



FY2018 Annual Report



Safe Space NOVA is a tax-exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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Safe Space NOVA is dedicated to providing a safe, accepting, and supportive environment to combat social stigmas, bullying, and other challenges faced by LGBT+ youth.

“Safe Space NOVA is dedicated to providing a safe, accepting, and supportive environment to combat social stigmas, bullying, and other challenges faced by LGBTQ+”

A Message from the Executive Director



On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and our volunteers, I am proud to share Safe Space NOVA's Annual Report highlighting our work and achievements this past year.

As the Founder and the Executive Director of Safe Space NOVA, I wish to thank the student leaders and the countless volunteers that make our organization successful and who help tirelessly with our programs and services. Our third year was another outstanding year of growth in Northern Virginia and the greater Washington, D.C. Metropolitan region.

2018 was an amazing year for the organization; our engagement with area schools and Gay Straight alliances (GSAs) continued to grow along with our social media presence through an array of positive messaging, images, and recognition of LGBT+ pioneers. For its work in the community, Safe Space NOVA was recognized by the City of Alexandria by winning the Champion of Children's award, sponsored by Alexandria's Children, Youth, and Families Collaborative Commission. In September 2018, Safe Space NOVA was the recipient of a grant from the Savittiere Family Fund to support Safe Space NOVA's mission and operations.

Safe Space NOVA further increased individual donors through board contributions, a silent auction, a new partnership with Alexandria Restaurant Partners, holiday giftwrapping through Visit Alexandria, and Spring2ACTion, an Act for Alexandria initiative. Safe Space NOVA also expanded its weekly blog post entitled, "#TellYourStoryTuesday" which provides community members an opportunity to share their experiences growing up as an LGBT+ youth. As our mission states, Safe Space NOVA is dedicated to providing a safe, accepting, and supportive environment to combat social stigmas, bullying, and other challenges faced by LGBT+ and this is one way to achieve that mission.

For our LGBT+ and ally youth that we work with, the world is constantly changing and the struggles for safety are real. As an organization we commit to being urgent and responsive in addressing the needs of LGBT+ youth, particularly the voices that are often silenced or unheard. This annual report shares our commitment, outcomes of our work and highlights of the year.

Thank you for your support of Safe Space NOVA!

Sincerely

Jordan L. Costen

Jordan L. Costen
Executive Director & Founder



In 2018, Safe Space NOVA launched a new social media campaign aimed at promoting positive messaging and imaging.

In 2018 we...

Helped to empower and inspire today's LGBTQ+ youth to become who they are

Safe Space NOVA partnered with SMYAL for the National Coming Out Day Dance. National Coming Out Day was created in 1988 in recognition of the importance, both personal and political of "coming out." This activity was important because it champions the idea that homophobia thrives in silence, and that the act of making one's sexual preference known makes it easier for others to do the same.



Made the Holidays Fun Again

On October 27th Safe Space NOVA partnered with the City of Alexandria's Health Department and the Getting to Zero Initiative to sponsor the first ever Halloween Boo Bash, an opportunity for youth to have fun, get to know each other, and learn about HIV/AIDS prevention and education. In addition, Safe Space NOVA hosted a Monster Golf Event to top off the Halloween season.





Safe Space NOVA Executive Director Jordan Costen testifying before the Loudon County School Board.

We built and solidified community partners and lasting connections

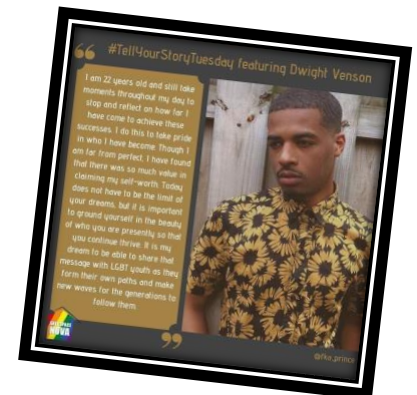
We joined other concerned parents and organizations by testifying before local school board highlighting the importance of inclusion and acceptance for LGBTQ+ youth in Northern Virginia.



In partnership NOVA Pride, Safe Space NOVA participated in the 5th Annual Northern Virginia Pride Festival. Last year's theme was "United in Pride," and was it was a community event that promoted pro-equality and a recognition of shared appreciation for diversity and acceptance.

Expanded Our Social Media Presence to Reach Everyone

Safe Space NOVA launched an aggressive social media campaign to reach more in the community. Through expanded outreach in messaging and #TellYourStoryTuesday, Safe Space NOVA has been able to create a shared online community of positivity and engagement.



Your Support Matters!

Safe Space NOVA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION CASH BASIS
As of December 31, 2018

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
General Account	2,008.45
PayPal Bank	5,491.49
Petty Cash	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$7,499.94
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total Current Assets	\$7,499.94
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7,499.94
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Retained Earnings	14,449.96
Net Revenue	-6,950.02
Total Equity	\$7,499.94
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$7,499.94

Safe Space NOVA Co-sponsored a host of community outreach events such as:

- Halloween Boo Dance and Miniature Monster Golf
- NOVA Pride Festival 2018 with NOVA Pride
- Movie Social with and the Fairlington United Methodist Church
- Reston Pride with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston

Our Community Partners!



And A Special Thanks

Donor Gifts of \$3,500 or More

Jordan L. Costen

Donor Gifts of \$2,000 or More

Richard Bell, Esq.

Pamela Jamieson

Jerome Hunt, PhD.

The Savittiere Family Fund

Donor Gifts of \$1000 or More

Charles A. Sumpter, Jr.

Donor Gifts of \$750 or More

Ambrose Sayles

Donor Gifts of \$500 or More

Clifton Butler

Jeremy Jones

Clyde Penn

Donor Gifts of \$250 or More

Chris P. Kuchnicki

Eric Lucas

Donor Gifts of \$100 or More

Isaiah Burns

Raymond Gayle

Tim Gehring

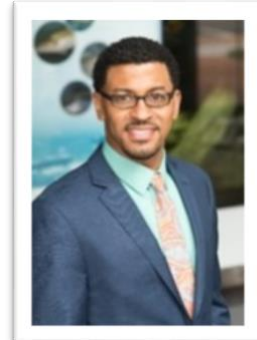
Irving Johnson, Jr.

Michael G Knight, M.D.

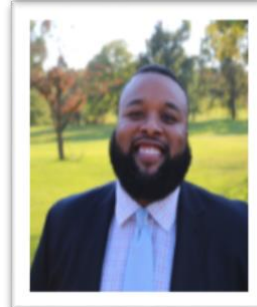
Kristen Mitchell

2018 Board of Directors

Jordan L. Costen
Founder and Chairman of the Board



Jerome D. Hunt, PhD.
Vice Chairman



Charles A. Sumpter, Jr.
Secretary



Richard Bell, Esq.
Treasurer



Ambrose G. Sayles
Board Member



Operations Team

If you are interested in volunteering with our team or would like to partners with us, send an email to info@safespacenova.org. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you!



Jordan L. Costen
Executive Director



Yariana Rodriguez
Outreach Coordinator



Courtney Eiland
Website and Social Media Coordinator



Jamal Gordon
Outreach Coordinator



Jack Newman
Safe Space NOVA Student Ambassador



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Image by: Griffin Vision Photography