

# RaYnbow Review



## I Like to Look for Rainbows...

The RaYnbow Collective is so excited to be starting our spring and summer terms with new council members and a fresh new look to our newsletters. With the end of the semester, the beautiful weather, and pride month coming up, we are looking forward to the future with determination to make this the best summer ever! It is our sincere hope that you'll enjoy reading about upcoming events, recent changes to the RaYnbow Council, and more!



Some of our new stickers, which can be found at [raynbowcollective.org/shop](http://raynbowcollective.org/shop) !

## Upcoming!

Our events team would like to invite you to our upcoming events: in the next few weeks, we have some exciting online workshops, including an LGBTQ Writing workshop and an LGBTQIA+ Suicide Prevention training. You can find more information and RSVP for these events and more on the Events page of our website, [raynbowcollective.org/events](http://raynbowcollective.org/events) Also, read further for more information about our upcoming LGBTQ+ at BYU Art Show next month!

# LGBTQ+ Art

I can't remember the first time I saw Keith Haring's art. In all honesty, I think there is a part of all of us that recognizes his work—the simple figures that seemingly jump and cartwheel off their background. If you can't picture his work, look him up, you'll likely feel similarly; something about his art feels timeless and continually resonates. Keith is special to me. He voices emotions I have only ever felt but never had the words for. I'm not alone in feeling that his art speaks to me personally. There is a reason people wear clothes with his art and values printed on them. There is a reason that his art pops up in many facets of life.

Keith Haring's work is transcendent and represents a salient pillar in the queer community: art as expression and emancipation. From drawing to drag, queer artists have left their impressions throughout history—in private journals and public protests. Keith Haring also painted himself into that lineage of queer voices expressing hopes and pains. As a gay man raised in a small rural town by deeply religious parents, Keith represents the tensions that queer folk are often under. Keith's upbringing heavily influenced his art and journals, remaining part of him.

Art for queer people, as with all people, is the crowning jewel of self-articulation. Grappling with identity, passion, belonging, and control—art is a means to understanding the inner parts that sometimes allude us. One of the most compelling parts of Keith Haring's project as an artist was the way that he democratized “high art” through pop-up shops and murals. He hoped that his art would inspire others to do art as well. Although his heart took him all over the world and made him a celebrity, he still found his most meaningful work to be with kids, helping them develop their capacity to do art so they could understand themselves. Art is the lifeblood of a life well lived—consuming, learning from, and making it.

This is in large part why the RaYnbow Collective is hosting our upcoming art show. We are currently accepting submissions for art, poetry, music, performance, and installation pieces that express connections that go beyond our differences just as Keith did. The show will take place at the end of June. His art connects with something beyond who he was but brought his heart to the surface. Even if you've never shared your art, please consider creating some or submitting something to continue the work that Keith Haring did.

Love,  
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# Queer Media Rec.



## Derry Girls

As a collective, and as young queer people, we love consuming queer media! We hope you'll enjoy these monthly recommendations, consisting of music, film, literature, and more, and featuring queer artists and stories, from us to you!

Derry Girls, a Netflix show produced by Michael Lennox, tells a coming-of-age story set in 1990s Northern Ireland starring a group of girls who are unaware of the troubles surrounding them. One of the main characters, Clare, is lesbian, and another is nonbinary.



## Encircle!

Encircle is a non-profit organization with the mission to bring the family and community together to enable our LGBTQ+ youth to thrive.

Services include: Therapy, Friendship Circles, Daily Programs and Activities, Volunteer Opportunities

Visit their website:  
[www.encircletogether.org](http://www.encircletogether.org)



An anonymous RaYnbow Council member would rate Derry Girls "1000000000 out of 10...this is the funniest show I've ever seen; it's my comfort show. The series finale broke me."

# Artist Spotlight

## Artist Spotlight

M. Alice Abrams (she/her) is an illustrator and printmaker, specializing in linoleum block print and watercolor, located in Vancouver, Washington. Her artwork reflects her religious convictions and insights, especially as she travels through her faith journey. Alice recently came out as bisexual and bi-romantic, and part of her mission as an artist in the queer/LDS community is to help other members in mixed orientation marriages and relationships feel validated within the faith. Her goal is to create simple yet poignant artwork that helps people feel loved, seen and welcomed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. When she isn't busy carving or painting, she is trying to keep up with her two lively daughters and dog and her incredibly supportive husband, Zac.



"Unraveling a Mystery from Heaven"  
Limited edition linoleum block print  
Embroidery - rainbow version  
See this piece and more at our art show in June!

## Save the Date!

### RaYnbow Collective

LGBTQ Writing Workshop: Wed, May 10th, 6pm; virtual  
(collaboration with the National LGBT Cancer Network)

LGBTQIA+ Suicide Prevention: Thurs, May 11th, 7pm; virtual  
(collaboration with LiveOn Utah and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention)

LGBTQ+ at BYU Art Show: The Threads that Bind Us  
June 23-24; JKR Gallery 1675 N Freedom Blvd Unit 7B, Provo

Keep an eye on our instagram and website for more information on these events!

### Cosmo's Camp and Couture

First drag show of the new semester! May 1st, 7:30pm, Provo. Find more information and RSVP at @cougarcampandcouture on instagram!

### Flourish Therapy

Young Adult Group Therapy: Tuesdays, 4:30, at the Orem office; Thursdays, 3:30 on Zoom

### Cougar Pride Center

Snack Time: Wednesdays, 5-7pm, Campus Plaza Lounge, Provo

### USGA

Weekly activities: Thursdays, 7pm, Provo Library room 201