



Pride Family, there is a college student in Winston-Salem who needs community support. Junior Aaron McCorkle has been subjected to a social media campaign to derail his bid for MISTER WSSU based on his sexuality and non-traditional gender expression. **PRIDE WINSTON-SALEM** calls for Winston-Salem State University to stand with the WSSU Gay/Straight Student Alliance (GSSA), Prism, to call for a campus-wide dialogue about this incident and request that those who are contributing and perpetuating homophobia, transphobia, and misogyny be held accountable.

***PRIDE WINSTON-SALEM** mission is to celebrate our culture, honor diversity, inspire engagement, promote inclusion, provide community outreach, and educate our friends, allies, and supporters on equal rights for all.*

This is an incredible opportunity to educate students, faculty, and staff and strengthen policies. We would like the administration and board of trustees at WSSU to revisit their inclusion policies and we urge them to include language that will protect those who are gender variant.

Pride Winston-Salem proudly supports Aaron McCorkle in his bid to become the first openly gay MISTER WSSU. [You can show your support by the following:](#)

1) Can you write a message of support to Aaron and email it via Pride at aaron@pridews.org or post it below. **ALSO, you can attend the MISTER & MISS WSSU Showcase tonight to support Aaron.**

WSSU Campus – Donald Julian Reaves Building 8:30pm, Tuesday, April 1st

2) Can you call WSSU and ask that they train all WSSU employees, contractors and students on the rights of students under Title IX, including the rights of transgender students and gender variant expression, and that they adopt gender variant inclusive policies? <http://www.wssu.edu/administration/> -Contact for Chancellor/Provost/Student Affairs/Board of Trustees

3) Can you call radio station WJMH-102Jamz and ask them to address homophobic and transphobic comments made by DJ Brain 'B-DAHT' McLaughlin, a representative of their station. Program Director – Brian Douglas bdouglas@entercom.com or 336-605-5200

Learn more here:

<http://transgriot.blogspot.com/2014/03/sgl-hatin-going-on-at-winston-salem.html>

<http://goqnotes.com/28491/gay-winston-salem-state-student-victim-of-online-threats-slurs/>

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/chrisgeidner/federal-officials-protect-transgender-student-against-discrimi>

-PRIDE WINSTON-SALEM Board of Directors

***PRIDE Winston-Salem** is a 501c3 non-profit organization serving the LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning) community and our allies.*