



Pride Center

SSPC

September 9, 2026

Meliza Zamora Acosta, Cristopher Mendoza,
Allen Ocampo, Dr. Michiko Kealoha





**Turn to a neighbor or
put in the chat.**

**A place you have
felt safe/brave and
welcome?**



It's Official!



canadacollegerwc Grand Opening of the Cañada Pride Center



Last week, students, faculty, staff and administrators celebrated the ribbon cutting of Cañada's first Pride Center. Students and staff shared their stories of what a Pride Center means to them, and what it took to make this space happen. Attendees danced, ate, played Queer Kahoot trivia, painted, made bracelets, and learned Queer Flag history together.

After more than a year of listening to student voices, this space reflects what students asked for: a clear, welcoming, and familiar place for LGBTQ+ support, community, and connection on campus.

The Pride Center offers:

- 🏳️‍🌈 LGBTQ+ support, community events & trainings
- 🏳️‍🌈 Gender-affirming clothing resources & care connections
- 🏳️‍🌈 Queer history equity excursions
- 🏳️‍🌈 QTPOC speakers & programs
- ...and more.

Supported by dedicated staff, including Allen Ocampo, PSC of the Pride Center; Dr. Michiko Kealoha, Director of Equity and SB1491 Designee; and Pride Center Ambassadors Mel and Christopher.

Located in Building 17, Rooms 107 & 109, shared with the Cultural Center, as intersectional work continues to build community across identities and experiences.



Liked by rock.hard005 and 105 others

5 days ago

Cañada College

OFFICE OF EQUITY

How can we support you?

- 🌈 Promote safety and wellness
- 🌈 Provide confidential resources
- 🌈 Host school-wide LGBTQ+ training
- 🌈 Connect you to gender affirming care
- 🌈 Host vibrant LGBTQ+ campus events
- 🌈 Curate free LGBTQ+ hxstory field trips
- 🌈 Hold LGBTQ+ community gatherings
- 🌈 Celebrate YOU at Lavender Grad!

We love you!

This isn't an experience you have to do alone.

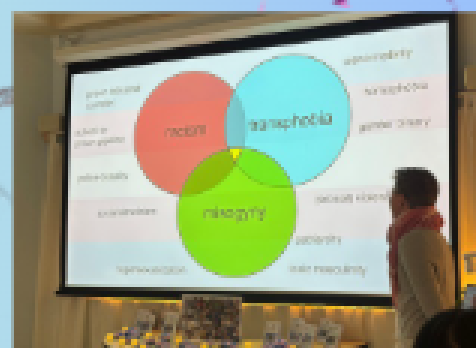


Our Services

***Created by Michiko Kealoha and Nisha Rao, approved by Marketing**

TGNC DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

On National TGNC Day of Remembrance, we celebrated the lives of those lost this past year, discussed intersectionality, and learned about ways to better support our TGNC Community.



NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY



We celebrated National Coming Out Day by hosting an Open Mic at the flex theater. 🎤 We appreciate all the stories shared! 💜

EXPERIENCING COMPTON'S CAFETERIA RIOT



On July 18, the 59th Anniversary of Queer youth from the Vanguard picketing Compton's Cafeteria in the tenderloin of San Francisco, our college's students, faculty, and staff came together to experience the immersive theatrical reenactment of the Compton's Cafeteria Riots and be a witness to the courage, voices, and inspiring legacy of Queer and Trans resistance that continues to shape our world today. In 1966, three years before Stonewall, the Tenderloin district of San Francisco became the stage for one of the first acts of organized LGBTQ+ resistance in the United States. The queens and Transgender women who gathered at Compton's Cafeteria weren't just meeting for a meal—they were building community and finding strength in their shared struggles. When police harassment pushed them too far, they resisted. Their bravery sparked a riot that changed the course of LGBTQ+ history. This is the story of their resilience, their defiance, and their fight for the right to exist. We shed a lot of tears and had some big laughs too, it was such a memorable night. Our Office of Equity even arranged a special session with writers Donna Personna and Mark Nassar after the play to connect and ask questions!

Written by Collette LeGrande, Donna Personna, and Mark Nassar
Directed by Ezra Reeves
Produced by Tenderloin Museum

We host about 10 LGBTQ+ events, trainings, and equity excursions a year!

***Created by Mel Zamora Acosta and Michiko Kealoha**

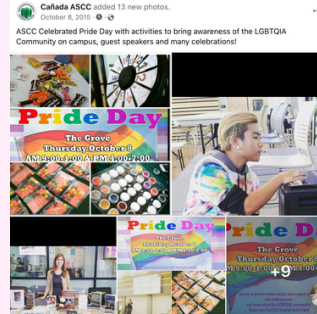
2013

- Student Life offers to change deadnames on Student Body Cards
- Student Life offers to add pronouns on Student Body Cards



2015

- Student Life hosts one of the first campus-wide Pride Days. A tenured retiring faculty who is part of the community said this was the first she'd seen on campus and was so proud.



2016

- Gender Sexuality Alliance Club starts with leadership of Jasper, Beck, Diana
- Student Senate votes for All Gender Restrooms at the Student Senate for California Community Colleges
- Students join Skyline in Pride Ring Orlando Pulse Victims
- First campus-wide Safe Zone training offered at Flex Day



2017



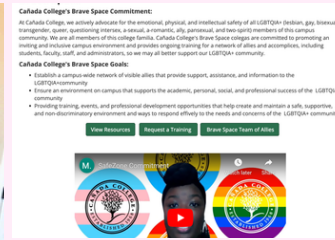
2018 + 2019

- With support from new GSA Advisor Gonzalo Arrizon: GSA, BSU, Student Life host events throughout the year including new Alliance Day program
- Cañada has our first (that we know of!) out Trans Commencement Speaker - Jay!



2020 + 2021

- SafeZone Team Triples after an all-district training!
 - Michiko, Gonzalo, Nimsi, Candice, Mary, Manuel, and Max carry LGBTQ+ programming for four years
- Pronoun option now available on Banner
- Video tutorials created for year-round training
- Virtual SafeZone workshops offered



2022

- Student Life works with Middle College students, and student leader Xen to create all-gender restroom map stickers and works with facilities to get on all bathroom doors
- Student Life works with administration and facilities to create district's first multi-stall all-gender restroom
- SafeZone reimagined and transformed into Brave Space
- Student Life hosts first in-person National Coming Out Day



Our Hxstory

2023

- Dr. Perez and Dr. Kealoha worked with district and campus to get Progress Flag on main campus flag pole for Pride Month
- Progress Flag on stage at Commencement
- Xen created LGBTQ+ identity sashes introduced at graduation
- Completed mural with progress flag being held by an Indigenous person
- Flex training offered
- Dr. Kealoha introduced Lavender Graduation to Brave Space – we start the first Lavender Graduation in the district!



2024 + 2025

- Hire Brave Space Collective student ambassadors
- Create a reparative room designed with LGBTQ+ and neurospicy students in mind with Ambassador Junpei and Xen
- First district-wide Queer Students of Color Conference
- Gender affirming clothes closet
- LGBTQ+ resource video guide created
- Brought students to Stonewall in NYC
- Host equity excursion at Compton's Cafeteria Riot with writer
- Hosting state-wide Cultural Center Conference, CaCCCHE where we brought together QTPOC and Two Spirit speakers and workshops
- Host California Community College LGBTQ+ Summit watch parties
- Create and print a Queer AF Zine with resources, events, student art, co-conspirator stories
- Participate in San Mateo County Pride Celebration and host joint workshops with San Mateo Pride open to the whole community



2026

- Dr. Biglari supported LGBTQ+ students with campus research
- Students Mel, Cris, and Nisha, along with Allen and Dr. Kealoha present Pride Center name change to Cabinet and it was approved!
- District-Wide training together with CSM Pride Center ambassadors
- All-gender restroom stickers updated to have support info
- Name and gender-marker change pamphlets created with A&R



Looking for an all-gender restroom?

Scan the QR code or use the link for a map to all-gender restrooms.

You are loved and welcome on campus.

Need LGBTQ+ support?

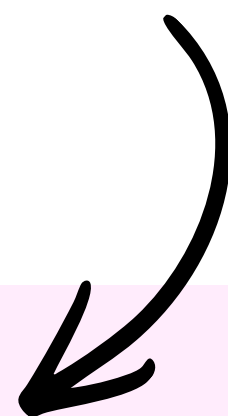
Come to the Pride Center

Building 17, Rooms 107 and 109



<https://canadacollege.edu/about/campusmap.php>

Cañada College
PRIDE CENTER

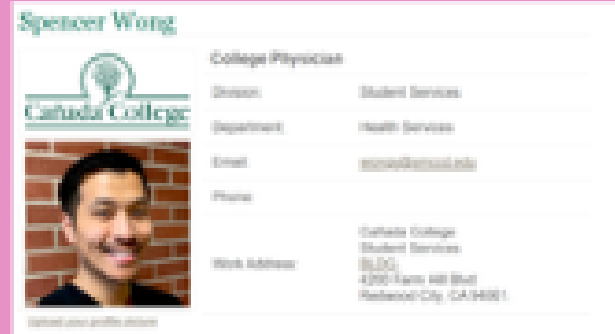


support messaging and location updated for support!

Where's the nearest all gender restrooms to this meeting space?!

***Created by Cristopher Mendoza and Michiko Kealoha, approved by Marketing**

GENDER AFFIRMING CARE



Did you know we have gender affirming care on campus? Dr. Wong offers multiple resources, including:

- How to find a surgeon through the LGBTQ Health Care Directory
- Support with hormone injections and provide support for self-injections

The Pride Center has gently used clothes available for students to take. Ask our staff to check it! Donations are also welcome to continue supporting our community.

Why is gender-affirming care important?

It aligns a person's physical and social traits with their gender identity, which drastically improves mental health and quality of life.

Gender affirming care saves lives.

Want to report discrimination, harassment, violence, or bias?

Dr. Michiko Kealoha is a Confidential LGBTQ+ Student Support Person and, within their role, is NOT a mandated reporter.

What is gender affirming care?
A range of medical, psychological, and social interventions that support an individual's gender identity.

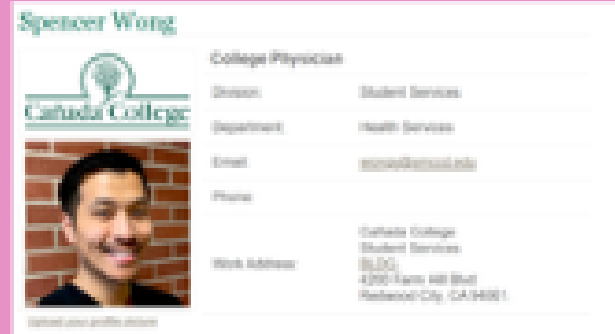
Examples of gender affirming care:

- Hair implants or hair removal
- Breast implants
- Erectile dysfunction treatment
- Hormone therapy for menopausal women
- Covering grey hair
- Testosterone for men
- Rhinoplasty
- Cosmetic Procedures
- Speech Therapy
- Wearing clothes affirms your identity

What are two gender affirming connections for care we have on campus?

***Created by Nisha Rao**

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What are two gender affirming connections for care we have on campus?

Consider donating gently used clothes!

***Created by Nisha Rao**



Connect us with LGBTQ+ messages of support, stories, art by late February.

***Created by Mel Zamora and Michiko Kealoha**



If someone at the College:

- refuses to use your affirmed name
- refuses to use your correct pronouns
- verbally or physically assaults you because of your gender
- SAs you
- Shares your confidential legal name and/or gender-related information without your consent
- Gossips about your gender

you may reference the District's Title IX website, and **file a complaint here:** tinyurl.com/SMCCDtitle9



Have Additional Questions?

Check Out:
tinyurl.com/SMCCDaffirmed

Contact



Hi! I'm
Dr. Michiko Kealoha!
(she/they)

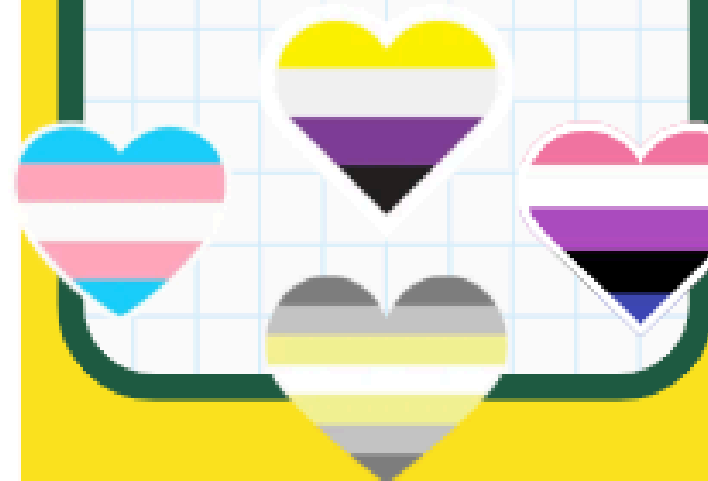
I am your California Senate Bill 1491 Officer. I serve as a confidential point of contact for our LGBTQ+ community on campus.



kealoham@smccd.edu

Cañada College
OFFICE OF EQUITY

**Name/Gender
Marker
Change:
Guide
for
Students**



**Support on
name change,
gender marker
change, or
discrimination...**

***Created by Michiko Kealoha and Nisha Rao, approved by Marketing and A&R**

**To Update
Canvas, Websmart, Class
Roster, Unofficial
Transcript and Diploma
(No Legal Documents Required)**

1. Log In to Your WebSMART
2. Open "General Self-Service: Open Personal Dashboard"
3. Press "Personal Information"
4. Hit "Edit" in the top right corner of the "Personal Details " tab
5. Enter your Preferred Name in the "Preferred First Name" and/or enter your gender marker



**Changes reflected by
the next day**



**To update your
Student Body Card**

Go to Student Life,
Building 5, Room 354
or request one virtually at:
[canadacollege.edu/
studentlife/studentid.php](https://canadacollege.edu/studentlife/studentid.php)

**To Update
Everything with
a Legal Name Change:**

1. Go to the Admissions Office located in Building 9, Floor 1
2. Request a name change
3. Bring your new Social Security card, new photo ID, and court documents with your new legal name

**To Change Your
Name on Your Email
Address, Student ID, or
Commencement Program
(No Legal Documents Required)**

1. Get a "Change of Personal Information" Form here:
<https://tinyurl.com/CANchangeAnR>
2. Fill out the form
3. Press the blue hyperlink at the top that says "Click Here to Submit"
4. Submit the form



**Changes reflected in
7-10 business days**

***Created by Michiko Kealoha and Nisha Rao, approved by Marketing and A&R**



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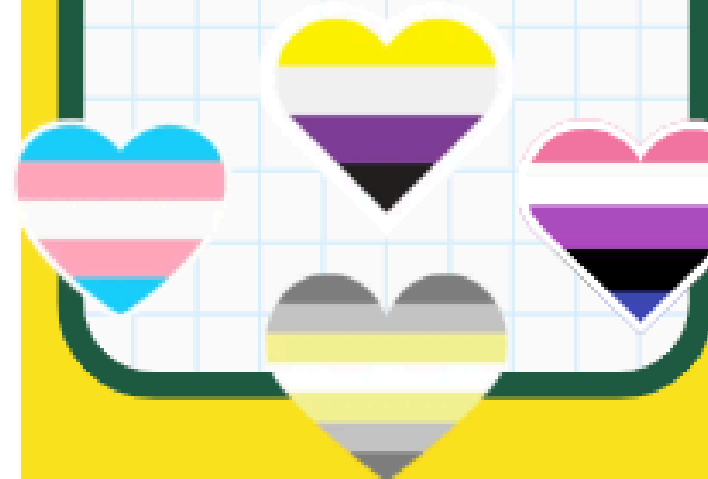
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kealoham@smccd.edu

Cañada College
OFFICE OF EQUITY

**Name/Gender
Marker
Change:
Guide
for
Students**



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Student Equity and Achievement Program

2026-2028



Metric 1: Enrollment

Disproportionately impacted students: first gen, Black/African American, LGBTQIA2SP+ (State data: Asian, White, ~~male~~ male no longer in state data)

Action 1: Anti-racist marketing campaign

Action 2: Implementing listening session feedback

Action 3: Inviting feeder schools to Black excellence event

Action 4: LGBTQIA2SP+ specific marketing materials

Metric 2: Math & Engl.

Disproportionately impacted students: first gen, female, AANHPI female, LGBTQIA2SP+, Latinx

Action 1: New focus on 2nd attempts of courses

Action 2: New classroom intervention

Action 3: Strengthening embedded tutor support

Action 4: Data-informed curriculum development

Metric 6: Student Ed. Plan

Disproportionately impacted students: LatinX, LGBTQIA2SP+, male

Action 1: New comprehensive SEP campaign

Action 2: Utilize orientation for SEP reminder

Action 3: Aligned Comprehensive SEP messaging

Pride Events

Cañada College
PRIDE CENTER



Come support!

08/26

**Pride Center Open
House and Queer Social**

Cultural Center, 17-107

10/07

National Coming Out Day

Cultural Center, 17-107

09/23

**LatinX Heritage Month:
Intersection of LatinX Identity and
Queer Identity**

11:30-1:00PM - Cultural Center

11/04

**Native American History Month:
Two Spirit**

Cultural Center, 17-107

10/07

**San Mateo County Pride Center
Training: Student Leaders on
Becoming Aware of
Assumptions/Implicit Bias - For
Student Leaders**

11/18

**Trans Week of Awareness and Day
of Remembrance**

Cultural Center, 17-107

***Created by Nisha Rao**

