

# SLA NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE SLA COMMUNITY



## SNEAK PEEK OF WHAT'S INSIDE:

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LGBTQIA+ History Month - 2

SLA Awards Ceremony - 3

SLAS of the Month - 4

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## Welcome to Vol. 22!

*By Jess Hall, she/her*

February marks just over a year since the Coronavirus hit the UK (first case recorded was 31st Jan 2020) and we have been living in these unprecedented times.

However, this month is also important for other reasons. It has been dubbed as the 'month of love' and has allowed us to experience snow across the country. I hope February 14th allowed you to spend some time with loved ones, and not only just significant others, but also that you had the chance to enjoy some time in the icy weather that was among us. I also hope that these moments of kindness continue throughout this month, this year while we are still in lockdown, and that you continue to do things that positively impact your wellbeing.

So, onto the contents of this newsletter! The latest news, opportunities and useful resources to keep us connected in these times are included. But most importantly, I wish that you continue to stay safe.

Get in touch if you have any questions, I look forward to hearing from you:  
[JH1523@live.mdx.ac.uk](mailto:JH1523@live.mdx.ac.uk).



# LGBTQIA+ History Month

By Jess Hall, she/her

As you may or may not know, this month is LGBTQIA+ History Month. It is vital that we still celebrate this as although there have been leaps forward in recent years - for example the legalisation of gay marriage - we are unfortunately not there yet. For example, members of the LGBTQIA+ community are at a greater risk of experiencing hate crime compared to heterosexual people. The only reason that we have got to where we have today is through the fights of previous generations. Most significantly, that the first Pride was a riot calling for liberation.

With this in mind, it has never been more important to support members of the LGBTQIA+ Community. By understanding the adversity LGBTQIA+ people face, making room for them to exist, including your pronouns, being conscious of your language (find a glossary of terms [here](#)), you too can make a difference to this fight.

Alongside the Student Union hosting a wealth of [events](#) to celebrate LGBTQIA+ history month, you can also find a host of external ones [here](#). But if you're interested in finding good TV to dive into, I've attached a list [here](#) of recommendations. Drag Race also has an honourable mention, of course.

Please remember that you are so valid, no matter your gender or sexual orientation. <3

# SLA Awards Ceremony

By Cristiana Silva, she/her



Do you fancy some feathers, champagne, jazz and sparkle in the style of roaring 20s? Then mark your calendars!

We are delighted to invite you to the annual SLA Awards Ceremony that will take place on the **26th of March at 6:00pm** online **via Zoom**. There are so many hardworking individuals and inspiring minds in the SLA scheme and as this academic year was more challenging than any other. Thus, it is even more important to celebrate all the hard work and commitment that you have been putting into your work. You are all doing a commendable job!

At the ceremony we will put your outstanding performance and accomplishments you achieved both outside and inside of your SLA role into spotlight. It's time to roll out the red carpet and get dressed up before the academic term ends.

Please come and join us. Your presence will be greatly appreciated!

# SLAs of the Month

## Tony Pisarski

Tony, an SLA studying Music Business and Arts Management, has contributed a very positive outlook to the role. His bubbly personality has resulted in good feedback from the academics that he supports. He is always available to support and shines in the role.

## Bilal Waqar

Bilal studies Computer Science and must be commended for his excellence in his professionalism and commitment to the SLA role. He is responsible, dedicated, versatile, consistent, prompt with his responsibilities and always asks the right questions when in doubt.

## **DO NOT FORGET:**

- Submit your monthly OU Blog.
- Submit your timesheets weekly and claim your holiday pay.
- SLAs facilitate learning, they do not teach.
- Join the SLA Facebook Group [here](#).

Image Credits: Middlesex University