

Communities of care

Number of participants: 19

Building Euphoria from a 2spirit and queer perspective

2 spirit is a catch all term for someone who holds both masculine and feminine energy. It is an “individual born with the presence of feminine and masculine spirit”

Bakla: femme, gay, or diva. Bakla is reclaimed by transgender and isn't synonymous with transness.

Mahu identity; able to access and understand male and female perspectives equally; commonly misunderstood to represent sexuality rather than gender

- Took a significant role as healers due to this ability

MVPFAFF

māhū, Vaka so lewa lewa, palopa, fa'afafine akava'ine, fakaleti, fakafifine,

Precontact history is a term used to describe the colonizers. There's not a singular role that queer identity was limited too. They were integrated into the whole of society.

Americans oppressed the written language and there is a lot history there. By forcing the English language, Americans affirmed there was only 2 languages. The American government colonized the local government and outlawed Mahu communities and perverted the culture of Mahu.

Fostering Euphoria: remembering what is within us and returning to our ancestral roles as healers, therapists, organizers, artists, warriors, educators, dancers, ritualists, constructors, and leaders.

Euhoria and Language:

Reclaiming Mahu

'o ia

Olelo Hawai'i is absent of gender pronouns and focuses on quantity and relationality

Hermaphrodite is the derogatory term for intersex communities

Prompt questions

1. What does queer euphoria sound, taste, smell, feel, & look like to you>

- a. At what moments do you feel most in your body?
2. How are some ways we can re-indigenize our understanding of gender by creating spaces that spark euphoria? Think of workshops/events/gatherings you would lead/like to attend in your own communities.

Session Summary

Resources:

PBS third gender across the map:

https://www.pbs.org/independentlens/content/two-spirits_map-html/

Heart of a shape shifter by coyote park

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