

**Event: The National Day of Silence** brings attention to anti-LGBT name-calling, bullying and harassment in schools. This year's event was held in memory of **Lawrence King**, a California 8th-grader who was shot and killed on February 12<sup>th</sup> by a classmate because of his sexual orientation and gender expression. Hundreds of thousands of students participated by taking some form of a vow of silence for the entire day or part of it. Together, concerned students will create a powerful call to action in order to prevent future tragedies [www.dayofsilence.org](http://www.dayofsilence.org).

The UNH students who took part in this program included:

- Victoria Bui
- Maggie Rende
- Tyler Salovin
- Kristina Bensley
- Christine Davis
- Aaron Roudabush
- Shawn Tremblay
- Carmen Paulino
- Joiah Ladson
- Amanda Debiase
- Lyndsey Gress
- Melissa LaRose
- Jaquelyn Bartomioli
- Stephanie Sham
- Amira Al-Zoubi
- Jennifer Celler
- Jason Dichter
- Jennifer Celler
- Regina Trujillo

Students handed out speaking cards that read:

*"Please understand my reasons for not speaking today. I am participating in the Day of Silence, a national youth movement protesting the silence faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and their allies in schools. My deliberate silence echoes that silence, which is caused by harassment, prejudice, and discrimination. I believe that ending the silence is the first step toward fighting these injustices. Think about the voices you are not hearing today. What are you going to do to end the silence?"*

Please join me in congratulating their efforts!