

In order to reach our goals, we have initiated the following projects:

- We organize leisure activities and communities for LGBTQ youth - Szimpozion Club, sports events, excursions, exchange programmes, cinema visits etc.
- We provide educational consultation opportunities for LGBTQ youth to help them process and overcome wounds caused by misunderstanding toward minorities, discrimination, physical and psychological violence. Also, we help them accept other minorities.
- We do trainings and advertising activities among representatives of those society groups and professions that can play a role in fighting discrimination against LGBTQ people (for e.g. teachers, supporting professionals).
- We seek opportunities to form liaisons and collaborate with other LGBTQ and minority organizations.
- We conduct scientific research on different forms of discrimination against LGBTQ youth.

Coming-out project

Our goal is to further the tolerance of Hungarians toward minority people, especially toward people of different sexual orientation. We do this by organizing discussion evenings, internet campaigns, press conferences, etc.

Also, we try to ease the life of those with problems accepting who they are, and support them in their decisions. We help them accept their gayness and – if they decide so – help them come out. We also provide support if they need help in explaining their identity in their family and at their workplace. Our goal is to empower them to accept their identity; this way we can prevent their marginalization, drug abuse, etc. We help them live their life as open-minded, proud, valuable members of our society. We try to show them that they are not alone with their problems. Furthermore, we aim to prevent their relatives, mates, colleagues from being hostile to them just because they are different. If they can achieve this, they can use their energy wasted on maintaining a false veneer for socially beneficial activities.

We collect coming-out stories: how an LGBTQ-person prepared to come out, who they came out to, what was the person's reaction, how their relation changed afterwards, etc. Even straight people can tell what kind of feeling they had when they got to know about their relatives' or friends' orientation...

Getting to know LGBT people

The aim of our collective project with Labrisz Lesbian Association is to create a safe environment in the schools where all diversities are respected. During our school visits we show students the reality of LGBT people's life and we give them opportunity to ask questions. The lessons are usually guided by a man and a woman who, after a short introduction, bring to the young people's attention that LGBT people are present everywhere, in all groups of society but in most cases they are invisible. They discuss with the participants what homophobia and discrimination are and what students can do if their environment acts with prejudice.



Library

A range of works by LGBTQ writers, LGBTQ themed books, journals and movies can be borrowed in Szimpozion Club. If you have similar literature you no longer read, you are welcome to donate!



Excursions

In spring and fall we organize one-day excursions, where participants can discuss their experiences and problems in an informal setting.

Videoblog

In our videoblog called Through Gay Eyes ("Meleg szemmel") our members address various LGBTQ-related topics. Usually we invite guests as well. The aim of our vlog is to promote tolerance, dispel preconceptions; inform LGBTQ and straight people about homosexuality, bisexuality and transgender people. Our published episodes have an average length of 8 minutes. The vlog can be followed at www.melegvagyok.hu/videoblog or at our YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/user/szimpozion).



Szimpozion Club

In our club we organize high standard, interesting programs and provide a social forum for those LGBTQ people who are not satisfied with the atmosphere of gay bars and clubs. We find it important that our guests experience a positive ambiance when they visit our programs.

Some of our guests and programs from our history:

László Boka, *director* ▲ György Bolgár, *journalist* ▲ Endre Czeizel MD, *professor of genetics* ▲ Gábor Czeizel, *play director* ▲ Gábor Czene *journalist* ▲ Dr. Vilmos Csányi, *ethologist, academist, university professor* ▲ Dr. Péter Csermely *network researcher, professor of biochemistry* ▲ Kriszta D. Tóth *editor-show host* ▲ Mariann Falusi and Györgyi Lang, *singers* ▲ Eszter Fischer Dr, *psychotherapist* ▲ János Gálvölgyi, *actor* ▲ András Gerevich, *poet* ▲ Gábor Görgey, *playwright* ▲ Ferenc Gyurcsány, *ex prime minister* ▲ Vilmos Hanti, *president of Democracy Academy* ▲ Ágnes Heller, *philosopher* ▲ Judit Hernádi, *actress* ▲ Márton Karinthy, *theater leader, director* ▲ György Kozma *writer, journalist* ▲ János Kulka, *actor* ▲ Márk Lakatos, *stylist* ▲ Zoltán Lakner, *political scientist* ▲ András Léderer, *president of the Liberal Democrats' Party's New Generation section* ▲ Katalin Lévai *EP representative of Hungary* ▲ Julianna Lisziewicz MD, *HIV researcher* ▲ Dóra Mester *sex trainer* ▲ László Mérő, *psychologist and researcher* ▲ György Nagy MD, *neurology researcher* ▲ Dr. Ádám Nádasdy, *poet, linguist, department chief professor* ▲ Mária Ormos, *historian* ▲ József Orosz, *editor, anchor* ▲ Bea Palya *singer* ▲ Réka Pelsőczy, *actor, director* ▲ Kristóf Steiner, *journalist* ▲ Máté Dániel Szabó, *constitutional jurist* ▲ Barna Szuda M., *painter, poet, writer* ▲ Zsuzsanna Szvetelszky, *professor of communication theory and knowledge management* ▲ Dr. Judit Takács, *sociologist* ▲ Miklós Tamás Gáspár, *philosopher* ▲ Attila Till, *director* ▲ László Tóth, Dr. *sociologist* ▲ Róbert Urbán, *psychologist* ▲ Maya Vas, *editor, show host* ▲ István Vágó, *show host* ▲ Alinda Veiszer, *editor, show host* ▲ Péter Weber, *historian* ▲ the volunteers of "gay police force" ▲ "Getting to know LGBT people school program" etc.

Szimpozion Association respects the value of...

- ... the diversity of society and the differences between people
- ... groups where people can create personal relationships with each other, where they can openly give voice to their feelings and thoughts, where they can be a community and not just a group of people
- ... solidarity with the victims of disrespect, unlawfulness and discrimination
- ... intellectual openness, accepting ourselves
- ... honesty, friendship, human dignity and freedom



WE SUPPORT THOSE LGBTQ COMMUNITIES,
WHOSE GOALS AND CREDOS ARE SIMILAR TO OURS.

Our group was formed in March 2002 by the union of young gay and bisexual people. Our goal is to run an organisation that can help LGBTQ youth achieve personal development and welfare, and encourages them to be responsible members of society. We are members of the Hungarian LGBT Fellowship and of the IGLYO international organisation. Every year we participate in the organization of Budapest Pride.

Donations

from within Hungary: Szimpozion Egyesület,

62900184-10002656

from other countries: Szimpozion Egyesület,

IBAN: HU13-62900184-

10002656-00000000

SWIFT: TAKBHUHB

You can also donate via PayPal: please visit

www.melegvagyok.hu



Szimpozion Association



a group for LGBTQ youth

Contact:

- Telephone (daily between 12pm and 8pm): +36 30 595 8174
- E-mail: info@szimpozion.hu
- Website: www.melegvagyok.hu

SUPPORTED BY NORWAY GRANTS, IN "AWARENESS RAISING ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY – DEVELOPING OF AN INNOVATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR SENSITIZING" PROJECT (PROJECT NUMBER: NCTA-2013-4194-M1)

