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"This is not just a matter of sexual orientation," Gianferrara said. "It's a way for people to own who they are, to oppose acts of violence, homophobia, transphobia, sexism, racism, etc., and to ensure that people are respected and can preserve their dignity as human beings regardless of their identity."

CMQ+, formerly called Allies Grad, formed six years ago to help provide a sense of community for LGBTQIA+ graduate students, foster professional networking and leadership development opportunities and raise awareness of LGBTQIA+ issues on campus. The organization's leadership said that they prioritize creating an inclusive community for their members and elevating the voices of minorities within their group, such as trans members and women.



About 40 Carnegie Mellon University students, staff, alumni and members of the student groups CMQ+ and CMU Allies marched in the People's Pride parade on June 9 through Uptown and Downtown Pittsburgh.

Earlier this month, on June 9, members of CMQ+ and the undergraduate group CMU Allies joined other students, staff, and alumni in the cmuOUT network to march in the People's Pride parade through Uptown and Downtown Pittsburgh. The event was organized by [Sisters PGH](#), an organization that serves transgender and gender non-conforming youth in the city.

"Since our organization cares about diversity, it is crucial for us to attend events such as Pittsburgh's People's Pride to show our investment in the broader community," Gianferrara said. "We especially wanted to show our support for intersectional, underrepresented minorities, who often happen to be the most vulnerable and oppressed minorities."

To learn more about CMQ+ or become a member, visit their bridge site at:
<https://thebridge.cmu.edu/organization/cmq>.

The Piper: Campus & Community News

Official Events Calendar

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