

University of California, Santa Barbara

# Resource Guide

## LGBTQ Community

UC SANTA BARBARA

## Welcoming Atmosphere



**Henry T. Yang**  
Chancellor

At UC Santa Barbara, our community encompasses a rich and diverse mix of cultures, backgrounds, talents, and perspectives. This diversity is an essential part of our academic excellence. I would like to invite you to get further acquainted with our vibrant campus life. This LGBTQ Community Resource Guide provides information on a wonderful variety of student clubs, programs, organizations, cultural events, activities, and campus services. This is a special time for you as you think about your future, and we are excited that you are considering our campus as the next step in your education!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry T. Yang". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**3,000**

visitors to the Resource Center for Sexual & Gender Diversity (RCSGD) each year

**#5**

public university in the nation, U.S. News and World Report, 2019

**20th**

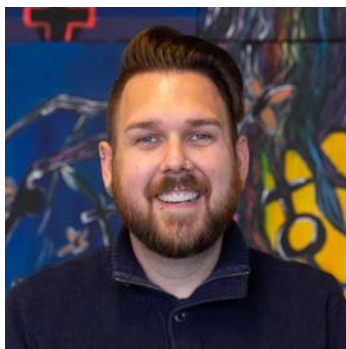
anniversary of the UCSB RCSGD in 2019

**40+**

LGBTQ events are hosted by the RCSGD annually

**19,000+**

students live on or within a mile of campus



I am excited that you are thinking about joining us at UCSB! Our university has been working for years to ensure that our campus is welcoming for students within queer and trans communities. Much of this work can be credited to student activism and advocacy by staff and faculty to make this campus better year after year! The university offers many resources to help LGBTQ+ students thrive during their journey, including the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity. The RCSGD leads the work that happens across campus to make sure that students of all genders and sexual orientations feel at home and know that they have the skills to achieve their goals. I hope that you will visit the center while touring campus and ask our student staff or one of the professional staff about their experience here. I hope you will see that you too have a place in the vibrant LGBTQ+ community at UCSB!

**Craig Leets**

Director of LGBT Resources, Resource Center for Sexual & Gender Diversity (RCSGD)  
Pronouns: He/him/his

## Unmatched Resources

### Resource Center for Sexual & Gender Diversity

The RCSGD works with students, staff and faculty to ensure that LGBTQ identities, experiences and concerns are represented and addressed at UCSB. The center aims to create a comfortable and welcoming social and study space while providing social and educational programming, volunteer and leadership opportunities, and support. The RCSGD hopes that all LGBTQ students can thrive at UCSB while feeling safe, affirmed and valued.

[rcsgd.sa.ucsb.edu](http://rcsgd.sa.ucsb.edu)  [rcsgd.ucsb](https://www.facebook.com/rcsgd.ucsb)  [rcsgd.ucsb](https://www.instagram.com/rcsgd.ucsb)



### Trans Community Resources

UCSB is committed to ensuring that the experiences and needs of transgender and gender expansive students are valued and addressed. Student Health offers a Health Equity Advocate, the Office of the Registrar allows students to input their preferred name, the MultiCultural Center offers a weekly open social and support group, and gender-inclusive restrooms are available throughout campus.

### LGBTQ Studies at UCSB

The Department of Feminist Studies is proud to offer a minor in LGBTQ Studies. The minor provides a comprehensive and interdisciplinary examination of the lives, experiences, identities and representations of LGBTQ individuals. The minor emphasizes the intersection of sexuality and gender with race, class, ethnicity and nation. [femst.ucsb.edu/undergrad/degree#lgbtq](http://femst.ucsb.edu/undergrad/degree#lgbtq)

### University Housing

The Rainbow House in Manzanita Village is a supportive living environment for LGBTQ students that connects students to LGBTQ organizations, hosts social and educational events and provides a mentorship program. Assignment Services provides assistance to students wishing to find a LGBTQ roommate or who need to request special accommodations due to gender identity and expression. [housing.ucsb.edu](http://housing.ucsb.edu)

### LGBTQ Student Organizations

For a complete list of organizations, visit [osl.sa.ucsb.edu](http://osl.sa.ucsb.edu).

- › Black Quare
- › FUQIT (Friendly Undergraduate Queers in it Together)
- › KUFF (Kink University Fetish Fellowship)
- › La Familia De Colores
- › oSTEM (Out in Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)
- › QAPI (Queer Asian Pacific Islander group)
- › Queer Art Collective
- › Queer Commission
- › Queer & Trans Community
- › S.A.S.S (Society for Accessible and Safe Spaces)
- › Trans Social Group

### Community Events

The RCSGD hosts a variety of quarterly and annual events including:

- › LGBTQ Student Orientation
- › Queer and Trans People of Color Potluck
- › Pride Week
- › Graduate and international student mixers
- › Queer and trans organizations social
- › OUT Talks with noted LGBTQ researchers
- › identiTEAs, discussions on intersectional identity
- › HIV testing with Pacific Pride Foundation, local LGBTQ center
- › Workshops for Greek life and Athletics
- › Noted LGBTQ speakers
- › Fashion and drag shows
- › Coming Out Monologues
- › Pride Awards
- › Lavender Graduation

# LGBTQ Student Perspectives



## Angel Leija

**Major:** Sociology

**Minors:** History & LGBTQ Studies

**Pronouns:** They/them/theirs

**Why UCSB?** I chose UCSB because the students and atmosphere welcomed me in a way that made me feel accepted and energized

to become a better me. I knew that UCSB would be the place where most of my own personal growth would occur due to the academics and, most importantly, the LGBTQ family on campus.

**LGBTQ Community** I truly believe that the LGBTQ community at UCSB is full of vibrancy and passion for true liberation in all its aspects. By being part of the LGBTQ community, I have been able to find who I am and who I want to be through acknowledging all my intersectional identities and embracing them all as a whole. The LGBTQ community here has made an impact on me which will push me to reach all my goals and aspirations, whether political, social, cultural or economical.



## Christine Miyazato

**Major:** Feminist Studies

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**Why UCSB?** I chose UCSB for a few reasons, but mainly its closeness to home, the high academic standards, and the inclusiveness I felt that was prominent in the campus culture.

While, like all other colleges, your experience is what you make of it, I truly feel that I wouldn't be the person I am today without coming to this college and discovering more about who I am. By joining several clubs on campus like the queer trans community, and the Nikkei student union for people of Japanese descent, I was able to get more in touch with my intersectional identities and I felt like I belonged on campus.

**LGBTQ Community** The UCSB LGBTQ+ community is a close-knit community and my second home on campus. There are several queer clubs on campus which are oriented towards specific queer identities.



## Hikaru Ezra Mernin

**Major:** Feminist Studies

**Minor:** LGBTQ Studies

**Pronouns:** Ze/hir/they/them

**Why UCSB?** I chose UCSB partially because of the undergraduate research opportunities offered here, but primarily because of the

resources and services offered to queer and disabled students and the community built on campus through student-run organizations. I fell in love with the identity communities on campus.

**Involvements at UCSB** I am chair of Trans Social Group (TSG) and the Society for Accessible and Safe Spaces (SASS) and am involved with Queers Against Fascism (QAF). I am also employed as Trans Advocacy Coordinator at the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity.



## Joel "Joey" Medina

**Major:** Pre-Sociology

**Pronouns:** He/him/his

**Why UCSB?** I chose UCSB because of the energetic and loving environment I found here. I interacted with so many people through different programs and was

able to meet other individuals with similar backgrounds and interests to mine. I knew it was a place where I could flourish and discover new aspects of myself I'd never known before. Also, have you seen that beautiful beach? I live next to it!

**LGBTQ Community** The UCSB LGBTQIA+ community is very multi-faceted. There are so many different clubs and organizations for queer people of different identities and backgrounds, and if someone doesn't find one that matches what they're looking for, they can form it themselves! If you're having trouble, though, come into the RCSGD!

## UCSB Office of Admissions

1210 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2014  
admissions.ucsb.edu | 805-893-2881

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