

Objectives

The general objectives of SHOUT Wageningen are:

- Creating a secure meeting point for LGBTQ+ people. We do this by organizing open parties (where everyone is welcome), open café evenings, club evenings for members and conversation groups such as the Out Now and the Gender Sharing Circle.
- Increasing the visibility and emancipation of the LGBTQ+ community. Whilst big leaps have been made in the Netherlands, for instance in enabling same-sex marriage, there is quite a way to go in other areas, such as in improving medical transition care accessibility and legal recognition of non-binary genders. For that reason, we continue to work toward increasing the emancipation of LGBTQ+ people. For example, we provide education in primary and secondary schools and support LGBTQ+ asylum seekers. We also have good contacts with other organizations in Wageningen and the municipality.

Operations

SHOUT organizes a wide range of activities to provide a safe meeting place for the LGBTQ+ community in Wageningen and its surroundings.

Provide meeting opportunities:

- Weekly club evenings for members in our Rainbow Room
- A party or another activity the first Saturday of the month in Theater De Wilde Wereld
- About 6 parties a year on Thursday evenings
- Café evenings every third Friday of the month in Theater De Wilde Wereld

Increase acceptance and visibility:

- Providing information on sexual and gender diversity in primary and secondary schools in the region. These classes are offered free of charge.
- Be present at various events to increase LGBTQ+ visibility, such as laying a flower arrangement to commemorate the death or placing large inflatable bridal couples next to city hall on the anniversary of same-sex marriage.
- Organizing readings and other activities to talk about sexual diversity and gender diversity.
- Approaching other organizations and associations to focus on sexual diversity and gender diversity within their organization, such as inviting them to participate in Coming Out Day and Purple Friday.

Support (vulnerable) LGBTQ+ persons:

- Organizing conversation groups (including the Out Now conversation group and the Gender Sharing Circle) for people who are struggling with their orientation and/or gender identity.
- Offering personal conversations when people approach us.
- Being the contact point of welfare organizations if their clients need help with their orientation and/or gender identity.
- Represent LGBTQ+ interests at the municipality and other organizations.

Policy

General Members Meeting

The General Members Meeting (GMM) is there to keep members informed about the activities of SHOUT and to make decisions about the association. For example, we vote on the budget for the coming year or on setting up new committees. According to the articles of association, there is at least one GMM every year. Most years the board organizes two: A summer GMM and a winter GMM. Members will be notified of a GMM at least one week in advance.

In addition to the board, members can apply for a GMM. This should be five members, or a number of members representing 1/10th of the members. So if there are only 40 members in SHOUT, 4 members could ask for a GMM together.

Each member shall have the right to vote during the GMM. People will only be voted on in writing/anonymously. Decisions are taken by a simple majority with a few exceptions. In other words, there must be more votes in favor than votes against. The exceptions to this are an amendment to the articles of association, the dissolution of the association, and the drafting or amendment of a general rules of procedure (HR). These subjects require 2/3rds of the votes present.

Minutes shall be taken by the Secretary during the GMM. They are then shared with all members.

The board

The board consists of at least three people: a chairman, a treasurer and a secretary. There may also be more people in the board as a general board member. General board members can also fill in their role, such as volunteer coordinator. Board members are unpaid volunteers. They must be approved by the GMM and then re-elected every year for a period of one year. If the board is not complete (that is, consists of two or fewer people), a new GMM must be convened within two months, at which the board will be supplemented.

The board holds a board meeting several times a month. Decisions at board meetings shall be taken by the majority of the board. The board meetings are open to all members. However, they do not have the right to vote at the meeting.

Finances

Revenue management

SHOUT manages all its financial resources. We own a payment account at BUNQ and a savings account at ASN bank. The treasurer appointed by the GMM keeps the accounts, pays declarations and makes other purchases for the activities of the association.

The money to organize our activities comes from various sources:

- Subsidy from the municipality of Wageningen (divided by Welsaam)
- Fund Committee Activities Support (CAS) of Wageningen University
- Membership fees
- Donations
- Regulations 'Restitutions bar profit' with Theater De Wilde Wereld when bar profit is above 50%, with return of the profit margin above 50%.

Use of income

The expenses of the income are aimed at keeping the association running through a few organizational costs, the costs of organizing the activities and promoting activities. The various items of expenditure will be briefly explained.

Cost item	What
Volunteers	SHOUT relies entirely on volunteers who do not receive any compensation for this. That's why we thank our volunteers with drinks coins and thank you gifts for their efforts and offer restitution of potential training fees.
Introductory groups	Facilitate the Out Now conversation group, the Gender Sharing Circle, and Find Out SHOUT introduction period
Education committee	Expenses of information materials, such as printing costs and purchasing materials such as puzzles.
Member activities	Buying drinks and snacks for association nights, and costs of other activities for members such as speakers for lectures
Open activities	Costs for parties such as decoration and DJ. Costs for café evenings, such as pub quiz prices, speakers for open lectures, purchasing documentaries.
Promotion	Charges for posters for parties, conversation groups and other activities. Printing costs for leaflets and costs around other promotional materials such as a stall on May 5.
Organization costs	Fixed costs such as insurance, location rental for parties and other activities, printing costs and administrative costs.

Membership

Anyone can join SHOUT. This costs 30 euros per year. Students and minima receive a 5 euro discount. Members will have a say in the GMM, access to association nights and members' activities and a discount on any costs of access to activities. Should there be any problems, the final decision on someone's membership will be made at the GMM.

To end your membership you can send an email to info@shoutwageningen.nl. In general you should do this at the latest on December 31st of the last year you want to be a member. Unless you indicate otherwise your contact information will be archived for potential reunion invitations.