Perfect Flowers
A Queer Botany Zine
As queer and trans* people of color we are far too often told that the way we live, the way we love and the way we express ourselves is “unnatural.” This could not be farther from the truth.

This zine / coloring book was created as an affirmation of the fluidity and multiplicity of existence/ways of being in the world. Let us find ourselves reflected and affirmed in the life around us.

What would food justice look like... if we achieved collective liberation for queer and trans* Black and Indigenous people of color (QT*BIPOC)?

Let’s talk about Queer Botany

We are in a process of remembering (to move forward), reembodying, getting back into rhythm with the earth. We are finding our roots, deeper desires than wanting to be ‘included’, represented. We want liberation!

Queer botany is shifting cultivation to small scale. It is HeartSpace love. It is checking in with the individual plant.

“Ecology” & “Botany” as western sciences are entrenched in white colonial patriarchy and carry human, and binary lenses. How can we just be?

“Queer botany/ Queer ecology is about decolonizing our understanding of the natural world. It is about seeing plants, land and animals not in opposition to humans, or as something we need to control but rather interconnected and interdependent with nature and the natural world... It is also about uplifting indigenous knowledge and understanding.” - Mo Browne

Queer folk/weeds discarded & misunderstood. Yet so full of magic, healing, and so resilient.
In the course of a day an avocado’s flowers can shift gender expressions. One moment they’ll open up in a femme form (fruit producing). After closing, they will reopen later that same day in a masc form (pollen producing).

Who is a favorite plant friend?
Learned any lessons from them?
Draw a picture and write a little something here.

"YOU ARE A PERFECT FLOWER
Thank you for blooming.
Thank you for sharing your LIGHT."

Interlocking Roots Affirmations

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Interlocking Roots Affirmations
“My family is from the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, a community several hours north of Winnipeg. The Swampy Cree dialect of our community has no word for homosexual and no gender specific pronouns. Rather than dividing the world into female and male, or making linguistic distinctions based on sexual characteristics or anatomy, we distinguish between what is animate and what is inanimate. Living creatures, animate objects, and actions are understood to have a spiritual purpose (Ahenakew). Our language and culture are rooted in this fundamental truth: that every living creature and everything that acts in and on this world is spiritually meaningful. This understanding is reiterated in the term “two-spirit,” a self-descriptor used by many Cree and other Aboriginal lesbian, gay, bi, and trans people. When we say that we are two-spirit, we are acknowledging that we are spiritually meaningful people. Two-spirit identity may encompass all aspects of who we are, including our culture, sexuality, gender, spirituality, community, and relationship to the land.” - Our Coming In Stories by Alex Wilson

In what ecosystem do you find home?
Interlocking Roots is a network of QT*BIPOC foodies, farmers & earth stewards. We center food and earthwork as decolonization tools to combat isolation, trauma, and accountability. We connect with one another, share lessons, affirm queer and trans* identities through our plant ancestor and life stories, talk about queer ecology, strategize and eat together! We honor our multifaceted strategies for liberation as sacred rituals that nourish our collective spirit.

Gender and sexual identity exist on a spectrum for us people and for these Ash trees! Some shift over the course of their lifetime.

Questions/comments concerns? interlockingroots2018@gmail.com
Interlockingroots.wordpress.com | IG @interlockingroots