

Call for Academic and Creative Proposals: Queer MiniCon at UNC-Chapel Hill

Carolina's first-ever Queer MiniCon on October 9 and 13, 2020 showcases LGBTQIA+ research, art, literature, and lived experiences at North Carolina colleges and universities

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the LGBTQ Center at UNC-Chapel Hill will not be hosting our usual National Coming Out Day events. Instead, we are partnering with Student Life and Leadership, Sexuality Studies, and Honors Carolina Pride to host Carolina's first-ever **Queer MiniCon on October 9th and 13th** (before and after the official observance of NCOD, which falls on a Sunday this year).

Queer MiniCon will be an opportunity for undergraduate students, graduate/professional students, faculty, postdocs, and staff from all North Carolina institutions of higher education to share research and creative work (visual, dance/movement, music, drama/theater, spoken/written poetry) affirming the experiences of LGBTQIA+ communities and individuals. We're looking for everything from polished academic presentations to early research explorations, to the results of obscure deep-dives and personal expression. We encourage submissions of existing works and early explorations of new work; including that which has previously been presented or exhibited elsewhere.

This call for proposals will close at 11:55 pm on Sunday, September 20, 2020. The LGBTQ Center will contact selected presenters and exhibitors by Friday, September 25 to confirm participation and schedule live-streamed sessions.

Submission Notes

- Submissions are for consideration only and do not guarantee acceptance.
- Participation is voluntary and there will be no payment.
- Works must relate to LGBTQIA+ experiences
- We strongly encourage those who identify as LGBTQIA+ and as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color to submit

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What types of proposals will be considered?

- Live-streamed or recorded academic presentations and performances lasting 5 to 10 minutes.
- High-quality images of visual artwork including but not limited to drawings, paintings, sculptures, (excerpts of) comics or zines. (Visual work must include comprehensive image descriptions)
- Written poetry and short stories.
- We welcome creative representations of research findings.
- All work should center LGBTQIA+ themes and experiences.

What are you looking for from academic presentations?

We are accepting a wide variety of academic presentations. For undergraduates, feel free to present on a class project or paper. You are also welcome to present research that you have done outside of the classroom. For graduate/professional students, you're welcome to present your research from any point in your project. Explorations of recently gathered data or discussions of literature reviews are welcome. This can also be a chance to practice presenting a more complete project. For faculty/staff, feel free to present on past, current, or future research projects.

Will accepted presenters/exhibitors be compensated?

No. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most programming budgets have been deeply cut or suspended indefinitely. For this reason, we encourage submissions of existing works and early explorations of new work; including that which has previously been presented or exhibited elsewhere.

Do presenters/exhibitors need to be affiliated with UNC-Chapel Hill to be considered?

No, but they do need to be affiliated with a North Carolina institution of higher education.

Will the sponsoring departments profit from the MiniCon?

Not directly. Most of our funding is, in part, determined by the numbers of participants counted at all of our events. For that reason, a highly attended MiniCon would contribute to the justification of our future budgets. We are not, however, charging admission or claiming any rights to submitted works.

Who will own submitted artwork and presentations?

The LGBTQ Center and co-sponsors of the Queer MiniCon will not own any original artwork or submitted recordings. Presenters and exhibitors will retain all intellectual rights and copyrights related to the work, can reproduce the work before and after the MiniCon, and can sell prints or merchandise related to the work in perpetuity.

We will own our recordings of any live-streamed presentations, though we will not have unlimited or exclusive license to the recordings. All presenters will be entitled to a copy of our recordings and free to reuse them at will.

The LGBTQ Center and co-sponsors will not be allowed to sell the original work (or recordings as outlined above), but may use submitted images, recordings, and written works in publications of the Center, including educational videos, brochures, and in information on websites with credit to the creator(s). We will ask all presenters and exhibitors to complete a photography release form to this effect.

What access needs will be accommodated?

Live presentations will be hosted via Zoom – captioned recordings and transcripts will be posted to the event website within one week after QMC. Sign up using [the form on this page](#) to be notified when these are posted.

Pre-recorded presentations will either be captioned beforehand or made available with captions within one week after QMC. These presentations will be labeled “captions” or “no captions” during QMC.

Images in the gallery will have comprehensive image descriptions.

Due to a lack of funding, QMC will not provide live ASL interpretation or live visual descriptions.

The event website (go.unc.edu/QMC2020) will meet WCAG 2.0 Level AA standards.

Contact us if you have problems accessing any part of the event website.

Contact: UNC-Chapel Hill LGBTQ Center at lgbtq@unc.edu or 919-843-5376

[Click Here to Submit a Proposal](#)