San Diego Mesa College Pride Center



Lucio Lira, M.S., APCC (He/They/Él)

Adjunct Pride Center Counselor Coordinator

Student Voices - Community Needs

Disability and Neurodivergent Inclusion

"Oh, I want a safe place to read and study about queer stuff. But also other stuff. I want it to be accessible for people who have disabilities of different types, because I have blind, queer friends. I have queer friends who use wheelchairs I'm a service dog user who is queer like there's so many people with disabilities, and especially there's a lot of Trans and non-binary people on the autism spectrum make sure it's autism friendly...

If there's a place at t e pride center where it can be quiet and not overstimulating that would be awesome."



Student Voices - Community Needs

Intersectional Inclusion

"...Make sure there are people of color in [flyers] you mixed race like couples, that kind of stuff, because my husband is black, and we don't ever really get to like experience things that much that have like a black guy and a white guy together on this like ad or poster, or whatever we don't get represented in the media as much as a mixed race gay trans couple, which, by the way, neither one of us is technically Gay, because I'm poly flux and he's pan, so like we, we're never represented in stuff, especially people with like disabilities on top of all that we have so many.



Student Voices - Community Needs

Counseling and Other Resources

"...I think it would be really great if we could have, like, maybe like one or two mental health counselors because I know that that's a huge thing that us in the community that we face a lot of problems with that. So maybe just have like one or two or you know however many y'all can employ. I don't know but and then also with that some substance abuse counselors, because that's a huge issue in our community especially, and I think it's just awesome that we're having a sober space to get together, you know, as LGBTQ+ folks because normally it's centered around, you know, drinking and drugs, clubs and all that, and then they get it."





Pride Center... coming soon!

Exciting news! San Diego Mesa College will open our new Pride Center this Fall 2022!

The Pride Center goal is to provide a safe campus space for anyone regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnic heritage, and/or cultural background.

Pride Center Services:

- Space to Connect with Other Folx
- Academic, Career, & Personal Counseling
- Events that Honors identities/intersectionality
- Expressive and Affirming Workshops
- LGBTQIA+ Library
- Leadership Opportunities
- · & much more!

Scan QR Code to receive more information!

For more information contact: Lucio Lira | Ilira@sdccd.edu

Pride Center Goals

The goal of our Pride Center is to provide a safe campus space for anyone regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnic heritage, and/or cultural background.





Why the Pride Center Matters?



- LGBTQIA+ Students (particularly students of color) strongly consider leaving their institutions due to:
 - Not feeling welcomed
 - Hostile Environments verbal, physical, and sexual harrasment.
 - Mental Health Higher levels of Suicidal Ideation, Depression, and Anxiety.
 - Feeling Lonely
- The Pride Center will serve as a space to welcome students and recognize their identities and intersectionality.
- This will promote a sense of community and a welcoming environment for students to just be.
- The Pride Center can assist student to remain in college and reach their academic goals by receiving affirming services and mentorship from people students feel comfortable with.

Why the Pride Center Matters?



- The center can assist students, faculty, staff, and administrators to learn more about how to best support LGBTQIA+ students.
 - Pronouns
 - Hxstorical events about the community
 - How to provide services to students who are Non-Binary
 - o Data/Research for services, outreach, retention strategies.
 - Opportunity to learn how to best support current and future students/community members.
- LGBTQIA+ Students, Staff, Faculty, and administration will have a center that can validate their existence, identities, intersectionality.



Goals - Pride Center Potential Services

The Pride Center will serve as the College's centralized resource center and offer the following services:

Academic Support

Academic, career, and personal counseling

Events

- Pride Month Celebration, Lavender Graduation, Events honoring identities/intersectionality
- Expressive and Affirming Workshops
- Student Groups
- Mental Health Services
 - Individual and Group Sessions
 - Come As You Are Facilitated by Student Health Services

• Leadership Opportunities

- Certificates/Diplomas
- Community Engagement
- Food and Housing Support
 - A mini "The Stand" at the center
- Collaboration with other Student Services
- LGBTQIA+ Library
- Outreach strategies for incoming students
 - High School, Adult School, LGBTQIA+
 Centers in the community
- Scholarships
- · Referrals to community services

LGBTQIA Identity	Student Numbers
Transgender	80
Bisexual	437
Gay or Lesbian	243
Non-binary	49
Other	99
Total	908

San Diego Mesa College - LGBTQIA+ Student Enrollment Spring 2022

Information provided from the CCC Apply.
Students who **openly disclose** being part of the LGBTQIA+
Community (March 2022)

Transgender & Non-Binary Student Enrollment Summer 2019 - Spring 2022

Transgender

Ethnicity	Student Numbers
African American	7
Asian	44
Latinx/e	74
Multi-ethnicity	34
Native American	3
Pacific Islander	2
Unknown	1
White	II2

Transgender Total 277

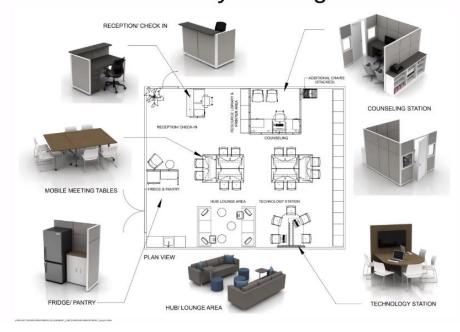
Non-Binary Total **3,045**

Total *3,322*

Non-Binary

Ethnicity	Student Numbers
African American	139
Asian	161
Filipino	119
Latinx/e	1,092
Multi-ethnicity	339
Native American	12
Pacific Islander	21
Unknown	10
White	1,152

Pride Center Layout Deign - D102



Pride Center Layout Deign - D102



2022 CCC Funds for LGBTQIA+ Students

One time \$10M funds for community colleges to create spaces for LGBTQIA+ students

- LGBTQIA+ Centers
- Professional Development/Training
- Mental Health Services
- Housing Insecurity Services
- LGBTQIA+ Learning Communities
- GSA Support
- Lavender Graduations

SDCCD allocation of \$387,367

Mesa College received \$135,000

Future Plans for our LGBTQIA+ Students

- Learning Community
- Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA)
- Lavender Graduations
- Gender Affirming Support Services
- & more!

