

# Matthew Kingsley Ming-Hsuen Leong

LGBTQ+ Students' Student Council Representative

RESPECT. EMPOWERMENT

My name is Matthew Kingsley Leong and I am running for the position of the LGBTQ+ officer.

The aim of this position is to create a comfortable and inclusive environment in which LGBTQ+ students can reach their full potential without fear of discrimination. Despite progress in improving how LGBTQ+ students experience at UAL, it is clear this needs to be maintained and that there remain significant barriers that need to be broken down. My manifesto has been created with my own experiences as a gay man at University in mind where I will use this platform to positively represent a vibrant and diverse section of the University population, members of which exist as part of all degree courses, societies, ethnicities and nationalities.

One of the key aims of this position is to challenge the heteronormative standards for student health and well being. Within this area, my goals are:

- Creating a campaign in Mental Health Awareness Week to end stigmas surrounding eating disorders, substance abuse, depression and related issues which disproportionately affect our community.
- I will push for adequate staff training when discussing issues surrounding sexuality and gender identity, ensuring this is specific to cultural complexities and needs of the individual.

I hope I can have your vote, as I genuinely would like to make UAL a better place for LGBTQ+ students.