

Eliza Byard
Executive Director
GLSEN



ELIZA BYARD is the executive director of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN). She joined GLSEN's staff in 2001 as deputy executive director, responsible for all program development and oversight, including the development of GLSEN's award-winning national Think B4 You Speak campaign, the first-ever Ad Council campaign on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues; GLSEN's research capacity and student organizing programs; and in-school programming such as No Name-Calling Week, which the National School Boards Association recently termed "one of the most used and celebrated bullying prevention programs in the country." As GLSEN's primary spokesperson, Byard has appeared on *The O'Reilly Factor*, *AC360*, *ABC World News*, and National Public Radio's *Talk of the Nation*, among other programs. In 2010, Eliza was appointed to the blue ribbon panel convened by the America's Promise Alliance to select their 100 Best Communities for Youth and began her service on the diversity and inclusion advisory board for Sodexo USA. Byard also served on Mayor Michael Bloomberg's commission on runaway and homeless LGBT youth, and currently serves on the LGBT youth suicide prevention task force of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. Eliza is an award-winning filmmaker.