

Title

Drag Story Hour

Brief Description

The Denville Public Library will partner with Edge NJ (<https://edgenj.org/>) to put on a weekly program of Drag Story Hour. Edge will provide a variety of drag performers as well as the training on performing for children (i.e., what is appropriate to say and what is not) and the Denville Public library will provide the snacks, crafts, and stories for the performers and families who attend the program. Additionally, all marketing and publicity will be designed by the Denville Public Library. This will be a series of programs that will be hosted on Wednesday mornings through the month of June to celebrate Pride month.

Goals/Objectives of the Program

Equity- The quality of being fair and impartial will be displayed by encouraging LGBTQ+ individuals and families to see themselves represented in the mirrors, windows, and sliding glass doors of the books that will be presented, the songs that will be song, and the activities conducted. By creating a friendly space for all to feel confident in being themselves and promoting that all are welcome.

Engagement- Because this is a family event, we are inspiring families to learn together and discuss their perspectives and values in support of the LGBTQ+ community. We are also engaging members of the community to support both a library event and a local business bringing recognition to both entities that some community members be unaware of their existence. This partnership could encourage more support for Edge NJ's mission and bring more patrons to open library cards and use other library services.

Empowerment- This program will hopefully encourage LGBTQ+ individuals and families to feel more confident and accepted in the community by educating more members of society. This will empower those LGBTQ+ individuals to feel stronger, more confident, and claim the rights they are entitled to in society.

Program Plan

Step-by-step instructions on how to conduct each phase of the program:

Step 1: Reach out to Edge NJ and coordinate the drag performers for each story hour.

Step 2: Distribute marketing/publicity materials.

Step 3: Gather supplies needed for each week. Create a few samples of each.

Every week: speaker system, projector, screen, tables

Week one: Tie Dye T-shirts

- T-shirts of various sizes
- Tie dye paint kit: https://smile.amazon.com/Vanstek-Colors-Plastic-Friends-Supplies/dp/B088NG77W9/ref=sr_1_8?crid=3PMK3K7MWI0DD&keywords=tie%2Bdye%2Bpaint%2Bfor%2Bclothes&qid=1664996702&qu=eyJxc2MiOi1LjA3liwicXNhIjojNC44MyIsInFzcCI6IjQuNTcifQ%3D%3D&srefix=tie%2Bdye%2Bpaint%2Caps%2C91&sr=8-8&th=1
- Plastic bags
- Gloves

Week two: Pride parade signs

- Construction paper
- Rainbow stickers: : https://smile.amazon.com/Sticker-Rainbow-Equality-Decoration-Waterproof/dp/B0B3DNPBY4/ref=sr_1_3_sspa?crid=36WMC9O2XRZSY&keywords=rainbow+stickers&qid=1664997074&qu=eyJxc2MiOi1LjQ2liwicXNhIjojNi4xNyIsInFzcCI6IjUuODgifQ%3D%3D&srefix=rainbow+stickers%2Cap
- Markers/crayons

Week three: Rainbow Slime

- Elmer's glue
- Liquid Starch
- Water
- Bowls
- Spoons
- Food coloring

Week four: Fizzing Rainbows

- Baking Soda
- Vinegar
- Pipettes
- Construction paper
- Food coloring

Step 4: Ensure proper staff coverage and arrange volunteers.

Step 5: Confirm drag performer and collect books and songs for the program.
Provide a copy to each performer so they can rehearse ahead of time.

Step 6: Set up for the program.

1. Sound system
2. Projector and screen
3. Tables and supplies

Step 7: Conduct the program.

Week one: tie dye t-shirts

1. Cover tables with tablecloths provided in kit.
2. Give each family member a pair of gloves.
3. Encourage families to use the rubber bands to create designs on the shirts.
4. Allow families to use the variety of colors to dye the shirts.
5. Provide plastic bags for families to transport the wet shirts home to settle.
6. Educate families on next steps with the shirts at home.

Week two: Pride parade signs

1. Encourage families to use the markers and crayons to make signs that have positive messages for a pride parade.
2. Provide families with some of the rainbow flag stickers to use on their signs.

Week three: rainbow slime

1. In a bowl mix $\frac{1}{2}$ cup water and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup glue. Mix well to combine completely.
2. Add 4-6 drops of food coloring, mix well.
3. Pour in $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of liquid starch. Keep stirring until the liquid is gone and you have a gooey blob of slime.
4. Start kneading your slime! It will appear stringy at first but just work it around with your hands and you will notice the consistency changes. You can also put it in a clean container and set it aside for 3 minutes, and you will also notice the change in consistency! Important points to consider when implementing the program- beware there may be people who protest these events.
5. Repeat with each color of the rainbow food coloring.
6. Mix small portions of each color to make one large ball of rainbow slime for each family to play with.

Week four: fizzing rainbows

1. Print a rainbow template on construction paper.
2. Divide vinegar into small cups and color with food coloring, all colors of the rainbow.
3. Provide each family with baking soda, pipette, rainbow template, and colored vinegar.
4. Encourage families to sprinkle baking soda on the rainbow template.
5. Show families how to use pipette to suck up the colored vinegar and squirt it on the baking soda.
6. Discuss the scientific reaction that occurs between the baking soda and vinegar.

Step 8: Clean up from the program.

Step 9: Send out evaluations. Adjust program as needed.

You can also use this Program Checklist:

PRESENTER PROGRAM CHECKLIST

Prior to Program

- Contact potential program presenter and get information/references.
- Discuss costs, fees, and supplies or equipment that is needed.
- Check references (other libraries that may have had this program/presenter).
- Check room availability and reserve room desired.
- Set a date for program and confirm with presenter.
- Send confirmation letter—including date, time, length of program, target audience, payment agreed on, room setup, and equipment needed.
- For paid presenters, request payment check in advance to be ready for date of program.
- Check equipment to make sure it is working properly.
- Contact program presenter a day or two before to confirm and remind about any arrangements, directions, where to find you. Provide emergency contact information.
- If refreshments are being served, purchase food, drink, paper goods.

Day of Program

- Make sure room is set up (chairs, tables, equipment, refreshments).
- Be sure an appropriate person is available to help with equipment.
- Display library flyers, information on upcoming programs.
- Display books and other materials related to the program for patrons to check out.
- Provide evaluation forms for patrons to fill out (supply pencils for patrons).
- Greet presenter and help set up equipment, if needed.
- Give payment check to presenter (if applicable).
- Announce that there is a program beginning shortly.

At the Program

- Greet patrons.
- Introduce presenter.
- Assist presenter if needed (lights, handouts, equipment, etc.).
- Conclude program by thanking the presenter and audience.
- Announce next scheduled program.
- Ask patrons to complete the evaluation form.
- Remind patrons that there are books and other materials for checkout.

After Program

- Put away library equipment and all other items used.
- Write a thank-you letter to presenter.
- Review program evaluations.

From: Larson, Jeanette. (2015). *Children's Services Today: A Practical Guide for Librarians*. Rowman & Littlefield. (page 131).

Annotated list of books and digital media used for the program-

Books

- Agna, G., & Rotner, S. (2022). *True you: A gender journey*. Clarion Books, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers.
 - “Sometimes it’s hard when kids say you have to be a boy or a girl when you’re not. Everyone should feel safe to just be who they are. Girls, boys, neither, both, or just not sure. Kids are kids! There are different ways to show and be who you are. It’s up to you—how you feel, how you dress, how you act, how you play, learn, and love. Who is the true you? With the permission of their parents, the children in this photographic picture book were recorded and transcribed by authors Gwen Agna and Shelley Rotner as they were photographed. These powerful testimonials paired with a spare narrative and vibrant, joyful portraits offer up a humanizing and moving exploration of kids and how they feel about their true selves.” – Amazon.
- Genhart, M., & Passchier, A. (2019). *Rainbow: A first book of pride*. Magination Press.
 - “This is a sweet ode to rainbow families, and an affirming display of a parent’s love for their child and a child’s love for their parents. With bright colors and joyful families, this book celebrates LGBTQ+ pride and reveals the colorful meaning behind each rainbow stripe. Readers will celebrate the life, healing, light, nature, harmony, and spirit that the rainbows in this book will bring.” – Amazon.
- Kelly, V., & Consul, C. (2021). *All people are beautiful*. Puppy Dogs & Ice Cream, Inc.
 - “Kids recognize differences from a very early age. Follow along as kids are introduced to many multicultural differences, highlighting why they make us unique. Through creative rhymes and colorful illustrations, children will delight in finding ways to honor how being human brings us together. Inclusion starts by recognizing how we each fit in. Children will learn that community is what brings us together, then practice what they learn through several activities. Kids will try their hand at speaking in different languages. They’ll have a chance to design their own character and create a personal flag.” – Amazon.
- McClintick, J., & Medina, J. (2022). *’Twas the night before pride*. Candlewick Press.
 - “This joyful picture-book homage to a day of community and inclusion—and to the joys of anticipation—is also a comprehensive history. With bright, buoyant illustrations and lyrical, age-appropriate rhyme modeled on ‘’Twas the Night Before Christmas,’ it tackles difficult content such as the Stonewall Riots and the AIDS marches. On the night before Pride, families everywhere are preparing to partake. As one family packs snacks and makes signs, an older sibling shares the importance of the march with the

newest member of the family. Reflecting on the day, the siblings agree that the best thing about Pride is getting to be yourself.” - Amazon.

- Neilson, E. (2022). *The rainbow parade*. Dial Books for Young Readers.
 - “One day in June, Mommy, Mama, and Emily take the train into the city to watch the Rainbow Parade. The three of them love how all the people in the street are so loud, proud, and colorful, but when Mama suggests they join the parade, Emily feels nervous. Standing on the sidewalk is one thing, but walking in the parade? Surely that takes something special. This joyful and affirming picture book about a family's first Pride parade, reminds all readers that sometimes pride takes practice and there's no "one way" to be a part of the LGBTQ+ community.” – Amazon.
- Pitman, G. E. (2017). *This day in June*. Magination Press.
 - “In a wildly whimsical, validating, and exuberant reflection of the LGBT community, *This Day in June* welcomes readers to experience a pride celebration and share in a day when we are all united. A picture book illustrating a Pride parade. The endmatter serves as a primer on LGBT history and culture and explains the references made in the story.” – Amazon.
- Stevenson, R. (2021). *Pride puppy!* Orca Book Publishers.
 - “A young child and their family are having a wonderful time together celebrating Pride Day—meeting up with Grandma, making new friends and eating ice cream. But then something terrible happens: their dog gets lost in the parade! Luckily, there are lots of people around to help reunite the pup with his family. This rhyming alphabet book tells a lively story, with rich, colorful illustrations that will have readers poring over every detail as they spot items starting with each of the letters of the alphabet. An affirming and inclusive book that offers a joyful glimpse of a Pride parade and the vibrant community that celebrates this day each year.” – Amazon.
- Thorn, T., Roque, A., & Grigni, N. (2022). *It feels good to be yourself: A book about Gender Identity*. Findaway World, LLC.
 - “Some people are boys. Some people are girls. Some people are both, neither, or somewhere in between. This sweet, straightforward exploration of gender identity will give children a fuller understanding of themselves and others. With child-friendly language and vibrant art, *It Feels Good to Be Yourself* provides young readers and parents alike with the vocabulary to discuss this important topic with sensitivity.” – Amazon.

Songs:

- Sesame Street: Believe in Yourself song:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5mw5E6gYpB8>
 - This is a song of empowerment that children can use to inspire them to have confidence in who they are and their abilities.
- Bruno Mars and the Muppets song:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWp6kkz-pnQ>

- This song encourages children to not give up and keep trying-just as the LGBTQ+ community continues to fight for their rights.
- Love is Love- LGBT+ Pride song for kids:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yh1C0u4uBso>
 - This song is great because it shows a variety of families and how all are perfect for what they are.
- People are Rainbows: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aC5Rlq4ho04>
 - This is a great song about how everyone is uniquely different and beautiful.

A list of materials for the various activities:

Every week: speaker system, projector, screen, tables

Week one: Tie Dye T-shirts

- T-shirts of various sizes
- Tie dye paint kits in rainbow colors
- Plastic bags
- Gloves

Week two: Pride parade signs

- Construction paper
- Rainbow stickers
- Markers/crayons

Week three: Rainbow Slime

- Elmer's glue
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Plans should also address the social justice framework:

Selection- books and songs educate children on some new terms and definitions used by the LGBTQ+ community and promote acceptance of one's own similarities and differences of others.

Connection- partnering with an organization in the community provides a relationship between the services of the library and the services offered by Edge NJ to better serve members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Reflection- using books and songs that educate the public causes us to reflect on our ideas and perceptions of the LGBTQ+ community ensuring that we can create a more welcoming environment and interactions with its members.

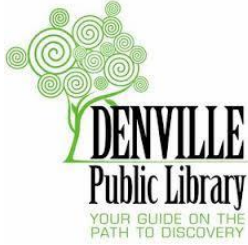
Action- learning more about the LGBTQ+ community will hopefully encourage people to educate themselves further about the injustices the LGBTQ+ community faces and inspire others to take action and promote understanding.

How technology is used to promote learning:

We will be using sound systems, and a projector with a screen to ensure that everyone will be able to see the performance. We will even digitize the book to project for large groups and to access the songs for story hour. Additionally, we may consider filming our story hours and publishing them on our social media pages to promote the event and encourage more families to attend the event series.

Marketing and Publicity Strategies

Flyer:



**The Denville Public Library
and EDGE NJ present:**

Drag Story Hour

Wednesdays

June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023

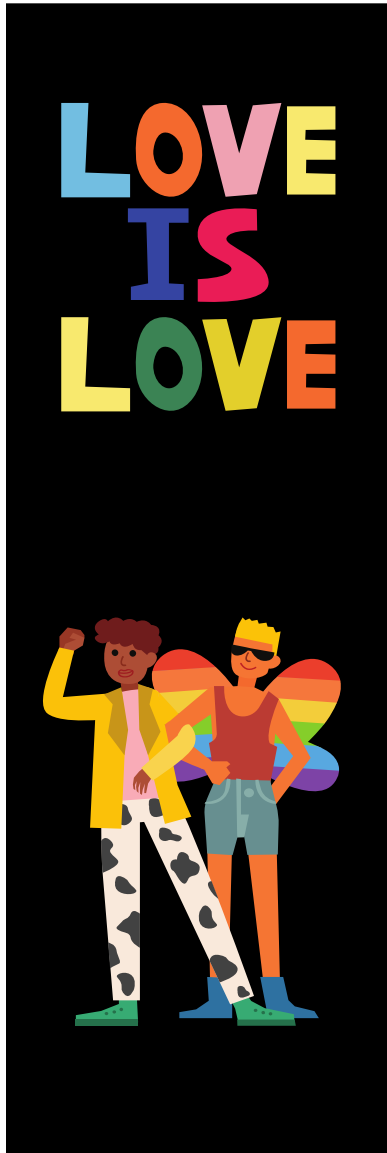
10 am

**Museum Brick Patio
121 Diamond Spring Road
Denville, NJ**

**For more information visit: denvillelibrary.org,
call 973-627-6555, or ask a librarian**



Bookmark as a take home advertisement:



(front)



(back)

We will have the flyers hung in the library with the bookmarks also available for anyone who comes into the library. We will also have them displayed at the Edge campus for their visitors to advertise the event as well. Additionally, we will post the flyer and information on our social media pages, website, and some local businesses and schools that allow us to advertise.

Program Budget

<u>Supplies</u>	<u>Cost</u>
speaker system	already have
projector	already have
screen	already have
tables	already have
tshirts	5/\$9.48x8=\$75.84
tie dye paint kits	\$24.99x3=\$74.97
gloves	already have
plastic bags	already have
construction paper	already have
rainbow stickers	\$9.99x2=\$19.98
markers/crayons	already have
glue	already have
Liquid starch	\$19.75
water	already have
bowls	already have
spoons	already have
food coloring	\$4.59
baking soda	\$7.79
vinegar	\$2.99
pipettes	\$8.99

Total for 40 participants: \$214.90

Other Considerations

Registrations- not required. We want all to feel welcome to attend and not restricted by advanced reservations.

Diversity advisory committee input – We would have members of Edge NJ as our diversity advisory committee who would be responsible for ensuring our books and songs are appropriate and considerate of the LGBTQ+ community.

Staffing needs for the program – At least three staff members are needed to execute this event. One to be available during the drag presentation should anything go awry, and the other two to set up the activity during the presentation-ensuring there are enough supplies and stations for all families in attendance.

Volunteer management – Volunteers are always welcome and encouraged to show their support. Volunteers will be helpful with setting up the activity, aiding families during the event, and clean up.

Program Evaluation/Assessment Tool

Informal- see general enjoyment of families who attend or see how no one attends.
Pivot throughout program and before next session to better fit the families who attend.

Formal- Survey Monkey:

1. Was the time appropriate/suitable for your family to attend?
2. If we continued this program, would you make it a point to attend?
3. How can we improve this program?
4. Do you have any suggestions for future programs?
5. Would you be willing to read a story or lead us in a song that is important to your family heritage, traditions, etc.
6. How did you hear about this program series?
7. Would you recommend this program to other friends/family?
8. Any other comments/suggestions?