we will be using trigger warnings and encouraging people to take care of themselves.

Pt 2: A workshop focused on the tender connections between gender, poetry, and art as a whole. This workshop will be a space for us to explore the beauty of gender, and why talking about gender and sexuality in poetry not only incredibly important for others



STORIES OF OUR LIVES

Saturday May 7 - 6pm - Princess Cinemas - Uptown Waterloo

Stories of Our Lives began as an archive of testimonials from Kenyan persons who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and intersex assembled by a small Nairobi-based multidisciplinary arts collective. So compelling were these stories that the ten-member association of artists, social workers and entrepreneurs was inspired to adapt some of them into short films. Working on a shoestring budget with one small video camera, two LED lights, a portable digital recorder, a shotgun mic, and relentless courage and enthusiasm, the cast and crew shot, edited, and mixed five shorts over eight months to create this remarkable anthology film.

Director Jim Chuchu

Year 2015

Country Kenya

Language Swahili/English

Length 60 min

Content Warning This film will contain scenes with violence, homophobia, transphobia



SUICIDE KALE

Saturday May 7 - 7:45pm - Princess Cinemas - Uptown Waterloo

A simple lunch turns into a catastrophe when Jasmine and Penn, a new couple with an uncertain future, find an anonymous suicide note at the home of the happiest couple they know.

Director Carly Usdin

Year 2015

Country USA

Language English

Genre Comedy

Length 78 min

Content Warning This film will delve into topics of suicide and mental illness. No character in this film attempts suicide.

Make sure to visit Rainbowreels.org to vote for your favourite film and favourite programming for the 2016 Rainbow Reels People's Choice Award!

QUEER AND FEMINIST COMEDY AT RAINBOW REELS

**Saturday May 7 - 9:00 pm - Princess Cinemas - Uptown
Waterloo - Licensed event with craft beer and wine -
Tickets \$5/\$10**

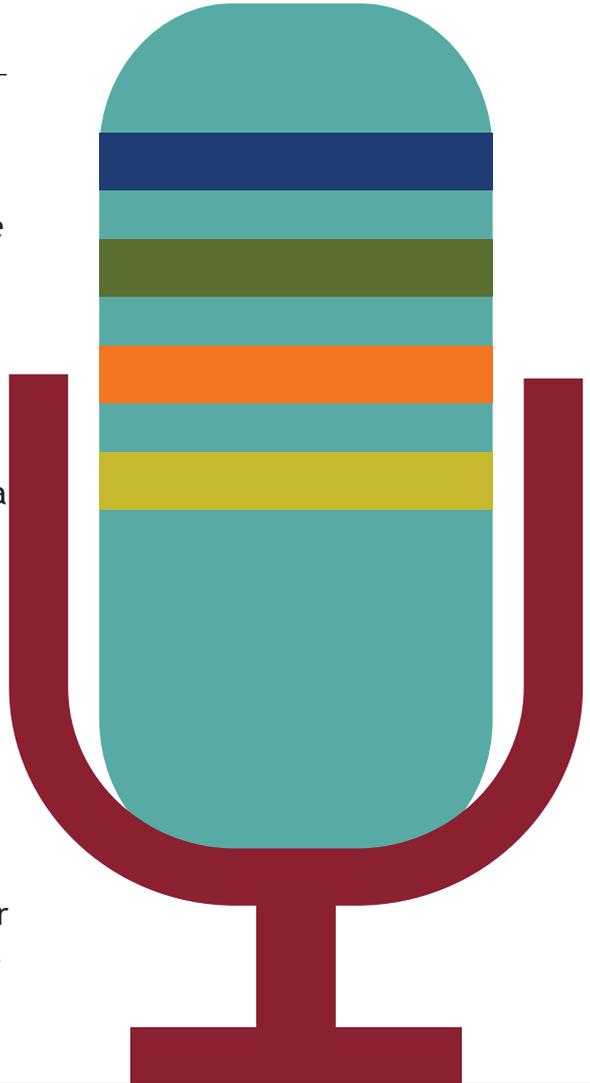
In a Gaylaxy Far Far Away -
The gays are coming - and
they're hilarious. We've
curated 5 of the funniest
comedians from across the
LGBTQ2+ spectrum and
beyond to bring down the
house at Princess Cinemas
in Waterloo.

Hosted and Presented by
Erinn White and Suzie Taka

Headliner
Chantel Marostica

Featuring
Jess Beaulieu
Courtney Skye
Adrienne Fish
Robert Keller

Check rainbowreels.org for
full bios of the comedians!



Like the comedy night? Erinn White cohosts a
monthly Queer and Feminist Comedy night in
Guelph called **That Time of the Month** to satiate
you year round!



RAINBOW FAMILIES AND YOUTH PROGRAMMING

**Sunday May 8 - 10am - 12:30 pm - Apollo Cinema -
Downtown Kitchener - Free - (With free brunch!)**

Brought to you by Femme Fatale Creations.

Inspired by 10 year old gayby, who feels that the LGBTQ community doesn't always have enough programming for young people, this event will include screenings of films appropriate for young children, tweens, teens and their LGBTQ and ally families.

Featuring 3 films: Family Restaurant, Jamie: A Transgender Fairy Tale and Gayby Baby. (details on following pages)

Following the screening, there will be a panel of local gaybies, who will share their thoughts on the film and whether they related to its depictions of what it's like to grow up in an LGBTQ family. Please come out and support local youth as they share their voices and stories with the community!

Please note that parents are welcome to slip in and out, as their children may require. There will be a craft station set up for kids who need a break from the film screening.

Femme Fatale Creations has a new queer webseries coming out and it's hilarious! Find details about **Good Freaky** at femmefilms.ca

FAMILY RESTAURANT

A magical diner comes to life at night. Picky a grumpy toothpick dispenser learns a lesson in friendship when his neighbours and a young customer come to his rescue. This live action short features puppets, children of LGBT families and a lively musical number.

Appropriate for young children, tweens and their families.

Director Andrea James

Country USA

Year 2012

Language English

JAMIE: A TRANSGENDER FAIRYTALE

Sometimes you have to be your own fairy godmother. Jamie finds her own way to go to the ball.

Appropriate for young children, tweens and their families.

GAYBY BABY

Following the lives of four kids whose parents all happen to be gay. Each struggle with their personal challenges of growing up as the outside world debates marriage equality. Told from the perspective of the kids it is an intimate and humorous take on the issues they face. Hear directly from these Australian gaybies about what it's like for them to grow up in same-sex families, while navigating puberty, discrimination and their dreams for the future.

This film is more suitable for older children and teens.

Director Maya Newell

Country Australia

Genre Documentary/Family

Length 85 min

Year 2015

Language English

Rating PG



MAKING A SCENE WITH PROJECT UPROOTED

Sunday May 8 - 1-2pm - Apollo Cinema - Uptown Waterloo - Free

Making a Scene is a media based learning program where youth from various marginalized communities create films and media surrounding their personal experiences, made-up fantasies, and cool utopias. This is the first time this program has been done, and it brought together LGBTQ+ youth, ranging in ages 13-20, from across the tri-cities. They used their various skills in art, writing, editing, and film to explore avenues of expression, created films, and made new connections along the way.

Content Warnings: A lot of the content discussed ventures through the topics of micro aggressions, trans issues, queer issues, and might bother or trigger audiences.

Organizer Bios:

Becca Redden is a white queer settler woman who lives on stolen Six Nations territory. She is super into film and super into using film as a way to tell personal stories and raise awareness, especially from the point of view of marginalized youth. She also love puppies and eating way too much chocolate for one person.

Thane Robyn is an immigrant, transguy of colour, and settler on Six Nation stolen land. He is a dreamer of where society is heading and passionate about connection through story telling. Film is one of the many ways he loves to capture the connections. He can often be found out with his pup and camera.

