Northwestern’s Queer Pride Graduate Student Association Presents:

Queertopia! 6.0
Philosophical Investigations Into Sexuality

Objectification Sexuality Language
April 12-14, 2013 Love Performance Philosophy Epistemology Gender Body
Northwestern University Language
Feinberg School of Medicine Body Sex
240 W Huron Street, Chicago, IL Love Gender Language Ethics Identity Body
Keynote Speaker Philosophy Body
Patricia Marino, PhD Gender Love Sex
University of Waterloo Consent Gender Body Conformity Ethics
Keynote Address Gender Performance
Objectify Me Epistemology Ethics Love
Sexual Autonomy and the Utopia of Non-Conformity Epistemology Love
Objectification Sexuality Language Love Body Performance Philosophy Language Conformity Objectification

Supported by the following Northwestern University organizations, institutions, grants: The Catalyst Grant and Professional Development Grant from The Graduate School, the LGBT Resource Center, Feinberg’s Queers & Allies, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, and the departments of African-American Studies, Art History, Performance Studies, Philosophy, History, Art Theory and Practice, Screen Cultures and Radio, TV, and Film, and Gender Studies.
Welcome to the sixth annual Queertopia! Graduate Student Conference!

On behalf of Northwestern University’s Queer Pride Graduate Student Association, we would like to welcome you and thank you for participating in this year’s conference. Through this year’s theme of Philosophical Investigation of Sexuality we have invited scholars from various philosophical traditions, as well as those from other disciplines, to discuss issues that lay at the interface of philosophy and sexuality.

The conference is designed to facilitate interaction and exchange between graduate students interested in questions about sexuality in the Chicagoland area and beyond it, across many academic disciplines. Given the provocative and interdisciplinary character of our keynote this year, we expect that this year’s conference will provide even more opportunities for intellectual exchange across academic boundaries. We have invited Professor Patricia Marino of the University of Waterloo as this years keynote speaker, as she has published widely in philosophy of mathematics, metaphysics, ethics, and sexuality studies, and is currently co-President of the Society for the Philosophy of Sex and Love. Her work on sexual objectification, though recent, is already influential, and we feel assured that keynote address will be eagerly received. In addition to our keynote, this year’s conference will feature many innovative works from graduate student participants. Our exciting talks pose philosophical questions concerning sexual orientation, sexual practice, sexual identity and expression, as well as gender and sex.

On promoting such interdisciplinary conversation, Queertopia has a long tradition of success, and we hope to follow suit for this year’s conference. Again, we warmly welcome you and hope you enjoy this year’s Queertopia!

Sincerely,

Raff Donelson & Eduardo Europa
Directors of Queertopia! 6.0

Keynote Speaker: Patricia Marino, PhD

Patricia Marino is an Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Waterloo, and Co-President of the Society for Philosophy of Sex and Love. She is primarily interested in ethical reasoning and the philosophy of sex, and also does research in epistemology, the philosophy of mathematics, and the nature of humanistic thought. Marino’s current research project is a book tentatively titled Moral Reasoning in a Pluralistic World, and this body of work recently gained her an award from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Marino’s present work in metaethics concerns the question of how we ought to reason morally in the context of diverse moral outlooks, plural values, and pervasive moral disagreement. In the philosophy of sex, she focuses particularly on objectification. She has written on ambivalence, conflicting desires, and the nature of truth. She conceives philosophy as more of a humanistic discipline than as a scientific one, and she has an ongoing concern with the question of what, if anything, makes methods in humanistic study distinctive.

Over time Marino has become increasingly committed to doing philosophy in a way that shows its relevance to practical matters and the concerns of everyday life. She maintains a blog titled “The Kramer Is Now” (http://thekramerisnow.blogspot.com/), to engage readers who are non-specialists in the given topic and, where possible, readers who are not professional philosophers.

Information from http://www.patriciamarino.org/
PRESENTER AND COMMENTATOR BIOSKETCHES

Joe Adams
Joe Adams is a Ph.D. candidate in his fifth year at Rice University. His dissertation, Living Storied Lives, stumps for the ethical value of progressive life patterns. Adams has presented four papers at APA division meetings on stories, retributivism, or neutralism, and is involved with the “Why So Few” Committee in his home department, working to address the under-representation of women and minorities at Rice and beyond. He currently co-teaches Feminist Philosophy.

Patrick Anderson
Patrick Anderson is pursuing an MA in English and a PhD in Philosophy at Texas A&M University. He primarily works in areas of Continental philosophy and cultural criticism, including psychoanalysis, political theology, queer theory, critical race theory, post-structuralism, and the intersections between the law and subjectivity. His thesis will explore the uses of Freudian psychoanalysis in the works of Guy Hocquenghem and Frantz Fanon.

Sara Beining
Sara Beining is an advanced undergraduate English Major with a concentration in Writing and Publication at Indiana-University Purdue-University Fort Wayne. She is minoring in Women’s Studies and currently serves on the Board of Directors of Iraq Veterans Against the War. As a veteran and single mother, her studies focus on social justice and repairing as well as reducing the effects of U.S. militarism.

David Black
David Black is a first year Ph.D. student at Rutgers. He works in metaphysics, logic, and meta-ethics, as well as feminist philosophy. The current issues that interest him are the metaphysics of gender, sex, and race and what lessons feminism has to teach us about the status of moral properties.

Emmalon Davis
Emmalon Davis is a graduate student in the Philosophy Department at Indiana University. Her interests lie in value theory and in the intersection of philosophy of feminism and epistemology.

C. Egbert
C. Egbert is currently a graduate student in the Philosophy Department's doctoral program at Northwestern University. She received her bachelor’s degree in philosophy from the University of Portland, graduating summa cum laude. Prior to coming to Northwestern University, she worked in quality assurance and training at a clinical crisis call center. Her current research interests are socio-political philosophy and theories of the oppressed, including feminism and critical race theory.

Wenwen Fan
Wenwen Fan is a graduate student at the philosophy department at the University of Missouri. She is primarily interested in ethics, both theoretical and applied. She is also interested in epistemology and philosophy of mind. She is currently working on her dissertation, dealing with the relationship between the concept of moral wrongness and the concept of the fittingness of reactive attitudes.

Andy Hartman
Andy Hartman is an MA student in the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's English department.
David Johnson
David is a PhD candidate in Philosophy at Northwestern University. He has a BFA from Carnegie Mellon University and an MA in Philosophy and International Studies from American University. He is currently completing a dissertation on intensity, time, and aesthetics in the philosophy of Gilles Deleuze.

Eric Jonas
Eric is a Ph.D. candidate in Northwestern's Philosophy Department. He specializes in 20th-century Continental philosophy and critical animal studies. In addition, he has maintained a strong interest in queer theory, having presented two papers on Judith Butler in recent years. His current work focuses on how Derrida's theory of alterity allows us to challenge hegemonic, anthropocentric conceptions of the relationship between humans and nonhuman animals and enables us to develop a novel ethical discourse in which to reconsider human-animal relations.

Morganna Lambeth
Morganna Lambeth is finishing her second year of doctoral studies in the Philosophy Department of Northwestern University. While most of her professional work has centered on 19th and 20th German philosophy, and Heidegger in particular, she is also interested in exploring 20th century French philosophy. She is looking forward to presenting a paper to the Society for Existential and Phenomenological Culture and Theory in June, and studying in Germany with the help of a DAAD grant in July and August.

Layli Magers
Layli Magers is an advanced undergraduate student, from Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW), with a double major in Women’s Studies and Fine Arts and a minor in Anthropology. She has been a Writing Consultant in the IPFW Writing Center since 2009. As a student and a professional facilitator, she has presented at several Gender/Women’s Studies conferences and Writing Centers conferences, across 5 different states.

Shaun Miller
Shaun Miller is currently in his third year in the Ph. D. program at Marquette University. His interests include phenomenology, philosophy of sexuality, and how sexual values have come about.

Joseph Russo
Joseph C. Russo is a second-year Cultural Studies PhD candidate at Goldsmiths College in London, UK. His research focuses on queer socialities, poetic events, and alternative histories. He has written on a wide variety of subjects, ranging from drag performance in Texas to Black Metal. His work has been reviewed in Wire Magazine as well as the New York Times Arts section. He currently lives and works in New York City.

Daniel Trujillo
Daniel Trujillo is in the Doctoral Program in Philosophy at Northwestern University. His interests are in Social and Political philosophy where the two pillars of Normativity and Critique figure centrally in his research. He draws on the meliorative pragmatism of William James and John Dewey, and the problematizations of Frankfurt School Critical Theory. He is interested in giving an account of normativity without foundations; a problem which he understand to be at the core of debates over modernity and post-modernity.
DETAILED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Unless otherwise specified, Saturday and Sunday events will be held on the 2nd floor of McGaw Pavilion at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine (240 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; enter McGaw Pavilion through Huron St. entrance).

ALL TALKS are 1-hour, followed by a 15-minute break, and will be held in the Daniel Hale Williams Auditorium. Breakfast and Lunch will be served in Kellerman Classroom (McGaw 2-322).

Friday, April 12, 2013

8:00PM - Welcome Reception
Minibar, 3339 N Halsted, Chicago, IL

Saturday, April 13, 2013

10:15 AM - Breakfast and Registration

10:45 AM

Speech Acts and Linguistic Performativity: Judith Butler on Hate Speech
Presenter: Daniel Trujillo / Commentator: Eric Jonas
The discussion Judith Butler takes up in her book Excitable Speech is not primarily focused on the question do words in fact bring about injury (in the way that Catherine MacKinnon and Richard Delgado claim they do), but rather how do words have the power to wound. In this paper I turn to three primary notions in Butler's challenge to the view that there is a direct causal link between speaker intentions and the injurious effects of an utterance; a view which understands this link to be so strong that the regulative power of the state must be invoked to remedy the harm caused. Butler's explication of linguistic vulnerability, agency, and sovereign performatives work to problematize the unilateral account of the subjects power to constitute through discourse. At the same time, she works to recover a notion of agency that accounts for the discursive historicity of power in a way that locates the subject's agency in the practice of discursive repetition.

12:00PM
Identity and Family Resemblances
Presenter: Joe Adams / Commentator: David Johnson
How do we retain the political power, personal pleasure, and psychic comfort associated with fixed sexual identities—what I like to call, inspired by Charles Taylor, the benefits of recognition—without excluding or eliding the stunning variety of sex-y expressions we have come to learn of and to love, both in ourselves and in others? How do we have our identitarian cake and eat it too? I propose to use Wittgenstein’s partnered notions of the open concept and of family resemblances to make a start at this question.

Instead of working with closed concepts that conceive of the world (in this case, the world's sexualities) as divided into categories with perfectly clear definitions of membership, we can work with open concepts which will allow individuals to still claim their spot in the family as a such-and-such without forcing us to rob sexuality of its “complicated network of similarities overlapping and criss-crossing: sometimes overall similarities, sometimes similarities of detail.” That quotation is from Wittgenstein, not a sexuality theorist, and he’s referring to the phenomena of language, not sexuality. It amazes me, though, how aptly his
description captures what is needed for the question at hand. Exploring just how fruitful his insights are, is the purpose of the paper.

1:00PM - Lunch

2:15PM
The Impossibility of Sexual Consent
Presenter: David Black / Commentator: Chelsea Egbert
Many find in Andrea Dworkin’s *Intercourse*, an argument that all heterosexual sex is rape. Though she herself denied the charge, people associate the claim with Dworkin and Catherine MacKinnon specifically and second-wave feminism more generally and use it to ridicule feminisms. Sex-positivity in third-wave feminism can be seen as in part a response to the stereotype that feminists are man-hating lesbians, which many believe because of the claim Dworkin is supposed to have made.

Whether or not Dworkin ever made this claim, though, the prospect that sexual consent is impossible is one that should be taken seriously. In this paper, we will find that one medium-strength version of this claim is plausible: Namely, those who have been socialized in the way that we in the United States of America have been cannot offer valid sexual consent. Our sexual decisions are made under the influence of brainwashing and so are not made autonomously.

Part I will specify the scope of the claim: which acts are included as part of “all sex”? Part II will focus on rape and consent: What does it take for a sex act to be consensual? In Part III we will see two cases of rape that the most natural account of consent overlooks. The problem is diagnosed as one in which the raped party has been brainwashed. This will then be applied to our current social situation: first using a sociological definition of brainwashing, then considering some philosopher's accounts. Part IV will be concerned with defending the argument against objections. In the last section, Part V, we will turn our attention to the consequences of this conclusion: What does this mean for us? How should we react to it?

3:30PM - Keynote Address
Objectify Me: Sexual Autonomy and the Utopia of Non-Conformity
Keynote Speaker: Patricia Marino
Daniel Hale Williams Auditorium

6:30PM - QUEERGASM: An Interdisciplinary Performance Event
Alvina Krause Studio in Annie May Swift Hall, Evanston Campus

Sunday, April 14, 2013

9:45 AM - Breakfast and Registration

10:00AM
Do people have a moral obligation to come out as LGBTQ?
Presenter: Wenwen Fan / Commentator: Daniel Tovar
I will argue that people do not have a moral obligation to come out as LGBTQ nowadays. I have two arguments for this view.

The first argument stems from the idea that sexual orientation is a private matter. Although one’s sexual orientation has impacts on one’s family and friends, it is not a publicly important thing. By analogy,
some people have their own preferences for color and taste, and some people have superstitious beliefs, but they do not have a moral obligation to reveal that.

My premise that sexual orientation is a private matter may be objected by the idea that it influences the population of human species and function of the society. I admit that it has some influences, but the influences are far from seriously impacting the population and societal function.

My second argument comes from the idea that coming out as LGBTQ is too demanding for people in this group. Currently, many people do not understand LGBTQ and discriminate them. If one comes out as LGBTQ, a lot of criticisms will be leveled against her. If “ought” implies “can,” then one does not have the obligation to come out as LGBTQ.

The argument above might be objected on the ground that coming out as LGBTQ might not be demanding in the future. I admit that this may be the case, but obligations might change when time changes. Currently, coming out as LGBTQ is demanding.

11:15AM
Caring for the Sexual Self: Applying Foucault’s Hermeneutics of the Subject in Sex Education
Presenter: Shaun Miller / Commentator: Layli Magers
Sex education has mainly had two discourses: paternalism and liberalism. Both of these discourses focus on what to avoid in sexual activity, which not why people engage in sex. Furthermore, the discourse mentions that one should not engage in sex until “one is ready” but is quickly set aside. These discourses have set up norms where engaging in sexual activity is only valuable in the context of a certain time frame (usually marriage). I argue that by using Foucault’s hermeneutics of the subject and bringing out what it means to take care of the self, this will open up discourses where students can “empower” themselves and form a relationship with themselves to see oneself as a sexual subject. Part of taking care of the self means to take care of others. The practices are not done by oneself, but through an engagement with others where these practices become principles of action. I investigate the discourses of paternalism and liberalism and show their limitations by giving norms in sex education. I then investigate what Foucault means by taking care of the self along with parrhesia—truth-telling. Finally, I apply care of the self in sex education. By using a new discourse, this will elicit new questions and engage the students as sexual subjects. I will use three practices: (1) discourse of erotics, (2) repairing the self after sexual harm, and (3) new modes of relationships. With these practices, one can be “free” by undergoing techniques of the self and exercising parrhesia.

12:15PM – Lunch
Informal Chat about Society for the Philosophy of Sex and Love with Patricia Marino

1:30PM
The Utility of Faggotry: Queer Expertise & Caricature
Presenter: Joseph Russo / Commentator: Andrew Hartman
This talk will speculate on the mechanisms at work within the caricatured image of the ‘queer expert’, that nearly universal (usually white, always male) gay man whose role on style television is to dress, to advise, and to bolster the confidences of what is purported to be a heteronormative public. As Puar states in Terrorist Assemblages: ‘The proliferation of queer caricatures in the media and popular culture...all function as directives regarding suitable and acceptable kinship, affiliative, and consumption patterns, consolidating a deracialized queer liberal constituency that makes it less easy to draw delineations between assimilated gay or lesbian identities and ever-so-vigilant and –resistant queer identities’ (46).
This entails an exploration of what I refer to as the ‘utility of faggotry’ as a regulator of the untethered potential of what Puar understands as an assemblage (and what I refer to as the mythologized poetic imaginary of queerness) in order to produce an event of total normalization. This regulatory presence performs methods of control over racialized, feminine, and disabled bodies under the guise of ‘aesthetic optimization’. We see, in these absurd and often cruel performances of style guide homosexuals that Sontag referred to famously as ‘connoisseurs of taste’, an attempt to assimilate public notions of queerness into the normative. Through donning the triumphal mask of the ‘oppressed turned oppressor’, these subjects illustrate the key relation for understanding the pathway toward conditional acceptance into heteronormative rule. That is, to combine performative forms of faggotry (a set of events I refer to as generating a ‘nullifying poetics’ that erases and replaces the poetic events valued by predominant queer discourses as necessary to political disruption) with heteronormative coercion.

2:45PM
Voluptuousness and Volition: Hocquenghem, Constructivism, and the Place of the Will in Sexual Desire
Presenter: Patrick Anderson / Commentator: Morganna Lambeth

There has been an interesting debate in queer theory among historical constructionists over when and how the homosexual identity became possible. On one side, theorists like Foucault argues that structures of power and the institutions and discourses that buttress them shape an individual’s self-image; on the other side, historians like John D’Emilio claim that changes in the politico-economic structures open a space for new negotiations of desire. While these accounts are enlightening, they are incomplete because they do not account for the connection between desire and the will, nor the process by which the human will itself is negotiated. My purpose is not to prove Foucault and D’Emilio are incorrect; it is to highlight an area they fail to analyze and suggest a way in which it is possible to analyze that area. Here, I will offer a reading of the place of the will in modern philosophy, from late medieval theology to contemporary liberalism, and explain the ways in which social engineers attempted to control the will. Then I will draw on the work of Guy Hocquenghem to examine the place of the unconscious in the constructivist process, and show how queer theory has always had the tools to account for the connection between desire and the will.

4:00PM
Assuming an Identity: A Phenomenological Theory of Embodiment and the Mixed Race Community
Presenter: Emmalon Davis / Commentator: Sara Beining

Traditional theories of embodiment have been largely indifferent to the existence of non-normative bodies. As a result, academic conversations about embodied experiences have often overlooked the socially constructed nature of the body as well as the flexibility of identity formation. In her recent book, Assuming a Body: Transgender and the Rhetorics of Materiality, Gayle Salamon re-examines the question “what does it mean to be embodied?” Taking transgendered bodies as the focus of her investigation, Salamon utilizes Freud’s conception of bodily ego and Merleau-Ponty’s phenomenology of the flesh, ultimately suggesting that a new attentiveness to bodies carelessly marked as “ambiguous” or “unreadable” will enhance our understanding of the relationship between subjective identity-formation and bodily materiality.

I argue that Salamon’s theoretical apparatus for thinking about bodily materiality with respect to transgenderism will likewise enrich academic conversations about the embodied experience of mixed-race individuals. Like transpeople, multiracial individuals have been systematically required to validate their identities, as the identities they embrace often do not “match” the bodies they present to the world. In my paper, I draw out three key notions from Salamon’s examination of embodiment: (1) that
bodily perception is socially constructed and flexible (2) that knowledge of bodies is never unmediated, and (3) that subjective identification is not legitimately reducible to bodily materiality. I focus on the work of several critical mixed-race theorists and suggest that contemporary mixed-race theory is strengthened when supplemented with the theory of embodiment that Salamon offers.

8:00PM – Closing “Reception” Barcrawl
Location TBD

Queer Pride Graduate Student Association

Northwestern University’s Queer Pride Graduate Student Association is an award-winning social and advocacy group for graduate students enrolled in The Graduate School of Northwestern University. Founded in 2005, our membership now includes over 100 graduate students. QPGSA is committed to develop a sense of community among the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, intersexed, and allied members of Northwestern’s graduate student community.

Eduardo Europa, President & Queertopia! Co-Director
Eddie is originally from the SF Bay Area and received his BA in Cognitive Science at UC Berkeley. For two years he conducted neuro-rehabilitation research at the Moss Rehabilitation Research Institute and the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. During this time Eddie joined the Philadelphia Freedom Band and performed at numerous pride festivals and concerts. Now at Northwestern he is a Communication Sciences and Disorders PhD student and conducts research in the Aphasia and Neurolinguistics Research Laboratory. His interests include the neural correlates of language processing and the efficacy of novel aphasia treatments. If and when Eddie finds free time, he is most likely obsessing over a television series, dancing his pants off, training for a half marathon, or indulging in long sessions of peaceful unconsciousness.

Deniz Alpay, Treasurer
Deniz is a second-year PhD student in Materials Science and Engineering department; she came all the way from sweet home Istanbul, Turkey where she received her BS in Materials Science and Engineering. She does theoretical and experimental work with nanoparticles and nanoplasmonics in LDM group, and enjoys having inspiring discussions about entropy with those few who share a similar passion for it. Deniz loves tango dancing; and has high hopes in becoming a frequenter of the milonga scene in Chicago when she has that thing people call free time. Other things she hypothetically enjoys are music festivals, photography, and watching good movies with good company. Oh and of course, she always talks about herself in third person just like all the other QPGSAers.

Raff Donelson, Queertopia! Co-Director
Raff Donelson is a second-year graduate student in Philosophy at Northwestern. While he works primarily on moral philosophy, he loves all sorts of spirited philosophical discussions. Before coming to Northwestern, he studied at the University of Chicago, earning an MA and writing a thesis about practical reason and homophobia. He earned his undergraduate degree at Williams College and received honors in philosophy for a thesis on the moral reasons behind banning the sale of human organs for transplantation. Outside of his philosophical interests, Raff likes watching French film, musing about the history and trajectory of the ‘gay novel,’ and eating copious amounts of popcorn and chips.

Rae Langes, Queergasm! Advisor
Rae is a second-year MA/PhD student in the Performance Studies Department and fellow of the Gender Studies Interdisciplinary Cluster. She received an MFA in Studio of Performance from the School of
the Art Institute of Chicago and a BA in Interdisciplinary Arts and Performance from Arizona State University. Currently Rae is researching queer performers/troupes who embody monstrosity as a means of engaging constructs of gender/sexual/racial/national identity. When Rae is not reading about or cavorting with queer monsters, she likes to play the jaw harp and cook all things legume. See more about Rae’s projects here: https://sites.google.com/site/ralanges/.

Joy Fernandez, Queergasm! Co-Director
Joy is a first year Higher Ed master’s student. She hopes to use this degree to help traditionally disadvantaged matriculate into four-year universities and support them to not only persist, but to thrive. Before coming to Northwestern, she earned her BA in Gender Studies and Psychology from Lawrence University. Her research interests range the gamut of body culture studies, including topics in sexual violence, midwifery, and disordered eating. Her rarely guilt-free acts of procrastination include immersing herself in sound and musicals, thrifting, and creeping on strangers in parks for various writing exercises. When she grows up, she hopes to become a feminist punk rock goddess.

Amelia Plunk, Queergasm! Co-Director
Amy Plunk is a Ph.D. student in Materials Science and Engineering at Northwestern University and a graduate of the physics department at Mount Holyoke College. At Mount Holyoke she studied organic light-emitting diodes and at Northwestern she recently joined a computational soft matter lab. While she loves research and hopes to never stop contributing to the pool of knowledge in her field, Amelia’s true passions lie in the spread of knowledge. Outside of science, Amelia has a vast range of interests including, but not limited to: rugby, rock climbing, music (both the appreciation of and the creation of), horseback riding, traveling, excellent beer, dogs, cats, coffee, and tea.

Nicole Heller, Executive Board Member
Nicole Heller is a first year graduate student in the Master of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy Program at The Family Institute. She received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Philosophy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Nicole’s primary passion is to help LGBTQ individuals, couples and families in therapy. Nicole grew up in Naperville and has grown to know and love the Chicago neighborhoods throughout the years. In her free time, Nicole dedicates her time to volunteering at the Center on Halsted in Chicago. For fun, Nicole loves to spend time exploring new restaurants, wine tastings, attending Ravinia Festival concerts, watching 1930s-1960s American films and visiting her favorite Pug, Ginger.

Mollie McQuillan, Executive Board Member
Mollie is a first-year PhD student in the Human Development and Social Policy department. She is interested in researching how environmental factors influence biological processes such as stress in adolescents. Mollie received her BA from the University of Chicago in Political Science and Psychology as well as a MA in Teaching from the University of Saint Thomas. Prior to attending Northwestern, Mollie taught high school social studies for 7 years in a suburban community in Minnesota. In her free time, Mollie enjoys coaching, music concerts, reading fiction, travelling, long walks on the beach, and watching Game of Thrones (dragons!). She also enjoys discussing all the cute things her cat, Chairman Meow, has done recently as well as playing ice hockey and soccer.

Amanda Kleintop, Executive Board Member
Amanda is a first-year PhD student in the History department. She studies nineteenth-century American history. Her research interests include the American South, Civil War, slavery, and emancipation, with a secondary focus in civil rights. Amanda holds a B.A. in history and leadership studies from the University of Richmond (2011), where she also pursued work in public history and the digital humanities.
Queertopia! 6.0 At-A-Glance

Friday, April 12

8:00 PM  Welcome Reception
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