

LIVE OUT LOUD

vision

A world where Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Youth
LIVE PROUD, LIVE OUT, LIVE FREE

mission

Through the celebration of the richness and diversity of our shared experience, the visibility of role models and the dissemination of information, LIVE OUT LOUD's mission is to empower, energize and enable Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Youth to live the life of their dreams.

history

Essentially, Live Out Loud is the brainchild of one man: Leo Preziosi, Jr. About five years ago he spotted an article in Metro Source called "The Gun in the Closet," about two students who committed suicide because of hostile school environments, isolation, ostracism and fear. Preziosi felt he had to do something, so he began assembling professionals to speak at high schools and colleges about their careers and about being gay, lesbian or transgender - essentially becoming positive role models for young people.

what we do

Panel Discussions: LIVE OUT LOUD organizes panel discussion programs about men and women in the LGBT community who are passionate and powerful in their life's work, who are making a difference in the community and who are interested in sharing their story with LGBT youth. Our programs are held after school at high schools and colleges throughout the tri-state area.

Speakers Bureau: Coordinating Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender speakers at high school general assemblies of 150 students or more to talk to students about their careers as well as their own personal coming out stories.

Scholarships: Awarding scholarships to high school seniors who are taking charge of their own lives by demonstrating leadership in the LGBT community and who themselves have a strong capacity to "LIVE OUT LOUD".

Public Service Announcement (PSA) Workshop: LIVE OUT LOUD in collaboration with Manhattan Neighborhood Network and Glaad offers a free 8-week workshop in creating a PSA, where youth will interact with out LGBT role models in the media and develop youth-produced media projects relevant to LGBT youth.

participants

LIVE OUT LOUD continues to attract significant industry and community leaders, nationally recognized speakers and celebrities. Past panelists include, Jonathan Capehart - Deputy Editorial Page Editor of the New York Daily News, Lea DeLaria - comedian, actress & Obie Award winner, Chet Hazzard - President & COO of Vera Wang, Cherry Jones - Tony Award Winning actress, Rose Arce Producer, CNN, Hal Rubenstein - Fashion Feature Director (INSTYLE), Firefighter Tom Ryan - Ladder Company 12 and Mayor John H. Shields of Nyack, New York.