

Assistant Professor, Teacher Learning, Research, and Practice
Affiliate Faculty, Literacy Studies
University of Colorado Boulder
School of Education
249 UCB Boulder, CO 80309

Email: staleys@colorado.edu
Website: aqueerendeavor.org

EDUCATION

- 2014 Ph.D. University of Colorado Boulder
Curriculum & Instruction, Literacy Studies
- 2005 M.Ed. University of Kansas
Curriculum & Instruction
- 2002 B.S. University of Kansas
Secondary Education, English and Spanish (dual certification)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020–present Assistant Professor, School of Education, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2019–2020 Assistant Research Professor, School of Education, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2017–present Affiliate Faculty, Literacy Studies, School of Education, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2014–2019 Research Associate, School of Education, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2014–present Co-Director, A Queer Endeavor
- 2009–2013 Research and Teaching Assistant, School of Education, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2003–2008 English Language Arts Teacher, La Sierra High School, Riverside, California

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2018** Kalpana Chawla Award, University of Colorado (with Bethy Leonardi)
- 2017** President’s Diversity Award, University of Colorado (with Bethy Leonardi)
- National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Recipient of the Alan C. Purves Award, Honorable Mention

- 2016** The Jean and Jack Hodges Big Hearts Award (with Bethy Leonardi), Out Boulder County, Boulder, Colorado
- 2013** Summer Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder (\$6,000)
- 2012** “Best Should Teach” Silver Award, Graduate Teacher Program, Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder
- Beverly Sears Grant Award, Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder (\$2,500.00)

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

(† Marks a co-authored piece)

- Staley, S.** (in press). Learning Through Practice: Conceptualizing the Demands of Queer-Inclusive Teaching. *Curriculum Inquiry*.
- Leonardi, B., & **Staley, S.** (2021). Cultivating a Queer Mindset: How One Elementary Teacher Rattled Common Sense. *Teachers College Record*, 123(7).
- Staley, S.**, & Leonardi, B. (2020). A Pretty Queer Thing: Thinking Queerly About Teachers’ Gender and Sexual Diversity-Focused Professional Learning. *Journal of Teacher Education*, 72(5), 511-522. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022487120971588>
- † **Staley, S.**, & Leonardi, B. (2019). Complicating What We Know: Focusing on Educators’ Processes of Becoming Gender and Sexual Diversity Inclusive. *Theory into Practice*, 58(1), 29-38.
- Staley, S.** (2018). On Getting Stuck: Moving Through Stuck Places in and Beyond Gender and Sexual Diversity-Focused Educational Research. *Harvard Educational Review*, 88(3), 287-307.
- Leonardi, B., & **Staley, S.** (2018). What’s Involved in “The Work”? Understanding Administrators’ Roles in Bringing Trans-Affirming Policies Into Practice. *Gender and Education* 30(6), 754-773.
- Staley, S.**, & Leonardi, B. (2016). Leaning In to Discomfort: Preparing Preservice Teachers for Gender and Sexual Diversity. *Research in the Teaching of English*, 51(2), 209-229.
- Cervetti, G., DiPardo, A., & **Staley, S.** (2014). Entering the Conversation: Exploratory Talk in Middle School Science. *The Elementary School Journal*, 114(4), 547-572.
- DiPardo, A., **Staley, S.**, Selland, M., Martin, A., Genwick, O. (2012). “Anything Could Happen”: Managing Uncertainty in an Academic Writing Partnership. *English Education*, 45, 10-34.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW FOR PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- Staley, S.**, & Blackburn, M. V. Troubling Emotional Discomfort: Teaching and Learning Queerly in

Teacher Education. *Teaching and Teacher Education*.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Staley, S. (2022). Heteronormativity. In K. Strunk and S. A. Shelton (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Queer Studies in Education* (Vol. 4, pp. 250-255). Brill.

† Leonardi, B., & **Staley, S.** (2019). Gender and Sexual Diversity in Teacher Education. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190264093.013.281>

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2016). Remaining Stubbornly Faithful: What Queering Academia Does to Queer Teacher-Scholars. In S. Miller and N. Rodriguez, (Eds.), *Educators Queering Academia* (pp. 31-40). New York: Peter Lang.

NON-REFEREED BOOK REVIEWS

Staley, S. (2022 January 17). Review of Failure Before Success: What Teachers Learned from Their Mistakes by Warner, J. (Ed). *Teachers College Record*.

NON-REFEREED AND INVITED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2021). Educators Moving Towards Collective Liberation: Reflections on the #EIEJ2021. *The Assembly*, 4(1), 1-4.

† Leonardi, B., & **Staley, S.** (2015). Affirm Gender and Sexual Diversity Within the School Community. *Phi Delta Kappan*, 97(3), 69-73.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B., & Tomiko, R. (in progress). It Hurts to Become: Practices of Queer-Inclusive, Anti-Oppressive Teacher Education.

Staley, S. (in progress). Queering Practice: Designing for Queer-Inclusive, Anti-Oppressive Teacher Education.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2022 Co-Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi, Principal Investigator; and Noreen Naseem Rodríguez, Co-Investigator), *House Bill 19-1192: Bringing the Promise of Inclusive Educational Policy into Practice*, Women Investing in the School of Education, \$9,278.35.

2021 Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi), *Equify: Building LGBTQ+-Inclusive Capacity in Greeley-Evans District 6 through University-District Partnership*, School of Education Partnership Seed Grant, \$19,883.

2020 Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi), *Disrupting Heteronormativity through Professional Development*, project directed by A Queer Endeavor, funded by The Twisted Foundation,

\$50,000.

- 2019** Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi), *Teaching and Learning to Queer the Curriculum, Outreach & Engagement*, \$7,000.
- 2018** Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi), *Learning Through Practice: How Teachers Engage Students in Gender and Sexual Diversity-Focused Instruction*, The Spencer Foundation, \$50,000.
- Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi), *Lesson Study: Supporting Educators to Create and Enact Gender and Sexual Diversity Focused Lessons*, The Community Foundation of Boulder County, \$3,000.
- 2017** Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi). *“But, What Does it Look Like?”: Documenting the Practices of Inclusive Educators*, Women Investing in the School of Education, \$17,196.
- Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi), *Building LGBTQ-Inclusive Capacity Through University-District Partnership*, Outreach & Engagement, \$8,523.
- Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi), *Disrupting Heteronormativity through Professional Development*, project directed by A Queer Endeavor, funded by The Twisted Foundation, \$330,000 (over three years).
- 2014** Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi), *Breaking the Silence*, University of Colorado Crowdfunding Project, \$23,860.00.
- Principal Investigator (with Bethy Leonardi), A Queer Endeavor, The Gill Foundation, \$1,000.

ADDITIONAL GRANTS AND GIFTS

- 2021** Gift (to A Queer Endeavor) from the Colorado Health Foundation to organize an intersectional team of graduate students and colleagues to design and implement the 1st annual Educator Institute for Equity and Justice, \$24,500.
- 2020** Recipient (with Bethy Leonardi). *Queering Practices in Education*, The Community Foundation of Boulder County, \$5,000.
- 2018** Recipient (with Bethy Leonardi). *State-wide Educator Institute on LGBTQ-Inclusive Practices*, Micro Grant proposal funded by the Office of Outreach & Engagement, University of Colorado Boulder \$1,068.
- Recipient (with Bethy Leonardi). *State-wide Educator Institute on LGBTQ-Inclusive Practices*, The Jared Polis Foundation, \$1,000.

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS

- Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2021, Apr 8 – 12). A Pretty Queer Thing: Thinking Queerly About Teachers' Gender and Sexual Diversity-Focused Learning [Paper Session]. AERA Virtual Annual Meeting.
- Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2020, Apr 17 - 21). Learning Through Practice: How Teachers Engage Students in Gender and Sexual Diversity-Focused Instruction [Paper Session]. AERA Annual Meeting San Francisco, CA <http://tinyurl.com/rdcdy9b> (Conference Canceled)
- Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2017, April). What's Involved in 'the Work'? Understanding Administrators' Roles in Bringing Trans-Affirming Policies into Practice. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Antonio, TX.
- Staley, S. (2016, April). Working the Tensions: One Teacher's Journey of Cultivating Commitments to Gender and Sexual Diversity. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington DC.
- Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2016, April). "It Hurts to Become": Two Teachers' Processes of Negotiating Gender and Sexual Diversity-Inclusive Practice. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington DC.
- Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2015, December). Remaining Stubbornly Faithful: What Queering Academia Does to Queer Teacher-Scholars. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Literacy Research Association, Carlsbad, CA.
- Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2015, November). Breaking the Silence: Affirming Gender and Sexual Diversity in Educational Contexts. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Studies Association, San Antonio, TX.
- Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2013, December). Breaking the Silence: Preparing Preservice Teachers to Disrupt Heteronormativity. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Literacy Research Association, Dallas, TX.
- Staley, S. (2013, April). Beyond Common Sense: Preservice Teachers' Emergent Understandings of Effective ELA Pedagogy. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Staley, S., & Cervetti, G. (2011, April). Making Room for Exploratory Talk: Science as a Context for Fostering Academic Discourse. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Staley, S. (2011, October). The Site of Struggle That is the English Language Arts: What Preservice Teachers Need to Know About the History of the Field. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for Teaching and Curriculum, Denver, CO.
- Cervetti, G., & Staley, S. (2010, July). The Challenges and Dilemmas of Using Exploratory Talk.

Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Research Association, Auckland, New Zealand.

Staley, S. (2010, May). Transforming Identities, Communities, and Spaces: What Could Have Been But Wasn't. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver, CO.

SELECTED INVITED TALKS AND OTHER PRESENTATIONS

Leonardi, B., Staley, S., & Hernandez, B. (2021, July 29). Queering the Keynote: Moving Toward Collective Liberation. Keynote address delivered at the 1st annual Educator Institute for Equity and Justice, Longmont, CO.

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2021, November 17). Films for the Future: Raising the Curtain on LGBTQ+ Student Experiences. Virtual screening of *Breaking the Silence* and discussion facilitated for the Denver Public Schools Foundation.

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2021, April 21). Affirming Gender, Sexual, and Family Diversity in District 6. Virtual professional development facilitated for K-12 principals and district leadership team, Greely-Evans District 6.

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2020, November). Queering the Keynote: It Hurts to Become. Inaugural Gender and Sexuality Educational Alliance Keynote Address delivered at the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English. (Invited presentation)

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2019, November). Taking a Queer Approach to Leading. Professional development facilitated for College of Communication, Media, and Information faculty leadership team, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO.

Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2019, October). Affirming Gender, Sexual, and Family Diversity in Our Schools. Professional development facilitated for elementary education teacher candidates, Boston University, Boston, MA.

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2018, March). Digging in to act out: Creating spaces of security for LGBTQ students. Presentation at the 37th Annual Gender Studies Symposium, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR. (Invited presentation)

Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2018, January). Creating safe, affirming schools for gender, sexual, and family diversity. Professional development facilitated for Denver Teach Today teacher licensure candidates, University of Colorado Denver, Denver, CO.

Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2017, June). Affirming gender, sexual, and family diversity in PK-12 schools. Professional development facilitated for elementary and secondary administrators and teacher leaders, Adams 12 Five Star School District, Thornton, CO.

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2016, November). Breaking the silence: Queer-affirming pedagogy and

- practice in the English classroom. Classroom demonstration at the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English, Atlanta, GA.
- Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2016, October). Affirming gender and sexual diversity in K-12 and higher education. Professional development facilitated for school of education faculty, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA.
- Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2016, October). Creating safe schools through inclusive and affirming policy and practice. Professional development facilitated for counseling and mental health staff, Adams 12 Five Star School District, Thornton, CO.
- Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2016, October). Complicating “the work”: Moving beyond legal frameworks. Professional development facilitated for elementary and secondary principals, St. Vrain Valley School District, Longmont, CO.
- Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2016, August). Breaking the silence: Affirming gender and sexual diversity in education contexts. Professional development facilitated for the school of education and human development faculty, University of Colorado Denver, Denver, CO.
- Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2016, August). School climate and culture: Taking stock and taking action. Professional development facilitated for elementary and secondary principals, Boulder Valley School District, Boulder, CO.
- Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2016, August). Disrupting heteronormativity in the elementary grades. Professional development facilitated for staff, Eisenhower Elementary, Boulder, CO.
- Barr, J., Cabrera, R., Clay, E., Edbrooke, O., Hamasaki, R., Katsampes, P., Leonardi, B., Staley, S., Stegall, T., & Williams, S. (2016, July). One district’s journey: Affirming gender and sexual diversity. Presentation delivered at annual meeting of the Colorado Association of School Executives, Breckenridge, CO.
- Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2016, May). Affirming gender and family diversity in the school community. Professional development facilitated for staff, Lyons Elementary, Lyons, CO.
- Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2016, May). Disrupting heteronormativity through literacy and literature. Professional development facilitated for library and media specialists, Boulder Valley School District, Boulder, CO.
- Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2016, March). Breaking the silence: Honoring the voices of LGBTQ youth in preparing our teachers. Professional development facilitated for the Seattle Teacher Residency, University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
- Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2016, February). Affirming gender and sexual diversity in our schools. Professional development facilitated for elementary and secondary principals, St. Vrain Valley School District, Longmont, CO.
- Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2015, August). Affirming gender and sexual diversity in our schools.

Professional development facilitated for all administrators and district leadership in Boulder Valley School District, Boulder, CO.

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2015, January). Breaking the silence: Honoring the voices of LGBTQ youth and allies in preparing our teachers. Professional development facilitated for staff, Denver West Leadership Academy, Denver, CO.

Staley, S., & Leonardi, B. (2014, October). Breaking the silence: Affirming gender and sexual diversity in higher education. Presentation delivered at Front Range Community College, Longmont, CO.

Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2014, October). Gender and sexual diversity-inclusive education: Affirming our youth. Professional development facilitated for New Vista High School staff, Boulder, CO.

Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2014, October). Breaking the Silence around Gender and Sexual Diversity: Opening the Conversation. Presentation delivered at Teachers of Color and Allies Summit, Boulder, CO. (Invited presentation)

Leonardi, B., & Staley, S. (2013, October). Breaking the silence: Honoring the voices of LGBTQ youth and allies in preparing our teachers. Presentation delivered at the annual PFLAG national convention, Washington DC.

Staley, S. (2013). Intersections of race, gender, and sexuality in English language arts curriculum. Presentation at the 4th Annual RISE Symposium, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO. (Invited presentation)

Staley, S. (2012). Understanding US high school students: Context for understanding teaching as an international teaching assistant in the US. Presentation at the Graduate Teacher Program Fall Intensive Conference, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO.

Bien, A. & Staley, S. (2011). Theory into Practice in EDUC 4411. Presentation at the Connected Learning Research Network meeting, University of Boulder Colorado, Boulder, CO. (Principal Investigator: Mizuko Ito)

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Higher Education Teaching Experience

2010 – present School of Education, University of Colorado Boulder.
 Courses taught (and developed*):
 EDUC 7115, Critical Inquiry Into Becoming Teacher Educators (co-taught with
 Jamy Stillman)
 EDUC 6964, C&I Capstone Course for MA Degrees in K-12 Humanities &
 Math/Science
 EDUC 5365, Secondary English/Language Arts Methods
 EDUC 5325/4325, Queering Literacy in Secondary Classrooms*
 EDUC 5295/4295, Reading & Literacy in Secondary Classrooms*

EDUC 5222/4222, Language Study for Educators*
 EDUC 5001, Framing Equity & Justice in the Humanities Classroom*
 EDUC 4513, Education & Practice for Student Teachers
 EDUC 4342, Composition for Teachers
 EDUC 4122, Secondary General Methods
 EDUC 4001, Framing Equity and Justice in the Humanities Classroom

- 2013 – 2014 Program for Writing & Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder.
 Courses taught (and developed*):
 WRTG 3020, Advanced Topics in Writing*
 WRTG 1150, First-Year Writing & Rhetoric
- 2012 – 2013 Lead Graduate Teacher, Graduate Teacher Program, University of
 Colorado Boulder
- 2011 Teaching Assistant, School of Education, University of Colorado Boulder
 EDUC 4411, Educational Psychology for Elementary Schools: Learning in
 Robust Ecologies
 Lead instructor: Professor Kris Gutiérrez.

Professional Development Experience

- 2020 – present Greeley-Evans School District 6
Consultant and Professional Development Facilitator
- 2018 – present Weld County RJ-5 School District
Consultant and Professional Development Facilitator
- Developed and provided professional learning opportunities and materials on gender and sexual diversity-inclusive policy and practice for district leadership, administrators, and teacher leaders
- 2018 – present Summit County School District
Consultant and Professional Development Facilitator
- Developed and provided professional learning opportunities and materials on gender and sexual diversity-inclusive policy and practice for district leadership, counselors, administrators, and teacher leaders; supported district in their implementation
- 2016 – present Adams 12 Five Star Schools
Consultant and Professional Development Facilitator
- Developed and provided professional learning opportunities and materials on gender and sexual diversity-inclusive policy and practice for district leadership, counselors, administrators, and teacher leaders
- 2015 – present St. Vrain Valley School District
Consultant and Professional Development Facilitator
- Developed and provided professional learning opportunities and

materials on gender and sexual diversity-inclusive practice; supported district and schools in their implementation

- 2015 – present Boulder Valley School District
Consultant and Professional Development Facilitator
- Developed and provided professional learning opportunities and materials on gender and sexual diversity-inclusive policy and practice; supported district and schools in their implementation

SERVICE

School of Education

- 2021 Faculty mentor, CU Boulder Doctoral Pathways Mentorship Program
2021 Search Committee, Teacher Learning Research, and Practice
2018-19 Coordinator of program redesign, Secondary Humanities Teacher Licensure (with Dr. Wendy Glenn)
2014 Search Committee, Secondary Literacy
2010-present Guest lecturer, Topics of gender, sexual, and family diversity in schools

Community

- 2018 & 2019 Program coordinator, Statewide Institute on LGBTQ-Inclusive Educational Practices
2013-2015 Co-chair, Boulder Valley Safe Schools Coalition
2014-present Consultant on LGBTQ-inclusive capacity building for schools and organizations across Colorado

National

Manuscript Reviewing

Critical Studies in Education

Journal of Teacher Education

Research in the Teaching of English

The New Educator

Monograph Reviewing

SUNY Press

Proposal Reviewing

American Educational Research Association

Literacy Research Association

National Council of Teachers of English

DOCTORAL COMMITTEES

Committee Chair and Advisor

Kachine Kulick (in progress)

Dissertation Committee Member

Andrea Glaws

Christine Zabala

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Teacher learning; teacher education practices and pedagogies; queer theory; queer pedagogy; anti-oppressive education; practitioner research; LGBTQ+ youth in schools; teacher quality and accountability policies