

Dear Out & Equal friends,

Last year I had the amazing good fortune to take part in the Out & Equal Workplace Summit in Orlando as a plenary speaker. If you happened to be in attendance that day, in addition to hearing about the amazing work environment of The Walt Disney Company, you also heard all about my passion for an organization called GLSEN, the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network. GLSEN is the nation's leading education organization focused on ensuring safe schools for all students, regardless of sexual orientation or gender expression/identity. To give you a sense of what children face at school each-and-every day, and why GLSEN's efforts are so important, just think about the following....



- **Nearly nine out of ten (86.2%) of LGBT students report verbal harassment at school.**
- **22.1% of LGBT students report having been physically assaulted at school.**
- **17.6% of LGBT students report having been physically assaulted at school** because of their sexual orientation.
- **Nearly a third (32.7%) of LGBT students skipped a day of school in the past month.**

GLSEN envisions a world in which every child learns to respect and accept all people, while Out & Equal fights to ensure that very same thing in workplaces across our nation. Out and Equal's support for LGBT people in the workplace has been at the forefront of workplace diversity issues for many years, and has contributed to a quiet revolution in work climate in corporate America. Out and Equal has empowered employees to act, promoting a better future workplace for today's students ...which leads me to the reason for this letter.

This coming October, I'm very happy to report that these two organizations will again share a stage, this time as GLSEN honors Out & Equal with a Respect Award at its annual Los Angeles gala, which is set to take place the evening the Workplace Summit comes to a close, Friday, October 8. And they'll be in good company. The hit ABC comedy "Modern Family" will also be honored, and the cast will be in attendance.

You and your organization have been tremendous supporters of Out & Equal over the years, so I wanted to personally ensure that you were aware of this event as you make your travel arrangements. If you plan to attend this year's Workplace Summit, it's our hope that you'll stay over Friday night and join us in saluting Out & Equal for their amazing efforts at the LA Respect Awards gala. And if you can't attend, we hope that you'll let Out & Equal know of your support through an ad in the commemorative LA Respect Awards Tribute Book. Tickets and tribute advertisements can be arranged by visiting the event website at [www.glsen.org/larespect](http://www.glsen.org/larespect) or by calling 310.491.1401.

Thank you for your time and attention. Here's to an amazingly productive Workplace Summit, and to hopefully seeing you at the GLSEN LA Respect Awards on Friday, October 8.

Warm regards,



Kevin Brockman