On April 21, 2018, the Northwestern University Queer Pride Graduate Student Association will host its 11th annual Queertopia Conference. Queertopia is an opportunity for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, undergraduates, activists, organizers, and community practitioners to build intellectual community as they pose questions related to gender and sexuality. We invite submissions by March 1 of graduate, undergraduate, and postgraduate research across disciplines around this year’s theme of Queer Community, Queer Care.

This conference invites scholarship on the past, present, and future of queer community, care, and health care. Topics we aim to explore include queer access to and delivery of care, health care policy and practice, HIV/AIDS within the LGBTQ+ community, and current LGBTQ+ health-based research. This conference also invites submissions about the politics of queer community, care, and their intersections.

We ask:

- How is “care” defined within LGBTQ+ communities?
- What sectors of LGBTQ+ health care exist today? What need exists for LGBTQ+ medicine?
- What is the current perception of HIV/AIDS in the LGBTQ+ community and has this changed over time? What HIV/AIDS risk disparities exist across US populations?
- What barriers to care exist in LGBTQ+ populations? How can these barriers be eliminated?
- What does access and delivery of care look like across race, class, and gender in queer communities? How can these barriers be eliminated?
- How does the intersectionality of identity affect access, delivery, and perception of care?
- What intimate labor or care practices are performed in LGBTQ+ communities? Are these practices raced and gendered in queer communities?
- How does emerging technology facilitate queer community and care?
- What types of relationships sustain queer communities?
- How does the need for care mobilize community? Is there care without community?

Additionally, Queertopia 2018 welcomes submissions that envisage critical and radical futures for queer community and care. We invite proposals for papers that address the following:

- Queer survival, healing, wellness, and resistance
- Intersectionality of identity within queer communities
- Power and privilege within and its effects on queer communities
- Transnational queer community and care
- Scholarship on transgender, non-binary, gender nonconforming, and genderqueer communities
- Queer disability
- Marginalized queer identities, including but not limited to queer youth; people of color; immigrant and undocumented individuals; people experiencing homelessness; the incarcerated; socioeconomically disadvantaged; geographically isolated; and aging LGBTQ+

This year’s Queertopia honors the 20th anniversary of the Realizing AIDS conference held at Northwestern. This conference opened up a broader conversation at Northwestern regarding the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States, and more specifically, its impact on the LGBT+ community. While perceptions around HIV/AIDS have shifted since the Realizing AIDS conference, its role in driving research and concepts around LGBT+ health care and community remain. This 20-year anniversary serves as an entry point to re-examine the influence and conversation surrounding HIV/AIDS within the LGBT+ community, as well as larger conversations around queer community and care.

Submission: Please submit an abstract (up to 200 words), a 75-word bio, and contact information for each presenter to NUQPGSA@gmail.com by 11:59 PM March 1, 2018. The subject line of the email should be ‘QUEERTOPIA 2018 (your name)’. Please specify any audio or visual needs or other requests you may have. You will receive a response confirming receipt of your submission within three days. Panel chairs and discussants will be secured by conference organizers and announced by mid-March.

Travel Scholarships of up to $400 now available for accepted out-of-area conference presenters.