

July 10, 2023

174 WEST 4TH STREET #395 NEW YORK, NY10014 DARTGALA@GMAIL.COM WWW.DGALA.ORG

## DIRECTORS

Lee Merkle-Raymond '86 CO-VICE PRESIDENT

Amanda Rosenblum '07 CO-VICE PRESIDENT

Pete Williams '76 SECRETARY

Shaun Akhtar '12 Dottie Foley '86 Sheila Hicks-Rotella '04 Erik Ochsner '93 Joseph Tahbaz '15 Kamil Walji '03 Val Werner '20

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Sarah Burgamy '00 Nick Chamousis '73 Chuck Edwards Gr'86 David Eichman '82 Ed Hermance '62 Susi Kandel '00 Caroline Kerr '05 Melanie Pastuck '11 Nancy Vogele '85

## By Email and Priority Mail

Dartmouth Alumni Magazine 7 Lebanon Street Hanover, New Hampshire 03755

Dear Dartmouth Alumni Magazine,

Targeting people for a fundamental part of their identity is wrong. Transgender people are people. Do you disagree?

We condemn DAM's promotion of Steve Kelley '81 in its latest issue. DAM platformed someone whose denigration of transgender people is a staple of their work. And DAM published on line one of Kelley's antitransgender cartoons. Directly above the cartoon, the title "It's OK to Laugh" apparently offers readers permission to join in on the joke. Is it really "OK to laugh" at the fact that nonbinary people exist?

"Freedom of expression" is not an excuse for publishing hateful content. Indeed, DAM's own masthead names another principle alongside "freedom of expression": "accepted standards of good taste." Apparently, the rising level of vitriol against transgender people in the US has normalized such hatred to the extent that DAM now deems transphobia within the bounds of "good taste."

We call upon DAM to publicly apologize for publishing this profile and transphobic cartoon, and to publicly affirm the right of transgender and nonbinary people to have their gender identities respected. To fall short of this is to fail to serve, as is the DAM's stated goal, "the entire Dartmouth Family."

Sincerely,

Board of Directors, Dartmouth LGBTQIA+ Alum Association

By:

Peter C. Williams '76, Secretary