

When you're done reading, pass it on!

THE KETCHIKAN QUEER COLLECTIVE

The Ketchikan Queer Collective is a committee of the Ketchikan Pride Alliance. We are a group of individuals who have come together to inform, inspire, and build community through our publication Loud and Queer! Based in Ketchikan, we work locally and regionally to make LGBTQ+ experiences visible and our voices heard.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR WORK

- Have a personal connection to Alaska
 - For example: live here, have lived here, work here, have visited here
- Please keep written works to approximately 300 words (around one page)
- Want to create our next issue cover art? Submit your artwork!
- Email submissions to loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com



PWYC

If you liked reading this zine, consider paying what you can to help with printing costs and website maintenance

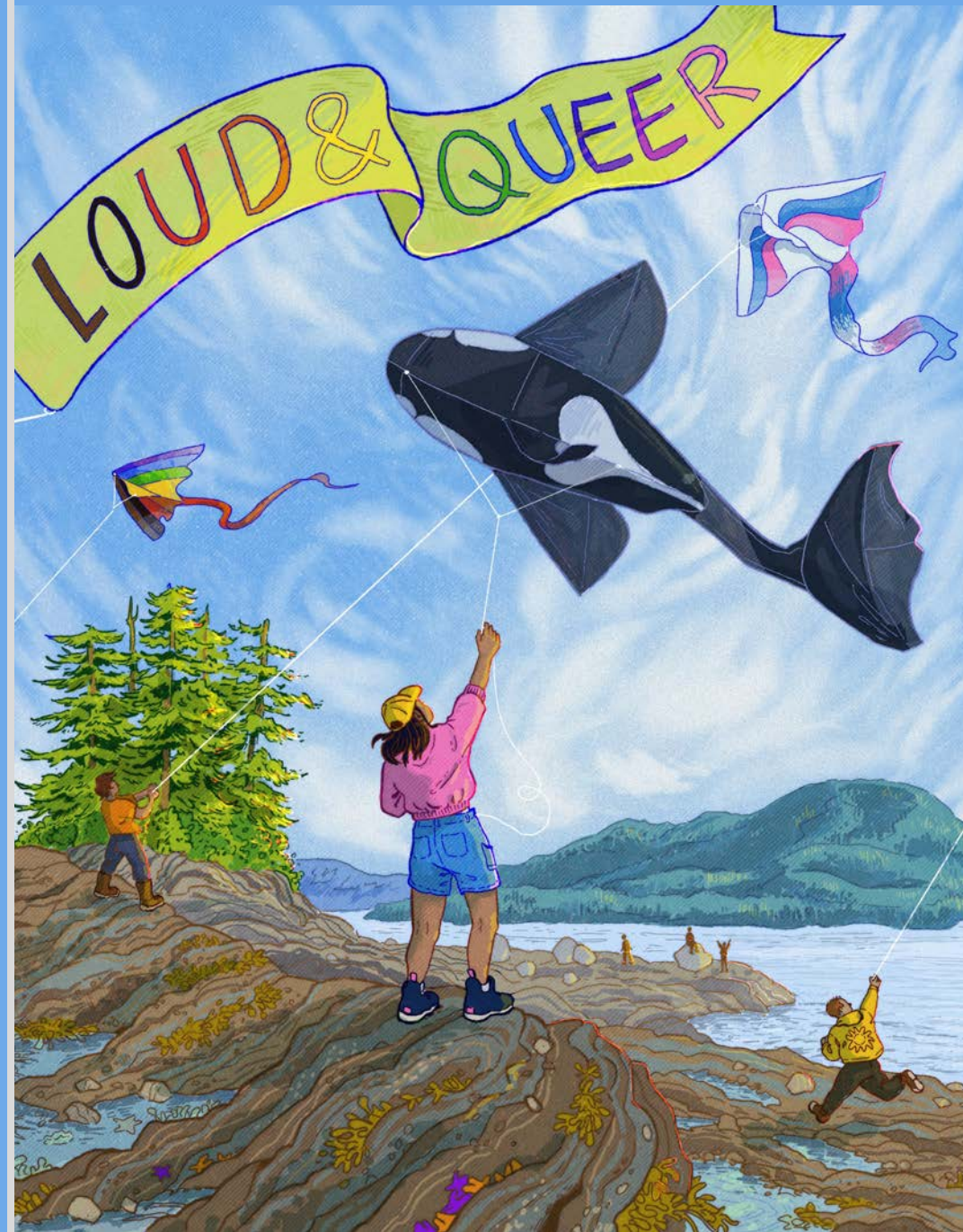
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Scan the QR code and subscribe to get the best of what's queer in your inbox.

EMPOWERMENT IN PRINT - TOGETHER WE ARE STRONG

SUMMER 2023 Volume 3 Issue 2

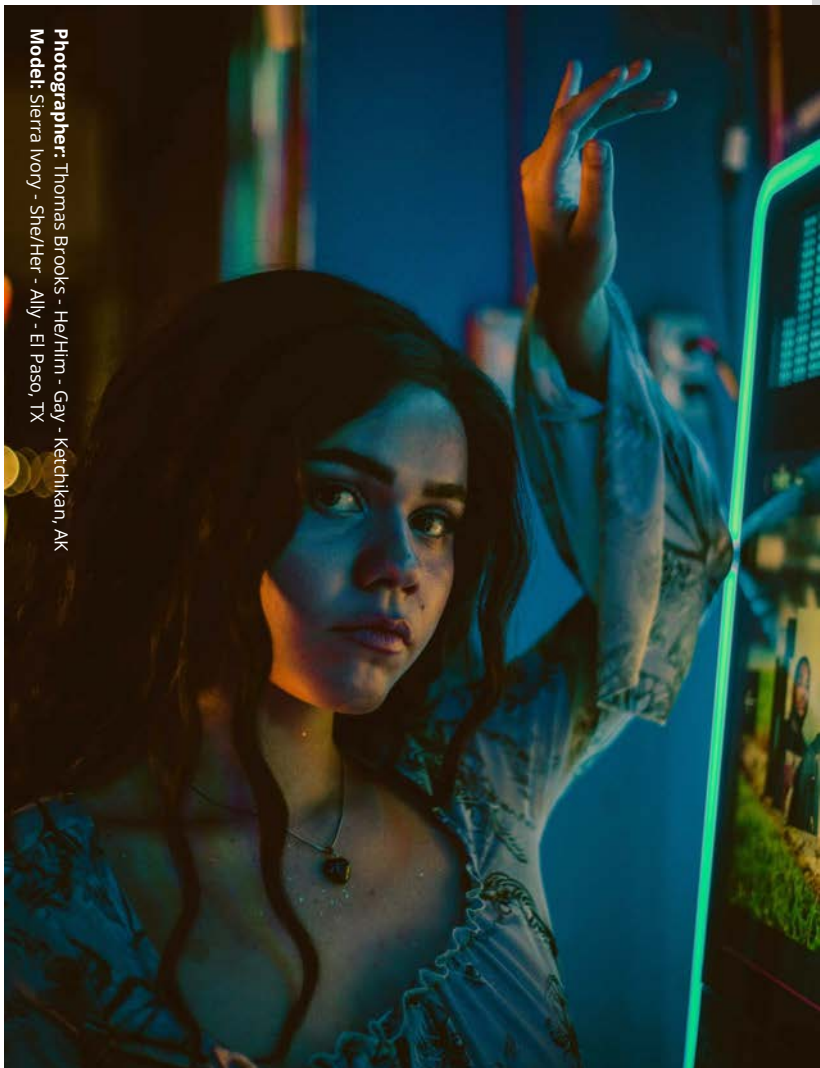


Based in Ketchikan • Representing Southeast Alaska

Cover Artwork by Mads Wolf - He/Him - Queer - Ketchikan, AK

CALL FOR
SUBMISSIONS

Photographer: Thomas Brooks - He/Him - Gay - Ketchikan, AK
Model: Sierra Ivory - She/Her - Ally - El Paso, TX



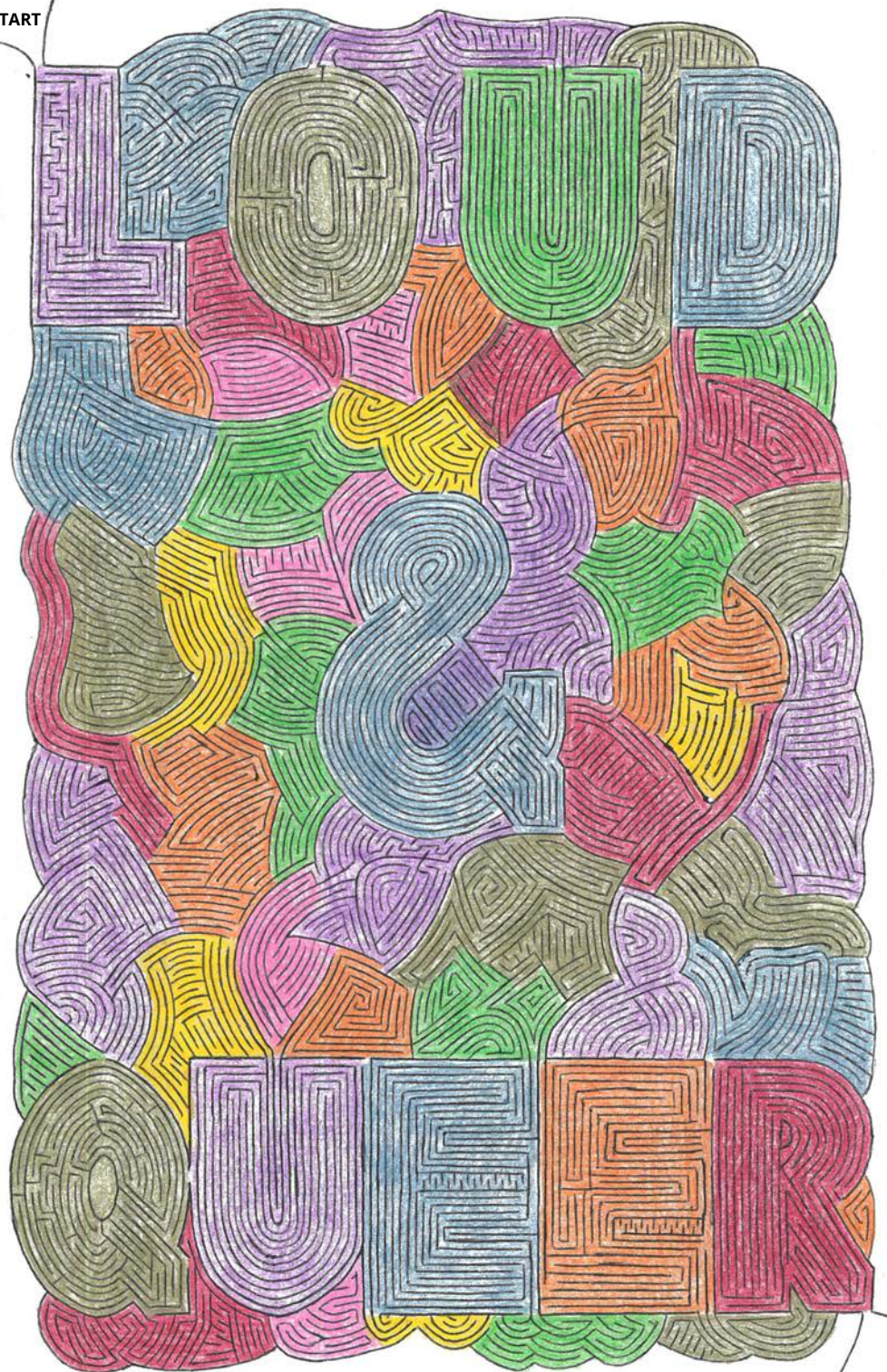
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Submissions
Page

LOUD & QUEER!

Loud and Queer! is a zine published by the Ketchikan Queer Collective featuring visual art, articles, and resources. **Loud and Queer!** connects LGBTQ+ people of Southeast Alaska to inform, inspire, and build community. This publication tells our stories by and for each other.

Send submissions to: loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com

START



Maze created by Ian Clarke - He/Him - Ally - Ketchikan, AK

FINISH

You're Not Alone

No matter how you identify or who you love, if you're experiencing domestic or sexual violence these organizations in Southeast can help.



Serving Ketchikan and communities in Southern Southeast

Call: 907-225-9474
or 1-800-478-9474

Visit: wishak.org



WAVE

Serving Petersburg

Call: 907-772-9283

Visit: petersburgwave.org



Serving Sitka, Angoon, Kake, and Port Alexander

Call: 907-747-3370
or 1-800-478-6511

Visit: safv.org



AWARE

Serving Juneau, Elfin Cove, Gustavus, Haines, Hoonah, Klukwan, Pelican, Skagway, Tenakee, and Yakutat.

Call: 907-586-1090
or 1-800-478-1090

Visit: awareak.org



This project was made possible by a grant from the Ketchikan Community Foundation, an Affiliate of the Alaska Community Foundation.



Photographer: Hannah Bayles - She/They - Pansexual - Ketchikan, AK

THIS IS LINGÍT AANÍ

The Land of the Tlingit

We are located on the current and ancestral lands of the Tlingit, who have been living here since time immemorial. Kichxáan (Ketchikan) remains the territory of the Taant'a Kwáan (Sea Lion Tribe) of the Tongass Tlingit. We are grateful for the opportunity to live and learn here in mutual respect and appreciation.

BACK TO THE BASICS

CHOSEN FAMILY

Your found or chosen family refers to a group of people who intentionally chose to love and support each other, regardless of marriage or blood relationship. People may build and describe their found families differently. While the concept isn't inherently queer, chosen family is a very common practice within the queer community. While it is a beautiful thing, this practice is often due to a lack of unconditional love in biological families.

Envisioning It

Take time to think about what family means to you and what values are important to you. Think of what relationships in your life you feel you're missing. Consider what specific things those relationships bring to the table. This will help you know what you are looking for and who you want to be in a family unit.

Building It

It can be hard to find people that feel like family when you don't have the traditional obligation to see them. Going to spaces (in person or virtual) where other people share your values is a great start, then making your attendance a priority in your life helps establish your commitment to the people who may become like family to you.

Maintaining It

In order to maintain relationships with your chosen family, you must show up for those you care about in a way you wish your own family would. Offer the resources you have available to you while making sure you ask for help when you need it. Family helps each other, give and take but not tit-for-tat.

Giving Grace

Have grace for those in your chosen family. At the end of the day, they are human and will make mistakes. It is easy to feel bigger hurt by those you have chosen when they let you down. Stick to communicating with kindness and understanding that your chosen family is made of complex individuals.

Inbox

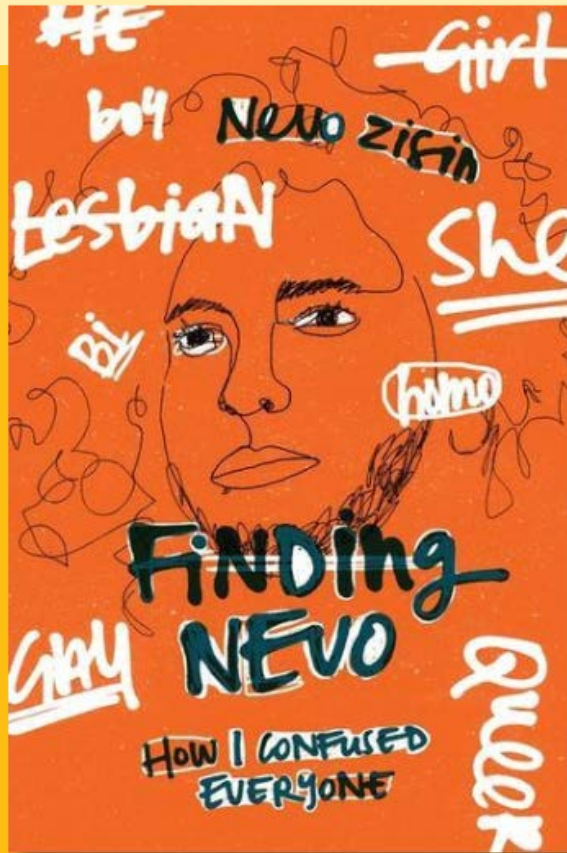
Shout out for an amazing ally

Somedays I feel like the word ally just isn't strong enough to describe the people who touch our lives in such impactful ways. For about a year now I have been going to see Roni Dever down at Salty Mermaid for electrolysis as part of my transition, and not a day has gone by that I have not been thankful for having met her. Every time I have seen Roni she has made me feel accepted, understood, and even beautiful. She has taken moments of fear, moments of shame, moments of vulnerability, and transformed them into moments of healing and grace. Time and again she has gone so far beyond anything I could have asked for in a friend, let alone an esthetician. So if anyone is ever looking for a beautiful soul and an amazing esthetician I cannot recommend her highly enough.

Ashlyn Elkins
She/Her
Lesbian
Trans Woman
Ketchikan, AK

QUEER BOOKS

Its GOOD. Its GAY!



Meet Nevo: girl, boy, he, she, him, her, they, them, daughter, son, teacher, student, friend, gay, bi, lesbian, trans, homo, Jew, dyke, masculine, feminine, androgynous, queer. Nevo was not born in the wrong body. Nevo just wants everyone to catch up with all that Nevo is. Personal, political and passionate, Finding Nevo is an autobiography about gender and everything that comes with it.

MAKE ROUTINES



Set a time once a month or more that you come together to have fun. Try to build relationships outside of talking about hard times. This will foster a deeper connection and provide more confidence in the shared love.

CREATE TRADITIONS

Choose holidays to celebrate with your chosen family. Creative new traditions together or revive old traditions from your blood family that you are missing out on.



BE A SUPPORT

Family shows up for one another even when it's inconvenient. It is good to have boundaries on your time but be aware the best functioning families are there for one another in times of crisis.



Tales in Fairyland
 Vivian Faith Prescott
 She/Her
 Bi
 Wrangell, AK

QUEER PODCASTS

Consider This Mandatory Listening



History is Gay

Ep #4: The Labor Struggle is Real Queer

Join Leigh and Gretchen as they discuss the history of the labor movement as it relates to the struggle for queer civil rights in America. You may not know, but the labor and LGBTQ+ movements have been allies for a long time. Just how far back does the partnership go? Listen and find out!

LOUD & QUEER! PLAYLIST

Crush - Foxgluvv

Pink Slips- Jenna Doe

Queen - Perfume Genius

Prettiest Secret - Freddie Lewis

Closer to You - Sammy Rae & The Friends

LISTEN NOW



Open Spotify and scan the code to listen to our Queer playlist or search "L&Q Ketchikan" on Spotify!

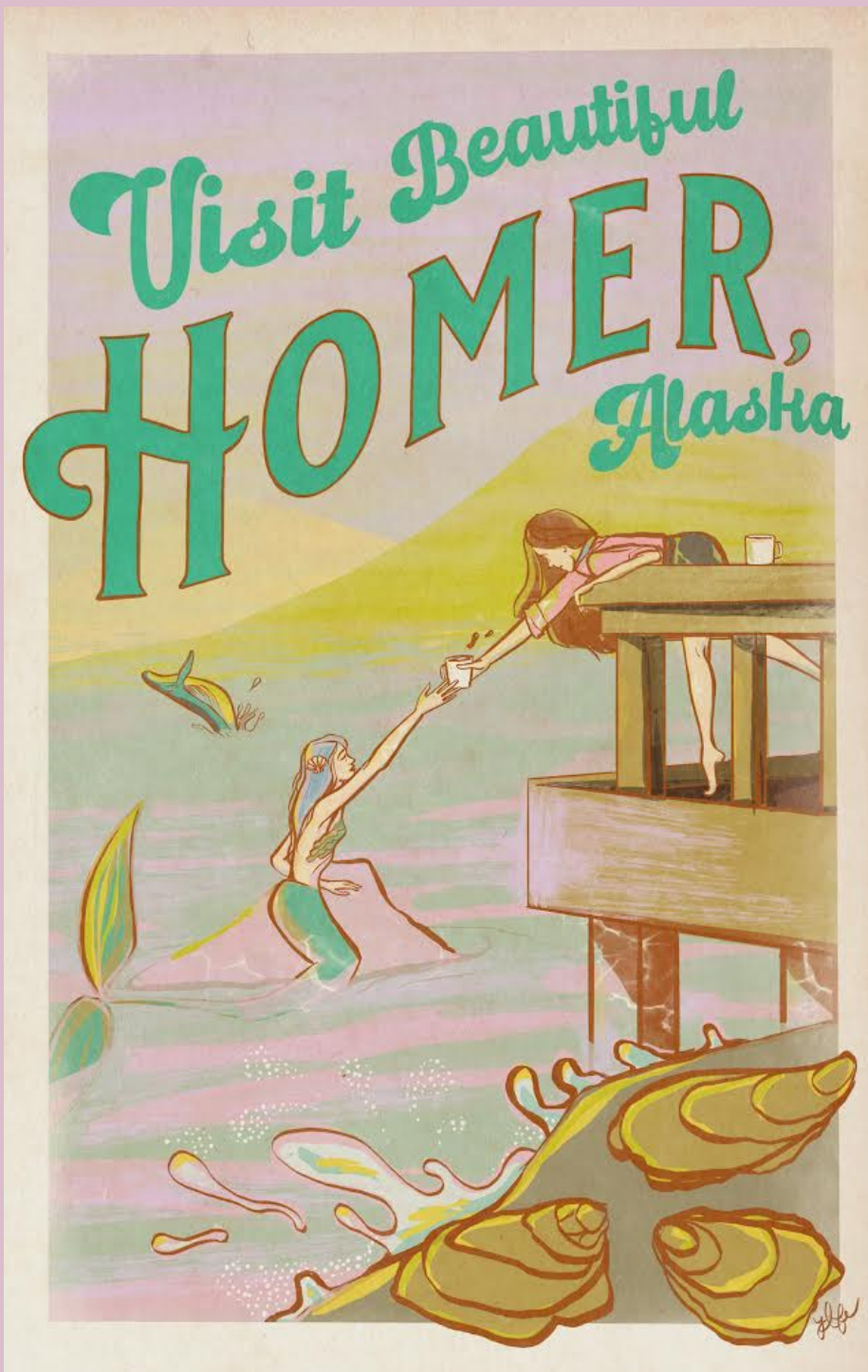


I am body

Accepting the struggle
of the moment
Accepting the struggle
of this moment
Giving permission to
myself to live
in the struggle of
this moment
with the struggle of this
moment
Giving myself permission
to struggle
Giving myself permission
to not find solution or
resolution in this moment
Giving myself permission
to be stuck
Giving myself permission
to be stuck in this
moment

Hannah Bayles
She/They
Pansexual
Ketchikan, AK

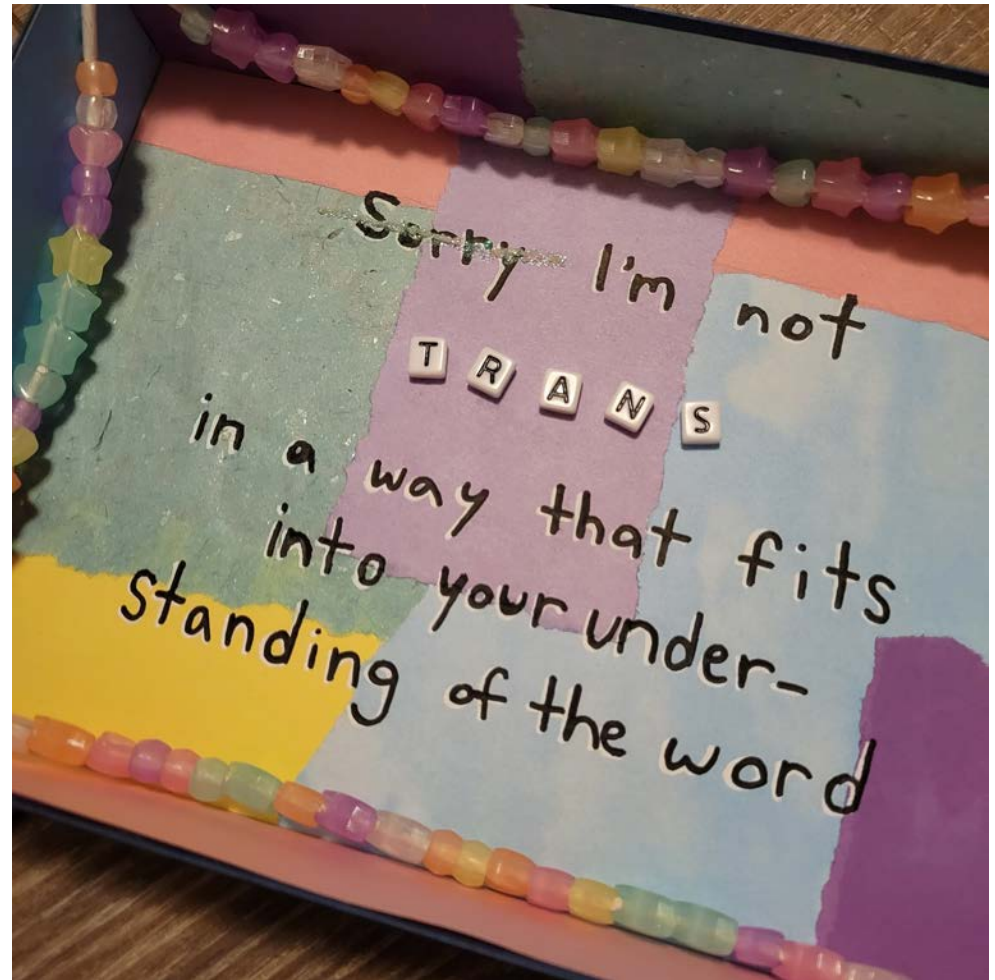




Jessica Faust - She/Her - Queer - Dena'ina Etnena - Anchorage, AK



Photographer: Michael McGinnis - He/Him - Polyamorous - Ketchikan, AK



Neil S.
They/Them
Aroace, Trans, Queer
Southeast Alaska



ROMAN WILDE

I've found, specifically here in Ketchikan, the truest and most important demonstration of community. Small yet powerful and stalwart, these people are rallying behind their love and support for one another. It's small communities that weave together the fabric of belonging and will be the most important as we continue to fight for our rights and our place here in this world.

“It's small communities that weave together the fabric of belonging and will be the most important as we continue to fight for our rights and our place here in this world.”

I've found myself with a subtle moral: pride and personal queerness must follow you wherever you go. By bringing your real authentic self to every corner of this planet is how we can continue to make this place safer and more accepting of the LGBTQ+ community. We are made stronger by those around us, and never before has that been more true than with my lived experience here in Ketchikan.

As my time grows to an end and the summer draws to a close, I will never forget the names and faces of the people who made Ketchikan feel like home to me. I am truly humbled and emboldened by my time in the great last frontier. I feel gayer and happier than ever, and I have Ketchikan to thank for that.

Evan K. Beesley
He/Him
Gay
Salt Lake City, UT

Not long after I arrived I began to be introduced to the queer population of Southeast Alaska. At first only a few, but as the weeks continued on I began to realize I was surrounded by a group of my peers with whom I could feel loved and protected. And wouldn't you know it? Something like straight out of a hallmark TV movie, the more I acted like myself the more people grew to enjoy my presence. With my new found confidence and the growth of my resilient gay nature, I began to resume my typical gay tom-foolery.

As May rolled into June I had consigned myself to missing out in Pride activities this year, naively assuming there wouldn't be any sort of celebration in Ketchikan. Thankfully, I was deeply misguided in that assumption.

Thanks to the Ketchikan Pride Alliance, there was a month filled with activities, ranging from Pride pop-up bars, to a pride parade, makeup classes, a queer prom, and I participated in my first ever drag performance as the seductive Anita Drink.

I was truly awestruck by this community's dedication to bringing this small town of Ketchikan a thriving and fun filled Pride month. As more weeks turned into months I found myself at the local thrift stores nearly every week creating outfits for events, parties, theme nights. The summer stretched on and as I continued to ingratiate myself into the town I found myself upset that I came to Alaska with such low expectations on the level of acceptance and community.

Drag has forever changed my life for the better. It continues to do so. Drag is a glittery, unapologetic riot.

My name is Roman Wilde. I am a drag king originally from Juneau, Alaska. For the past four years I have dedicated my life to the exploration, celebration and liberation of queerness through the art of Drag.

I wanted to celebrate some queer joy! Recently I was honored to host my first ever monthly Queer Variety show in Skagway, Alaska ("The Northern Lights Have Seen Queer Sights"). The show featuring a rotating cast of drag, burlesque, vocal, visual and magical queer artists!

Drag is a glittery revolution. It has been apart of our culture for centuries. The expression of gender has thrived since time immoral. It will not disappear. No amount of snide comments, conservative slander, homophobic hate will stop it.

I am grateful to this incredible community that has taught, lifted and guided me so far.

This one is for you Southeast!

Roman Wilde (Brita J. Fagerstrom)
He/Him in drag
She/They out of drag
Bisexual
Juneau & Skagway, AK



Growing up gay in Utah, my home state, certainly wasn't without challenge and opposition, however through my years of growth and experience I have learned to live amongst and fight off the vague scent of homophobia that seems to permeate towns of smaller and perhaps more out of touch denizens. This is what I prepared for prior to my departure into the last frontier where I would begin work as a seasonal tour guide.

Even though I have grown resilient, I began to feel the percussive gnawing of my own doubts as to how I will fare in a land populated by fishermen, captains, lumberjacks, people who notoriously didn't take too kindly to those of my variety.

As I packed my bags I included all of my "manliest" clothing. Nothing too overtly flamboyant. No crop tops, no skirts, nothing that could paint an even larger target on my back saying, "Hey! I'm Gay!" I boarded my plane, and although very eager, prepared for a summer of assimilation.

Well, even my best attempts to man up my persona fell flat as soon as I landed at Ketchikan international. I was greeted by my new boss who recognized me only by the red cowboy boots, black leather coat, and mulleted curly red hair. I had been clocked from the start. I was, however, determined to remain aloof. About a week in, although I had thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the town, I found myself exhausted. The sense that one needs to put on a performance just to fit in had already begun to take its toll on my mental health. Throughout my life I have never been one to mask my true self and honest feelings. I have always been unapologetic in the way I live my life, why now?



A QUEER IN KETCHIKAN

Sylvia Rivera

Transgender, Latina, American Gay Liberation Activist (1951-2002)

A transgender Rights activists who provided housing and support to homeless trans youth, Sylvia Rivera was an instrumental figure in the Stonewall uprising and gay liberation movement.

Rivera was a founding member of the Gay Liberation Front and co-founded the radical activist group Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (STAR) alongside close friend American gay liberation and transgender rights activist, Marsha P. Johnson.

A regular attendee at the Stonewall Inn, she is said to have been present during the 1969 riots. Throughout her life, Rivera was homeless and spent time living at Christopher Street Docks in New York City. She always fought for those within the LGBTQ+ community whom she felt were being left behind by mainstream society in the broader rights movement.

When we feel that we're not right
At least not human, not quite
We go and we frolic
Like a gay little hobbit
Through forest and muskeg
To find rest on this leg
To find a fairy grove
That reminds us of love



Loki Scott
They/Them
Queer/Non-binary
Pan/Demisexual
Ketchikan, AK

Photographer:
Christopher Mullen