



Call for Workshop Presenters for

15th Annual Rainbow Families Conference, Saturday, April 10, 2010
Anwatin-Bryn Mawr School, 256 Upton Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN

Proposals must be received by January 5, 2010

General Information

Rainbow Families, the Midwest Office of Family Equality Council works to ensure equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) families by building community, changing hearts and minds, and advancing social justice for all families. The annual conference, now in its 15th year, is one of the largest of its kind in the United States, and includes workshops for prospective parents, parents, educators and allies. Children also attend the conference, and enjoy a full day of developmentally appropriate programs and activities.

Presenters are encouraged to focus on issues related to LGBT parents and their children. The conference includes workshops about creating families, general parenting, schools, legal & financial issues, community building, public policy and social justice. We will continue to explore anti-racism and white privilege, class and transgender issues. Workshop format may include a formal presentation, a round table discussion on the topic, or a facilitated panel; however, we encourage all workshops to be as interactive as possible to allow for participant involvement and engagement. **Workshops should be reflective of and inclusive of the diverse LGBT parenting community, including bisexual people, transgender people and people of color.**

Workshop Track Information

The conference is organized into five different tracks. Some topics may lend themselves to more than one track, however we ask presenters to gear their presentation toward one track. Each session will be 75 minutes in length. It is highly recommended that some time be incorporated for discussion or Q & A. If you plan to include media presentations in your workshop, please read the Presenters' Guidelines to see what services are available.

Creating Families Track

Workshops include a wide range of topics about creating families—adoption, foster care, donor insemination, surrogacy, infertility issues—and the decision-making process around starting a family.

General Parenting Track

Workshop topics include developmental stages and challenges of children/youth with LGBT parents. Potential areas include step- and blended-families, co-parenting, transracial family issues, parenting while uncoupling, coming out to your children, school issues or supporting your children in a heated political climate. All workshops need to be specifically geared towards LGBT families rather than general parenting.

Social Justice Track

Topics focus on social justice issues facing LGBT families and their community. Topics include examining racism and white privilege, sexism, and classism in the LGBT community; transgender issues; responses and strategies for dealing with the current political climate; and understanding how these issues intersect with LGBT families.

Legal and Financial Track

Workshops address the many complex legal and financial challenges surrounding the creation, security, and safety of LGBT families. Potential topics include co-parent adoption, creating legal documents to support your family through all stages, and child custody realities and strategies.

Educators in Action Track

Workshops in this track are for E-12 educators and focus on strengthening the understanding of teachers, staff, and administrators to create safe, welcoming, and equitable environments for students and their LGBT parents as well as LGBT youth.

Presenters' Guidelines & Deadlines

- All proposals for workshop presentations need to be submitted using the form and instructions attached.
- Proposals should demonstrate a focus on issues related to LGBT families.
- Workshops should be inclusive of bisexual and transgender parents and parents of color.
- Proposals should attempt to incorporate a social justice lens.
- Each session will be 75 minutes in length. It is highly recommended that discussion time be incorporated.
- While topics may overlap tracks, please keep your proposal focused on one primary track.
- The conference is housed in the Anwatin/Bryn Mawr School in Minneapolis and all sessions are held in classrooms. Please be understanding and flexible with room configurations.
- Most classroom facilities are equipped with chalkboards or white boards, a limited number of classrooms include overhead projectors, VCR, or DVD capability, please specify if needed. *There is no available equipment for Power Point presentations, if you would like to incorporate a PowerPoint presentation in your workshop you will need to bring your own computer and projector.*
- All workshop proposals are reviewed and selected by the conference workshop committee.
- Registration fees for presenters are waived. Families of presenters will only be waived in case of financial need and special circumstances.

Deadline for proposals:	Received by January 5, 2010
Presenters will be notified of acceptance:	January 29, 2010
Deadline for presenter confirmation:	February 12, 2010

Questions?

If you have any questions about workshops, please contact Stephanie at stephanie.hazen@familyequality.org or 651-644-4848 x3. For other Conference related questions, contact Ember Cook at ember.cook@familyequality.org

**2010 Conference Workshop Proposal
Rainbow Families 15th Annual Conference**

Saturday, April 10, 2010
Anwatin-Bryn Mawr Schools, Minneapolis, MN

Proposals are due by January 5, 2010

Presenter Information *(Please attach an additional sheet if there are more than 3 presenters.)*

Presenter #1

Name: _____ Title (if applicable): _____
Phone: _____ Organization: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Please provide a brief biography to include in the program.

Presenter #2

Name: _____ Title (if applicable): _____
Phone: _____ Organization: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Please provide a brief biography to include in the program.

Presenter #3

Name: _____ Title (if applicable): _____
Phone: _____ Organization: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Please provide a brief biography to include in the program.

Workshop Description

Workshop Title (as it will appear in the program): _____

Workshop Description (as it will appear in the program): _____

Please select the track which best fits your proposed workshop:

- Creating Families Track
- General Parenting Track
- Educators in Action Track (for E-12 educators)
- Social Justice Track
- Legal & Financial Track

Format:

- Presentation
- Facilitated Panel
- Roundtable Discussion
- Other: _____

Equipment needs:

- TV/VCR/DVD
- Overhead Projector
- Screen for PowerPoint
(Presenters must supply computer and projector)

About Your Proposal

To better inform proposal decisions, please provide additional information about your proposed workshop beyond what you included in the workshop description above.

What do you hope participants will take away from this workshop?

How does this workshop specifically address issues related to LGBT families?

How does this workshop incorporate Rainbow Families Conference's commitment to social justice and inclusion of marginalized groups within the LGBT community?

Please submit proposal by January 5, 2010 to:

Rainbow Families
1821 W. University Ave. #109
St. Paul, MN 55104

OR email to stephanie.hazen@familyequality.org

Please do not fax!

We recommend that you retain a copy of this form for your records. All workshop proposals are reviewed by the conference workshop committee, and notification will follow. **Thank you** for your interest and willingness to participate in this year's conference.