



# 2023 Corporate Guide

[glsen.org/DayOfSilence](https://glsen.org/DayOfSilence)

Day of Silence is  
sponsored by



# Table of Contents

3	Intro
3	Theme
4	Ways to Participate
4	Social Media
5	Additional Ways to Participate



**GLSEN's Day of Silence is a national day of action pushing back against the silencing of LGBTQ+ youth and the erasure of their experiences.**

**This year, GLSEN's Day of Silence takes place April 14, 2023.**

GLSEN's Day of Silence - a student-centered national day of action - occurs every April where students and educators across the country engage in collective action, calling attention to the silencing of LGBTQ+ students and the erasure of their experiences. While being a student-led initiative, there are ways for adult supporters to become involved and become an ally to our LGBTQ+ youth.

There is an unprecedented level of anti-trans and anti-LGBTQ+ rhetoric and policy currently being weaponized against our community, and we thank our corporate partners for everything you have been doing for and in solidarity with students.

As LGBTQ+ students and educators across the country face attacks on their rights to access **affirming books, healthcare**, and even the right to be called **by the right name and pronouns at school**, we use this day as a collective protest to demonstrate the power of our voices and the impact of our silence.

## THEME

This year, the Day of Silence theme is **Rising Up**. As part of that theme, educators and other adults across the country will spend the day speaking up in every space online and offline in defense of the rights of LGBTQ+ students. In this time when LGBTQ+ students are being targeted, it is more critical than ever for **adults to loudly claim a day of NO silence**. While adult allies will be speaking and **Rising Up** for LGBTQ+ youth, students across the country will be participating in silent protest as a way to demonstrate how thousands of LGBTQ+ students across the country feel everyday — silenced.

As a GLSEN partner, your financial support enables our work and helps us transform K-12 classrooms into safe and affirming environments where all youth can learn and grown. Your generosity also transforms the lives of LGBTQ+ youth nationwide – thank you!

As the unprecedented level of anti-trans and anti-LGBTQ rhetoric and policy spreads throughout our communities, many corporate partners are asking, beyond their financial contributions, how can they support GLSEN's work? The answer is simple and many have already started doing so. Helping amplify GLSEN's mission among their employees, customer base, and through the social networks of both, will create additional awareness of the issues LGBTQ+ youth face and the work GLSEN and our Chapter network are doing to make K-12 schools safer and affirming for all students.

Using your platform to **Rise Up** and join millions of students, educators, celebrities/influencers, policy makers and allies in participating GLSEN's Day of Silence will provide an opportunity to deepen your commitment to helping ensure all students receive the education every youth is entitled to.



For more information visit [glsen.org/DayOfSilence](https://glsen.org/DayOfSilence)

## WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

This year, adults can take action by speaking up in the workplace and in community spaces, online and offline, taking and making every platform possible to speak out about what LGBTQ+ students are facing, and how other adults can take action to support them.

Check out GLSEN's most recent [National School Climate Survey](#) and [State Snapshots](#) for more information about what LGBTQ+ students are up against.

- **Register** for GLSEN's Day of Silence to receive more information for engagement opportunities with celebrity influencers and additional resources.
- Follow @GLSEN on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter where we'll post shareable and printable graphics, and repost creative ways that others are participating. Share how you're participating to inspire other corporate partners!
- Send internal communication to staff sharing why your company is supporting GLSEN's Day of Silence.
- Utilize GLSEN's virtual Day of Silence **background** during virtual calls and meetings on April 14th. This will also demonstrate how adults are using the power of their voice to Rise Up and support LGBTQ+ youth.
- Encourage staff to change their auto signature to "Join me in Rising Up for LGBTQ+ youth" with a link to GLSEN's Day of Silence webpage.
- Using the [GLSEN Navigator](#), educate yourself on the varying levels of support and protections LGBTQ+ youth have access to under state laws across the country.
- Use your voice, and your voting power! Tell your Congressional Representative that you oppose HR734 — the federal trans+intersex athlete sports ban. Call 202-224-3121 and tell them you believe ALL students should be allowed to play sports!

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Post on your corporate social media accounts explaining why your company is participating. You can find downloadable graphics at [glsen.org/DayOfSilence](https://glsen.org/DayOfSilence). Write a post about the experiences of LGBTQ+ students in your retail community. Identify ways that your company plans to take action, and invite others to join you. Challenge your followers to share your post, and to create similar posts of their own.

See below for a sample template:

Today is the Day of Silence — a national student-led movement highlighting the silencing and erasure of LGBTQ+ people.

82% of LGBTQ+ students experienced first-hand harassment or bullying in their school. 71% of students reported that their classrooms did not include any LGBTQ+ topics. More than 30% of LGBTQ+ students reported missing school because they felt unsafe or uncomfortable. Over half of all LGBTQ+ students of color experienced in-person victimization based on race/ethnicity.

Our company is participating by breaking the silence around the attacks on LGBTQ+ students on the #DayofSilence.



For more information visit [glsen.org/DayOfSilence](https://glsen.org/DayOfSilence)

## #DayOfSilence Challenge

You can write your own or use this template:

Today is the Day of Silence — a national day of action pushing back against the silencing of LGBTQ+ youth and the erasure of their experiences. 82% of LGBTQ+ students experienced first-hand harassment or bullying in their school. 71% of students reported that their classrooms did not include any LGBTQ+ topics. More than 30% of LGBTQ+ students reported missing school because they felt unsafe or uncomfortable. Over half of all LGBTQ+ students of color experienced in-person victimization based on race/ethnicity.

Our company is breaking the silence around the attacks on LGBTQ+ students on the #DayofSilence. We challenge @\_\_\_\_\_ to join us in the Day of Silence by speaking out! #DayofSilence

## ADDITIONAL WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

### Ways to Participate

Actions That Include Fundraising Elements:

- Work with GLSEN to create a corporate branded fundraising landing page on [glsen.org](https://glsen.org) to allow your staff to donate to support GLSEN's Day of Silence and other student led days of action.
- Encourage staff to start a "Peer to Peer Fundraising" page to create awareness of Day of Silence and other student led days of action.
- Create an internal goal for your corporation to match employee fundraising "up to \$XXX". If your company already has a company matching program, consider offering a 2 for 1 match on April 14th.

Actions That Do Not Include Fundraising Elements:

- Encourage your ERG to host a panel discussion. This a great recruitment tool to bring in more allies!
- Set up a video call via Zoom, Microsoft Teams, WebEx for employees to join to talk about ways they can see the company amplify their DEIB efforts or have someone from your Office of Diversity talk about the company's initiatives throughout the year.
- Encourage employees to add their pronouns on their auto signatures and in their Zoom name/label.
- Continue the conversation! The Day of Silence should not be the only time you discuss LGBTQ+ issues at work. Break the silence by encouraging your employees to reach out to their school librarian and encourage them to apply for a Rainbow Library.
- Prepare your company for an amazing PRIDE month. If you're not already engaged in PRIDE, reach out to [paul.irwindudek@glsen.org](mailto:paul.irwindudek@glsen.org)

**Thank you for your continued support and advocacy for LGBTQ+ students!**

For more information visit [glsen.org/DayOfSilence](https://glsen.org/DayOfSilence), or email your GLSEN Development contact, Paul Irwin-Dudek at [paul.irwindudek@glsen.org](mailto:paul.irwindudek@glsen.org), or Steve Mancuso at [steve.mancuso@glsen.org](mailto:steve.mancuso@glsen.org).



For more information visit [glsen.org/DayOfSilence](https://glsen.org/DayOfSilence)

**GLSEN<sup>®</sup>**

[glsen.org](https://www.glsen.org)