

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Weekly Newsletter

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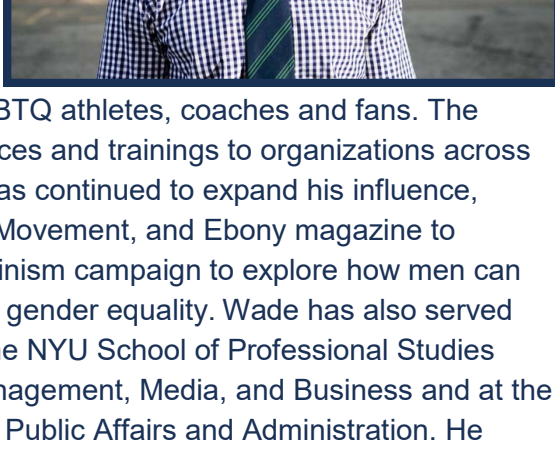
- Black History Month
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Black History Month Another Perspective...

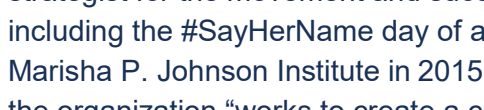
In addition to the events happening around campus this month, and the daily updates on the MassBay's social media pages, we wanted to take a moment and highlight just a few of the amazing members of the LGBTQ+ black community and their important, but not always recognized, perspectives and work.

Wade Davis Jr.

Davis is a former NFL player, but has made a larger impact off the field. In 2012 Wade was announced as the Executive Director of You Can Play, an organization dedicated to breaking down barriers and ensuring the safety of all LGBTQ athletes, coaches and fans. The organization provides resources and trainings to organizations across the U.S. Since then, Wade has continued to expand his influence, partnering with the #MeToo Movement, and Ebony magazine to launch a #BlackMenandFeminism campaign to explore how men can serve as allies in the fight for gender equality. Wade has also served as an Adjunct Professor at the NYU School of Professional Studies Tisch Institute for Sports Management, Media, and Business and at the Rutgers University School of Public Affairs and Administration. He continues to lecture on the intersections of race, sexuality, gender, and sports at universities nationally and internationally. Check out his TedTalk : [The Mask of Masculinity](#)



Adapted from: <https://wadeadavis.com/about/>



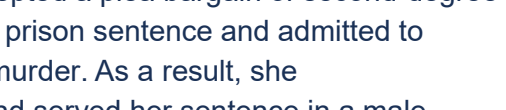
Elle Hearn

Hearn is a transgender rights activist and is an outspoken voice for the LGBTQ+ and black community. In 2013, she co-founded the Black Lives Matter Global Network in response to the shooting of Trayvon Martin. This organization fights against racism and anti-black biases and is a staunch protector of black lives. She was a key strategist for the movement and successfully lead many campaigns including the #SayHerName day of action. She would go on to form the Marisha P. Johnson Institute in 2015. According to Hearn's website, the organization "works to create a crucial entry point for Black transgender women to advocate for an end to violence against all trans people through advocacy, transformative organizing, restoration, civil disobedience and direct action." Through the Marisha P. Johnson Institute, Hearn organized the first National Day of Action for Black Trans Women in 2015, as a response to the consecutive murders of trans black women. She has given a number of keynote speeches at various institutions, including Harvard University, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Columbia University, Stanford University and NYU. Today, she continues to serve as the executive director of the Marisha P. Johnson Institute.

Adapted From: <https://ellehearns.com/>

CeCe McDonalds

In 2011 McDonald and her friends were assaulted outside of a bar by a group of men who were targeting her based on her race and transgender identity. In self defense, McDonalds stabbed one of the men and was subsequently charged with second-degree intentional murder. Before the trial, she accepted a plea bargain of second-degree manslaughter to avoid a 20-year prison sentence and admitted to criminal negligence rather than murder. As a result, she was imprisoned for 41 months and served her sentence in a male prison. She was only allowed her hormone treatments through an online petition. Her arrest and subsequent imprisonment led to media attention, with many people calling for her release. She has brought attention to the disproportionate arrest of transgender women of color who acted in self-defense against hate crimes, and how transgender inmates are treated in American prison systems. After she was released early on good behavior, McDonalds spoke out about her experience on MSNBC and was later profiled by The Rolling Stone. Today, McDonalds advocates for other transgender people within the American Justice system. In 2016, actress Laverne Cox and filmmaker Jac Gares produced a documentary about McDonald's incarceration.



To learn more about Denise and what she stands for, please visit the website here: <http://www.denisesimmons.com/about>

These are just a few individuals, and we encourage you to continue to explore and research many more.

If you, or any friends, ever feel like they need someone to talk to, here are some local resources that may be able to provide additional support.

LGBT Helpline and Peer Listening Line Peer Listening Line (25 & Under):

(617) 267-2535 or Toll-Free: (800) 399-PEER
Help, information, referrals, and support for a range of issues without being judged or rushed into any decision you are not prepared to make. Talk to our trained volunteers about safer sex, coming out, where to find gay-friendly establishments, HIV and AIDS, depression, suicide, and anti-gay/lesbian harassment and violence. no matter what is on your mind, we are here to encourage and ensure you that you are not alone. Help lines are anonymous and confidential.

Greater Boston PFLAG

85 River St., Suite 3A P.O. Box 541619 Waltham, MA 02454
(781) 891-5966
www.gbpflag.org

Greater Boston PFLAG offers help for LGBT youth, their families, and communities around the topic of sexual identity. Trained parent and family volunteers are available to answer questions, listen, and provide resources through their help line: 866-427-3524. Many support groups available.

Boston GLASS Community Center

75 Amory St. Boston, MA 02119
(857) 399-1920
<https://jri.org/services/health-and-housing/health/boston-glass>

A drop-in center for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning young people between the ages of 13 and 25. You can get something to eat, use the computers to build a resume, or talk to a staff person and get help or support on everything from housing issues to health care. Many support groups available.

Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition

(617) 778-0519
www.masstpc.org

The Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition (MTPC) is dedicated to ending oppression and discrimination on the basis of gender identity and gender expression. Rooted in social justice, they educate the public, advocate in government, engage in activism visit <http://www.masstpc.org/community-events/calendar/> for events and meetings near you .

Trans Health Program Patient Advocate

2nd Floor of the Ansin Building, 1340 Boylston Street, Boston MA
(857) 313-6589
<http://fenwayhealth.org/care/medical/transgender-health/>

Health Patient Advocate can help you find health information and resources, and assist you in figuring out your next steps for getting the care you need. Services are free and available on a walk-in basis for 20-minute sessions on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

The Trevor Project 24/7 Trevor Lifeline:

(866) 488-7386
www.thetrevorproject.org

The Trevor Project is the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth.

Sidney Borum Jr. Health Center

75 Kneeland Street Boston, MA 02111
(617) 457-8140
www.sidneyborum.org

Provides safe, non-judgmental care for young people ages 12–29 who may not feel comfortable going anywhere else. They provide medical care, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment, STD testing and treatment, women's health care, transgender care, and provide sensitive, respectful and appropriate care to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBT) youth and young adults.

Safe Homes

4 Mann Street Worcester, MA 01602
(508) 755-0333
<http://safehomesma.org/>

Safe Homes is a program of The Bridge of Central Massachusetts. It is a program for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning young people between the ages of 14 and 23, and is led by youth, professional staff, and volunteer adult advisors. They offer support and resources in a safe and nurturing environment.

Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Transgender Youth

(617) 227-4313
www.bagly.org

BAGLY is a youth-led, adult-supported social support organization committed to social justice, and creating, sustaining and advocating for programs, policies, and services for GLBT youth 22 and under.

Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders

30 Winter Street, STE 800, Boston, MA 02108
(617) 426-1350
www.glad.org

They are New England's leading legal rights organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status and gender identity and expression. If you are interested in learning more about your rights, visit the above website and click on the "Know your Rights" tab.

Boston Area Transgender Support

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/boston-area-trans-support/info?guccounter=1>

They are a peer-run support group for transgender young adults in and around Boston. They are inclusive of both female-to-male (FTM) spectrum and male-to-female (MTF) spectrum individuals, genderqueer persons, intersexed folks, and of those questioning their gender identity. Meetings emphasize group participation and mutual respect, and all discussions are confidential between members Our members strive to keep the meetings free of judgments and full of acceptance.

