



**KhushDC**  
SOUTH ASIAN LGBTQ COMMUNITY

## DEAR KHUSHIES,

Fall is upon us and another three months have gone by since our last newsletter! In this short span of time, with your support, we have grown as a community, made new friends, and expanded our reach. This continues to motivate us to do more and better in the pursuit of serving the Queer and Trans South Asian Community in the D.C. Metropolitan Area! Over the past three months, KhushDC has hosted and been involved in a myriad range of events that have affected the LGBTQ+ community in the area positively. From the Pride Picnic in June to the Winery trip in September – every event was deemed successful in the eyes of our members and has brought the AAPI community together, especially during times when life and liberty seem to be at stake. These gatherings have helped our community members find solace and reprieve from the day-to-day and make new friends and networks! The monthly peer support has continued to serve as a forum for our members to share, hear, and experience stories of other Khushies, while also being able to heal through the art of sharing. We are so excited to reflect on the past three months with you through this newsletter but equally thrilled to share some upcoming events and good news!

Peace, Progress, and Love,  
**Kevin R. Rodrigues**  
KhushDC Co-Chair



# SUMMER IN REVIEW

During the summer, we organized many social events. With the pandemic putting a stop to in-person events for so long, we felt that it was necessary for us to find each other again and build up our community. We are elated that members who found us during the pandemic were finally able to join us for shared activities.



**June**  
**KhushDC Pride Picnic**



**July**  
**Ice Cream Social**



**August**  
**RASA Coffee/Tea Social**

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: IQRA (SHE/HER)

### About Iqra:

Hi everyone, I'm Iqra! I'm a relatively new member of KhushDC, but the few experiences I've had so far with the rest of the community have been absolutely amazing. It is wonderful to be surrounded by other South Asian queer folks; my existence is validated here in ways that it's not otherwise in other areas of my life. I love cats and have a cat named Arthur! Some of my hobbies are weight lifting, kayaking, bouldering and reading. I'll be attending the upcoming event at Cox Farms, hope to see you there!

### Is there a book, film or other media you'd recommend to other queer South Asian folks?

I'd recommend *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri. I felt that Lahiri wrote something true without necessarily intending to represent anybody; it was refreshing to read a book that didn't spit out platitudes about the Indian/South Asian American experience.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Our next **Peer Support group** will be hybrid! It is on **October 16th from 1:30-3:30pm** and will be held at the **DC Center**.
- We will be tabling at **Colorful Fest** hosted by Capital Pride Alliance on **October 17th from 12:00-6:00pm**. It will take place at **Union Market**.
- Join us for a fall themed outing at **Cox Farms** on **October 23rd from 3:00-6:00pm**. The first 25 people to sign up will be able to attend. KhushDC is covering 50% of ticket costs.
- **KhushDC's Book Club** will be meeting **virtually** on **October 28th at 7:00pm**. Please register to attend through our links page.

## EVENTS FROM OUR PARTNERS

- Join **AQUA DC** for their **Community Kamayan Potluck** on **October 16th from 1:00-4:00pm**
- **Desi Rainbow Parents & Allies** is hosting a **How to Find a Therapist** session **online** on **October 19th at 9:00pm**
- Get involved by donating to the **Coat Drive for Afghan Refugees** on **October 10th from 10:00am-2:00pm** at **5150 Macomb Street NW Washington DC 20016**
- **Desi Rainbow Parents & Allies** is hosting **Story Time with Chintan Patel** **online** on **October 26th at 7pm**

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- If you have any general feedback for KhushDC, please leave it in the [KhushBox](#).
- Register for our monthly [Queer Desi Book Club](#).
- Check out the [QT AAPI Pride Art Showcase](#).
- If you would like to volunteer with us at the Color Fest on October 17th, please fill out [this form](#) to volunteer!

## YOUTH OUTREACH EFFORTS

KhushDC is trying to expand its member base to include college students. If you have any contacts for Queer and or South Asian groups at local colleges, please send the information our way!

ARE YOU A QUEER/TRANS  
SOUTH ASIAN PERSON  
LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY?

*Join KhushDC*

