



WHAT: Boyoboy Zoom is a free, virtual workshop series

WHO: for guys 16-24 who identify as:
two-spirit, intersex, trans, non-binary, gay, bi, queer

WHERE: Zoom hosted by CTYS

WHEN: Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday monthly; 6:30-9pm
(*scheduling is subject to change; to confirm see CTYS website or*)

CONTACT: david.yeh@ctys.org



Vision

We envision healthy, resilient LGBTQ+ guys living in affirming communities and relationships free of all forms of violence, discrimination, oppression and prejudice.

Mission

Boyoboy is an equity-based group that works to strengthen mental health, build resilience, and foster pride in LGBTQ+ guys. We strive to provide a supportive, anti-oppressive space where youth can share their stories and learn from each other in mindful ways. We especially welcome the stories of youth who are Black, Indigenous, racialized, disabled, and youth of all marginalized identities.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What is Boyoboy Zoom?

- a free, virtual workshop series and discussion group for LGBTQ+ guys age 16-24;
- explores the intersecting issues of health, identity, relationships and community;
- is offered every second & fourth Wednesday monthly, 6:30-9pm;
- is a project of the [Pride & Prejudice Program](#) at [Central Toronto Youth Services](#)

Why does Boyoboy Zoom focus on LGBTQ+ guys?

Guys want spaces to be vulnerable, to explore and celebrate all the rich, diverse expressions of masculinity that may be affirming for them. What does it mean to be a young LGBTQ+ guy in Toronto today? How does this intersect with my other identities? How do I navigate these in ways that feel healthy to me? Trans guys, in particular, experience unique intersections of oppression and opportunities. How do I build resilience and pride while resisting oppression? Toxic masculinity - with its assumptions, labels and expectations - places unique challenges on guys and their relationships. Boyoboy strives to raise awareness about the challenges and opportunities faced by LGBTQ+ guys, and to offer support and inspiration for guys exploring adventurous, authentic lives.

Who facilitates Boyoboy Zoom?

The 2021/22 facilitators are David Yeh (a Program Coordinator with [CTYS' Pride & Prejudice Program](#)); and Javier Davila (a Student Equity Program Advisor with the [TDSB's Gender-Based Violence Prevention Office](#)).

Who attends Boyoboy Zoom?

Boyoboy welcomes queer and trans guys age 16-24. A typical group averages 7-9 participants from diverse backgrounds, allowing for in-depth conversation and sharing. **Note: if you are under 16, informed permission by a parent/guardian/mental health provider is required.**

How do I attend & what's my commitment?

To register for a workshop: email before 4pm on the workshop day: david.yeh@ctys.org. We ask that you provide: the *name & pronouns you'd like us to use*; *birthdate*; and *location/address at the time of the workshop*. After you register, we will email you a link to join Boyoboy Zoom.

The group opens at 6:30. Activities move along quickly, so we encourage joining on time. Participants are asked to indicate the names/pronouns they would like to be used. You may engage through video, audio, or chat.

If you want to know about future groups, let us know and we can place you on our confidential mailing list. Register for as few or as many groups as you like. *There is no commitment.*

NOTE: Boyoboy Zoom has capacity for 12 registrants, available on a first-come-first-serve basis. By registering, you have agreed to our Group Guidelines (see below). If a participant is unable to uphold the Group Guidelines, they will be removed from the group.

What happens at Boyoboy?

Lots! Each group starts with a welcome & introduction, a review of "safer/braver space" rules, and a check-in round. Each evening has a specific topic or theme (e.g. "coming out"; "gender & masculinity"; "healthy relationships;" "queer families"; "social justice & activism"; etc.). Discussions may be accompanied by: videos, games, exercises, story-telling and/or art-based activities. Each evening ends with a short meditation, and a check-out round.

I'm still feeling a little shy...

"Safer/braver space rules" highlight respect, empathy and open-mind. Healthy discussion is encouraged, but just listening quietly is okay too. Boyoboy is a relaxed and playful space. The facilitators take a sex-

positive, harm-reduction, anti-oppressive approach. There is no tolerance for homophobia, transphobia, sexism, racism, ableism, or any other forms of oppression. Please see below:

BOYOBOY ZOOM Group Guidelines

- **RESPECT:** All participants will strive to co-create a safe, respectful and affirmative space for all. Please provide trigger warnings as-needed. Please refrain from open use of alcohol or substances.
- **CONFIDENTIALITY:** No recordings, screenshots, or photos are permitted. What is shared in the group will not be shared outside the group. Please protect the privacy of others by participating from a private space (the use of headphones is recommended).
- **SHARING SPACE:** All participants will strive to co-create an equitable, shared experience for all. Facilitators are open to chatting privately with you as-needed. Registrants may participate through video, audio, or chat.



If you have any further questions, feel welcome to contact:

david.yeh@ctys.org