



# VIRTUAL EVENT PLANNING GUIDE

April 24, 2020

**GLSEN**<sup>®</sup>

## This year we are honoring the 25th anniversary of Day of Silence

– a national student led protest of the silencing and erasure of LGBTQ people. And this year we are going virtual!

With school closures across the country for an unforeseeable future at this time, we at GLSEN want to ensure that we are meeting the virtual needs of students, educators, and school community members who are committed to advocacy for LGBTQ people. As we stay diligent and mindful in keeping safe through spatial distancing, we can continue to build social connections with each other online and share powerful messages.

This guide is for anyone who wishes to participate in the largest LGBTQ student led day of action. On pages 2 and 3 are ideas you can use with your virtual GSA and online community to continue to raise awareness and take action in support of LGBTQ people. We are in this together and can't wait to paint our way across social media platforms with you on Day of Silence.

As you plan Day of Silence, don't forget to end this silent protest by participating in Breaking the Silence virtual rallies, which take place at the end of the day, after folks have participated in Day of Silence. Be sure to check out the Virtual Breaking the Silence Guide, and join @GLSEN national on Instagram starting at 3:00PM EST.



## OTHER RESOURCES

View other materials to help you prepare for Day of Silence on the GLSEN website at:

[www.glsen.org/dayofsilence](http://www.glsen.org/dayofsilence)



facebook.com/GLSEN



@GLSEN



@GLSENOfficial



youtube.com/GLSEN

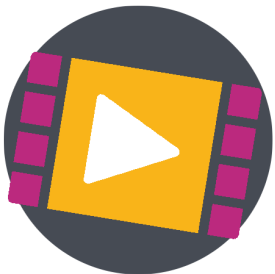
**SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN**



Change your profile(s)/ photo frame to a Day of Silence graphic from now until your 3:00PM your time on April 24th. Day of Silence is a silent protest of the erasure and bullying of LGBTQ+ people

on school campuses around the country. By changing your profile, you are raising awareness of LGBTQ erasure and harrassment! Imagine if LGBTQ people in schools were invisible, it is a powerful statement that can get folks asking questions and join in solidarity to protect, promote, and empower LGBTQ students in schools. Let's paint a message across our online platforms and show them our Silence is Loud!

**POST A VIDEO**



Post a video of you being silent. You can write your own post about Day of Silence and Why or Who you are being silent for?! You can also use this template:

Today is the 25th anniversary of Day of Silence--a national student led movement highlighting the silencing and erasure of LGBTQ people. 4 in 5 LGBTQ students don't see positive LGBTQ representation in their curriculum, 8 in 10 experience anti-LGBTQ verbal harrassment, and over a third miss school for feeling unsafe or uncomfortable. I am silent for \_\_\_\_\_. Until 3:00PM #DayofSilence (add image description if possible)

**#DAYOFSILENCE CHALLENGE!**



Post a video or photo and challenge your friends, family, and community to participate. You can write your own challenge post or use this template: Today is the 25th anniversary of Day of

Silence--a national student led movement highlighting the silencing and erasure of LGBTQ people. 4 in 5 LGBTQ students don't see positive LGBTQ representation in their curriculum, 8 in 10 experience anti-LGBTQ verbal harrassment, and over a third miss school for feeling unsafe or uncomfortable. I am silent for \_\_\_\_\_. I challenge: to join me in The Day of Silence until 3:00PM #DayofSilence (add image description if possible)

**JOIN OUR GSA CALL**



Get Day of Silence tips from members of the National Student Council!

>> Tuesday, April 7th and 14th at 6:00pm ET for student leaders

>> Wednesday, April 8th and 15th at 5:00pm ET for GSA Advisors

## VISUAL REPRESENTATION



There are so many LGBTQ artists in K-12 schools and we would love for you to show your skills off! Share your art on your social page, explain the connection to Day of Silence, tag @GLSEN and hashtag #DayofSilence for a chance to be featured on our page!

**Cooking** – Food can be a healing and transformative way to engage in activism too! Share food that connects to your identity, decorate food, and share creative ways to connect food to Breaking the Silence!

**Make-Up** – Y'all are incredible with your make-up skills and we would LOVE to feature Day of Silence related make-up designs. Get creative and show them off!

**Drawing, painting, graphic design etc.** – This has been the traditional outlet for Day of Silence and Breaking the Silence artist expression and we are here for it! This is an activity you can do together with your virtual GSA! Set up a zoom or google hangout video chat and work on your art projects together as a club online.

**Music** – You can sing, play an instrument, create musical sounds etc! Share how this artistic outlet is related to Day of Silence for you.

**Poetry (including spoken word), writing excerpt, quote** – Words have power, share and tell your story through creative and expressive writing.

**Dance and Movement Art** – body movement in all of its forms is an empowering expressive outlet. This is an opportunity to connect what it means to feel erased or bullied through body movement.

## OUTREACH



Invite folks in all your groups to join in on the Day of Silence social media take over and share the Day of Silence digital graphics. Use the hashtag #DayofSilence and share links to the website [www.glsen.org/day-of-silence](http://www.glsen.org/day-of-silence)

## ZINE MAKING PARTY



Check out the National Student Council's Zine and share it! You can also create your own Zine as a group while on a video call with each other. Connect with the closest GLSEN Chapter

to you and share your Zine! They can share it on their social and if you tag @GLSEN and use the hashtag #DayofSilence and #BreakingTheSilence, you could be featured on GLSEN national's social media outlets!