



News Release

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WESTERN'S PRIDE ALLIANCE HOLDS DAY OF SILENCE

St. Joseph, Mo. —March 24, 2005—Get ready for the campus to be a little quieter. On April 13, the Missouri Western State College Pride Alliance student group will join students across the nation and participate in a Day of Silence. The Day of Silence is held each year to protest the discrimination, harassment and abuse—or the silencing—faced by gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students and their allies.

Participants will observe a vow of silence from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. They will also wear ribbons and pass out dialogue cards that explain why they have chosen to be silent on this day.

All Western students and the St. Joseph community are welcome to join the day's participants at the "Silence Breaking" at 5 p.m. at the Glenn E. Marion Clock Tower. This will be a time of sharing about the day's experiences.

The Day of Silence, a project of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, is a nationwide, student-led event during which hundreds of colleges and high schools protest the oppression of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth.

The event is also sponsored by the Center for Multicultural Education. For more information, contact Daniel Kirk, Western Pride Alliance president, at (816) 383-1716 or dkirk9656@msn.com.

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Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.

