**NEWS RELEASE**Live Out Loud
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 **“**[**LIVE OUT LOUD**](http://www.liveoutloud.info/)**” PROGRAM INSPIRES LGBT YOUTH, PREVENTS SUICIDE**

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transsexual adults are invited to return to their high school as part of the organization [Live Out Loud](http://www.liveoutloud.info/)’s “[Homecoming Project](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/programs/the-homecoming-project/)” to act as [role models](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/rolemodels.pdf) for LGBT youth and to share career experiences, personal journeys, and life lessons with students.

 [Live Out Loud](http://www.liveoutloud.info) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to [inspiring and empowering LGBT youth](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/testimonials.pdf) by connecting them with successful LGBT professionals in their community. Through [The Homecoming Project](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/programs/the-homecoming-project/), [Live Out Loud](http://www.liveoutloud.info) is seeking members of the LGBT community to speak with the new generation of students about the unique experiences which have shaped their lives today.

 “Recent tragedies have been a wakeup call for the LGBT community that we must take time to play an active role in the lives of today’s youth,” said [Leo Preziosi](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/about/who-we-are/board-of-directors/), junior executive director of [Live Out Loud](http://www.liveoutloud.info). “[The Homecoming Project](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/programs/the-homecoming-project/) empowers young adults to reconsider the challenges and unspoken fears of growing up LGBT.”

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INSPIRING LGBT YOUTH, Add 1

The program focuses on preventing bullying and harassment of LGBT youth. Nearly 61 percent of LGBT students report that they feel unsafe in school because of [bullying](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/the-homecoming-project-press-kit-3/) and are three times more likely to [attempt suicide](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/the-homecoming-project-press-kit-3/). Last year, [Live Out Loud](http://www.liveoutloud.info) hosted more than 80 panels, workshops, and lectures in schools, colleges, and youth centers to help create a positive change.

 Nearly twenty [role models](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/rolemodels.pdf) have participated in [The Homecoming Project](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/programs/the-homecoming-project/), serving as inspiring examples and reaching thousands of students in several states. Past participants include Academy Award winning screenwriter [Dustin Lance Black](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/events/premier-screening-of-dustin-lance-blacks-the-homecoming-project/), American gay rights activist[Neil Guiliano](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/programs/neil-giuliano-participates-in-live-out-louds-homecoming-project/), and fashion designer [John Bartlett](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/about/who-we-are/speakers-and-panalests/). [Live Out Loud](http://www.liveoutloud.info) plans to expand to all 50 states by the end of 2012.

[The Homecoming Project](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/programs/the-homecoming-project/) is open to adults form all careers, including college students, educators, and working professionals. [Live Out Loud](http://www.liveoutloud.info) will walk speakers through the process of contacting their high school, developing their speech, and participating in the program.
 Interested people can learn more about how [The Homecoming Project](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/programs/the-homecoming-project/) can help you return to your high school at [www.liveoutloud.info/wp/programs/the-homecoming-project/](http://www.liveoutloud.info/wp/programs/the-homecoming-project/). For more information on the [Live Out Loud](http://www.liveoutloud.info) organization visit them on their [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/lgbtliveoutloud), [Twitter](http://twitter.com/#!/_Live_Out_Loud_), [YouTube](http://www.youtube.com/user/liveoutloudinfo) channel, or their website at [www.liveoutloud.info/](http://www.liveoutloud.info/) .

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