JOIN OUR LLC!

Please visit the SUNY New Paltz Residence Life webpage to download an application.

CONTACT US:

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Who is Eligible?
- Identify under the LGBTQ+ umbrella or as an Ally
- First year students, transfers, and current students*  

*due to housing restrictions, if current students have moved off campus they are not eligible to return.*
WHAT IS A LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY?

Living-learning communities offer students with similar interests, majors, or lifestyles, the opportunity to live together in the same residence hall during the academic year.

The LLC experience includes two courses (WOM193 and WOM293) graded on a pass/fail basis, in which students will participate in guest lectures, community celebrations, literature and film discussions, leadership and awareness trainings, and creativity workshops. There will be voluntary special community events (such as conference attendance and an Autumn Harvest dinner) in addition to mandatory meetings each semester. See individual course schedules for details. Required programming fee: $50 for the year.

WHERE IS RIVERA HOUSE?

Students participating in the program will be housed in Lenape Hall. All Lenape hall rooms are designated triples. They consist of a large L-shaped room with a bathroom shared by the three students living in the room. Students are allowed to live with differently gendered roommates and will have the chance to identify their preferences on the housing application.

BENEFITS OF RIVERA HOUSE:

- Have priority access to a multitude of programming specifically for LGBTQ+ individuals and their allies.
- Support and lead anti-racist, feminist, and queer actions on campus and in the community within an organized network of similarly minded students, faculty, staff, and community members.
- Participate in an LGBTQ+ peer mentorship program not only to adjust to everyday life at SUNY New Paltz but also to develop strategies for lifelong social and physical health.
- Cultivate meaningful relationships within an intentional community of supportive peers, faculty, and staff working together to create safe, welcoming spaces to express who you are, discuss LGBTQ+ issues, and have fun.

WHY “RIVERA HOUSE”?

The LGBTQ+ Living-Learning Community at SUNY New Paltz is named after Puerto Rican and Venezuelan-American transgender activist Sylvia Rae Rivera (b 1951- d 2002).

Rivera, born and raised in New York City, was a devoted social justice activist and fierce advocate for LGBTQ youth of color. Her activism linked to homelessness and poverty, racism, transphobia and heterosexist discrimination was extensive. She was involved in a variety of grassroots organizations and movements including the Puerto Rican Young Lords and the Black Panthers. She was also a founding member of the Gay Liberation Front, the Gay Activists Alliance, and co-founder of the Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries. Rivera was committed to changing conditions and the quality of life for those who, like her, were on the margins of not only mainstream society but also the mainstream LGBT rights movement.

Taking our cue from Rivera, Rivera House residents are committed to an intersectional social justice approach to learning, living, and acting.

PROGRAM CORNERSTONES:

- Developing a safe and supportive environment for all people at SUNY New Paltz.
- Improving the campus climate around LGBTQ+ concerns and for the LGBTQ+ community.
- Addressing issues of equity and social justice from an intersectional perspective.