

KELLI DUNHAM SPECIAL PROJECT: QUEER MEMOIR WORKSHOP AND PERFORMANCE

"Queer Memoir is a rollicking, happy,
community building gathering
that is loved and appreciated
by its presenters and audience."
-Sarah Schulman

If you're looking for a way to..

Help support your LGBT identified students;
Assist students who may be struggling in the background to find their voice;
Provide an event that the whole campus will be interested in;

Queer Memoir is the right choice.

Queer Memoir is an LGBT storytelling event that started in New York City two years ago. Despite the fact that it doesn't involve glitter, burlesque, dancing, or drag, it quickly became one of NYC's most popular events, regularly drawing a crowd of more than 100 on any given Saturday night.

What's so special about Queer Memoir?

Queer Memoir is a storytelling event for the entire lesbian, gay, bisexual transgendered and gender nonconforming community as well as an opportunity to give voice to our collective queer experiences, preserve and document our complex queer history and celebrate the ritual and community-building value of storytelling.

The motto of the well known Moth story performance series is "real stories told live without notes" while the motto of Queer Memoir is "real stories told live with whatever you need to get your story told." That means use notes, bring your friends, bring your ukele, ask your friends for support, ask the audience for support...

Queer Memoir has collaborated with Nehirim, NOLOSE, the Fresh Fruit Festival, the Pop Up Museum of Queer History, the Free Library of Philadelphia, the William Way Community Center, and many others.

Here's how to bring Queer Memoir to your campus:

1. Pick a date for the events and book Kelli Dunham, the cofounder of Queer Memoir to visit your campus. You're picking a date for the Queer Memoir workshop and the Queer Memoir show.
2. Advertise the event. Kelli will provide jpegs of the Queer Memoir logo, suggestions for promotion etc.
3. At the workshop, Kelli will work with the participants in a group setting and, after the workshop, one on one, to help them create the narrative arc, tighten the details etc of their story, as well as build what Kelli calls "guts for performance."
4. Workshop participants share their stories at a performance event, usually two days later. Kelli emcees this event and coaches students through their performance.
5. You get great feedback and students feel empowered and, perhaps most importantly, feel their stories matter.