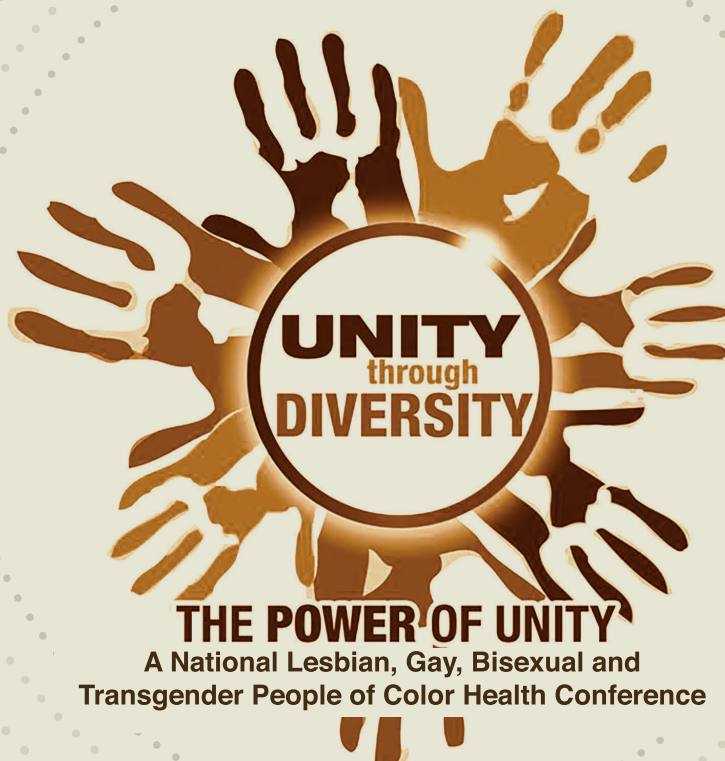


Program Guide

In Our Own Voices, Inc., National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
and Transgender People of Color Health Conference



October 4-7, 2018
The Desmond Hotel • Albany, NY

IN OUR OWN VOICES, INC.
245 Lark St. Albany, NY

Our mission is to work for and ensure the physical, mental, spiritual, political, cultural and economic survival and growth of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People of Color communities.



CONFERENCE WEBSITE
WWW.IOOVUTD.COM

TWITTER
[@I00V245](https://twitter.com/I00V245)

FACEBOOK
FACEBOOK.COM/INOUEOWNVOICES



Introduction

Welcome *to* Unity Through Diversity

The focus of the 2018 Unity Through Diversity, National LGBT People of Color Health Conference is "The Power of Unity." The purpose of the conference is to lift up the voices of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People of Color (*LGBT POC*), while promoting social justice, healthy sexuality, violence-free living, social activism and safe spaces.

Our collective liberation and personal freedom lies within a political unity that goes beyond the constraints of gender and sexuality. Unity Through Diversity brings you toward a more holistic, inclusive and intersectional movement that includes advocating for economic justice by recognizing that not all *LGBT POC* face the same financial hardships.

We accept legal equality as a necessary first step in the struggle for justice but it is not justice. Increasing access to basic needs, education, healthcare, housing and employment must be struggles in which we all engage. Equity, racial, social, gender and economic justice must be our overarching goals.

In recent years, the LGBT movement has made enormous strides in the struggle for marriage equality. For *LGBT POC*, however, our struggle is far from over. Since marriage equality became a law, we have also lost family and community members to violence against transgender people, HIV/AIDS, suicide, bullying, ableism, and homelessness.

Additionally, the disproportionate incarceration rates among people of color - particularly among African Americans - and racial profiling which is so prevalent in our society continues to put the safety of young African Americans at risk. Our struggle is far from over.

We must heal from historical trauma and internalized oppression in order to support each other and promote *LGBT POC* leadership. There is power in unity. *LGBT POC* power requires our unity. Without it, issues that affect our communities such as racial profiling, poverty, hate crimes, HIV/AIDS, STIs, Hep C, the silencing of Women who have Sex with Women (*WSW*) voices, immigration, sexual violence and repression, the capacity to explore supportive parenting, healthy relationships, healthy sexuality and self-love are left in the hands of those who are the most distant and disconnected from our issues and the disparities we face.

We must address that which divides us in order to embrace that which unites us. We must channel our unified power in order to increase our visibility and voice. We must build the just society we envision. We must organize. We must lead.

As *LGBT POC*, we have the power to heal, to organize and to deliver a unified voice. Together, we can identify, own and be transparent about our need for personal, community and institutional power. We invite you to claim your space, your voice, your community, your power!

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Share your excitement on social media!
See front and back of program for details.



Executive Director's Address



Dear Attendees,

Welcome to the 2018 Unity Through Diversity: The Power of Unity, a National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People of Color Health Conference, hosted by In Our Own Voices, Inc.

IOOV is one of a few organizations nationwide that provides comprehensive services and the only organization in our region with a focus on the health and wellness of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People of Color (LGBT POC) communities.

Since 1998, IOOV has worked to ensure the health and well-being of LGBT POC communities through advocacy & education, anti-violence programs, community organizing, social events and support groups.

In 2008, IOOV hosted its first LGBT POC Health Summit. Over 150 scholars, administrators, activists, and students gathered for the important event to reflect on the status of health and wellness, substance abuse, spirituality and political advocacy within Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People of Color communities.

The summit featured presentations, workshops and panel discussions on the importance of meaningful involvement of LGBT POC and vulnerable

subpopulations. Such issues as: policy development and implementation, physical and mental health concerns, innovative and effective intervention methods, and research that addresses and educates on the importance of health and well-being.

Today, Unity Through Diversity Conferences provide a safe space for LGBT POC communities and our allies to examine health disparities and to identify future strategies that can be implemented in our individual communities.

It is my hope that identified strategies will serve as the basis for future funding, therefore strengthening our communities' capacity to develop leadership, combat oppression and marginalization, and effectively communicate our perspectives within the dominant and larger LGBT movement.

Again, welcome and I look forward to engaging with you during this year's health conference and creating positive outcomes.

In Unity,

Tandra R. LaGrone
Executive Director • In Our Own Voices, Inc.

In Our Own Voices, Inc.

Our mission is to work for and ensure the physical, mental, spiritual, political, cultural, and economic survival and growth of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender people of color communities.

245 Lark St., Albany, NY 12210
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Keynote Address

Monica Raye Simpson

Thursday, October 4, 2018



Monica Raye Simpson is the Executive Director of SisterSong, a woman of Color Reproductive Justice Collective. A native of rural North Carolina, Monica organizes against human rights violations, the prison industrial complex, and structural racism through a feminist and interdisciplinary approach to Black liberation from a southern to a global scale. A true renaissance leader, she is also committed to birth justice as a certified Doula and centers the reproductive rights of black women as part of her practice.

Monica's masterful integration of activism and artistry "artivism," created a path for the release of her first live album entitled Revolutionary Love, an album praised for its blending of her gospel roots and her passion for social justice. This innovative sound is what she

calls Revolutionary Soul. As a performer who works to empower marginalized people and tear down broken systems, Monica was named as a New Civil Rights Leader by Essence Magazine and chosen as one of the Advocate magazine's 40 under 40 leaders.



Schedule At-A-Glance



Wednesday, October 03, 2018

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Registration

Thursday, October 04, 2018

7:30 AM - 7:30 PM

Registration

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Breakfast

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Opening Keynote: Room: Fort Orange Ballroom

10:30 AM - 11:30 PM

Networking Hour: Room: Fort Orange Ballroom

11:45 PM - 12:45 PM

Lunch: Room: Fort Orange Ballroom

1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Workshops: Session 1

2:30 PM - 3:45 PM

Workshops: Session 2

4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

Workshops: Session 3

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Racial and Reproductive Justice Institute: Room: Fort Orange Ballroom

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Opening Reception

Easy to Follow Guide:

Flip through easily!
Each day of the conference corresponds with a color that will help you quickly identify the section in this program.

● Thursday Activities

● Friday Activities

● Saturday Activities

Friday, October 05, 2018

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Gilead Breakfast Presentation: Room: Fort Orange Ballroom

9:15 AM - 10:30 AM

Workshops: Session 1

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Sexverations for ALL: Fort Orange Ballroom

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

Gilead Lunch Presentation: Fort Orange Ballroom

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Workshops: Session 2

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Disabilities Roundtable: Scrimshaw

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

Workshops: Session 3

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

Substance Use Roundtable: Scrimshaw

10:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming (TGNC) Institute: The Lodge

Saturday, October 06, 2018

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Breakfast: Room: Fort Orange Ballroom

9:15 AM - 10:30 AM

Workshops: Session 1

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Men Who Have Sex With Men Panel Room: Fort Orange Ballroom

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

Funding Lunch Panel Room Part 1: Fort Orange Ballroom

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Funding Part 2 Room: Fort Orange Ballroom

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Workshops: Session 2

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

Colorism Roundtable

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

Ally-Building Roundtable: Scrimshaw

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Women who have Sex with Women (WSW) Institute : Fort Orange Ballroom #5

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Inter-generational Institute: Fort Orange Ballroom #9

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Closing Remarks: Fort Orange Ballroom

10:00 PM - 4:00 AM

Unity Ball: Fort Orange Ballroom

Sunday, October 07, 2018

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

LGBT and Spirituality Town Hall



GMHC fights to end the AIDS epidemic
and uplift the lives of all affected.

The Board, Staff, and Clients of Gay Men's Health Crisis

proudly congratulate

In Our Own Voices

for their exemplary leadership and
work in the LGBTQI community!



*Celebrating
In Our Own Voices
#PartnersWithPride*



rockland county **pride** center

rockland**pride**center.org | (845) 353-6300

***Congratulations
on another
successful
Unity Through Diversity
Conference!***

***Together we can
#EndAIDSNY2020!***



General Information

Welcoming All

The planning committee for Unity Through Diversity has worked hard to make this health conference welcoming and accessible to all attendees. In the spirit of unity through diversity, please help us create an atmosphere at the conference where all people are welcome and respected.

Be inclusive of attendees' identities, abilities, and self-expression.

Assistance & Emergency Contacts

In Our Own Voices, Inc., staff members and health conference volunteers will be available if you require assistance at any time during the conference.

Timeliness

Unity Through Diversity has many important and interesting workshops, panels and other presentations. In order for the health conference to run smoothly and for attendees to get the most out of it, it is important that individuals are punctual.

Hospitality Room • Suite 111

During the conference there will be a designated hotel room for participants to access 24 hours. The room will contain snacks and games among other items. All snacks and beverages provided are free.

Self-Care Room • 30 High Street

The self-care room is available from 9AM-5PM. This is a safe, confidential space to receive support around anything that may come up, including triggers, a need for disclosure, or simply to connect with someone to process new or challenging information.

Designated Smoking Areas

The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center does not allow smoking in meeting areas or in hotel rooms. Please only smoke in designated smoking areas. If you are unsure, please ask a Conference staff member for assistance. If you have a medical marijuana card, please know that the hotel does not allow smoking. You must make alternative arrangements.

Meals

Health conference registration includes breakfast and lunch. Snacks will be available throughout the weekend. Dinner will not be provided. Please check with IOOV staff to explore dinner options if you experience any financial hardship.

Photography

In order to document this special event, conference staff and volunteers will be photographing individuals in workshops and activities throughout the health conference. By registering for Unity Through Diversity, attendees are consenting to being photographed and/or videotaped by conference staff. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to staff at the conference registration table.

Name Tags

Please wear your Unity Through Diversity name tag at all times. Your name tag is your pass to all workshops, presentations, dining areas and events for the duration of the conference. If your name tag becomes lost, please report immediately to the registration desk with your photo ID to receive a new name tag.



Thursday Workshops

1:00PM-2:15PM



Let's Get Our Act Together: How to Use Research to Improve the Quality of Care for LGBTQ+ YOC • 24 High Street

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Angela Weeks, Sarah Mountz, MSW, PhD and Avery Irons, JD, MFA

Description of Workshop: This presentation will first focus on the process and results from a qualitative community-based participatory research study with former LGBTQ foster care youth. From Our Perspectives: Untold Stories of LGBTQ Youth in the Foster Care System in Los Angeles, utilized qualitative interviewing and photo voice methods to explore participants' experiences before, during, and after their time in foster care. This presentation will additionally highlight the efforts of a workforce development effort housed within the LA LGBT Center. The RISE Initiative aimed to improve the lives and outcomes of LGBTQ youth of color in the foster care system through innovative programs for staff and clients. The RISE Initiative was ground breaking, and led to a break out of other projects across the country serving LGBTQ+ youth of color in foster care.

Centering Policy Research Activities: Meaningful Inclusion of LGBT POC • 26 High Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Gerald Garth, Ayako Miyashita Ochoa, Hussain Turk, Jaden Fields, and Ian Holloway

Description of Workshop: Participants will hear from a panel of experts affiliated with the Southern California HIV/AIDS Policy Research Center that identify primarily as LGBT People of Color. All presenters have been key collaborators in academic research focused on policies addressing health disparities among LGBT People of Color. Each panelist will present research on a specific research project of the Center outlining both the findings and the process for achieving those findings. The focus on process will seek to identify opportunities for achieving success from the beginning (research design) to end (dissemination of findings) of the research process and implementation efforts resulting from increased knowledge (e.g. law and policy change).

Griot Crafts: Creating Arts for Self Care Spiritual Dolls, Wands... • Shaker Room

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Akosua Washington-Woods

Description of Workshop: Bring your creative selves! We will create spirit dolls that reflect who we are spiritually, emotionally and physically for our altars or other ritual spaces. All Goddesses and Gods need wands, so let's make them too. If you have one; bring your cane or walking sticks and embellish them as well. Maybe we'll do some tie dye as well. I have supplies, but also bring your sacred objects to attach to your unique pieces.

Living at the Intersections of LGBT POC Identities and Sexual Health • The Lodge

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Carmen Vazquez, Kraig Pannell

Description of Workshop: The nuanced complexities of homophobia, heterosexism and racism directly impact the comprehensive health of LGBT POC. This co-facilitated workshop will consist of an open and honest dialogue about the intersections of sexuality, culture, and race. Through this guided discourse, the facilitators will assist participants in beginning to explore various elements of their sexuality and sexual health, such as, roles within the LGBT culture (Butch/Femme, Top/Bottom), sexual relationship dynamics, and acknowledgement & recognition of the impact of myths / stereotypes on sexual health and behavior.

Thursday
1:00PM-5:00PM
Fort Orange Ballroom

**Racial &
Reproductive
Justice
INSTITUTE**

*"The Color of Choice: Working
at the Intersections of Racial and
Reproductive Justice"*

In times like these we need to work harder than ever to protect our fundamental human right to sexual liberation and part of that work lies at the intersection of racial, LGBT and reproductive justice. That focus is vitally important for everyone, but especially for members of our LGBT POC communities who are uniquely affected.

"The Color of Choice: Working at the Intersections of Racial and Reproductive Justice" will look more closely at many of these issues with the goal of preparing participants to become strong leaders who elevate their lived experiences to change community norms and policies from ones that dictate the choices available to ones that celebrate historically marginalized communities, particularly LGBT communities of color.

Over the course of this Institute, facilitators will lead workshops and discussions focusing on the reproductive justice movement and the intersection of race, gender, sexual orientation and other identities.

Keynote Speaker Monica Raye Simpson



Monica Raye Simpson is the Executive Director of SisterSong, a woman of Color Reproductive Justice Collective. A native of rural North Carolina, Monica organizes against human rights violations, the prison industrial complex, and structural racism through a feminist and interdisciplinary approach to Black liberation from a southern to a global scale. A true renaissance leader, she is also committed to birth justice as a certified Doula and centers the reproductive rights of black women as part of her practice.

Monica's masterful integration of activism and artistry "artivism," created a path for the release of her first live album entitled Revolutionary Love, an album praised for its blending of her gospel roots and her passion for social justice. This innovative sound is what she calls Revolutionary Soul. As a performer who works to empower marginalized people and tear

down broken systems, Monica was named as a New Civil Rights Leader by Essence Magazine and chosen as one of the Advocate magazine's 40 under 40 leaders.

The logo consists of a light blue circle with a white border. Inside the circle, the words "Racial & Reproductive Justice" are stacked in a bold, dark blue sans-serif font, and the word "INSTITUTE" is at the bottom in a larger, bold, dark blue sans-serif font.

Racial & Reproductive Justice INSTITUTE

Institute members will engage in topics and exercises such as:

Defining Reproductive Justice through Racial Justice and an LGBT POC Lens

- Exploring movements such as Black Lives Matter and other organizing efforts that work to dismantle white supremacy.
- Is abortion genocide?
- How do white allies affect reproductive rights for women of color?
- How about the interception of civil rights and reproductive justice?
- Human Rights
- Impact of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade
- Men and Boys and their voice/impact
- All of this in the context of human rights (right to safety, body sovereignty)
- Native Peoples genocide historically and today
- Rape as a tool of and result of oppression

Celebrating & Expressing Our Sexuality

"Celebrating & Expressing Our Sexuality" nudges participants to a place of sharing, validation and self-love through a storytelling exercise. This session highlights our resilience as LGBT POC individuals in the midst of body shaming and other forms of oppression that we experience on a daily basis. It's time to celebrate our sexuality through cheerful and unapologetic expressions. Our stories of sexual desire, sensuality, eroticism and pleasure are just as diverse as our identities and sharing them among community helps form a stronger, more visible collective.

Amplifying Women of Color Protective Health Factors

Small Group Discussion on:

"What do we need to see"

"What do we need to do?"

- **Solutions and Strategies for Activism within Our Communities: Resilience, etc.**

Roundtable Discussions on community-level and Institutional Change.

Honoring Our Work: Reflecting on Our Day and Moving Things Forward -

- What did you learn about yourself and how oppression impacts you and LGBT POC communities?
- How will you continue challenging yourself beyond this Institute?
- What changes will you work toward within your communities?
- What commitments can the group expect from IOOV and Sister Song serving as a resource?



Ericka Dixon

Ericka is an experienced Community Organizer with a demonstrated history of working in the civic & social organization industry. Skilled in Nonprofit Organizations, Editing, Gender Mainstreaming, International Relations, and Arabic, Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy and International Education from Columbia University - School of International and Public Affairs.



Carmen Vazquez

Carmen Vazquez was born in Puerto Rico and grew up in Harlem, New York. Among her many accomplishments, Carmen was the Founding Director of the Women's Building in San Francisco, helped found the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center in San Francisco, and the LGBT Health & Human Services Network, a coalition of over 55 organizations and groups in New York advocating for LGBT Health and Human Services. The Network has secured over \$64 million

dollars in state funding for its members. She is a founder and principal author of Causes in Common (a national coalition of Reproductive Justice and LGBT Liberation activists) and of the Pride in Action programs at Empire State Pride Agenda. She is the recipient of an Honorary law degree from CUNY School of Law and her papers are part of the permanent collection at the Sophia Smith Archives at Smith College. Her essays have been published in several anthologies. Carmen is the Co-Chair of the Woodhull Freedom Foundation Board of Directors. She is currently Director of the LGBT Health Services Unit with the AIDS Institute of the NYS Department of Health and lives in Brooklyn, NY.



Cecilia Gentili

Cecilia is a Translatina from Argentina working for her own community. She is the Director of Policy at GMHC.



Gabby Santos

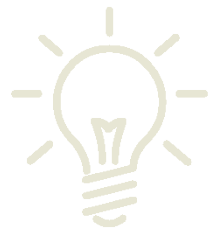
Gabby is the Director of LGBT Health Services for In Our Own Voices. She has worked with survivors of trauma since 1994 in roles ranging from inmate support group facilitator, to policy work on behalf of LGBT POC. Gabby is committed to promoting the sexual health of LGBT POC and their communities in order to end health disparities. She provides leadership to Unity Through Diversity, a National LGBT POC Health Conference, and the Annual Black & Latin@ Gay Pride of the Capital District of NY. She is also a member of the Arte Sana board of directors and ALAS, the national Latina Alliance Against Sexual Violence.



Thursday Workshops

2:30PM-3:45PM

CONTINUED



Alternatives to Healing Transformational Justice and Unpacking Collective Trauma from the Criminal Justice System • 24 High Street

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Randall Jensen

Description of Workshop: How do we work from a transformative justice framework and recognize the realities of the criminal injustice system's impact on LGBTQ people of color? Often, we are conditioned to feel expected or tied to using traditional access points to healing. In this training by SocialScope Productions, introductory approaches to advocacy and care will be discussed, such as anti-oppression, harm reduction, trauma informed care, positive youth development and transformative justice. We will explore the current realities communities of color face when interacting with the criminal injustice system and use case scenarios and experiential learning activities. Participants will re-examine how to advocate for LGBTQ people of color WITHOUT using law enforcement and traditional systems of healing to deescalate harm and support communities of color.

A Model Developing Advocacy and Leadership Skills for LGBT Communities of Color • 26 High Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Eduardo Morales, PhD

Description of Workshop: Challenges in doing advocacy and affecting policy are having an educated and skilled team of stakeholders for engagement in advocacy efforts. This workshop presents a model for developing skills among LGBTQ communities of color by creating a Leadership Training Certificate Program in collaboration with a community-based Latinx LGBTQ organization and a university. Called La Academia de AGUILAS, this training program offered certificates in three levels of training with the training areas being English and Spanish media training, knowing basic legal rights, finances and financial planning, how to be an effective advocate, basic aspects of mentoring and coaching, engaging in mentoring activities, and becoming a "Promotor de Salud".

Rythmic Connections: The Power of Community Drumming Circles • Shaker Room

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Chrys Ballerano

Description of Workshop: Presenter will provide a good variety of hand drums and small percussion instruments (enough for 10-50 people) from various origins. We will sit in a circle and the facilitator will briefly demonstrate basic technique for playing the instruments then set a simple grounding rhythm that the group will build together; one at a time, listening before playing, and following our own innate sense of play. In this way, we will explore the magic of building polyrhythms in a circle of mutual listening and self expression.

Combatting HIV/STI Among Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Black Women • The Lodge

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Elder Antionettea Etienne

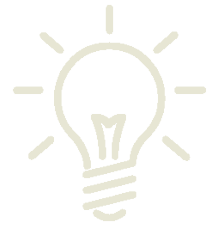
Description of Workshop: This session will discuss the work that Iris House, a non-profit organization in Harlem, is doing to combat the transmission of HIV and other STIs among lesbian, bisexual, queer, and questioning African American women. Statistics show that African American women are disproportionately affected by HIV. We will discuss the unique needs and challenges that the Black WSW community experiences around sexual health and how we address these needs through our prevention education programs.



Thursday Workshops

4:00PM-5:15PM

CONTINUED



Making Better Binders, Tuckers, and More: Transitional Garments, Health and Style • 24 High Street

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Christian Dominique

Description of Workshop: Christian Dominique is a transitional garments specialist who has worked with Boston Medical researchers, the Fashion and Culture Research Lab in Iowa, and is currently working with medical providers in the Midwest to provide binders to transgender youth. This presentation is an exhibition of the research and work that Christian has done to advance transitional wear, in an effort to inform and incite discussion about the health implications of transitional wear and the aesthetic considerations designers should be making when considering the TGNC communities.

Sexual Violence in Colleges and Prisons: Creating Culture Change for Everyone • 26 High Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Michelle Carroll & Eirik Bjorkman

Description of Workshop: Within the #metoo movement, discussions on college sexual assault and prison sexual assault have yet to happen simultaneously on a wide scale. This workshop aims to dismantle the artificial barriers between the movements to end sexual violence in our colleges and prisons, in order to examine how similar culture change philosophies and values can be applied to transform these seemingly opposite institutions. Representatives from NYSCASA's college and prison work will examine the similarities and differences between campus and prison policy, including evidentiary standards, the care given to trans individuals, and the role of restorative justice. This workshop is open to everyone regardless of their knowledge level.

Listening to Audre: Self-Care as Survival for LGBTQ POC • Shaker Room

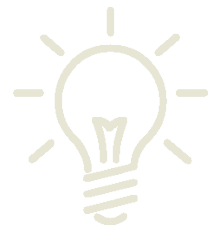
Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Arianne E. Miller, Ph.D. & Jan E. Estrellado, Ph.D.

Description of Workshop: Self-care as traditionally emphasized is promoted as a way to thrive and succeed. However, this formulation does not address the needs of LGBTQ people of color who require Audre Lorde's notion of self-care as "self-preservation." In the context of institutional and systemic oppression, self-care for survival and resistance becomes critically important in a health system that is too often inaccessible, invalidating and unreliable. Thus, LGBTQ people of color require "self-care+" - traditional self-care plus strategies for self-preservation and resistance. The presentations will (a) describe obstacles to doing self-care specific to the LGBTQ POC community, (b) present a conceptual model for self-care that moves beyond our current understanding of self-care as a set of practices one does and seeks to make self-care more available to people of all abilities and health statuses and (c) provide realistic strategies for doing and promoting self-care in the LGBTQ+ POC community.

Unleash Your Inner Calm • The Lodge

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Rev Edith Washington-Woods

Description of Workshop: Many people believe meditation is only done sitting down, often in a lotus position. Participants will learn and practice several meditation techniques. They will be able to identify which one(s) work for them. They will discover there is a power within them which could relieve stress, anger, frustration, sadness or anything they are experiencing before, during or after it has occurred. They will also learn the benefits in being silent for any amount of time and how it can aid the body in achieving homeostasis. If you have high blood pressure or a family history of it, if you get angry and act before you think, if you are in and out of relationships, have stress and want to discover new ways to handle it, I invite you to come. If you have had trauma, abuse, drug or alcohol addiction in your life and you want to find peace from it, please attend. I have had all of these and my life is a lot more peaceful. With meditation, I learned how to love myself unconditionally so others could love me back.



Friday Workshops

9:15AM-10:30AM

LGBT Affirming Ministries in African American Communities: Dismantling Homophobic Theology, Constructing Safe Harbor Congregations • 24 High Street

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Terrence O. Lewis, PhD, MSW, LICSW

Description of Workshop: Narrative interview study with 15 African-American pastors who offer an LGBTQ+ affirming ministry (Lieblich, Tuval-Mashiach, & Zilber, 1998). The primary research questions include: 1.) What are the essential tenets of the pastor's LGBT-affirming theology? 2.) How do they enact LGBTQ+ affirming theology within HBCs and the Black community? 3.) How has the LGBTQ+ and non-LGBTQ+ Black community responded to their ministry? 4.) Do social workers play a role in their LGBTQ+ affirming outreach ministries? If no, why not? If yes, what roles do they play? In the proposed paper presentation, I will share the research findings, the implications for future community-based research, and the implications for LGBTQ+ affirming collaborations between social workers and churches in African American communities.

Building Capacity for TGNC Advocacy • 26 High Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Dr. Valjean R. Bacot-Davis

Description of Workshop: Transgender or gender nonconforming (TGGNC) individuals experience high social stigma in the forms of family rejection (57%), public harassment (53%), job loss (26%), rental prejudice (19%), and healthcare disparity. According to the National Transgender Discrimination Survey, 50% report lack of provider knowledge, and 33% have had negative experiences in health care. While resiliency factors within this community are protective in nature, prehospital emergency care is still difficult to navigate for this vulnerable population. Quantitative studies show TGGNC people avoid the emergency department or have previous negative experiences. This study seeks to explore attitudes held by emergency medical services providers about the TGGNC community, and LGBTQ community at large, for recommendations on improvements in providing care.

Survivor Advocates Raising Survivor Children • Shaker Room

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Kristiana Huitrón & Arianna Dominguez

Description of Workshop:

- 1 - context development through use of a time line display; using physical activity to "walk through" the evolution of justice for survivors
- 2 - compare and contrast advocate as a parent; using written or video prompt to evoke contemplation and empathy
- 3 - compare and contrast as a child of an advocate; using triads to explore the "many truths at once"
- 4 - wrap up with affirmations and gratitudes, and or next steps, further thoughts (no intention or actions meaning to force people into one way or the other about the subject and/or matter)

Lights, Camera, Action! Creating Visual Organization-Wide Campaigns for Education and A More Inclusive LGBTQ Environment • The Lodge

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): William J. Nazareth Jr.

Description of Workshop: Although strategies for creating LGBTQ-inclusive spaces exist, there is a dearth of high quality visual media that successfully reflects the racial, ethnic and age diversity of LGBTQ communities while also addressing topics impacting them. In 2015 Callen-Lorde initiated a Creative Media department to address the gaps in available health promotion materials and visual media, in particular for people of color and the transgender and gender non-binary communities. Spearheaded by enthusiastic staff, volunteers and a very limited budget, Callen-Lorde has created dozens of PSAs, video media, printed and social media marketing that have been embraced by LGBTQ communities, screened around the world, and used by State and City health departments.

Sexversations For All

Friday, October 5, 2018

10:45AM-12:00PM • Fort Orange Ballroom

All Audiences

We are making our mark as sex-positive advocates, and most importantly, we are doing it boldly and unapologetically. Previous social gatherings have informed us about a huge need for real life sex talks and solutions that relate to the lives of diverse communities. Sexversations will allow participants to address the paralyzing taboos that can keep us from sexual freedom. We deserve the right to express our sexuality, the right to consensual, raw sex and even their right to an orgasm. Are you still with me? We have lots to talk about. We have a lot to learn about each other. It's time to speak the language of our sexuality, of our hearts and our culture.





Friday Workshops

1:30PM-3:00PM

CONTINUED



First Steps Toward Addressing Needs of LGBTQ+ Middle Eastern and North African Communities • 24 High Street

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Wardeh C. Hattab & Nick Baitoo, LMSW

Description of Workshop: This workshop will provide an overview of clinical and organizational considerations in working with LGBTQ+ populations from the Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) region. The lecture will focus on discussions about social and political trends that impact LGBTQ+ MENA communities (including issues related to healthcare, social services, law enforcement, and immigration).

Sexual Violence Prevention in GSM Spaces • 26 High Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Jamal Brooks-Hawkins

Description of Workshop: Alcohol serving establishments (ASE) that cater to LGBTQ+ communities have historically been seen as safe havens from external group stigma and discriminatory practices. However, alcohol serves as the leading date rape drug in both heterosexual and gender and sexual minority communities and plays a critical role in sexual violence. Studies show that LGBTQ+ persons experience sexual assault at much higher rates than their heterosexual counterparts. In this session, a history of ASEs as safe spaces will be discussed, as well as the intersection of race and sexual identity, the dynamics of sexually aggressive behavior in GSM spaces, and how sexual violence impacts health and wellbeing. As a skill building effort, basic bystander techniques will be presented to address sexual aggressive behaviors in GSM ASEs and reduce sexual violence.

Naming Our Power: Moving Past Limiting Beliefs • Shaker Room

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Jean E. Fei

Description of Workshop: Through power point presentation, interactive discussions and large group dialogue we will explore stages of identity development in the context of a dominant racist society, exploring stereotypes and media literacy, symptoms of trauma in our workplace and communities, and trauma informed care practices. We will develop personal definitions and motivation to achieve success.

Cultivating Black Love Strategies in the Social Justice Movement • 2 King Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Kiara St. James and Octavia Lewis

Description of Workshop: Objective of workshop is to address the historical trauma that still impact the African diaspora, and has led to the various social drivers that has created the disparities that has been the soundtrack in how the world views Blackness. We will also highlight how Black communities have resisted and fought back and what we can learn from past movements in order to build a sustainable national and Global Black Community.

Disabilities Roundtable

Friday, October 5, 2018

1:30PM-3:00PM • Scrimshaw

Facilitator: Ericka Dixon



Ericka is an experienced Community Organizer with a demonstrated history of working in the civic & social organization industry. Skilled in Nonprofit Organizations, Editing, Gender Mainstreaming, International Relations, and Arabic, Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy and International Education from Columbia University - School of International and Public Affairs.

The Disability Roundtable is to provide space where participants will share how they live with disabilities inside and outside of our communities. They will discover comradery, allies and services which can assist them with living balanced lives on their own terms.





Friday Workshops

3:15PM-4:30PM

CONTINUED



Understanding Patterns of Power and Control in LGBTQ Relationships • 24 High Street

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Fatima Arain

Description of Workshop: In this workshop, we will explore the nuances of how domestic violence and abuse may show up in LGBTQ relationships. We will explore how systems of oppression, dynamics of small communities, and other aspects of LGBTQ life can impact the experience of survivors. We will also look at specific skills that individuals and communities can build to better support survivors of abuse, and to create loving and equitable relationships.

Identity Culture and Making a Connection with Language Access • 26 High Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Jose Juan Lara Jr.

Description of Workshop: Recognizing and respecting individual cultural differences on language and communication are important to effective work with survivors of limited English proficiency. Language is a way of communicating thoughts and feelings. It can also constitute a means of asserting one's identity, rights and safety. Survivors of diverse communities may face challenges when systems of help do not acknowledge language as a cultural identity. Ensuring meaningful access to limited English proficient (LEP) survivors of domestic and sexual violence is recognizing how gender bias and cultural identity may prevent access to services. This workshop will engage participants on the challenges limited English proficient survivors encounter access services due to limited culturally linguistically responsive systems of help.

Sexversations for Him • Shaker Room

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Phillip Burse & Emmanuel Rodriguez

Description of Workshop: Sexversations for Him is an exciting and interactive intervention that aims to promote a culture of healthy attitudes about sex and sexuality through open communication to reduce sexual stigma and the negative effects of negative values and perceived norms. Risk factors addressed include: unhealthy models of top/bottom dynamics, power and control in relationships, social isolation, stigma, rigid gender roles, racism, homophobia the effects of trauma, self-hatred, self-sabotage, risky sexual behaviors and more.

Life Cycle Development and HIV Prevention Strategies of Black Transgender Women • 2 King Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Dr. Robert L. Miller Jr.

Description of Workshop: The study aims are: (1) to understand their adaptive coping strategies; (2) to describe primary and secondary HIV prevention decision making; and (3) to identify the structural and personal factors influencing the salience and meaning (affective, behavioral and cognitive) these women attribute to coping and prevention efforts.

Substance Use Roundtable

Friday, October 5, 2018

3:15PM - 4:30PM • Scrimshaw

Facilitators: Vanessa Campus and Jamal Brook-Hawkins



For 13yrs Vanessa Campus has been a Community Health Educator at Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), the oldest AIDS service and advocacy organization in the world. Vanessa obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Community Mental Health/Psychology from New York Institute of Technology. She also obtained a CASAC-T certification from Exponents and was also in the 1st graduating class of NY State certified Peer Educators.

Vanessa is very passionate about engaging & educating high risk communities and individuals in regards to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Vanessa is very committed to publically providing materials to various communities. In doing so, Vanessa has distributed thousands of condoms, dental dams, lube & finger cots while attempting to change social norms.



Jamal has worked in Sexual Health programming for the past six years. He has been a program manager and prevention specialist providing both direct and administrative services for an HIV/STI Department at an integrated health organization. He focuses on vulnerable and oppressed populations in the reduction of health disparities. Jamal has worked closely with the homeless and near homeless, those using substances, intravenous drug users, transactional sex workers, and those who are living with HIV and AIDS. He has an MSW from Arizona State University and a BFA from DePaul University, and currently conducts

sexual violence prevention and bystander intervention training to alcohol-serving establishments statewide as part of the Arizona Safer Bars Alliance program.

The Substance Use Roundtable is open to LGBT POC who identify as substance users, members of the clean & sober community, individuals who engage in high risk sexual activities and who seek substance use treatment. We will discuss the correlations between substance use, trauma, stigma and high risk behaviors.

Friday
10:00AM-5:00PM
The Lodge

**Transgender and
Gender
Non-Conforming
INSTITUTE**

****Transgender and Gender
Non-Conforming
People of Color Only***

This Institute is for Trans and Gender Non-Conforming People of Color (TGNCPoC). The Institute provides a safe space where issues of importance to Transgender individuals can be raised in order to facilitate a dialogue that explores what it means to live at the intersections. This Institute is for Asian/Pacific Islander, Arab/Middle-Eastern and Black/African, Native/ Indigenous, and Latin@/Caribbean descendants. We recognize that Transgender/ Gender Non-Conforming people of color have various physical & mental abilities, gender identities & expressions, sexual orientations, spiritualities and political affiliations. All TGNCPoC are welcome.

TGNC Institute Keynote - Monica Beverly Hillz



Monica Beverly Hillz is a trans activist, reality television and entertainment personality, performing as a female impersonator for the past 14 years. She is a resident host of the #GetWoke: Queer and Trans People of Color events and a Chicago native, where she got her start in the Chicago house and Latinx salsa and bachata LGBTQ clubs. Monica has a feminine, sensual and fiery spirit and has been featured on MTV's "True Life", AME TV's "Limo Bob" and in Miley Cyrus's 2015 MTV Video Music Awards performance. She is best known as the first contestant to bravely share during the taping of Season 5 of VHI's RuPaul's Drag Race that she identifies as a transgender woman. Monica recently has become a spokesperson for the inclusion of trans woman in the drag scene after RuPaul comments, including writing an op-ed piece that

was published by The Washington Post. Monica is personally committed to supporting queer and transgender youth, working with survivors of sexual exploitation and homelessness and LGBTQ community empowerment projects.

Monica will share about navigating an abusive childhood, surviving through homelessness and sex work, being the first trans person (and trans woman of color) to come out as trans while a contestant on RuPaul's Drag Race, and her life since being on the show as a trans activist and reality television star.

Follow Monica: Facebook @MonicaBeverlyHillz Twitter & IG @monicahillz



Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming INSTITUTE

Institute members will engage in topics and exercises such as:

Panel Discussion: “Bridging the divide”

The panel discussion will aim to uplift the diversity we have as TGNC public services workers. Panelists will examine entry level opportunities that are available for TGNC individuals while addressing the lack of career advancement and higher education. Institute participants will be engaged in conversations that unpack the lack of professional development and push for economic growth for TGNC workers.

Activity: “Four Corners” Group Activity

TGNC POC Hot Topics and Opinions

Financial literacy and Economic Development

Basic information for financial literacy and money manage through discussion of creditworthiness, banking, student loans, financing transition, and entrepreneurship. The workshop will consist of several exercises and a take home assignment.

Purpose in Our Pain

The rise of meth amphetamines and cocaine/crack ravages our community. How do you help a loved one who actively uses drugs/alcohol? How do you help yourself? This workshop will deeply dive into the challenges of overcoming addiction. It will also include conversation on abstinence, safety use and relapse prevention.

Sister 2 Sister Mentoring

This workshop will allow participants to explore the importance of mentoring support for Transgender individuals initiated and delivered by Transgender individuals. We will review various models, peer mentoring circles, 1:1 mentoring, etc.

Diversity and Inclusion

“When we know the truth, we no longer can accept the lies”...The Real Truth about Diversity and Inclusion. This workshop will allow participants to explore the importance of understating Diversity and Inclusion from the inside.



Tatyana

Tatyana has extensive experience working in Human Resources championing strategic initiatives geared towards Diversity & Inclusion currently for Howard Brown Health, the Midwest's largest provider of healthcare to LGBTQ+ community. She is the Human Resources Manager, the first transwoman of color to hold that position. Tatyana is a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, serving honorably as an Intelligence Analyst in the US Army. She was reared in the City of Chicago and attended college in Milwaukee, WI. She obtained both her Bachelor of Science in Developmental Psychology and her Masters of Business Administration with a concentration in Human Resources Management from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She is a staunch advocate for the Trans community and has worked with the American Civil Liberties Union as a spokesperson for Trans litigation and LAMBDA Legal. Working with the U.S. Center for Disease Control, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, and TB Prevention; Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention; Capacity Building Branch; Science Application Team as a consultant to develop the first intervention geared towards the transgender targeted population.

Marissa Miller

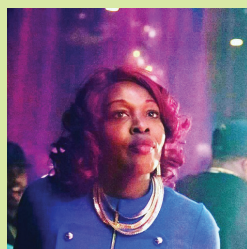


Marissa is currently working with one of the most influential National agencies on the fight for AIDS, NMAC located in Washington D.C. and the Senior Director of Strategic Projects for Envision Consultant. Marissa is nationally recognized as an advocate for human rights, social justice, health equity, and LGBTQ equality. Marissa has worked for the last 15 years on the local, national and international levels to improve access to treatment and care for transgender people and people living with HIV, and to erase stigma and discrimination through education, policy, advocacy, and visibility. Marissa has worked on multiple National Projects with, NMAC, Transgender Law Center, CDC, HRSA, AIDS United, Howard Brown Health and ETR. Marissa brings a great deal of expertise in TGNC specific Programming and Infrastructure Building, Program Development and Evaluation and Leadership Development. Marissa has over the last 15 years, been very involved in, developing framework that support PLWHA and making sure that Community Engagement for disenfranchised populations are decision-makers at the table. Marissa, along with Center for Disease Control, Atlanta Georgia, alongside other Trans Woman of Color created the very first intervention specifically designed for Transwoman.



Tabytha Gonzalez

Tabytha is TLDEF's office manager, providing operational support and reasonable accomodations for TLDEF's civil rights advocacy work. She attended Berkeley College for business management. She brings a strong passion for serving the trans and LGBT community to her work. Tabytha has robust ties to community activism. Co-Founder of The Trans Equity Coalition. She serves on The Network Advisory Body as a Co-Chair of the TGNC Advocacy Committee. She is also a member of the TGNC Institute Sub-Committee for In Our Own Voices. She has worked with the deaf and hearing impaired community and is fluent in American Sign Language. Tabytha appeared in The White Shirt Project, a campaign highlighting mental health awareness for the LGBTQ community. She is a liaison for Exponents, a New York nonprofit organization compassionately dedicated to serving those impacted by HIV/AIDS, substance use, incarceration and behavioral health challenges. She also volunteers with Destination Tomorrow, serving the LGBTQ community in the South Bronx.



Nicole Bowles

Nicole is an African American transsexual woman originally from Brooklyn who now resides in the Bronx. She is a single parent of a 14 year old daughter. She is both a member and leader in the House/Ball community having founded two different houses with chapters across the Northeastern corridor. Nicole came to Exponents in early 2013 to sharpen her peer advocacy skills. After completing the ARRIVE and ARRIVE Post Graduate Program (APGP), she began to volunteer her time as a peer in several of the agencies fifteen distinct programs. She realized her ultimate goal a little over a year later, when she formed Exponents' Transformation support group, an educational discussion group for women of transgender experience. Since that time, Nicole has worked closely with senior management to develop and implement several trans-specific programs including an adaptation of Seeking Safety, a trauma informed intervention, a job readiness/retention series, and programming for women detained in the Transgender Housing Unit operated by the NYC Department of Correction (DOC). Nicole continues to advocate for structural changes that enhance the lives of the trans community. In 2015, she participated in the Transgender Health Summit in Oakland, CA as well as the LGBT Conference sponsored by the NYSDOH. In June, Nicole was featured in the HuffPost, expousing her views on the recent transition of Caitlin Jenner and its impact on the transgender community and also was an invited guest of Lisa Evers on her weekly Hot97FM radio show, Street Soldier. In July of 2015, Nicole received the inaugural Octavia St. Laurent TransActivist Award at GMHC's Latex Ball. Nicole was recently chosen to sit on the planning committee board, for the next year GMHC Latex Ball. She also has had the Opportunity to Participate in Presenting a Ballroom History Presentation, sharing her Experience with Ballroom at NYU University. Also she is apart of the Transgender & Non Conforming Advisory Group, For End of Aids Epidemic in New York State.

Londyn de Richelieu

Londyn is a media personality, trans advocate, and scholar hailing from Baltimore, Maryland. A proud alumnus of Morehouse College, Londyn also holds a Bachelors in Business Administration from American InterContinental University (AIU) and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Legal Studies from Howard University School of Law. Londyn sits on the community advisory boards of National Black Justice Coalition and the Johns Hopkins University/State of Maryland BESURE program. Londyn was recently invited by Baltimore mayor Catherine Pugh to sit on her inaugural LGBT Commission and she was apart of the historic Spelman College Transgender Policy Implementation Committee under President Dr. Mary Schmidt-Campbell. Londyn was recently hired as a research coordinator for Johns Hopkin's Bloomberg School Of Public Health. A renaissance woman at her core, de Richelieu founded the Claudette M. Mason Foundation in honor of her late grandmother, Claudette M. Mason, to advance the education of the transgender community and provide critical resources to aid in their professional success. She champions the right for trans women to seek the path to their dreams no matter what age, socioeconomic status, race, or health status. Londyn believes that there is no timeline on success because it is never crowded! She is currently pursuing her Masters of Health and Law Policy at Hofstra University School of Law. Londyn is also a proud member of Legendary Iconic House of Miyake-Mugler, where she is celebrated and recognized as an Icon for Female Figure Runway for her contributions and dedication to her category and the HBC community. Londyn will be working with the Crystal Labelija Organizing Fellowship to develop within the Claudette Mason Foundation a financial literacy online module and institute that focuses on deepening knowledge around economics, healthcare, insurance, real estate, estate planning, budgeting, wealth and investments.





Saturday Workshops

9:15AM-10:30AM



Out of the Closet: Acknowledging Domestic Violence in LGBT POC Relationships • 24 High Street

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Phillip Burse & Kathy Grant, LMSW

Description of Workshop: The workshop will be a combination of presentation and facilitated discussion and will cover topics related to Domestic Violence (dynamics/tactics, root causes, responses, and prevention) and LGBT communities. The presentation will also delve into intersectionality as we know that the LGBT community is not a monolithic group. Living at the intersection of multiple identities/oppressions (racism, sexism, transphobia, homophobia, ethnocentrism, classism, etc.), LGBT victims/survivors of domestic violence face additional barriers to obtaining safety and support.

Cyberbullying in the Deaf & Hard of Hearing LGBT Communities • 26 High Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Dr. Suzette Garay, PhD.

Description of Workshop: This workshop presentation will focus on the following questions for participants to consider when working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing LGBTQ members in their LGBTQ communities, agencies, and/or individually.

- HOW does CYBERBULLYING affect Deaf & Hard of Hearing LGBTQ members differently?
- HOW are Deaf & Hard of Hearing LGBTQ members CYBERBULLIED?
- WHY do Deaf & Hard of Hearing LGBTQ members CYBERBULLY others?
- DO CYBERBULLYING Deaf & Hard of Hearing VICTIMS AND THE BULLY FIT ANY PROFILE?
- How can my agency or program help Deaf & Hard of Hearing LGBTQ members who are CYBER BULLIED or BULLYING or WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Understanding Drugs and High Risk Sexual Behaviors • Shaker Room

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Jose Villanueva

Description of Workshop: Discussion focused on what individuals understand about certain drugs and alcohol and how they affect people. Define past traumatic experiences that lead individuals to using drugs and alcohol and its correlation to engaging in high risk sexual activities. Defining high risk sexual activities and drugs that promote these activities. Ways to address addiction and minimize the risk while engaging in high risk sexual activities.

Engaging for Empowerment • The Lodge

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Charlotte Shum

Description of Workshop: The workshop will include a PowerPoint presentation, with an assortment of flyers, handouts, and brochure highlighting elements of our work. The brochure doubles as a guide and resource during our discussion. We will be addressing the many methods of engagement and emphasizing its importance and the benefits for our community as a whole.

Men Who Have Sex With Men Panel

Saturday, October 6, 2018

10:45 AM - 12:00PM • Fort Orange Ballroom

"Living POZitively in the 21st Century"

Moderator: Jasán M. Ward



Jasán began his work in Health & Wellness for LGBT People of Color (LGBT POC) and People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in 2007 while employed at In Our Own Voices located in Albany, NY. He was instrumental in creating programs, events, and safe space for this population including CrystalFree: Crystal Meth Education & Prevention, TransCare: Healthy Living for Transgender People of Color, Say it Loud! Black & Latino Gay Pride and Unity through Diversity: National LGBT People of Color Health Summit. In 2012, Jasán became an employee at The MOCHA Center as The Capacity Building Manager for The New York State Taskforce on Black Gay Health in NYC. While serving in this position he forged community collaborations and developed avenues to increase the efficacy of HIV education, outreach, and prevention targeting MSM of Color. His work in this role culminated in the implementation of the conference, Building a Strong Foundation: The

Changing Landscape of HIV Prevention for MSM of Color in NYC. While at the MOCHA Center, Jasán also served as the Manager of Prevention Programs and Senior Director of Programs & Evaluation. Jasán has provided training and workshops to a broad range of Health & Human Service Providers to help increase their cultural awareness and sensitivity enabling them to provide more effective services for LGBT POC and PLWHA. He became a spokesmodel for the HIV STOPS WITH ME campaign in 2014; he has been living with HIV since 1995. In 2012, he was named an Emerging Black LGBT Leader and was invited to a policy briefing addressing HIV and other issues affecting the LGBT POC communities. Jasán was invited back to the White House in 2013 and 2014 to meet with Senior White House staff concerning The National HIV/AIDS Strategy. He has also served on Community Advisory Boards related to HIV & Cancer, HIV Vaccine Trials, and PrEP, and was a trainer for the National Coalition Building Institute and The Trevor Project.

The goal of the panel is to immerse the attendees in a forthright conversation between impactful and powerful HIV positive Black and Latino men of same gender loving experience. The panelists will share their lived experience, as well as, create a dialogue with each other and those in attendance about understanding the issues influencing the lives of HIV positive Black and Latino men of same gender loving experience; strategies and tips that enable HIV Black and Latino men of same gender loving experience to lead and live healthy and productive lives; and how current HIV prevention tools (i.e. PrEP, U=U) impact the Black and Latino men of same gender loving experience. The overarching goal of this conversation is to understand the importance and relevance of representation of the communities deemed a priority for HIV prevention as part of the solutions to create a new dimension for HIV prevention efforts.

Panelists:

Luna Luis Ortiz

Roscoe Boyd II

Gabriel Maldonado



Luna Luis Ortiz

Luna is dedicated to HIV prevention and youth work at Gay Men Health Crisis (GMHC). At GMHC, he works tirelessly on the agency's social marketing campaigns such as the GLAAD award-winning 'I Love My Boo' campaign as well as host youth workshops, kiki balls, conferences and health fairs to over 250 youth of color monthly. He also plans and gathers a committee of House and Ball members for the annual Latex Ball. The Latex Ball draws a crowd of over 2,000 participants from around the world. Ortiz also hosts "The Luna Show" on www.youtube.com/TheLunaShowNY that celebrates and preserves the ballroom history of the Latino

and Black LGBT experience as well as HIV awareness. Ortiz continues to inspire and empower youth of color around the world with his story of survival with living with HIV for 32 years. His passions as a father of the House of Khan (whose members compete in the voguing competitions at the balls) give him the opportunity to continue to guide and support young people from the LGBT experience with love, compassion and care.



Roscoe Boyd II

Artist. Advocate. Activist. Originally from Detroit, Michigan, Roscoe has more than 15 years of integrated professional experience in nonprofit leadership, sales, public speaking, and education. Roscoe received a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Morehouse College and, as a Teach for America alumnus, a Master of Science in Teaching from Fordham University. In 2016, after publicly sharing his history as a person living with HIV, Roscoe began traveling the country as an invited speaker and panelist.



Gabriel Maldonado

Gabriel is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of TruEvolution based in Riverside, California serving the LGBTQ community through Ryan White-supported ancillary services as the first LGBT Center in the region, and engages in national advocacy efforts surrounding health disparities impacting LGBTQ communities of color. Gabriel also serves on the Board of Directors for the AIDS Healthcare Foundation as well as on the Advisory Boards for Janssen Therapeutics, Merck & Co. and the National Advisory Board for Viiv Healthcare.

In 2015, Gabriel was appointed onto the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS under President Barack Obama and serves as Co-Chair of the Disparities Committee. Gabriel currently serves as a Co-Chair for the 2019 National HIV Prevention Conference at the Centers for Disease Control.

Facebook: [gabrielpaul.m](https://www.facebook.com/gabrielpaul.m)

Instagram: [@GabrielPaul_M](https://www.instagram.com/GabrielPaul_M)

Twitter: [@GabrielPaul_M](https://twitter.com/GabrielPaul_M)



Saturday Workshops

1:30PM-3:00PM

CONTINUED



A Purpose Filled Life • 24 High Street

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Tabytha Gonzalez

Description of Workshop: This workshop will examine the recidivism rate and the impact of continued substance abuse and the ways to deal with the pressure of addiction while seeking mental help and the benefits of living drug free.

Stud4Stud: Unpacking the Societal Aversion to Masc4Masc Romantic Relationships within the LGBTQ Community • 26 High Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Nefertari Sloan

Description of Workshop: It is all too common within the lesbian community to hear folks of any identity say "I'm not with that gay shit" when introduced to the possibility of two masc presenting women being in a romantic relationship. Why? The comparison of these types of persons to gay men is immediate, inaccurate, and only further perpetuates homophobic beliefs that two men cannot/should not be together. In this workshop, we will confront implicit bias related to this subject and hold space for masc women/non-binary folks who encounter this issue on a regular basis. There will be opportunity to step out of the comfort of binary gender roles and imagine how to dismantle the oppression and homophobia that surfaces within our own community walls.

Exploring the Effects and Experiences of Survivorship on Sex, Love and Partnership • Shaker Room

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Jorge Vidal & Kristiana Huitron

Description of Workshop: Workshop participants will join in the exploration of how survivorship affects our sex, sexuality, the ways we enter into partnerships with our wives/husbands/boyfriends/girlfriends/lovers/partners. We will disburse shame, and invite healing. We will look at the arc of the effect of maturing on one's relationship with one's own sexuality, use of sex, and sex with partner and partners in a loving and accepting manner. We will discuss how the kind of education privy to an anti-violence advocate can affect the relationship one has with sex and sexuality. The intended outcome of this workshop is to evaporate shame for survivors, to help survivor advocates make peace with the many parts of self and experience, and to temper advocates who are not survivors with a compassion that is healing and affirming for survivors in many contexts.

How to Increase Giving by LGBT POC to LGBT Causes • The Fort Orange Ballroom

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Sarah Anderson and Beth Strachan

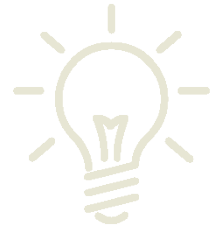
Description of Workshop: This political climate is challenging; it can also be a boon for fundraising. Learn data-driven tips, actionable guidance, and best practices that can help you increase giving from LGBTQ supporters and build a more inclusive and intersectional approach to fundraising. Based on findings and recommendations from the LGBTQ Giving Project, a multi-year collaborative research and capacity-building effort, this workshop will illuminate the motivations and priorities of LGBTQ givers - particularly since the 2016 election. Through this in-depth professional development workshop, fundraising leaders will gain access to tools and resources that they can immediately put into practice to advance their organizations' missions. Come ready to work so you can leave ready to raise more money.



Saturday Workshops

3:15PM-4:30PM

CONTINUED



There's Nothing Kiki About the Kiki Scene • 24 High Street

Education and Capacity Building | Presenter(s): Melvin Bruce II & Luna Luis Ortiz

Description of Workshop: The mainstream House and Ball community has been at the forefront of HIV Prevention for the Transgender and MSM of Color community for the past 35 years. However, in recent years, there has been an appearance of the Kiki Scene, a sub-division of the House and Ball community that started here at GMHC. The Kiki scene is arguably more popular than the mainstream House and Ball scene in terms of its reach with youth of color. Most participants identify as African American and/or Latino, ages 16-24, MSM, and low-income. As a result, many tend to be at high-risk when it comes to HIV incidence. The emergence of this distinct scene begs many questions: do the same prevention methods work for the Kiki scene as they do for the mainstream House and Ballroom community? Is HIV seen as a concern by the Kiki community? If not, what are effective ways to reach YMSM of color in the Kiki community? As an agency that sees nearly 200 Kiki youth encounters each month, GMHC has a unique opportunity to hear the voices of this community.

Loving My New Creation: Who is God and Do They Love Me? • 26 High Street

Advocacy and Public Policy | Presenter(s): Trenton Johnson

Description of Workshop: It is a proven narrative that individuals in our community have a difficult time talking about religion. Most of us at some point have experienced hurt spiritually be it from an actual faith-based place, or just in our spirit as it relates to our soul. As a result, there are gaps in how we navigate our journey to loving our self and others, because the healing of one's self truly starts inside; In our soul, our spirit. The first step is to break down the walls of what we understand and what we don't as it relates to religion and spirituality, and then determine if we believe anything at all and if we don't, knowing that this too is okay. Afterwards, we need to take what we learn, develop an action plan to love our new creation and then be the link for someone and show them exactly what we learned today.

Menthol in the LGBT Community • Shaker Room

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Carissa Mazzeo

Description of Workshop: Workshop participants to gain knowledge on tobacco marketing to the LGBTQ community and the disproportionately high smoking rates among members of the community. Overall, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender adults smoking rates are up to 2.5 times higher than straight adults. For years the tobacco industry has made efforts to appeal to LGBTQ consumers through things like targeted advertisements in LGBTQ press, cigarette giveaways and free tobacco industry merchandise. Today, the LGBTQ community is among the hardest hit by tobacco. Through this workshop we intend to educate and mobilize those to take a stand against tobacco marketing. This can be adapted to be any length and cover many areas of this diverse topic including menthol tobacco and more.

Toward Racial Justice Across LGBT Communities • The Lodge

Wellness and Treatment | Presenter(s): Phyllis B. Frank & Gwen Wright

Description of Workshop: The workshop will diverge from more commonplace diversity, anti-bias and cultural competence trainings. Rather, the process and content will allow difficult, yet crucial conversations to take place about issues of oppression and social justice, both outside and within the LGBTQ movements - leading to innovative answers to the action question, "What can I do?"

Colorism Roundtable

Saturday, October 6, 2018

3:15PM - 4:30PM • Scrimshaw

Facilitator: Isa Woldeguiorguis



Isa Woldeguiorguis began as the Executive Director of CHH in 2012. Prior to this, Ms. Woldeguiorguis has worked in the anti-violence field for twenty years, holding several statewide and national roles in the movement to end sexual and domestic violence. From 2007-2010, she worked at the Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence (Jane Doe Inc.) as the Policy Director and then Membership Director. Prior to this, Ms. Woldeguiorguis worked at the Department of Social Services (DSS) now the Department of Children and Families (DCF) in Massachusetts. She began as an advocate and ultimately became the Director of the Massachusetts DSS

Domestic Violence Unit- the first such unit in the country and a national model for integrating domestic violence advocates in the public child welfare system. Her final tenure was serving as the Assistant Commissioner for Practice and Policy from 2004-2007, during which time she played a role in redesigning the agency's practice model to become family-centered and in building an integrated practice in substance abuse, mental health and domestic violence. Ms. Woldeguiorguis is a well-respected leader and national trainer in the field of children, domestic and sexual violence, systems change, policy and practice. Ms. Woldeguiorguis is well known for her dynamic training style and teaching skills on these topics and for her activism in the areas of racial disparities. She has authored several articles on topics such as family-centered practice in child welfare, racial and ethnic disproportionality and immigration.

With an ever-expanding definition of diversity that now encompasses multiple dimensions, are we in danger of sidestepping the topic of race and minimizing its importance and impact? The topic of race opens the door to examine various complex dimensions and critical questions, including how we can address the discrimination that persists related to colorism - the biased treatment of individuals based on their skin color and other identifiable racial features? Join us in this profound discussion!

Ally-Building Roundtable

Saturday, October 6, 2018

3:15PM - 4:30PM • Scrimshaw

Facilitators: Corey Westover, Dr. Regina Washington, and Teri Wilhelm



Corey (she/her) is the Director of The New York State LGBT Health & Human Services Network, based out of The NYC LGBT Center. In this role, she oversees a coalition of 72 LGBTQ non-profit organizations and programs that provide care to LGBTQ New Yorkers and our families. Previously, Corey oversaw sexuality education programming at Community Healthcare Network, a network of 13 federally qualified health centers throughout NYC. Corey is passionate about cross-movement work and aims to build bridges between folks working for racial, economic, reproductive, and gender justice. She holds a Master's in Public Health from Columbia University and a Bachelor's in Applied Psychology from New York University. Corey resides with her partner in Brooklyn, NY.



Dr. Regina Washington, Director of LGBT HealthLink, a program of CenterLink, working toward eliminating health disparities within LGBT communities as it relates to tobacco use and cancer. She provides high-level consulting on best practices to transform health systems related to community engagement. Dr. Washington has over 15 years of combined experience in community, governmental, and academic institutional leadership related to strategic planning, program development, implementation, and evaluation. Her presentations, projects, and writings have focused on health disparities, health education, and health policy, specifically related to tobacco cessation and cancer control. Dr. Washington obtained her BA in biology from Berea College, a MA in education from Eastern Kentucky University, and a Doctor of Public Health degree from the University of Kentucky. She has also achieved leadership and service awards, completed a National Cancer Institute health policy CERTA Fellowship, and is a University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Public Health Leadership Scholar.



Teri is a safe and equitable education advocate for LGBTQIA youth and is a board member/volunteer for the New York Capital Region-GLSEN, serving as Co-Chair and Public Policy Coordinator. A trans-feminine activist who often writes and lectures on her personal journey and issues relating to transgender people, she is presently a Mathematics Instructor and Pride Club Co-Adviser at SUNY Adirondack College. Teri can be reached at: wilhelm.teri@gmail.com or wilhelmt@sunyacc.edu

The goal of the Roundtable is to help individuals define what allyship looks like to them; acknowledge and understand their privilege; identify areas for learning and growth; and clarify ways one can be accountable to a lasting allyship commitment of trust and consistency.

Saturday

3:30PM- 5:30PM

Fort Orange Ballroom #5

Women Who Have Sex With Women INSTITUTE

***WSW of Color ONLY**

This Institute is for Women of Color-who-have-Sex-with-Women (WOCSW). The Institute provides a safe space where issues of importance to Lesbian, Bisexual, Pansexual, Queer and Questioning women of color can be raised in order to facilitate a dialogue that explores what it means to live at the intersections. This Institute is for Asian/ Pacific Islander, Arab/Middle-Eastern and Black/ African, Native/ Indigenous, and Latin@/Caribbean descendants. We recognize that women of color have various physical & mental abilities, gender identities & expressions, sexual orientations, spiritualities and political affiliations. All WOCSW are welcome.

Institute members will engage in topics and exercises such as:

Sexversations

Institute members will engage in communication, discussion and sexversations that promote personal sharing, inquiries and critical thinking around all things sexual. Healthy sexversations are framed around safer sex practices, consent and empowerment.

Frequent sexversations increases your sexual IQ.

Sexversations help break through societal myths and taboos.

Centering Self: Healing Modalities for Creating the Love Within

For women of color we often devote our lives to helping others whether it is within our homes, within our careers or within the LGBTQ community. This session will incorporate healing modalities such as self-massage, tai chi and other ways to promote self-care and love from within. Participants will have the opportunity to view demonstrations and practice each healing modality, including sensual massage.

Cultivating an Attitude of Gratitude: Art for Healing, Creativity and Empowerment

Words heal. Journaling has incredible benefits that are overlooked as a healing strategy. Harness the healing power of words as an outlet for emotional release; changing negative thought patterns and to stop letting your inner critic hold you back. Journal therapy is the write way to wellness and writing allows you the opportunity to have a daily conversation with your body. When you change the way you look at things, things around you change.

How Can We All Keep it Moving: Recommendations to our Allies, Lovers & Friends

- Brainstorm recommendations from Institute participants.
- Recommendations will be shared the next day with conference participants during general session.

A Circle of Sisters; Embracing Each Other as We Continue Our Journey

Drumming section; "Spiritual Essence of Our Womanhood"

Spirituality & Sexuality; Reclaiming Our Identities, Reclaiming Our Truth

For centuries, Women who have sex with women have experienced trauma in regards to their sexual orientation/ gender identity and spiritual communities. During this session we will have discussions about intimacy, love, partnership and self-love. We will discover how our faith and spirituality relates to our identity. In powerful ways; we will reclaim our identities, create actions towards personal empowerment and take back our spirituality which has often been snatched from us.



Rev. Edith Washington-Woods

Rev. Edith Washington-Woods is Pastor/Senior Minister at Unity of Syracuse in Syracuse, NY and holds a Master of Divinity degree. Rev Edith has been in recovery 24 years from opiate addiction and alcoholism. Rev. Edith was the first African American woman to be a licensed electrician in the state of Minnesota. She prays and meditates daily to improve her conscious contact with her creator. The highlight of her work is with interfaith and LGBTQ+ communities.



Akosua Washington-Woods

Akosua - I am a griot (storyteller), a writer, workshop/intensive presenter, an activist and a human rights advocate. I have presented Griot Crafts workshops and intensives at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, the Harambee Youth Tent in the Pan-African Village at the NYS Fair and at Pride festivals throughout the Northeast to name a few. I believe that without art; whether visual, vocal or written, what is the point? I am a member of Unity of Syracuse where I serve as a prayer chaplain, a member of the celebration choir and chair the welcome team. At SAGE Upstate I facilitate the writers group and UZURI; a group for LGBTQIA+ People of Color and I just completed four years on the board (my second set of four year terms). I enjoy offering the opportunity to play!



Tiffani L. West

Tiffani has known she was Gifted with Healing Hands from early childhood. Without formal training, she would massage the shoulders and legs of family members to ease fatigue and tension. Tiffani received formal training from Mildred Elley College graduating and completing her NYS Boards in 2013. Her passion for massage, is exemplified by the accolades of repeat, and ever growing clientele. Tiffani's compassion for people, coupled with her spiritual nurturing, makes her dedicated, attentive and humbled. Her mission for each client is to release stress and to effect a more peace-filled, relaxed and less painful body, mind and spirit.



Tandra LaGrone

Tandra LaGrone is the Executive Director at In Our Own Voices, a national nonprofit working to ensure the physical, mental, spiritual, political, cultural and economic survival and growth of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people of color communities. Tandra previously was Director of Girls Incorporated of the Greater Capital Region, one of the country's largest organizations for girl's rights. She is an advocate for HIV/AIDS treatment in the African American community, especially for women and young black men. The Albany native has worked as a domestic violence, youth, and LGBT advocate for over 20 years.



Justine Pascual

Justine is part of the WSW Support Services at In Our Own Voices. They graduated from The College of Saint Rose in 2017 with their Bachelors of Social Work, and they are going back this fall to pursue their Masters in Social Work. Justine has a passion for LGBTQ+ advocacy, policy, and social justice. They aspire to become a gender therapist one day (as they identify as Non-Binary and wants to help others who are questioning their gender), while also being involved in local advocacy and policy changes. They have been working with In Our Own Voices for two years, their first year being an intern, and then working as the WSW peer educator, and then transitioning to the position of LGBT Youth Outreach Intervention Specialist, working with the HYPE (Healthy Youth through Prevention and Empowerment) program. Justine will be interning at Trinity Alliance in Albany during the 2018-2019 school year!



Gabby Santos

Gabby is the Director of LGBT Health Services for In Our Own Voices. She has worked with survivors of trauma since 1994 in roles ranging from inmate support group facilitator, to policy work on behalf of LGBT POC. Gabby is committed to promoting the sexual health of LGBT POC and their communities in order to end health disparities. She provides leadership to Unity Through Diversity, a National LGBT POC Health Conference, and the Annual Black & Latin@ Gay Pride of the Capital District of NY. She is also a member of the Arte Sana board of directors and ALAS, the national Latina Alliance Against Sexual Violence.



Saturday

3:30PM- 5:30PM

Fort Orange Ballroom #9

Intergenerational INSTITUTE

The goal of the Institute is to facilitate a safe space for discussion where both youth and elders, can express concerns and ideas-where we can have real conversations about the disparity of intergenerational relationships for LGBTQ people, and the cultural implications it has for those who are POC.

Institute members will engage in topics and exercises such as:

Contributions of LGBTQ People and Communities of Color

Where do you fit/see yourself into the context of (modern) LGBTQ experience?

Intergenerational Clothesline Project

Participants will map their identities, expressions and activism by way of a clothesline exercise.

History & Future, Meeting in the Middle

Bridging the Gap, Acknowledging Differences and Commonalities in order to build intergenerational allyship.

Building Solutions

Discussion on how do we work to unite in social activism and make a better movement using the strengths of the youth and the elders?



RANDALL JENSON

RANDALL (he/him pronouns or anything respectful) is a queer, multiracial artist of color and the Creator and Director of SocialScope Productions, a LGBTQ documentary company focused on LGBTQ and intersectional multimedia projects. He produces the #GetWoke: Queer and Trans People of Color event series focused on uplifting KC LGBTQ people of color. He also created the 50Faggots series, which documents the lives of self-identified effeminate gay men in the U.S. Randall currently serves as the Program Director for Transformations: A KC Trans And Gender Expansive Youth Group serving transgender

and gender non-conforming (TGNC) young people 12-18 years old. In 2015, Randall was appointed as the lead advocate to help loved ones and their communities cope and heal from 3 LGBTQ homicides in Kansas City. He previously worked as the Manager of Youth Services for the Kansas City Anti-Violence Project, providing multi-state advocacy directly to LGBTQ youth affected by trauma and violence, as well as the LGBTQ Youth Advocate at Safe Connections in St. Louis, helping build the first regional LGBTQ youth anti-violence program. Randall has received national awards for his leadership and work with young people and homeless and vulnerable youth, racial justice advocacy, addressing the juvenile legal system and media's impact on queer lives. He was a featured speaker at the National ACLU Membership Conference in Washington D.C., on The Oprah Show, and awarded the "Youth Impact Award" by the National Youth Advocacy Coalition.

You can learn more by visiting randalljenson.com, socialscopeonline.com and getwokekc.com

Follow Randall: Facebook & IG @RandallJenson Twitter @randall_jenson



Robert L. Miller, Jr. (Ph.D., M.Phil., L. M.S.W., Cert. Hlth Policy and Administration)

Robert is a funded researcher examining the intersection of HIV prevention and spirituality in the lives of black gay men and transgender women. He also studies social justice and social change in Sub-Saharan Africa. As an Associate Professor with tenure at The University at Albany, he teaches in the clinical and policy tracks in the School of Social Welfare. His work also includes consultancies with state and federal agencies in the areas of mental health, spirituality, and HIV disease. Dr. Miller participated in the White House Office on National AIDS Policy Summit. He has held visiting professor appointments in the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, The University of California, San Francisco Medical School as well as Addis Ababa University, Bahir Dar University (Ethiopia) and The University of The Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa (the departments of Social Work, Theology and Religion). Dr. Miller most recently is the Inaugural Research Fellow for The Desmond Tutu Center for Spirituality and Society. Christian Dominique (they/them or anything respectful directs All Is Fair in Love and Wear (allisfair.com), designing garments that help transgender and gender-nonconforming communities present themselves authentically and comfortably. Christian also directs the Equal Youth Alliance (equalityyouth.org), a network of organizations and individuals servicing LGBTQ+ youth connecting, vetting, and promoting safe resources in the Midwest.



Antonio Vega-Villega

Antonio's role as a Peer Advocate-YMSM includes Promoting Healthier Decisions among Gay, Bi-, GNC, and Trans- Men of Color by assisting them to access the health and human services provided by IOOV. A Peer Advocate also engages the community in open dialogue about culture, sexual identity, and sex through events and closed group gatherings such as the Men's Empowerment group where experiences can be shared, and families can be chosen. Antonio also attends the University at Albany where he is a senior, and the President of Middle Earth Peer Assistance Program. Middle Earth for short, is a full-service crisis hotline where undergraduate students are trained by upper classmen and PhD Candidates, to answer calls from students and community members dealing with challenges related to mental health. With the help of SUNY Albany's Counseling and Psychological services this program allows undergraduate students and PhD Candidates to co-facilitate the growth of undergraduates as community counselors, active bystanders, and mental health advocates.



Emmanuel Rodriguez

Emmanuel Rodriguez was hired at In Our Own Voices, Inc. in 2017 as the HIV & HEP C Specialist. Emmanuel is a New Yorican who is proud of his Puerto Rican Heritage. He was raised in a Pentecostal setting which has influenced his views on religion, spirituality and being a Gay man and reconciling those identities. Emmanuel went to Indiana Wesleyan University where he was studying to become a Pastor, but his time was cut short due to coming to terms with himself as a Gay Latino Man. Emmanuel has been involved in many different careers from customer service, to child care, health care, health insurance and now sex positive education and prevention at In Our Own Voices, Inc. Emmanuel has gotten more involved through In Our Own Voices, Inc. with the issues impacting Latino Gay, Bi, Queer/Questioning Men in the Capital District. He has attended the Latino Gay/Bi Men's Health Summit and has advocated for his community and what has worked in his outreaching methods to what hasn't worked. Emmanuel continues to find ways to provide services to an insular community that at times doesn't want to be found. Emmanuel has shown that through determination and through his personal experiences that he is always looking to connect communities that are disproportionately impacted to services that are rarely presented to them. He also educates individuals in regards to issues impacting the Latino Community, LGBT People of Color Communities, and provides prevention information regarding HIV, HEP C, and other STI's.



Christian Dominique

Christian Dominique is the director of All Is Fair in Love and Wear, working to provide transitional wear to the transgender and gender non-conforming communities, and provide all-gender restroom signs internationally. Christian has collaborated with researchers from Boston University to make updated safety information on binding widely accessible, spoke at the Mid-America Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce's Transgender Day of Visibility this year, was featured in the Iowa State Fashion and Culture Research Lab's exhibit on LGBTQ+ historic garments, and is currently working with midwestern hospitals to provide binders to economically underprivileged transgender youth.

LGBT & Spirituality Town Hall

Sunday, October 7, 2018

9:30AM - 12:00PM • Fort Orange Ballroom

Moderator Dr. Regina Washington



Dr. Regina Washington, Director of LGBT HealthLink, a program of CenterLink, working toward eliminating health disparities within LGBT communities as it relates to tobacco use and cancer. She provides high-level consulting on best practices to transform health systems related to community engagement. Dr. Washington has over 15 years of combined experience in community, governmental, and academic institutional leadership related to strategic planning, program development, implementation, and evaluation. Her presentations, projects, and writings have focused on health disparities, health education, and health policy, specifically related to tobacco cessation and cancer control. Dr. Washington obtained her BA in biology from Berea College, a MA in education from Eastern Kentucky University, and a Doctor of Public Health degree from the University of Kentucky. She has also achieved leadership and service awards, completed a

National Cancer Institute health policy CERTA Fellowship, and is a University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Public Health Leadership Scholar.

The Town Hall will close out the 2018 LGBT POC Health Conference. Many LGBT People of Color struggle with their sexuality, identity and how it is regarded by spiritual teachings and text. This discussion will allow participants to speak with members of the clergy that are LGBT People of Color and really begin to clear up a lot of confusion between living in your truth and being accepted by a higher being.

Panelists:

Elder Antionettea Etienne

Robert L. Miller, Jr. (Ph.D., M.Phil., L. M.S.W., Cert. Health Policy and Administration)

Reverend Gale D. Jones



Elder Antionettea Etienne

Elder Antionettea Etienne is one of the pioneers of HIV education, prevention and care within New York City. She is an Afro-Caribbean-Latina woman who has fought for women's rights for decades. When we talk about "grassroots," we look back at Antionettea known affectionately as "Dreadie" in the streets. She walked into crack houses and shooting dens to get her communities tested for HIV/AIDS and also to get them into Recovery & Treatment. We remember when she was at Bedford Hills Correctional in 1989 fighting for services for women living with AIDS. She fought the system because condoms weren't allowed, and she cradled her sisters in her arms when they died. Antionettea and her peers formed support groups and insisted that the Department of Corrections implement discharge and transitional planning to assist women that had no one upon their release. She has been instrumental in designing and implementing various HIV/AIDS prevention workshops and support groups for prisons and jails, homeless shelters, churches, NYC residents, people living with HIV, Dept. of Health, Dept. of Corrections, Dept. of Education and numerous CBO/ASOs, just to name a few. Elder Antionettea Etienne is currently the Elder of Health & Wellness for Love Alive International Sanctuary of Praise Church in Manhattan. Elder Antionettea Etienne is currently employed with Iris House and she effortlessly continues to be a strong advocate/health educator and test counselor.



Robert L. Miller, Jr., (Ph.D., M.Phil., L. M.S.W., Cert. Hlth Policy and Administration)

Robert is a funded researcher examining the intersection of HIV prevention and spirituality in the lives of black gay men and transgender women. He also studies social justice and social change in Sub-Saharan Africa. As an Associate Professor with tenure at The University at Albany, he teaches in the clinical and policy tracks in the School of Social Welfare. His work also includes consultancies with state and federal agencies in the areas of mental health, spirituality, and HIV disease. Dr. Miller participated in the White House Office on National AIDS Policy Summit. He has held visiting professor appointments in the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, The University of California, San Francisco Medical School as well as Addis Ababa University, Bahir Dar University (Ethiopia) and The University of The Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa (the departments of Social Work, Theology and Religion). Dr. Miller most recently is the Inaugural Research Fellow for The Desmond Tutu Center for Spirituality and Society. Christian Dominique (they/them or anything respectful directs All Is Fair in Love and Wear (allisfair.com), designing garments that help transgender and gender-nonconforming communities present themselves authentically and comfortably. Christian also directs the Equal Youth Alliance (equalityouth.org), a network of organizations and individuals servicing LGBTQ+ youth connecting, vetting, and promoting safe resources in the Midwest.



Reverend Gale D. Jones

Reverend Gale D. Jones is a spiritual leader and transformative activist for human rights concerns committed to the work of mitigating the challenges confronting Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) communities, alternative sex and differently-gendered cultures, women, disenfranchised and disconnected youth and people living with HIV/AIDS. Her 25-years of organizing and community work has most notably been on behalf of women; sexually exploited girls and LGBT youth; street-engaged populations; and youth in the contexts of court-involved, street involved and at-risk. Reverend Jones is currently the Executive Pastor of Long Island Community Fellowship (LICF) of West Babylon, NY and has served as "Servant Leader" of this vibrant, growing congregation since 2011. Along with Pastoral duties and responsibilities, Reverend Jones seamlessly facilitates her advocacy work by fostering working partnerships with communities and organizations comprised of HIV/AIDS organizations; Transgender Civil and Human Rights advocacy groups; and Interfaith bridge building. Reverend Jones was born and grew up in Philadelphia, PA and is the eldest of three siblings; the mother of an adult daughter and grandmother to two grandsons. She was educated in Philadelphia's parochial school system and subsequently obtained a BA in Economics from Immaculata University. Reverend Jones received ordination (Deacon in 1994 and Reverend in 1999) under the auspices of the Unity Fellowship Church Movement (UFCM). The underpinning of her work reverberates from the Yoruba concept of "Ori'ta" (loosely translated: "the place where the ways come together") inferring the necessity of working from the intersections of race, class, gender and sexual orientation.

HIV & Hep C Testing & Counseling

Testing services provided by In Our Own Voices, Inc.



Get
Tested
Here

**Free, Confidential
HIV and Hep C
Testing**

Location:

22 High Street

Time: 9am-5pm

Days: Thursday 10/04,
Friday 10/5 &
Saturday 10/06



Presenter Bios

Phyllis B. Frank

VCS is a mental health counseling and family service agency with an anti-racist, social justice mission, serving Rockland and surrounding communities since 1970. VCS brings the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond to Rockland County, several times each year, to present their Undoing Racism Workshop. VCS provides ongoing discussion and consultation to school districts, non-profits and other organizations to continue the work towards racial justice. In addition, VCS produced the first Pride Event, in 1999, in the Lower Hudson Valley of NYS.

Gwen Wright

Gwen was appointed executive director of the NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo in 2013. She has served at OPDV for more than 25 years. She was formerly the executive director of the NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She is a past president of the board of directors for In Our Own Voices and the Pride Center of the Capital Region.

Angela Weeks

Angela is the Project Director at the National Quality Improvement Center on Tailored Services, Placement Stability, and Permanency for LGBTQ2S Children and Youth in Foster Care housed at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. She was previously a trainer and director with the RISE Initiative at the LA LGBT Center.

Sarah Mountz

Sarah is an assistant professor at the University at Albany School of Social Welfare. Her research focuses on the experiences of systems involved LGBTQ youth and young adults and social justice in social work education.

Avery Irons

Avery is a senior project associate at Policy Research Associates in Delmar, New York, where her work focuses on youth engagement strategies to prepare youth for successful adulthood and frameworks for better identifying and responding to substance use in pre-adjudicatory juvenile justice settings. She was previously a trainer and supervisor with the RISE Initiative at the LA LGBT Center.

Jose Villanueva

Since 1969, Acacia Network has been the leading Latino integrated care nonprofit in the nation, promoting recovery that is responsive to our communities' cultural needs. We pride ourselves in offering bilingual (English/Spanish) personalized care built on trust, respect, and dignity, supporting each person to achieve a healthy, balanced lifestyle.

Tabytha Gonzalez

Advocate and Office Manager from TLDEF, Founded in 2003, Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is to end discrimination and achieve equality for transgender people, particularly those in our most vulnerable communities. She serves the Network Advisory Board as a Co- Chair of the TGNC Advocacy Committee. Tabytha appeared in The White Shirt Project, a campaign highlighting mental health awareness for the LGBTQ community. She is a liaison for Exponents, a New York nonprofit organization compassionately dedicated to serving those impacted by HIV/AIDS, substance use, incarceration and behavioral health challenges. She also volunteers with Destination Tomorrow, serving the LGBTQ community in the South Bronx.

Charlotte Shum

Translatina Network's mission has always been to advocate for the the rights of the transgender and gender non-conforming community. As part of our mission to uplift our community, much of our work is focused on strong group elements and trainings to create leaders who can continue the conversation of promoting safer sex strategies. Additionally, we intertwine this message into our workforce development program, the TGNC Leadership Space which helps prepare our community for jobs focused on confronting the HIV epidemic.

William J. Nazareth Jr.

As Director of Creative Media at Callen-Lorde, William J. Nazareth Jr. manages the creation, production and distribution of Callen-Lorde's video media projects. A filmmaker, videographer, photographer and artist, William has produced, directed and edited a growing list of health edutainment videos, mini-documentaries, and photoshoots for organizations throughout the US.

Nefertari Sloan

Nefertari has been facilitating conversations with young people about sexuality through Mazzoni Center since 2016. Her inspirations are rooted in a passion for the empowerment of marginalized communities through resistance to societal constructs. Committed to unpacking the influences of racism, sexism, and erotophobia, Tari aims make learning about sexuality above all things a comfortable, consensual, and exciting experience.

Eduardo Morales, Ph.D.

Eduardo is Distinguished Professor at Alliant international University and a founder and Executive Director of AGUILAS, the oldest Latinx LGBTQ organization in the Americas. Receiving numerous national awards, his expertise include health prevention and promotion, HIV, substance abuse, community interventions, program evaluation, and policy development and planning.

Robert L. Miller, Jr. (Ph.D., M.Phil., L. M.S.W., Cert. Hlth Policy and Administration)

Robert is a funded researcher examining the intersection of HIV prevention and spirituality in the lives of black gay men and transgender women. He also studies social justice and social change in Sub-Saharan Africa. As an Associate Professor with tenure at The University at Albany, he teaches in the clinical and policy tracks in the School of Social Welfare. His work also includes consultancies with state and federal agencies in the areas of mental health, spirituality, and HIV disease. Dr. Miller participated in the White House Office on National AIDS Policy Summit. He has held visiting professor appointments in the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, The University of California, San Francisco Medical School as well as Addis Ababa University, Bahir Dar University (Ethiopia) and The University of The Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa (the departments of Social Work, Theology and Religion). Dr. Miller most recently is the Inaugural Research Fellow for The Desmond Tutu Center for Spirituality and Society.

Dr. Terrence O. Lewis

Dr. Terrence has extensive clinical experience working with individuals and families in community mental health settings and private practice. As a community-based researcher, he focuses on the relationships between churches and marginalized populations, especially LGBTQ and ethnic minority communities. His dissertation research was on the Phenomenon of LGBT- affirming Black churches and their responses to the HIV/AIDS crisis. Building on the rich findings from the dissertation, Dr. Lewis's current research project is a narrative interview study with African-American pastors who offer a LGBT- affirming ministry within African American communities (<http://www.terrenceolewis.com/lgbt-affirmative-ministries-research-project>).

Wardeh Hattab

Wardeh is a clinical social worker and has worked in a variety of agency and clinical settings. She specializes in working with LGBTQ persons of color, immigrants experiencing bicultural issues, and individuals identified with kink and alternative lifestyles.

Nick Baitoo

Nick is an Assyrian-American Social Worker from California with a long background working in non-profits as a teacher, an evaluator, a counselor, a program developer, a therapist, and a case manager.

Dr. Suzette Garay

Dr. Suzette Garay holds a BA, MA, PSY.S and a Ph.D. and her major areas of studies are Psychology, Teaching Sign Language, and Special Education with an emphasis on Deafness and Learning Disabilities. Dr. Garay is currently an Educational Psychologist and teaches psychology at Waukesha Technical College and is a longstanding member of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) LGBTQ community providing workshops and/or assists with accessibility issues. She also has her own private practice working with many private business owners about accessibility and advocacy with DHH consumers.

Michelle Carroll

Michelle is the Director of Campus Projects for the New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NYSCASA). In her role, she oversees numerous statewide projects aimed at supporting universities and rape crisis programs in developing campus communities free from violence. She is a member of Campus Advocate and Prevention Professionals Association's national board. Michelle graduated Cum Laude from Franklin and Marshall College with a Bachelors of Arts in Government.

Eirik Bjorkman

Eirik is in charge of directing and coordinating the statewide response to PREA, including, connecting local crisis centers to correctional facilities. Eirik's focus areas are in incarceration, male survivors, LGBTQIAH, racial justice, and anti-oppression theories through a trauma-informed lens. Graduating from SUNY New Paltz with majors in Sociology and Black/African American Studies, Eirik's background comes from grassroots, community-organizing perspective.

Rev. Edith Washington-Woods

Edith is Pastor/Senior Minister at Unity of Syracuse in Syracuse, NY and holds a Master of Divinity degree. Rev Edith has been in recovery 24 years from opiate addiction and alcoholism. Rev. Edith was the first African American woman to be a licensed electrician in the state of Minnesota. She prays and meditates daily to improve her conscious contact with her creator. The highlight of her work is with interfaith and LGBTQ+ communities.

Gerald Garth

Gerald currently serves as Manager of Program Operations for the AMAAD Institute (Arming Minorities Against Addiction and Disease) providing programs and services to LGBTQ people of color in South Los Angeles. He is currently a Fellow of the California HIV Policy Research Center and serves as editor-in-chief of Chill Magazine-- a print, digital, and social brand designed for Black and Latino men. Gerald will also complete his Master of Arts in Nonprofit Management with Antioch University in 2019.

Sarah Anderson and Beth Strachan

Sarah and Beth became nonprofit fundraising consultants because they care passionately about the power of philanthropy to strengthen communities. Over the past several years, they have brought collaborative research and capacity-building counsel to bear on the common fundraising, communications, and leadership challenges organizations in the LGBTQ movement encounter.

Akosua Washington-Woods

I am a griot (storyteller), a writer, workshop/intensive presenter, an activist and a human rights advocate. I have presented Griot Crafts workshops and intensives at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, the Harambee Youth Tent in the Pan-African Village at the NYS Fair and at Pride festivals throughout the Northeast to name a few. I believe that without art; whether visual, vocal or written, what is the point? I am a member of Unity of Syracuse where I serve as a prayer chaplain, a member of the celebration choir and chair the welcome team. At SAGE Upstate I facilitate the writers group and UZURI; a group for LGBTQIA+ People of Color and I just completed four years on the board (my second set of four year terms). I enjoy offering the opportunity to play!

Jorge Vidal

Born in Lima, Peru, and having lived in New York City and on the beloved island of Puerto Rico, Jorge brings an expanded cultural perspective to his work. Jorge is centered in a brave and compassionate combination of advocate/educator with survivor and person of color wisdom that brings light and depth to the subjects on which he trains and to which he lends his heart and voice. Jorge has lead promotores who responded to HIV locally in New York and has provided culturally specific and promotora specific technical assistance across the US.

Kristiana Huitrón and Arianna Dominguez - Voces Unidas for Justice

Voces Unidas for Justice (on purpose bi-lingual) was born out of a love for community, developed by a group of Latin@ survivors and advocates for Latin@ survivors and advocates, built through relationships and in circles with community, which is where we believe healing happens. We are dedicated to easing the pain and manifesting healing time and space, through developing indigenous leaders such as promotoras, advocating for individuals, with advocacy and education, and on system levels, with other organizations, and for us to provide and provoke from others greater access to safety, justice, and healing for our people, for all people, with spaces and services that affirm language, dignity, culture, gender, orientation, age, experience, and the human worth. Kristiana was born Mexicana.Xicana in Denver, Colorado, has lived in rural and urban settings serving as a promotora and training promotoras in local and national settings, has a love of difficult and liberating conversations as an avenue to healing survivors from trauma and shame.

Dr. Arianne Miller

Dr. Arianne is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist and Assistant Professor in the Counseling and School Psychology Department at San Diego State University. Dr. Miller's research addresses ways to improve self-care among students, clinicians and the general public as well as making visible the ways race, gender and sexual orientation are frequently conflated in research and everyday life.

Dr. Jan Estrellado

Dr. Jan Estrellado is Licensed Clinical Psychologist and Associate Director of Clinical Training at Sharp Healthcare. Her research focuses on trauma and multicultural issues.

Chrys Ballerano

Chrys is NYSCASA's Senior Director of Collaboration and Training and uses her counseling, public speaking and advocacy skills in a variety of statewide projects regarding sexual trauma. Chrys' passion as a survivor, artist, parent and social activist coalesce in her anti-rape and social justice activism. Certified as a Health Coach and Yoga Instructor Chrys promotes holistic approaches, including the arts and self-care practices to allow our full selves to be engaged in our work and has facilitated countless drum circles over 20 years.

Jose Juan Lara, Jr., MS

Jose has been involved in the movement against gender violence since 1999 and has presented at national, state, and local conferences on cultural responsiveness, language access and systems advocacy. Jose Juan serves on the Board of allgo, a statewide queer people of color organization (originally, Austin Latina/o Lesbian and Gay Organization) and a consultant for Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center.

Phillip A. Burse

Phillip is the Director of Operations at IOOV and have served in several capacities in his over 10 years at the organization. Phil currently co-facilitates IOOV's Men's Empowerment Group and provides oversight and/or support for all IOOV programs. Phil has also served as President of the board of Directors for the NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault and the NYS Office of Victim Services Advisory Council.

Emmanuel Rodriguez

Emmanuel has been with IOOV for over one year as the HIV/HCV Testing Specialist. Emmanuel is responsible for testing, risk assessments, and linking MSM to care. Emmanuel is a New Yorker who is proud of his Puerto Rican Heritage. He was raised in a Pentecostal setting which has influenced his views on religion, spirituality and being a Gay man and reconciling those identities. Emmanuel went to Indiana Wesleyan University where he was studying to become a Pastor, but his time was cut short due to coming to terms with himself as a Gay Latino Man. Emmanuel has been involved in many different careers from customer service, to child care, health care, health insurance and now sex positive education and prevention at In Our Own Voices, Inc., as the HIV & HEP C Specialist.

Katherine Grant, LMSW

Katherine is the lead mental health staff member of In Our Own Voices. Katherine received her Bachelor's degree in Social Work from Siena College in 2011, her Masters in Social Work from the Greater Rochester Collaboration in 2012, and received her license in 2013. Katherine joined In Our Own Voices in July of 2012 as the LGBT Crime Victim Assistance Coordinator. In her capacity at IOOV, Mrs. Grant is primarily responsible for providing direct services to LGBT victims/survivors of crime which include, but are not limited to advocacy, court accompaniment, counseling and case management. Mrs. Grant is also active with local, regional, and state coalitions to ensure that the barriers faced by LGBT victims are being addressed and responded to. Since then, her capacity has shifted as the lead social worker for the agency and she is now assisting in developing the clinical program within IOOV.

Dr. Valjean R. Bacot-Davis

Dr. Valjean is passionate about implementing solution-based action in healthcare to bridge disparities affecting sexual orientation and gender identity minorities, especially those of color. Valjean is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the University at Albany and works as an Emergency Medical Technician with Mohawk Ambulance Services.

Carissa Mazzeo

Tobacco-Free Staten Island is comprised of adults and youth dedicated to promoting a healthy, tobacco-free environment. There are four initiatives, Point of Sale, Tobacco-Free Outdoors, Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing and Smoke Free Media. TSFI and Reality Check, a teen-based anti-big tobacco component, collaboratively aim to: mobilize community members and organizations to strengthen tobacco-related policies, prevent and reduce tobacco use, reduce youth exposure to harmful tobacco marketing in retail settings, limit exposure to secondhand smoke and reduce smoking imagery through the media.

Carmen Vazquez

Carmen was born in Puerto Rico and grew up in Harlem, New York. Among her many accomplishments, Carmen was the Founding Director of the Women's Building in San Francisco, helped found the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center in San Francisco, and the LGBT Health & Human Services Network, a coalition of over 55 organizations and groups in New York advocating for LGBT Health and Human Services. The Network has secured over \$64 million dollars in state funding for its members. She is a founder and principal author of Causes in Common (a national coalition of Reproductive Justice and LGBT Liberation activists) and of the Pride in Action programs at Empire State Pride Agenda. She is the recipient of an Honorary law degree from CUNY School of Law and her papers are part of the permanent collection at the Sophia Smith Archives at Smith College. Her essays have been published in several anthologies. Carmen is the Co-Chair of the Woodhull Freedom Foundation Board of Directors. She is currently Director of the LGBT Health Services Unit with the AIDS Institute of the NYS Department of Health and lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Kraig Pannell

Kraig is a native New Yorker originally from Rochester, NY. Mr. Pannell graduated from Bucknell University with a degree in Political Science with a concentration in American Politics & Policy and a minor in Black Studies with an emphasis on the antebellum-south. Mr. Pannell has an extensive public health and health & human services background. Some career highlights are - the designing and implementation the first HIV prevention and education program targeting Gay Men / MSM in Northeastern Pennsylvania; led HIV prevention demonstration projects across the state of Pennsylvania to inform and assist in the development of the State of Pennsylvania's HIV prevention plan; has worked with suicidal and homicidal children and adolescents in an effort to avert hospitalization; and coordinated a therapeutic after school program for dually diagnosed young people. Upon returning to New York State, he was the Program Director at the MOCHA Project in Rochester. Kraig Pannell is currently the Associate Director of the LGBT Health Services Unit of the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute. As such, he assists in the development of goals, objectives and implementation plans for LGBT Health, the development of program policy and standards, data management and the development of initiatives to address emerging needs within the LGBT communities.

RANDALL JENSON

(he/him pronouns or anything respectful) Randall is a queer, multiracial artist of color and the Creator and Director of SocialScope Productions, a LGBTQ documentary company focused on LGBTQ and intersectional multimedia projects. He produces the #GetWoke: Queer and Trans People of Color event series focused on uplifting KC LGBTQ people of color. He also created the 50Faggots series, which documents the lives of self-identified effeminate gay men in the U.S. Randall currently serves as the Program Director for Transformations: A KC Trans And Gender Expansive Youth Group serving transgender and gender non-conforming (TGNC) young people 12-18 years old. In 2015, Randall was appointed as the lead advocate to help loved ones and their communities cope and heal from 3 LGBTQ homicides in Kansas City. He previously worked as the Manager of Youth Services for the Kansas City Anti-Violence Project, providing multi-state advocacy directly to LGBTQ youth affected by trauma and violence, as well as the LGBTQ Youth Advocate at Safe Connections in St. Louis, helping build the first regional LGBTQ youth anti-violence program. Randall has received national awards for his leadership and work with young people and homeless and vulnerable youth, racial justice advocacy, addressing the juvenile legal system and media's impact on queer lives. He was a featured speaker at the National ACLU Membership Conference in Washington D.C., on The Oprah Show, and awarded the "Youth Impact Award" by the National Youth Advocacy Coalition. You can learn more by visiting randalljenson.com, socialscopeonline.com and getwokekc.com Follow Randall: Facebook & IG @RandallJenson Twitter @randall_jenson

Luna Luis Ortiz

Luna is dedicated to HIV prevention and youth work at Gay Men Health Crisis (GMHC). At GMHC, he works tirelessly on the agency's social marketing campaigns such as the GLAAD award-winning 'I Love My Boo' campaign as well as host youth workshops, kiki balls, conferences and health fairs to over 250 youth of color monthly. He also plans and gathers a committee of House and Ball members for the annual Latex Ball. The Latex Ball draws a crowd of over 2,000 participants from around the world. Ortiz also hosts "The Luna Show" on www.youtube.com/TheLunaShowNY that celebrates and preserves the ballroom history of the Latino and Black LGBT experience as well as HIV awareness. Ortiz continues to inspire and empower youth of color around the world with his story of survival with living with HIV for 32 years. His passions as a father of the House of Khan (whose members compete in the voguing competitions at the balls) give him the opportunity to continue to guide and support young people from the LGBT experience with love, compassion and care.

Elder Antionettea Etienne

Antionettea is one of the pioneers of HIV education, prevention and care within New York City. She is an Afro-Caribbean-Latina woman who has fought for women's rights for decades. When we talk about "grassroots," we look back at Antionettea known affectionately as "Dreadie" in the streets. She walked into crack houses and shooting dens to get her communities tested for HIV/AIDS and also to get them into Recovery & Treatment. We remember when she was at Bedford Hills Correctional in 1989 fighting for services for women living with AIDS. She fought the system because condoms weren't allowed, and she cradled her sisters in her arms when they died. Antionettea and her peers formed support groups and insisted that the Department of Corrections implement discharge and transitional planning to assist women that had no one upon their release. She has been instrumental in designing and implementing various HIV/AIDS prevention workshops and support groups for prisons and jails, homeless shelters, churches, NYC residents, people living with HIV, Dept. of Health, Dept. of Corrections, Dept. of Education and numerous CBO/ASOs, just to name a few. Elder Antionettea Etienne is currently the Elder of Health & Wellness for Love Alive International Sanctuary of Praise Church in Manhattan. Elder Antionettea Etienne is currently employed with Iris House and she effortlessly continues to be a strong advocate/health educator and test counselor.

Christian Dominique

(they/them or anything respectful) Christian directs All Is Fair in Love and Wear (allisfair.com), designing garments that help transgender and gender-nonconforming communities present themselves authentically and comfortably. Christian also directs the Equal Youth Alliance (equalityouth.org), a network of organizations and individuals servicing LGBTQ+ youth connecting, vetting, and promoting safe resources in the Midwest.

Kiara St. James

Kiara has been a community organizer and public speaker for over 20 years. She has been instrumental in changing shelter policies that were discriminatory towards the Trans community, and presented workshops concerning marginalized communities at the International AIDS Conference in Vienna, Austria and the United Nations, as well as at other conferences and academic institutions. For the last 17 years Kiara has also been coordinating meetings with legislators to discuss the importance of passing Gender Expression Non Discrimination Act, a bill that will enrich the lives of all New Yorkers through creating culturally affirming spaces. Kiara is the Founder and current Executive director of the New York Transgender Advocacy Group (NYTAG inc), A grassroots 501c-3 non-profit organization, that is Trans-led and intent on creating new opportunities for the Trans community, through various partnerships and innovative initiatives.

Jamal Brooks-Hawkins

Jamal has worked in Sexual Health programming for the past six years. He has been a program manager and prevention specialist providing both direct and administrative services for an HIV/STI Department at an integrated health organization. He focuses on vulnerable and oppressed populations in the reduction of health disparities. Jamal has worked closely with the homeless and near homeless, those using substances, intravenous drug users, transactional sex workers, and those who are living with HIV and AIDS. He has an MSW from Arizona State University and a BFA from DePaul University, and currently conducts sexual violence prevention and bystander intervention training to alcohol-serving establishments statewide as part of the Arizona Safer Bars Alliance program.

Jean Fei

Jean has developed antiracism trainings since joining the Dismantling Racism Project at the Social Justice Center of Albany in 1997. She was certified as a Mindful Facilitator by Lee Mun Wah in 2016. She includes an analysis of power, privilege, personal experiences and systemic racism through exercises and dialogue.

Melvin Bruce II

Melvin is the Director of Community Health at Gay Men Health Crisis (GMHC).

Fatima Arain

Fatima is a queer Pakistani Muslim who has worked in the role of supporting youth and LGBTQ survivors of intimate partner/family violence for over ten years. They currently work with the Northwest Network of LGBTQ survivors of domestic violence, which works to end violence by building loving and equitable relationships in our communities.

Trenton Johnson

Trenton is an activist, prolific Elder in the Lords church and the current Trans health program and testing coordinator at the Resource Center Nelson-Tebedo clinic in Dallas, TX continues to educate on topics surrounding spirituality and gender identity/expression and the need for the support of the black church.



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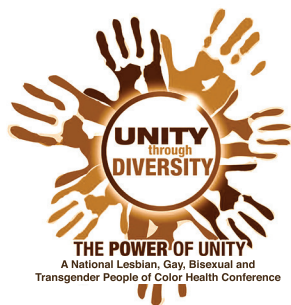


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About Albany, NY

Welcome to Albany, New York's historic Capital City on the banks of the mighty Hudson River! Albany is firmly rooted in its history and moving toward the future. Albany is the capital city of New York State, with a population of about 100,000. It has a total area of 21 square miles, located on the Hudson River, approximately 136 miles north of New York City. Albany is one of the oldest continuing settlements in the nation. The city still serves under its original charter, which dates back to July 22, 1686.

Permanent European claims began when Englishman Henry Hudson, exploring for the Dutch East India Company on the Halve Maen (or Half Moon), reached the area in 1609.

Albany as we know it today first began as a Dutch trading post, built in 1624 and named Fort Orange. Nearby areas were incorporated as the village of Beverwyck in 1652. When the land was taken by the English in 1664, the name was changed to Albany, in honor of the Duke of York and Albany.

Albany was formally chartered as a municipality by Governor Thomas Dongan on July 22, 1686. The "Dongan Charter" was virtually identical in content to the charter awarded to the city of New York three months earlier. Pieter Schuyler was appointed first mayor of Albany the day the charter was signed. In 1797, the state capital of New York was moved permanently to Albany. The State Capitol building was begun in 1867 and finished in 1899 when Governor Theodore Roosevelt declared the building completed. It was inspired by the Hôtel de Ville (City Hall) in Paris, France. Notable architectural features include its "Million Dollar Staircase."

Albany is increasingly seen as a leader in nanotechnology, with the University at Albany's nanotechnology program being respected as a national leader. The city is at the center of a 19-county region in eastern New York state branded as "Tech Valley" due to the growing number of companies, entrepreneurs and research facilities focusing on high-tech industries such as nanotechnology, biotechnology, homeland security, information technology and alternative energy.

Albany has four distinct seasons, with cold, snowy winters, and hot, wet summers. In October, the average high temperature in Albany NY is 58.3 and the average low temperature is 38.0, with a daily average of 0.16 inches of precipitation.

The Desmond Hotel & Conference Center
The Desmond Hotel, where the health summit will be held, is located on Albany-Shaker Road. Visit www.desmondhotels.com to discover great activities close to the hotel! There are many exciting and interesting places to explore near the hotel and in the city of Albany! Here are just a couple suggestions:

Colonie Center, a 1.3 million square -foot enclosed two-level, regional shopping center with over 100 specialty stores, includes a Boscov's, Macy's, Sears, and LL Bean. Along with a wide array of popular retailers including Christmas Tree Shops, The Gap/Gap Kids/ Baby Gap, Express, Bath and Body Workds, Kay Jewelers, Lane Bryant, American Eagle, Victoria Secret, and New York & Company; the center is home to many stores that are unique to the market, including Spector's and Hannoush Jewelers.



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Hours: Monday – Saturday: 10:00am–9:30pm, Sunday: 11:00am–6:00pm

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The New York State Museum

The New York State Museum, located in the capital city of Albany, New York, is a major research and educational institution that conducts investigations into the geology, biology, anthropology and history of New York. The Museum hosts more than 750,000 visitors each year, making it one of the largest cultural attractions in the state. It is a research museum, one of a select and vital group of institutions charged by our society with both preserving and investigating the material record of our past. It is the only such institution which takes New York State, its natural and (continued next column) Cultural heritage, as its mandate.

<http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/>

Admission: The NYS Museum is free.

Donations are accepted at the door.

The Carousel is free. Donations are accepted.

Address: Cultural Education Center of the Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY On Madison Avenue, across the Plaza from the State Capitol Building.

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The Albany Institute of History and Art

The Albany Institute is dedicated to collecting, preserving, interpreting and promoting interest in the history, art, and culture of Albany and the Upper Hudson Valley. The museum achieves this mission through its collections, exhibitions, education programs, library, research projects, publications, and other programs offered to the general public.

One of America's oldest museums, the Albany Institute of History & Art was founded in 1791, during the presidency of George Washington, making it older than the Louvre, the Smithsonian, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

www.albanyinstitute.org

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