

2018 LGBT+ History Month Button



Aleshia Brevard 1937-2017

Aleshia Brevard was born in Erwin, Tennessee on December 9, 1937 and was assigned male at birth. Growing up as a boy in a religious household in rural

Tennessee, "Buddy" was always close to her mother and saw herself as a woman even from the earliest years of her life. After moving to San Francisco immediately following her high school graduation, Aleshia worked as a female impersonator at Finocchio's Club in SF under the name "Lee Shaw" in the early 1960s. Beginning her transition when she was 21 years old, she underwent gender affirmation surgery (known as sexual reassignment surgery at the time). Aleshia became one of the first women in US history to undergo such a procedure, before the term transgender had even been coined. After medically transitioning, Aleshia found her way back to Tennessee and enrolled as an undergraduate student at MTSU in 1965 to pursue her B.S. degree in Speech, although she was known then as A'Leshia Brevard Lee or A'Leshia Crenshaw. An active member of the student organization the Buchanan Players, Aleshia was a vibrant part of the campus community and it was during her time at MTSU that she grew into her identity. Aleshia went on to attend graduate school at Marshall University in West Virginia, and later returned to MTSU a second time to pursue her M.A. in Theater.

2018 LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH



"Professionally, both as a film/stage actress and, later, as a university professor of theatre, my life was lived outside the gender community. Only after publishing two memoirs, when in my 60's and 70's, did I first hear the term "transgender" and become aware of the community's stated agenda."



Senior photo of Aleshia from the 1967 MTSU Yearbook known as the Midlanders



"For me, as well as for my early sisters, the goal was never to live with a 'T' before our names. Our objective was to blend so thoroughly that the things mixed could not be recognized. It was a choice, made not because we felt any shame about our transsexual history, but because our goal had always been to live fully as the women we'd been born to be."

Featuring: "Gay"ze Through History Exhibit; six decades of LGBT+ history at MTSU. 1960s-present



MTSU Lambda Association celebrates anniversary. 30th 1988-2018

2018

Middle Tennessee State University
LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH
 CALENDAR

October

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

MT Lambda Weekly Meeting Every Wednesday 7pm CKNB N119 mtsu.edu/mtlambda		September: 26 PRIDE Night for LGBT+ & Allied Students 6pm STU Theater		27	28	29
30	1	2	MT Lambda 3	4	5	6
7	8	9	MT Lambda 10	11	12	13
		Film: Chavela 7pm STU Theater FREE	Intersectionality/ Ally Public Forum 7pm CKNB N119	National Coming Out Day		
14	15	16	MT Lambda 17	18	19	20
						Thirtieth Anniversary of the founding of the MTSU Lambda Association
21	22	23	MT Lambda 24	25	26	27
			LGBT+ Alumni Panel 7pm BAS Statefarm Room S102		Intersex Awareness Day Asexual Awareness Tabling 10:00 - 2:00 STU Lobby	
28	29	30	MT Lambda 31	November:		
				17	20	
				Transgender Day of Remembrance Ceremony Time 6pm STU Commons	National Transgender Day of Remembrance	

“Gay”ze Through History

Throughout the month of October be sure to check out the “Gay”ze Through History exhibit located in three separate areas of campus. The exhibit highlights historical events and the work of past LGBT+ Alumni who fought to make the MTSU campus a safer and more inclusive place for all students over the past sixty years. The exhibit is presented in three parts; **Part 1** is located in the James E. Walker Library on the first floor near the technology help desk, **Part 2** is located in the Albert Gore Research Center in Todd Hall, and **Part 3** is located in the first floor lobby of the Student Services and Administration Building (SSAB).

Part 1 - James E. Walker Library
 Aleshia Brevard - Who was she?
 MT Lambda artifacts and papers
 History of SpringOut! PRIDE Week
 LGBT+ College Conference History

Part 2 - Albert Gore Research Center
 Sidelines Newspaper History - LGBT+
 Other Print Media related to LGBT+ history
 at MTSU

Part 3 - SSAB First Floor Lobby
 MTSU Nondiscrimination Policy History
 Uniform Equality Committee
 LGBT+ Inclusive SGA Bills

MTSU PRIDE Button Collection



MTSU Lambda Association Celebrates 30th Anniversary

MT Lambda was established in response to a series of anti-LGBT+ articles published by Sidelines and is the oldest higher ed LGBT+ student organization existing in the state today. The Founders of MT Lambda; Daniel Webster, John Weaver, and Ritchie Smith, rallied the LGBT+ community on campus and established MT Lambda in October of 1988. Since its establishment, MT Lambda has served as a home away from home for LGBT+ students on campus and has fought for numerous policy changes throughout its existence. Read more about the 1988 Sidelines articles by stopping by the Gore Research Center located in Todd Hall.

Highlighted Events

See calendar for event times and locations
 Look for these events on MyMT

- Sept 26 - LGBT+ PRIDE Night**
 Come show your PRIDE and join us in the Intercultural and Diversity Affairs Center for our first LGBT+ PRIDE Night!
mtsu.campuslabs.com/engage/event/2228585
- October 11 - National Coming Out Day Tabling**
 Join us to share your coming out experiences with us and help celebrate National Coming Out Day!
 STU Commons
 10am-2pm
- Oct 19 & 20 - Rocky Horror Picture Show**
 This event is 18+, admission is \$5.00 per student, and students are required to show their student ID. Presented by MT SPARE
 For a full list of event rules, ticket information, and annual traditions please visit mtsu.edu/events/rockyhorror.php
- Nov 17 - Transgender Day of Remembrance Ceremony**
 TDOR was founded in 1999 to memorialize transgender community members who we've lost to anti-transgender violence. Join us on the STU Commons as we come together to remember those who have been lost to us.
 Presented by MT Lambda.
 6pm

Fall 2018 Spectrum Film & Lecture Series

See calendar for event times and locations
 Look for these events on MyMT

- October 9 - Film Screening; Chavela**
 Chavela is a documentary film exploring the life of lesbian Mexican singer Chavela Vargas, who gained worldwide fame for her beauty and charm and her interpretation of traditional ranchera. In her amazing journey from a 14-year-old rejected runaway from Costa Rica to world renowned, Grammy winning Mexican icon, this dream weaver took bits and pieces of who she was and who she wanted to be and wove them into reality.
<https://mtsu.campuslabs.com/engage/event/2795377>
- Oct 24 - LGBT+ Alumni Panel**
 Come learn about major LGBT+ milestones on our campus and the changes that have been made throughout the decades which have helped make our campus a more inclusive home for LGBT+ students. Moderated by: Donna Baker, Archivist for the Gore Research Center.
 BAS Statefarm Room S102
 7pm
- Oct 30 - Film Screening; Kumu Hina**
 Kumu Hina is a powerful film about the struggle to maintain Pacific Islander culture and values within the Westernized society of modern day Hawai'i. It is told through the lens of an extraordinary Native Hawaiian who is both a proud and confident mähū (transgender woman), and an honored and respected kumu (teacher), cultural practitioner, and community leader.