Gender Spectrum

Part summer camp for kids, part support and learning weekend for parents, part peer support and education for teens, the Gender Spectrum Conference is the oldest and largest conference in the U.S. exclusively for families with Transgender, Non-binary and Gender-expansive children and youth. The Conference weekend is preceded by a day-long Professionals’ Symposium where youth-serving professionals come together to discuss the most up-to-date information and
best practices for serving gender-expansive children and youth.

The 2019 dates are:

Professionals’ Symposium
Friday, July 19

Gender Spectrum Conference
Saturday and Sunday, July 20-21

Register for the 2019 Conference here.

Registration closes June 30th. There will be no onsite registration.

Because we are growing every year and our space is limited, youth program numbers will be capped, so please register early!

Sliding scale tickets are available—we want you to attend! Check the registration page for details.

Register for the 2019 Symposium here.

Read more about this year’s Symposium here.

The registration pages have more information about the Conference and Symposium – you can also find this information here.

See information about last year’s Conference schedule and programming here.

We Are Grateful to Our Conference Sponsors and Partners

Champion
Tencue Productions
Ally
What They’re Saying About the Conference

Watch these short videos to see what parents and teens have said about the Gender Spectrum Conference.
Gender Spectrum
Watch this short video to see what professionals have said about the Symposium.

**The Professionals’ Symposium**

The 2019 Gender Spectrum Professionals’ Symposium is an opportunity for those of you who work with youth and/or families to increase your knowledge about gender and gender-diversity and the best ways to support gender-expansive children and teens. It’s also a great way to connect with hundreds of other educators, health professionals, social service providers, and others and share best-practices, stories and support.

I found it very valuable to be at a place where there were not only health care professionals, but also mental health professionals, social workers, teachers, students, parents, and administrators. This added to the quality of learning and will help me provide patient-centered, affirming care.

Workshops will explore gender within a variety of disciplines – education, medicine, the law, mental health/counseling, faith, and child welfare. Beyond practical applications within these areas, questions about the ways in which race, religion, class and other aspects of identity impact a young person’s gender experience will also be featured.

Led by many of the leading figures in the field of gender and youth, some of the workshops that will be held this year include:

- The Complicated and Complementary Relationship Between Transgender and Intersex Identities
- Exploring the Relationship Between Gender identity, Body Image & Eating Disorders
- Doing Gender Work as a Non-binary or Transgender Professional
- Spiritual Trauma and Mental Health Among Transgender and Gender Expansive Youth and their Families
- Supporting Transgender and Non-Binary Students
- Gender Inclusive Puberty and Health Education
- Addressing Transgender and Non-Binary Trauma in Medical and Mental Health Care Settings
- Gender and Neurodiversity
- Non-binary Medical Interventions
- Non-binary Youth: Clinical Complexities of Supporting Gender Creativity in a Binary World

Register for the Symposium [here.](#)

See information about last year’s Symposium schedule and programming [here.](#)
Volunteer Opportunities

We need volunteers for the Conference and Symposium! Last year more than 150 volunteers came together with us over the three days to make the weekend go smoothly for the 1,300 youth, parents, families and professionals in attendance.

This year we need volunteers for all three days, especially people who have experience working with youth. We also need help with art, facilities/AV support, Spanish translation, administration and general support.

We strongly encourage transgender, non-binary and gender-expansive people to apply, especially for working with our youth programs.

Click here to learn more and apply to be a volunteer.

Conference Information, Programming and Logistics

(For information on the Symposium, click here.)

The 2019 Gender Spectrum Conference will take place on Saturday, July 20th and Sunday, July 21st at Saint Mary’s College of California in Moraga, CA.

The conference is a place where transgender, non-binary, and otherwise gender-expansive young people and their families can come together to learn, be supported, and connect with others in a safe and reassuring environment.

Our theme this year is “Come As You Are.” No matter where you and your family are in your gender journey, this conference is for you. Together, we will explore what it means for each one of us to define our own personal gender, not only in context of other aspects of who we are, but also while navigating relationships in our communities and families. We invite you to come as you are and join us in this journey of learning and connecting with each other.

If you are new to the conference, you and your family will find information and resources to help you. Past conference attendees tell us that they left the conference with the understanding and tools needed to better care for themselves and their families... and you will too. There is something here for you.

If you’ve been to the conference in the past, we encourage you to attend again. Not only will you gain new insights for yourself and your family, and new strategies to meet your child’s evolving developmental needs, you’ll provide community and support for other families and young people.

Please note: We want everyone who is interested in attending to be able to do so. We have sliding scale tickets available. See the registration page for details.
Conference Information and FAQs

Programming

The Gender Spectrum Conference is an opportunity for youth and families to spend a weekend gaining the resources, information, and community needed to help young people effectively navigate their world. Workshops for caregivers, parents, and other family members will focus on expanding your knowledge base on key subjects and providing access to some of the leading experts in a variety of fields. The conference promises to be an unforgettable event for everyone who attends. The peaceful surroundings, amazing staff, and incredibly supportive community will make it a weekend that will stay with you long after your trip home.

This year’s program offers exciting new content for both new and returning attendees. We have received feedback from returning families that ongoing conference attendance helps to fortify their experience and provide additional opportunities to learn, address the changing needs of their child, receive support and share their experience with families attending for the first time. Because we know many families return to the conference, we are adding new programming to address your particular needs.

Youth Programming

Youth programming is designed to meet the needs and interests of children and teens at different stages of their lives. Kids are placed in the program associated with the most recent grade level they completed (they do not have to be enrolled in school to attend Youth Programming).

If you would like your child to move to the group above or below their grade level, you must contact events@genderspectrum.org well in advance of the conference to discuss this change with the program leads. We will not switch youth to different programs on site.

High School – Youth who will have completed Grades 9-12 by July 2019

The High School program is unique, dynamic, and a safe space for all teens. We strongly believe in creating content and activities that are inclusive for our young people with a broad range of gender identities and expressions. Teens will have the opportunity to meet others in small groups, larger all-group activities, as well as attend sessions focused on topics that are important to their lives.

The program for high school aged youth will explore how gender intersects with other dimensions of identity. This means we will look at issues related to identity like: race, ethnicity, faith and class. We will also look at issues related to the lives of young people like: family and other personal relationships, body image, life at school, intimacy, sexuality, and privacy and disclosure. We value the importance of allowing opportunities for conversations in smaller groups, as well as opportunities to talk with professionals. Those seeking personalized information are encouraged to do so at any point. Most importantly, we want to build an amazing, supportive, safe, and fun weekend for everyone.

All youth, including siblings, attend the same programming, and there is some content specifically for siblings to attend on their own. If you have any questions about the High
School Program, please contact Jenna at events@genderspectrum.org.

*Middle School – Youth who will have completed grades 6-8 by July 2019*

Middle school aged youth will find an exciting mix of fun outdoor and indoor activities, along with interesting sessions for youth to learn more about themselves and their friends. This year’s middle school program will balance opportunities to delve deeply into gender while creating plenty of space for those less inclined to explore the topic and who simply want to have fun with peers. Middle schoolers will have the opportunity to participate in a few activities with the high school program. The weekend will be an opportunity for youth to build connections with their peers, explore gender, and have fun in a safe and supportive setting!

All youth, including siblings, attend the same programming, and there is some content specifically for siblings to attend on their own. If you have any questions about the Middle School Program, please contact Jenna at events@genderspectrum.org.

*Youth who will have completed grades 3-5 by July 2019*

Designed to meet the specific needs of upper elementary school students, our 3rd-5th Program will feature fun and interactive activities designed to engage and wear out even the most energetic of kids! If you have any questions about the 3rd-5th Program, please contact Laura at events@genderspectrum.org.

*Youth who will have completed grades K-2 by July 2019*

Our K-2nd Program will be designed with a single goal in mind: FUN! A whirlwind of art, dance, crafts, and imagination will allow this rambunctious group to have an experience where they can play, play, play. Led by sensitive staff supporting every child to participate in the weekend’s activities, there will be more than one adult who wishes they were at kid’s camp! If you have any questions about the K-2nd Program, please contact Nathanael at events@genderspectrum.org.

*Childcare for infants to pre-K*

Gender Spectrum provides childcare for all little ones who are not yet in kindergarten. As with the rest of our programming for kids, these youngsters will be surrounded by loving staff who will keep even the most restless little ones busy and engaged. You need to include your infant or pre-schooler in the “badge names” on your registration so we know who is coming and can adequately prepare for our youngest conference attendees. If you have any questions about the Childcare/Pre-K Program, please contact Jessica at events@genderspectrum.org.

**Registration Fees**

There are several ticket choices for attending the conference, as we are trying to accommodate as many situations as possible and keep costs down for attendees. The popular “Family” ticket allows you to bring up to eight people, including kids, teens, and adults. It includes lunch for up to four people for Saturday and Sunday; if your Family ticket is for more than four people, you must purchase additional lunch tickets. There is a separate
materials fee for each child attending any of our Youth Programming.

If you are an individual or small family/group, such as one adult and one or more children/teens, purchasing an Individual Adult ticket plus one or more Youth tickets may be more economical.

We welcome everyone and have sliding scale ticket options to help with conference program costs if needed. Please see Sliding Scale Tickets below for more information.

If you have any questions about which type of registration is best for you, please email us at events@genderspectrum.org and we will be happy to answer your questions!

Payment Methods

There are two payment options: PayPal or a credit card.

If you do not use credit cards, you can pay for your registration by check or money order. Please email us first so we can determine your costs.

Ticket Prices

- Online registration closes June 30th. There will be NO ONSITE REGISTRATION.
- Because we are growing every year and our space is limited, YOUTH PROGRAM NUMBERS WILL BE CAPPED, so please register early!
- Family ticket*: Conference attendance for up to 8 people of any age (includes children, teens and adults). Includes up to 4 Saturday lunches and 4 Sunday lunches. If you have 5 or more on Family ticket, you must purchase extra lunch tickets. Please also purchase materials fee for each child who is participating in Youth Programming. Registration price is $550; there is no onsite registration.
  ○ Materials fee: $25 per child/teen
  ○ Extra Lunch ticket: $22 per person (covers both Saturday and Sunday)
- Individual Adult ticket: registration price is $280; lunches for Saturday and Sunday included in this ticket.
- Youth ticket: $85 (for children ages 5 and up, not already on a Family ticket); this ticket includes the Materials fee and lunches for Saturday and Sunday. For children 4 and under, there is no registration fee but we do ask for the $25 materials fee to help cover childcare costs. Youth under 16 are not permitted to attend on their own.
- One Day Pass: $215. Includes lunch for the one day of attendance.

* Family tickets include up to eight people of any age and can include family members, family friends or other adults who want to support a child or teen in their life.

Lunch for up to four people is included in the Family ticket. If you have more than four people on your Family ticket, please purchase additional lunch tickets. Please also purchase materials fee for each child who is participating in Youth Programming.

Sliding Scale Tickets

We offer sliding scale tickets to make the conference available to all who are interested in
attending. We ask that attendees pay a minimum of $22 per person for their sliding scale tickets. If this is not affordable, please contact events@genderspectrum.org. Sliding scale tickets do not include housing.

Register here.

Refunds on Tickets

Gender Spectrum will offer a full refund on registration tickets, minus a $25 processing fee, for cancellations until May 31st, 2019. From June 1st to June 19th, we will offer a 50% refund. Beginning June 20th, we are unable to provide any refunds.

Site Information, Housing, and Meals

We are excited to be hosting the conference again this year at Saint Mary’s College of California. It is a beautiful campus in Moraga, CA.

Lunches for Saturday and Sunday are included in the price of registration. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options are available. Only family tickets with more than four people will need to purchase additional lunch tickets. If you are staying on campus, breakfast and dinner are included in the on-campus housing/meal packages.

No animals are allowed on the Saint Mary’s College of California campus with the exception of service dogs. No smoking is allowed in any campus buildings, only in outdoor areas.

On-Campus Housing

We are offering the Suite-Style Residence Halls for campus housing this year (note: we have the suite style rooms listed on this page, not the townhouses). You can take a virtual tour of one of the suites here, though the suites we are assigned may vary in configuration. Staying on campus will provide a unique experience for attendees, allowing for extra time to connect with other attendees, as well as the opportunity for students to get a feel for what it’s like to be on a college campus. Dinner the night of your stay and breakfast the morning after are included in the on-campus housing/meal package during regular cafeteria hours.

Each suite is comprised of single or double bedrooms with one or two single beds in each room, and a shared bathroom. If you purchase a single, you will have a room to yourself in a suite where you will share a bathroom. Families may be asked to share a suite with another family. There is limited availability for on campus housing/meal packages, so reserve early if you would like to stay on campus! Youth under 18 are not permitted to stay in campus housing without an adult.

Pricing for On-Campus Housing/Meal Tickets

Housing tickets are purchased on a per person basis (i.e. per bed) and come with a meal package. Youth under 18 have a special discounted rate. The college provides an optional linen service for an additional cost. Linen service includes a blanket, pillow, bed sheets and bath towel. No toiletries are provided in campus housing, so please bring your own. If you purchase a ticket without linen service, then please also bring your own bedding (including
your own pillow), and towels.

Housing/meal tickets include dinner the evening you check in and breakfast the next morning during normal cafeteria hours. Lunches are already included with registration tickets.

Children age 4 and under may share a bed and eat at no cost. If you have a child age 4 or younger who wants their own bed, please do not purchase a housing ticket for them, but rather contact us at events@genderspectrum.org for discounted pricing.

1 Adult WITH linens (single): $75 per night
1 Adult WITHOUT linens (single): $65 per night
1 Adult WITH linens (double): $70 per night
1 Adult WITHOUT linens (double): $60 per night
1 Youth (age 5-17) WITH linens: $65 per night
1 Youth (age 5-17) WITHOUT linens: $55 per night

Attendees can check into their rooms starting at 3:00 pm on the afternoon of their arrival, and must check out of their rooms no later than 6:30 pm on Sunday, July 21st. A $25 per person late fee will be charged for late departures. The college will charge $75 for any keys not turned in at check out and $150 if locks need to be replaced for safety reasons.

Please contact us at events@genderspectrum.org for any questions about accommodations or meals.

Hotel

We have a block of rooms at the Marriott in Walnut Creek. Use this link to book at our discounted conference rate.

Finding a Host Family

If you are interested in finding a host family for the conference weekend, there is a group called “Housing for 2019 Gender Spectrum Conference” on the Lounge, our online community, where you can list your housing needs and search for families offering a place to stay. You would make arrangements directly with potential host families and vet them to see if they are a good fit for you and your family. Gender Spectrum is not organizing these housing matches and is not responsible for them.

Documents Clinic

The Documents Clinic is an opportunity to meet with legal staff to discuss specific questions, fill out paperwork, or otherwise explore the process for aligning your child’s gender identity with various identity documents (identity cards, driver’s licenses, passports, birth certificates).

We will not be offering one-on-one meetings with providers this year, but if you need help with referrals, please contact us at events@genderspectrum.org

Accessibility
Language Interpretation Assistance

Requests for ASL, Spanish or other language interpretation during the event should be made by June 20th to events@genderspectrum.org. We will attempt to meet requests made after that date if possible.

Wheelchair Access

St. Mary’s is a wheelchair accessible campus and all workshop rooms will have a reserved space for wheelchair use.

Fragrances

Please join us in ensuring accessibility for all members of our Gender Spectrum community by not wearing fragrances or scents. Some previous attendees and volunteers have had scent sensitivities that have impacted their experience at the conference and we want to allow all who desire the ability to attend.

Directions and Public Transportation

Saint Mary’s College of California is accessible by freeway, public transit and train, and is convenient to two major metropolitan airports.

Address

Saint Mary’s College of California
1928 Saint Mary’s Road
Moraga, CA 94556

From San Francisco Bay Bridge or San Rafael/Richmond Bridge

Take Highway 580 toward Hayward and then Highway 24 toward Walnut Creek. Once through the Caldecott Tunnel, take the second exit, which will be marked Orinda/Moraga. Turn right and follow Moraga Way about five miles. Turn left onto Moraga Road, then right onto Saint Mary’s Road. The College is about one mile farther on the right.

From Walnut Creek/Highway 680

Take Highway 24 west (Oakland direction) to the Central Lafayette exit and bear to the right, circling under the highway. At the second stoplight take a right onto Mt. Diablo Boulevard. At the next stoplight take a left onto Moraga Road. You will want to be in the left hand lane. Make a left onto Saint Mary’s Road. Follow this road for about four miles; the College will be on the left.

Public Transportation

There are two BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) subway stops – Orinda and Lafayette – that connect to the bus lines of the County Connection (a regional public transportation company) which service the area where SMC is located. Take the Route 6 Lafayette/Moraga/Orinda bus
from either Orinda or Lafayette; the bus makes regularly scheduled stops right in front of Saint Mary’s. Caltrain runs between downtown San Francisco and San Jose, including passage through several Peninsula cities and service to Millbrae, which has a BART connection to both San Francisco International Airport and Saint Mary’s College.

Air Travel

If you plan to fly into the San Francisco Bay Area, we suggest flying into the Oakland International Airport, which is located approximately 40 minutes from the Moraga campus.

For More Information

Please visit us at www.genderspectrum.org for more information and updates about this year’s event. You can also find resources and learn about our many other services and activities. We can be reached at events@genderspectrum.org with any questions.

Professionals’ Symposium: Logistics and Information

Gender Spectrum Professionals’ Symposium

The 2019 Gender Spectrum Professionals’ Symposium will take place on Friday, July 19th at St. Mary’s College of California in Moraga, CA.

The Professionals’ Symposium is designed for individuals who serve transgender, non-binary, and otherwise gender-expansive youth and/or their families. Participants engage in programming and acquire resources designed to build their capacity to support families and young people around issues of gender.

Workshops are organized around a variety of disciplines – education, medicine, the law, mental health/counseling, social services, and child welfare. In addition, a number of workshops focus on a range of interdisciplinary topics including how the intersection of gender and race, religion, class, and other aspects of identity impact a young person’s gender experience.

We will offer workshops for those just beginning in the field of gender-affirmative care as well as a number of in-depth sessions and advanced topics for even the most experienced professionals. Workshops will be specifically labelled as “entry level” or “advanced,” in order to better support participants wherever they are along their own learning curve. There are also opportunities to meet with colleagues and develop new relationships to help strengthen your work with youth and their families.

Some of our popular workshop sessions from past years included The Biology of Gender: Emerging Understandings, Creating Gender Inclusive Schools, and Supporting the Sphere: Exploring Medical and Mental Health Options for Non-Binary Individuals, and others. For a complete look at last year’s program, click here.

We hope you will join us for this full day of learning dedicated to helping the young people we support to effectively navigate their world. The program, schedule, logistics and more for the event will be posted on this page later this spring.
Gender Spectrum Conference

In the past, many professionals attending Friday's event have also found it useful to participate in the Gender Spectrum Conference, taking place at St. Mary’s College of California in Moraga, CA on July 20th and 21st. A companion to the Symposium, the conference provides unique insights for professionals through participation in programming and activities specifically designed for families with transgender and non-binary children and teens.

Symposium Registration Fees

Tickets

There are three ticket options for this event. Lunch is included with all tickets. Online registration closes June 30th.

- Professionals’ Symposium ticket: purchase this ticket if you are ONLY attending the Professionals’ Symposium on Friday, July 19th: registration is $355 (for those registering by June 30th); onsite registration is $380.
- Professionals’ Symposium ticket AND Individual Adult Ticket for Gender Spectrum Conference: purchase this ticket if you are attending BOTH the Professionals’ Symposium AND the 2019 Gender Spectrum Conference. Registration is $545 (for those registering from by June 30th); there is no onsite registration for this ticket. If you need a Family ticket for the conference instead of an Individual Adult ticket, or if you need housing tickets, please purchase those on the Conference registration site: https://2019gsconference.eventbee.com and place a note in the comments that you are attending the Symposium.
- Student ticket: $115.

Nonprofit discounts are available. Discounts for groups are available-get 5 tickets for the price of 4; please email us at events@genderspectrum.org to inquire.

Register here.

Payment Methods

You can use either PayPal or a credit card to pay your event fees.

If you prefer not to use credit cards, you can pay for your registration by check or money order. Please email us first so we can determine your costs.

Refunds on Symposium Tickets

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Continuing Education Credit
Gender Spectrum is approved by the California Psychological Association to provide continuing professional education for psychologists. Gender Spectrum maintains responsibility for this program and its content. The California Board of Behavioral Sciences accepts continuing education credit granted by the California Psychological Association or by any of its Approved Providers. Maximum number of continuing education hours available: 6.0. The 2019 Gender Spectrum Professionals’ Symposium is being reviewed by the American Academy of Family Physicians for credit.

**Site Information**

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**Accessibility**

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Please join us in ensuring accessibility for all members of our Gender Spectrum community by not wearing fragrances or scents. Some previous attendees and volunteers have had scent sensitivities that have impacted their experience at the conference and we want to allow all who desire the ability to attend.

**Lunch**

Symposium tickets include lunch. Saint Mary’s College of California has a wonderful cafeteria with a selection of choices for lunch that should please all attendees. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options are available (please indicate need for vegan or gluten-free options in registration).

Please note: there will not be enough time during lunch to leave the campus and return in time for afternoon programming.

**Housing**

We have on-campus housing, which can be purchased on the [Conference registration site](#). We also have a block of rooms at the Marriott in Walnut Creek. Use [this link](#) to book at our discounted conference rate.

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