



LGBTQ+Allies Youth at the Helm

July 27 – 28, 2017

Poughkeepsie, New York



Hudson River Sloop Clearwater invites you to be part of a unique youth empowerment program this summer. Affectionately known as Queerwater, the LGBTQ+Allies Youth at the Helm program provides an opportunity for youth who identify as LGBTQ and their allies, ages 15 to 18, to learn about the environment, the LGBTQ community, and leadership aboard the replica 19th century Hudson River tall ship, Clearwater. The first LGBTQ+Allies youth empowerment program was in 2009. After a hiatus (and much demand from the crew and broader Clearwater community) we're pleased to be bringing this program back!

We will form a crew together to sail, fish, navigate, sing, and explore the river. We will learn about the history of the environmental and LGBTQ rights movements and look at the roles we can each play in the future of both. Former crewmembers and guest speakers will join us to discuss their experiences.

When & Where?

We will start in Poughkeepsie at 9am on July 27, and return to Poughkeepsie the afternoon of July 28. Participants may get to Poughkeepsie in the most convenient way available to them. A crewmember will be riding the MetroNorth train from New York City to Poughkeepsie to help guide participants taking the train.

What do I need to bring?

- Clothes for two days (including warm clothes) that you don't mind getting dirty
- Flat, closed toe shoes with a captured heel
- Toiletries
- Bathing suit
- Towel

If possible, please also bring:

- A sleeping bag
- A sleeping mat
- A flashlight

Please do not bring:

- Heavily scented toiletries such as perfume (due to a crewmember allergy)
- Food (meals and snacks will be provided)

Can I bring my phone?

Yes, but be aware that you will only be able to use them during a designated period. All participant phones will be collected at all other times. Be advised that there is nowhere available to charge electronics.

Where will we be sleeping?

All participants will be camping in provided tents on shore. Some sleeping bags and sleeping mats are available to borrow.

How much does this cost?

This program is **FREE!**

Do I have to be a sailor, a scientist, a leader, or really strong to participate?

No! This program is for everyone with an open mind and a willingness to learn, participate, and be challenged. We'll teach you what you need to know and help you reach your goals for this program.

Is the boat safe?

The Clearwater is a Coast Guard inspected vessel with a licensed captain and professional crew.

All activities will be supervised by a crewmember.

Life jackets and other safety equipment is onboard and regularly inspected.

The Hudson River is a very calm place to sail. There is essentially zero risk of capsizing. Some activities involve contact with the water in a controlled manner.

The Clearwater does not sail in thunderstorms and other dangerous conditions.

I have limited mobility, impaired vision, or another concern. Can this program accommodate me?

Some activities may not be accessible for all participants. Please contact us at 845-240-3741 or educator@clearwater.org to discuss options for your participation.

What do you mean by LGBTQ? What do you mean by ally? How do I know if this program is for me?

LGBTQ is an acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer. Here, this refers to anyone whose gender is not the same as that they were assumed to have at the time of their birth or who does not have a gender or who is sexually and/or romantically attracted to people who do not have a different binary gender or who do not experience sexual and/or romantic attraction or who thinks they might be any of these things or otherwise considers themselves part of the LGBTQ community.

An ally is someone who supports a marginalized or disadvantaged community and actively works for a more equal and equitable situation for all parts of that community. Here we are specifically referring to allies of the LGBTQ community.

If you think that this program may be for you, it probably is.

Who runs this program?

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc. is a 501(c)3 tax exempt nonprofit, member-supported corporation whose mission is to preserve and protect the Hudson River, its tributaries and related bodies of water. This program will be led by the dedicated crew of the Clearwater and additional staff and volunteers. Learn more about our organization at Clearwater.org/about

How do I sign up?

Fill out the attached application and return it as soon as possible in one of the following ways:

Email: educator@clearwater.org

Fax: 845-831-2821

Mail: Attn: Educator, 724 Wolcott Ave, Beacon, NY 12508

Thank you and we hope to see you on the river!

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Application

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Email: educator@clearwater.org

Fax: 845-831-2821

Mail: Attn: Educator, 724 Wolcott Ave, Beacon, NY 12508

Name:

Pronouns:

Date of Birth:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

School/Organization (if applicable):

Teacher/Leader Contact (if applicable):

Please briefly answer the following questions. You may use another paper.

How do you identify in the LGBTQ community?

What do you hope to get out of this experience? What are you most interested in exploring during this program?

What are you most excited about for this experience? What are you most nervous about for this experience?

Have you participated in other programs for LGBTQ youth? If so, what did you enjoy most about that experience? What could have been done better?

Do you know anyone else applying to this program? If so, who?

What are two things about yourself that you're proud of?

What are two things about yourself that you'd like to improve upon?

What would you like to do in your life if you had no limits?

Is there anything else you'd like us to know about you?

For those who identify as LGBTQ:

What do you like most about being part of the LGBTQ community?

What is a way in which you hope to change the LGBTQ community for the better?

For those who identify as Allies:

What does being an ally mean to you?

What do you hope to accomplish as an ally?

How do you see this program making you a better ally?