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## National Gathering



**The GSA movement isn't limited to California! It extends across the nation to unify students, staff, and allies who are committed to creating safe schools for all.**

GSA activists from across the country come together every summer at the National Gathering. The goal of the National Gathering is to support the GSA movement across the country and expand it to include even more states, cities and towns.

**The National Gathering is hosted by the [National Association of GSA Networks](#) [1].** It provides an opportunity for National Association members to collaborate, share stories, exchange resources, discuss best practices, and build the GSA movement.

**Many exciting issues, topics, lectures and social events take place every year at the National Gathering, such as:**

- Hands-On Workshops
- Guest Speakers
- Social Events
- Specialized Training
- Large Group Sessions
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**Workshop topics address a wide variety of issues, including:**

- Youth Leadership Models
- Gender Identity and Expression
- Racial Justice
- Rural, Suburban, and Urban Models for GSA Organizing
- Developing Your Organizational Infrastructure
- Fundraising for your GSA Network
- Safe Schools Advocacy and Policy Activism

## **Who Can Attend the National Gathering?**

The 2016 National Gathering invites have been sent. Please check back next year for more information.

For questions please contact Anna Davis at [adavis@gsanetwork.org](mailto:adavis@gsanetwork.org) <sup>[2]</sup>

## **Where Does the National Gathering Take Place?**

**The next National Gathering will take place August 4-7, 2016 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.**

Past National Gatherings have taken place throughout the country:

2015: Berkeley, California  
2014: Minneapolis, Minnesota  
2013: Denver, Colorado  
2012: Louisville, Kentucky  
2011: Washington, DC  
2010: Providence, Rhode Island  
2009: Austin, Texas  
2008: Chicago, Illinois  
2007: Albuquerque, New Mexico  
2006: San Francisco, California

## **Hear What National Gathering Participants Are Saying**

?I can?t wait for next year! This was a transformative experience for me. It was definitely life changing.?

- Graham Brinklow, Coordinator of the Indiana Youth Group?s GSA Network

?The most valuable and powerful part of the National Gathering was the incorporation of controversial but important issues that range from complex human emotions to systemic oppression and institutions, while bringing together people from all over the nation and the perspective and experience which they hold.?

- Juan Gabriel Padilla, youth leader, Austin, Texas

?The best part was watching youth take discussions that started in a workshop and continue them in free time. The youth facilitated these discussions themselves and at the end of discussion they all shared that they felt inspired, empowered, and excited to continue those discussions online.?

- Austin Lea, Oregon Safe Schools and Communities Coalition

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**Source URL:** <https://gsanetwork.org/events/national-gathering>

#### **Links**

[1] <https://gsanetwork.org/get-involved/change-nation/national-association-gsa-networks>

[2] <mailto:adavis@gsanetwork.org>