

7.3 Movie Nights Planning

Suggested Grade Level: 9-12

Time: Planning will probably take a three weeks depending on Rating

Subject Area: Movie Night

Overview:

Social events such as movie nights are a great way for the GSA members to bond and just have fun together. This lesson will be focused on helping students organize a movie night.

Goals:

- Gives students the steps into how to plan a successful social event such as a movie night
- Allows students to build communication channels with their administration/or advisor
- Allows the growth of the GSA through advertising and marketing of the event.
- Allows students to become more knowledgeable of Queer Media Representations and History.

Materials:

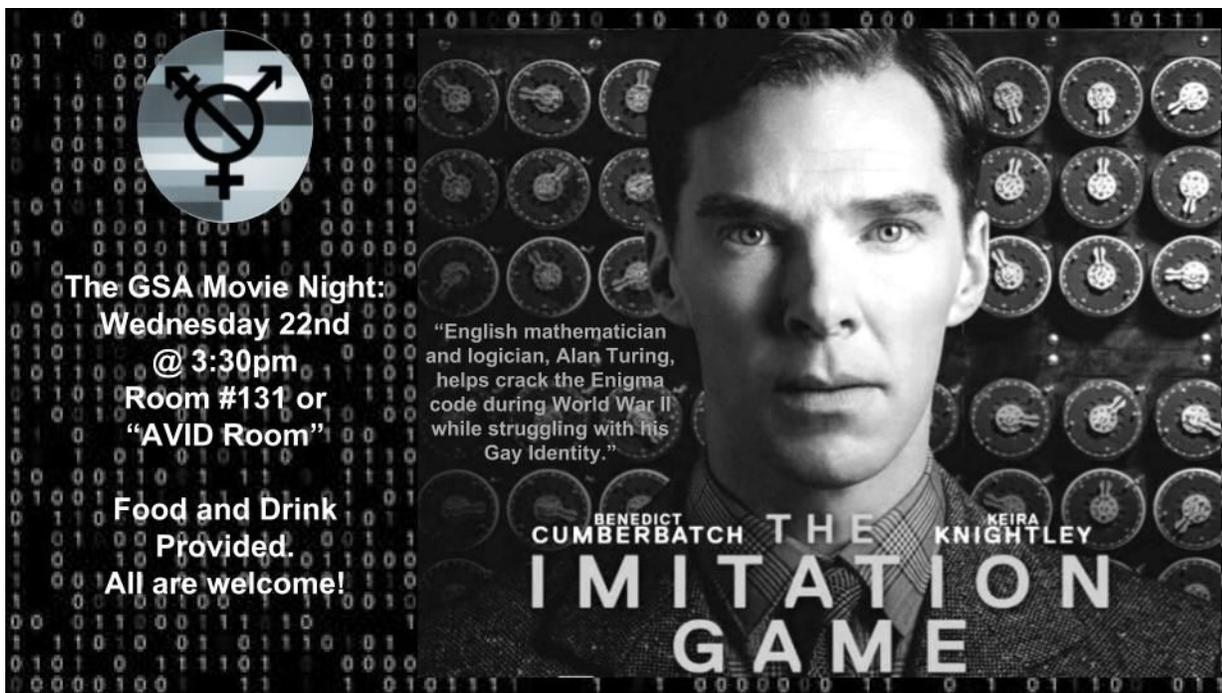
*Materials will vary depending on the GSA, this is just a starting point

- Movie Projector/Smart Board
- DVD player
- TV
- Speakers
- Food (Drinks, Chips, Popcorn)
- Poster Paper (For advertising)
- Cleaning supplies

Procedure:

There are two types of GSA Movie Nights, one is just for the GSA students that will have little to no advertising. The other would be a Movie Night Event in which the goal would be to either recruit members or educate individuals on LGBTQ representation in film. For example, using *Growing Up Trans* by Frontline, a recruitment event would be a kickoff where everyone is invited to come watch and there's lots of food. The recruiting movie should feature a film that accurately represents the LGBTQ community or is positive. A just GSA members Movie Night would be *Steven Universe* because it does not have an educational aspect in a sense.

* refers to extra Public Relation steps that need to be taken if participating in the recurring movie night



Step One:

Schedule a meeting with administration in advance, so they will know about the event. This meeting should be scheduled at time when there still is a enough time to finalize event items (e.g. poster and location) so when the meeting occurs all the pieces are organized. The advisor can be the one to schedule the meeting and may even be the one attending it. This is to ensure that the movie is appropriate and the posters can be put up so event can take place.

Step Two:

Secure a location for the film to be presented. See if your school will allow for students to use the Performing Arts Center or Auditorium if there are many people attending. In case of school blocks, download the movie at home.

Step Three:

Pick a movie. The GSA can pick five films from the list compiled from Queer Media List. Then those top five films can be voted. Google Forms is also a great tool to use for voting purposes.

Step Four:

If the film chosen is rated R make sure consent forms are given out to Parents/Legal Guardians if they are not over 18 years old. These consent forms should then be given to the administration/or advisor at the meeting for liability issues. Below there is an attached example of a consent form.

Pro Tip: Administration may not approve your film if it is rated R, even with permission slips. Always have a PG 13 option as a back up.

***Extra Step:** If the GSA is doing the recurring option students should start making event posters to be distributed throughout the school. Students can use sites such as canva.com, word document, or google slides/docs to create posters. Students should also reach out to the school announcements so they can broadcast it. Consider collaborating with other student groups for Movie Nights as well.

There are examples of movie posters at the end of this lesson for reference.

Step Five:

Finalize components such as food and drink. Students can either buy snacks or the GSA can use their funds to purchase food.

Step Six:

Finally, meet with the school administration and get their approval for the event. Students should bring copies of the consent form, the film and its description, and any PR pieces to the meeting for approval.

Step Seven:

Watch and enjoy the movie!

Step Eight:

After watching the film students can engage in a discussion about the movie and its representation of LGBTQ people.

Discussion Questions:

- What was your favorite part?
- What in this film stood out to do?
- What improvements could the film make?

Consent Form Example

Dear Parents or Legal Guardians:

On *insert date*, our student group intends to show the film *insert movie title, which is rated R.

This movie has educational value and has been selected for viewing by the class because:

Reason for showing

Movie Rating Descriptions:

R = Restricted – These films contain some adult material. They get an R rating because of the film’s use of language, theme, violence, sex or portrayal of drug use.

Please feel free to call the Advisor with any questions or concerns you may have regarding this issue.

Please sign the form below, indicating whether the student may view or may not view this movie. The student needs to return this signed form before seeing the movie. Only students who have a signed permission form will be permitted to view this movie.

I, _____, give/do not give **[circle one]** my permission for

(Parent/Legal Guardian Name)

_____ to watch the movie listed on this form.
(Student's Name)

(Signature)

(Date)