

our shared humanity

september 15-17, 2010

www.theannefrankproject.com

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the *anne frank* project

Buffalo State
State University of New York

THE BUFFALO NEWS



SUNY Office of Diversity
and Educational Equity

Immaculée Ilibagiza



Immaculée Ilibagiza is a living example of faith put into action. Immaculée's life was transformed dramatically during the 1994 Rwandan genocide where she and seven other women spent 91 days huddled silently together in the cramped bathroom of a local pastor's house. Immaculée entered the bathroom a vibrant, 115-pound university student with a loving family - she emerged weighing just 65 pounds to find her entire family had been brutally murdered (with the exception of one brother who had been studying out of the country).

Immaculée credits her salvage mostly to prayer and to a set of rosary beads given to her by her devout Catholic father prior to going into hiding. Anger and resentment about her situation were literally eating her alive and destroying her faith, but rather than succumbing to the rage that she felt, Immaculée instead turned to prayer. She began to pray the rosary as a way of drowning out the negativity that was building up inside her. Immaculée found solace and peace in prayer and began to pray from the time she opened her eyes in the morning to the time she closed her eyes at night. Through prayer, she eventually found it possible, and in fact imperative, to forgive her tormentors and her family's murderers.

Immaculée's strength in her faith empowered her to stare down a man armed with a machete threatening to kill her during her escape. She also later came face to face with the killer of her mother and her brother and said the unthinkable, "I forgive you." Immaculée knew, while in hiding, that she would have to overcome immeasurable odds without her family and with her country destroyed. Fortunately, Immaculée utilized her time in that tiny bathroom to teach herself English with only The Bible and a dictionary; once freed she was able to secure a job with the United Nations.

In 1998, Immaculée immigrated to the United States where she continued her work with the UN. During this time she shared her story with co-workers and friends, who were so impacted they insisted she write it down in book form. Three days after finishing her manuscript she met best selling author, Dr. Wayne W. Dyer, who, within minutes of meeting her, offered to publish her book. Dyer is quoted as saying, "There is something much more than charisma at work here - Immaculée not only writes and speaks about unconditional love and forgiveness, but she radiates it wherever she goes."

Immaculée's first book, *Left to Tell; Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* (Hay House) was released in March of 2006. *Left to Tell* quickly became a *New York Times* Best Seller. To date it has been translated into fifteen languages worldwide. Immaculée's story has also been made into a documentary titled *The Diary of Immaculée*. She has appeared in numerous media including 60 Minutes, The CBS Early Morning Show, CNN, EWTN, The Aljazeera Network, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Newsday*, and many other domestic and international outlets. She was recently featured in Michael Collopy's *Architects of Peace* project, which has honored legendary people like Mother Teresa, Jimmy Carter, Nelson Mandela, and the Dalai Lama.

Immaculée has received honorary doctoral degrees from The University of Notre Dame, Saint

John's University, Seton Hall University, Siena College and Walsh University. She has been recognized and honored with numerous humanitarian awards including: The Mahatma Gandhi International Award for Reconciliation and Peace 2007; a finalist as one of Belifnet.com's "Most Inspiring People of the Year 2006," and a recipient of the American Legacy's Women of Strength & Courage Award. *Left to Tell* has received a Christopher Award "affirming the highest values of human spirit," and been chosen as Outreach Magazine's selection for "Best Outreach Testimony/Biography Resource of 2007." *Left to Tell* has been adopted into the curriculum of dozens of high schools and universities, including Villanova University, which selected it for the 2007-2008 "One Book Program," making *Left to Tell* mandatory reading for 6,000 students.

Today Immaculée is regarded as one of world's leading speakers on peace, faith, and forgiveness. She has shared her universal message with world dignitaries, school children, multinational corporations, churches, and at many conferences. Immaculée works hard to spread her message and to raise money for her *Left to Tell* Charitable Fund, which directly benefits the children orphaned by the genocide.

Cherie R. Brown



Cherie R. Brown is Founder-Executive Director of the [National Coalition Building Institute \(NCBI\)](http://www.ncbi.org), an internationally recognized nonprofit leadership training organization. In eighteen years, Cherie Brown has built NCBI into one of the leading diversity training and grassroots leadership organizations with chapters in 50 cities worldwide. NCBI has trained over 10,000 men, women and young people in cities, corporations and on college campuses around the

world. These NCBI-trained leaders work together in teams to provide a powerful resource for their communities - combating prejudice, resolving intergroup conflict and launching activist-based coalitions.

Cherie Brown's work has been featured on ABC Evening News, National Public Radio (NPR), Christian Science Monitor World News; and in The Washington Post, Los Angeles Time's Sunday Magazine, New York Times, Boston Globe and Chicago Tribune. In 1999, the work of NCBI was designated a "best practice for racial reconciliation" by President Clinton's Initiative on Race. The U.S. Department of Education chose NCBI's work on race and gender issues on college campuses as one of only five organizations to receive a designation of "best practice".

Cherie Brown has directed training programs in the following countries: ISRAEL - trained Arab- Jewish Cooperation Groups in Israel, 1967-2006; SALAMANCA, SPAIN - led workshops at the International Conference on Muslim- Christian-Jewish Relations, 1991; ENGLAND - developed a Coalition Training Session for Anti-Racism Trainers on the London City Council, 1990-2006; NORTHERN IRELAND - led training programs for Catholic-Protestant Reconciliation at Holiday Project, Glencree Reconciliation Center 1989-1995; THE NETHERLANDS - led a prejudice reduction training at the Anne Frank House, 1992; SOUTH AFRICA - delivered keynote address at the Conference, "Building a New South Africa", 1993; and delivered speech on anti-Semitism at the U.N. Conference on Racism; Durban, South Africa, 2001; CHINA - United Nations Conference on Women, 1995

Cherie Brown has an M.Ed in Counseling and Consulting Psychology from Harvard University and is author of a number of publications, including: *Healing Prejudicial Attitudes in Intergroup Conflicts: The NCBI Controversial Issues Process*, 1996; *Healing Into Action: A Leadership Guide for Creating Diverse Communities*; 1997. *The Art of Coalition Building: A Guide for Community Leaders*, 1984; *Working It Out: Blacks and Jews on the College Campus*, 1985; *Conflict Resolution in the Classroom: Training Elementary School Children to be Prejudice Reduction Leaders*, 1986; *Working It Out: Kids and Race*, produced by Boston WBZ-TV; *Racism on Campus: Confronting Racial Bias through Peer Intervention*, 1991;

For more information please go to www.ncbi.org

Carl Wilkens



As a humanitarian aid worker, **Carl Wilkens** moved his young family to Rwanda in the spring of 1990. When the genocide was launched in April 1994, Carl refused to leave, even when urged to do so by close friends, his church and the United States government. Thousands of expatriates evacuated and the United Nations pulled out most of its troops. Carl was the only American to remain in the country. Venturing out each day into streets crackling with mortars and gunfire, he worked his way through

roadblocks of angry, bloodstained soldiers and civilians armed with machetes and assault rifles in order to bring food, water and medicine to groups of orphans trapped around the city. His actions saved the lives of hundreds.

Carl returned to the United States in 1996. After being featured in the 2004 PBS Frontline documentary, "[Ghosts of Rwanda](#)", about the Rwanda genocide, he began to receive letters, phone calls and offers from teachers around the country to come and share his experiences with students.

In January 2008, with no end in sight to the ongoing genocide in Darfur, Sudan, Carl decided quit his job and dedicate himself full time to accepting these invitations. He and his wife Teresa have since formed an educational nonprofit, [World Outside My Shoes](#), to facilitate this important work.

In September 2009 Carl & Teresa launched their current project, "Pedaling2Peace.org." They left their home in Spokane, WA, on recumbent bicycles. Their route is taking them through Seattle, then south to California and turning east through the southern states during the winter months, and finally turning north towards Washington, D.C. Approximately 4,600 miles from September to June.

Carl uses a storytelling format to talk about the genocide and the treacherous thinking that says we can solve a problem by excluding someone. During the Q&A time practical applications are made connecting his genocide stories with the challenges we face every day, inspiring and equipping listeners to stand up against injustices at home and abroad.

AFP2010 schedule

Wednesday September 15, 2010

Opening Ceremonies

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

PAC- Rockwell Hall

Aaron M. Podolefsky, Ph.D.

President, Buffalo State College

Dr. Pedro Caban

Vice Provost, SUNY Office of Diversity and Educational Equity

Drew Kahn

Professor and Chair, Theater Department

Director, The Anne Frank Project

Buffalo State College

Session I

10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Mass Produced Degradation: How Technology Has Been Used to Bothe Reduce and Showcase the Individual. (Presentation/Discussion)

Ketchum 100

Dan Shanahan- Adjunct Professor, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

This session will address how technology assisted in setting the stage for genocide in both Germany and Rwanda, focusing on the theatrical spectacle created in Germany and the portable radio in Rwanda. Following this, there will be a discussion related to the theme of this year's conference and how technology in the form of social media can, in fact, reverse the thrust of propaganda by giving voice and complexity to the individual while showcasing "Our Shared Humanity."

The Nazi Propaganda Machine and Biographical Cinema (Presentation/Discussion)

Ketchum 106

Heidi Dietz Faletti- Associate Professor, English Department, Buffalo State College

An examination of the cinematic propaganda aims of Joseph Goebbels, as he actually formulated them, and detailed analysis of the following films: *Hitlerjunge Quex*, *SA Mann Brandt* and *Hans Westmar*.

Teaching the Holocaust (Presentation/Discussion)

Ketchum 109

Sylvia Schwartz- Executive Director, Holocaust Resource Center

Robert Heffern- Vice President and Education Chair, Holocaust Resource Center

The Holocaust Resource Center will share materials and expertise in the education of the Holocaust.

Historians of the Present (Presentation/Participation)

Ketchum 111

Peter J. Grieco- Adjunct Professor, College Writing Program, Buffalo State College

This is a workshop on the practical uses, therapeutic benefits, diverse practices, and the historical value involved in keeping a personal journal. Short excerpts from the personal journals of diverse individuals, including the well-known, and the obscure, will be used to illustrate these values and benefits, and as model that participants can compare their own practices with.

The Darfur Crisis: A Historical Overview (Presentation/Discussion)

Ketchum 113

Kenneth J. Orosz- Assistant Professor, History and Social Studies Education Department, Buffalo State College

To date, over 300,000 people have died and an additional 26 million have been displaced by the ongoing conflict in western Sudan. Despite the creation of refugee camps scattered across the Darfur region, survivors of attacks by government forces and their Janjaweed allies face an ongoing humanitarian crisis in the form of continued violence, hunger and disease. While these events have received sporadic attention from western media, most Americans remain unclear about the conflict's origins or the central issues involved in the deepening crisis. This presentation will fill that gap while seeking to place the crisis within the larger context of post-colonial African history.

Economics and Genocide (Presentation/Discussion)

Ketchum 118

Bill Ganley- Professor, Economics and Finance Department, Buffalo State College

Any study of the history of genocide would demonstrate the causal links between the acts of genocide and economic motivation. From the Holocaust, to Irish famine perpetrated by British Empire to the massacre of Native Americans, economic motivation and economic goals have driven genocidal acts, and this would include the modern problems of Rwanda. This presentation provides an analysis of selected case studies in the history of human genocide to identify the linkages between economics and the human atrocities.

"Untitled Drops of Water" Living in a World Where the Same Rules Apply to Good and Evil, Right and Wrong. (Performance)

Flexible Seat Theater (Savage 205)

Gabriela Moreno- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Lindsay Bessman- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Fred Pascolini- Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Lee Becker- Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Laura Mooney- Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

London Lee- Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Paul Gabriellini- Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Cecelia Barron- Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Derick Sherrier- Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Jessica Hall- Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Christopher Stowell- Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Not doing or being evil does not translate into being good. Join a deep exploration of the rules we face every day in an original performance by Buffalo State College students. Experience, through music, color, performance and dance, the thin line that poses a inevitable questions: Is what we are doing right? If so...because it is right? Because we were taught that it was right? Or, just because someone said so?

Listening Tables/Lunch

11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Listening Tables will be held in Savage 209

Listening Tables- Staffed by members of the Buffalo State College Coalition Building Team, a campus affiliate of the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI). Listening Tables are a "safe space" opportunity to reflect and discuss one's impressions and reactions to workshop sessions, events and the conference theme "Our Shared Humanity". The Counseling Center will be available.

Session II

12:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

"That's so Gay": Why Tolerance is not Enough (Presentation/Discussion)

Ketchum 100

Emily Tennant-Koller- Graduate Student, Student Personnel Administration, Buffalo State College

What is in a word? A Phrase? Is it something that can hurt us, or possibly cause us to harm ourselves? Discussion during this session will focus on how homophobia and intolerance have allowed terms like "That's so gay" to become a part of everyday vernacular and how this is harmful to everyone, not just those that are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered.

The Impact of Labels and Hate Speech (Participation)

Ketchum 106

Marc Rummenie- Program Director, NFJC of WNY

Merritt Weisenburger- Program Specialist, NFJC of WNY

Rev. Jeff Carter, Jr.- Pastor, Ephesus Ministries; Senior Facilitator, NFJC of WNY

First, "The Ism's"-the racial/ethnic/cultural elements that are at the heart of the prejudices that often divide people and this community will be looked at. Next, volunteers will be walked through an activity called "Labels", followed by an open discussion relating this activity to the experiences and feelings of the larger group of attendees, highlighting how languages and resulting behaviors can escalate from rhetoric to violence to oppression to genocide.

Following Gandhi's Directive to Spin One's Own Yarn (Presentation/Participation)

Ketchum 109

Erica Fire- Costume Director, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Following Gandhi's directive to spin every day, participants will learn to spin on a drop spindle (provided to participants). Gandhi spoke of both spinning's economic

advantage, bringing money back into India that was being spent on British textiles, and its spiritual advantages.

The Buffalo Immigrant and Refugee Empowerment Coalition: Collaborating to Create a New Life (Panel Discussion/ Q&A)

Ketchum 111

Gary Welborn- Chair and Associate Professor, Sociology, Buffalo State College

Nshagavintwari Thomas- Interim President, BIREC

Yahye Omar- Executive Director, HEAL International

Mohamed Mohamed- American Diversity, Buffalo Branch

Dao Kamara- Graduate Buffalo State College 2010, Leader in the Liberian Community

Buffalo's West Side is home to many refugee communities-

Burma, Somalia, Bhutan, Liberia, Sudan and Iraq- to name just a few. The Buffalo Immigrant and Refugee Empowerment Coalition (BIREC) is an organization that brings leaders of the various communities together to work on common problems and develop solutions. Through a panel discussion, the presentation will tell the story of BIREC, how it evolved and how it functions now. This will be followed by a question and answer period.

Resistance Past and Present: The Power of Holocaust Education in our World Today(Presentation/Discussion)

Ketchum113

Drew Beiter- Teacher, Springville Middle School; Project Director for the Summer Institute for Human Rights and Genocide Studies

While the world often confronts us with images of intolerance and hatred, it is nonetheless inspiring to see examples of moral leadership among young people today. Drew Beiter, along with several local students, will discuss the fantastic human rights work that they are doing, all of which are shining examples of Anne Frank's legacy. The discussion will be prefaced by a description of resistance by young people during the Holocaust, all of which are reminders of the power of education in repairing the world.

Education Leads to Knowledge. Knowledge Leads to Power. Power leads to Change.(Presentation/Participation)

Ketchum 118

Joe Marren- Associate Professor, Communications Department, Buffalo State College

Irene Sipos- Lecturer, College Writing Program, Buffalo State College

Amitra Wall- Associate Professor, Sociology Department, Buffalo State College

Genocide is taught at every level of school, yet the concept has sometimes been reduced to merely knowing correct answers on tests. That technique could trivialize the concept and as a result, people may not connect personal responsibility to the concept. The purpose of this presentation, through audience participation (response writing and discussion) is tri-fold: First, a description of how much people know about genocide. Second, the Hebrew phrase, Tikkun olam, will be explored since it has

come to connote social action and social justice. Third, Dr. King's and Gandhi's steps to non-violence will be shared.

Social Awareness Through Theater: Engaging the Community (Presentation/Discussion)

Flexible Seat Theater (Savage 205)

Dr. Saul Elkin- Artistic Director, Jewish Repertory Theater of Western NY and Shakespeare in Delaware Park

We all know that theater is an ancient form of communication and entertainment and we value plays for taking us places we may not otherwise be able to go, for introducing us to people we do not know and allowing us to use our imaginations. Theater can also be used to expose communities to issues and stories in a way that provokes people to think beyond just those stories that are being told.

"Caught" (Working Title) (Performance/Discussion)

Burchfield-Penney Art Center Auditorium

Carlos Jones- Assistant Professor, Theater Department

Sharon Cooper- Playwright and Teacher

This presentation will be selected scenes from an original play that examines the relationship of a Black family and Jewish family. The play touches on race, shifts of power, feminism, gay rights and betrayal. Following the scenes, the authors would like to engage the audience in a talk that discusses the conceptions and misconceptions of the Jewish and Black relationship.

"Why Wait It Out?" (Performance/Discussion)

PAC-Rockwell Hall

Eriketa Cirulli- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Ben Streeter- Student, Theater and Fashion Design, Buffalo State College

Lindsey Bessman- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Sarah Castricone- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

James Huggins- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Syidah Sabir- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

The intention of the Anne Frank Project 2009 was to get the college community to explore Anne Frank's impact on history, ideals, and cultures. A quote that was mentioned in the Anne Frank website " I simply can't build my hopes on a foundation of confusion, misery and death...I think...peace and tranquility will return again", inspired this dance performance.

"Voices" (Performance/Discussion)

PAC-Rockwell Hall

Joy Guarino (Choreographer)- Assistant Professor of Dance, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Lindsey Bessman- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Chelsey Broderick- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Anna Bundschuh- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Sarah Castricone- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Eriketa Cirulli- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Hannah Milligan- Student, English Education, SUNY Fredonia

Missy Vargo- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

This dance piece explores an individual's choices and decisions within relationships. Our actions toward others are influenced by information that is accumulated, our personal values, our roles in society, and our understanding of self as a part of a greater whole.

Listening Tables

2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Listening Tables will be held in Savage 209

Listening Tables- Staffed by members of the Buffalo State College Coalition Building Team, a campus affiliate of the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI). Listening Tables are a "safe space" opportunity to reflect and discuss one's impressions and reactions to workshop sessions, events and the conference theme "Our Shared Humanity". The Counseling Center will be available.

Session III

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Interfaith Dialogue: A Model for Promoting World Peace (Discussion/Participation)

Ketchum 100

The Interfaith Youth Group of Western New York

This workshop is based on the guidelines provided by NPR's "This I Believe" facilitator's manual for houses of worship. The goal is to get people thinking and talking about their deeply held values in an open and respectful way. Attendees will participate in several activities and discussions.

Building Resilience After Trauma: Tips on coping, Surviving and Thriving(Presentation/Participation)

Ketchum 106

Dr. Modupe Akin-Deko- Counseling Center, Buffalo State College

Dr. Joan McCool- Counseling Center, Buffalo State College

The Counseling Center staff will provide the most recent and relevant information about effective and practical methods to deal with various traumatic experiences.

Participants will learn useful self-care strategies and ways to build on their resilience.

The Ties That Bind: The Legacy of Captivity as Depicted in *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *Hotel Rwanda* (Presentation)

Ketchum 111

Mary Jane Masiulionis- Faculty, Bryant and Stratton College

Much is to be gained by drawing film and literary comparisons between the African genocide occurring in Rwanda and the Jewish experience of the Holocaust. This interdisciplinary presentation will depict the trauma of confinement and its relationship

to oppression and will integrate footage from the films *Hotel Rwanda*, *Anne Frank: The Whole Story* and the new PBS Masterpiece film, *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

ChoicePoints: Confronting the Connection Between Words and Poser Based Interpersonal Violence (Presentation/Discussion)

Ketchum 113

Liz McGough- Program Coordinator/Case Manager, Violence Intervention and Victim Advocacy

Tammy Kresge- Coordinator for Health Promotions, Buffalo State College

Charles Kenyon- Associate VP/Dean of Students, Buffalo State College

Natalie Jordan- Graduate Student, Buffalo State College

ChoicePoints- Peer Educators

The childhood saying "sticks and stones may break my bones but names [words] can never hurt me" is a lie. Words have a powerful impact on what we think of ourselves and what we think of others. Words that stigmatize, desensitize, and implicate can create a culture that objectifies women and accepts violence and victim blaming as the norm. Words can empower, commend, honor and respect. The implications of our language choices are profound. This workshop will help participants find their voice to intervene and educate others about language that can lead to violence.

NEVER AGAIN!! Don't Be a Bystander!! (Presentation/Discussion)

Ketchum 118

Sophia Veffer- Educator, Holocaust Resource Center

In each country where government sanctioned killings take place in large numbers, three segments of the population are necessary to execute the mass murder of innocent civilians, without any fear of retaliations and punishments. First, there are the victims, who are often helpless. Then there are the perpetrators, who learned to kill through behavior modification since early childhood and then there are the bystanders, who enable the perpetrators to commit these atrocities by remaining silent.

A Moment of Truth: How to Hope (Presentation/Participation)

Flexible Seat Theater (Savage 205)

Candace Morrison- Artist/Activist (BA Theater, Buffalo State College)

How to Hope will be a presentation/workshop. The objective is to explore the many ways humans cope with life's most challenging moments. At the end of the work time, the group will be prompted to think of their own "moment of truth," and take it as an opportunity to be a vehicle of positive change.

Listening Tables

4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Listening Tables will be held in the Savage 209

Wednesday September 15, 2010

Evening Events

5:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Family Art Project "Building, Creating, Imagining Our Shared Humanity"

Savage 219

Families are invited to spend some time creating various art works.

"Organic" (Performance)

Flexible Seat Theater (Savage 205)

Candace Morrison- Artist/Activist (BA Theater, Buffalo State College)

Timothy White- Alum, Visual Arts, University of Buffalo

The show is based on the artist's experience volunteering as an organic farm worker last summer. Her journey took her across the country and through her own heart and mind to discover the true meaning of care. The stage pieces reflect the ups and downs of a season of growth.

Oskar Schindler: The Incomplete Hero (Presentation/Discussion)

Burchfield-Penney Art Center Auditorium

Jeffrey Hirschberg- Associate Professor and Director, Television and Film Arts Program, Buffalo State College

Lou Rera- Assistant Professor, Communications Department, Buffalo State College

This workshop will take a critical look at the Academy Award-winning "Schindler's List" and its hero, Oskar Schindler. While viewing scenes of the film, participants will discuss the motivations for Schindler's actions and his "character arc" (How and why did Schindler transform from selfish to selfless?). Presentation will be based on Professor Jeffrey Hirschberg's book, "Reflections of the Shadow: Creating Memorable Heroes and Villains for Film and TV".

"Why Wait It Out?" (Performance/Discussion) PAC-Rockwell Hall

Eriketa Cirulli- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

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Joy Guarino- (Choreographer)- Assistant Professor of Dance, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

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Eriketa Cirulli- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

Hannah Milligan- Student, English Education, SUNY Fredonia

Missy Vargo- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

This piece explores an individual's choices and decisions within relationships. Our actions toward others are influenced by information that is accumulated, our personal values, our roles in society, and our understanding of self as a part of a greater whole.

Thursday September 16, 2010

Featured Speaker: Cherie R. Brown

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Flexible Seat Theater (Savage 205)

Listening Tables/Lunch

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Listening Tables will be held in Savage 209

Academic Convocation

Featured Speaker: Immaculée Ilibagiza

Reception

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. PAC- Rockwell Hall

Book Signing

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Donald Savage Theater Building

Immaculée Ilibagiza

Cherie Brown

Carl Wilkens

Popular titles by the above authors will be available on site for purchase and signing.

Featured Speaker Dialogue: Immaculée Ilibagiza, Cherie Brown, Carl Wilkens

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Flexible Seat Theater (Savage 205)

Anne Frank Garden Dedication Ceremony and Reception:

4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Rockwell Road-Facing Moot Hall

Drew Kahn

Professor and Chair, Theater Department

Director, The Anne Frank Project

Buffalo State College

Students- Hospitality and Tourism Department

Brenna McCabe (Flute)- Student, Music Education, Buffalo State College

Ray Lorigo (Guitar)

Shaded by a horse chestnut tree (the same species of tree that Anne Frank wrote about while in hiding) this is a contemplative, community garden marked by a two-ton boulder bearing a commemorative plaque. This garden is a permanent testament to

Buffalo State College's commitment to building the just world Anne Frank could only dream of.

"Into The Arms of Strangers" (Film and Discussion)

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. PAC- Rockwell Hall

Oscar Award-winning documentary produced by *Deborah Oppenheimer*. Ms. Oppenheimer will be participating in a discussion following the film.

Friday September 17, 2010

Featured Speaker: Carl Wilkens 9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Flexible Seat Theater (Savage 205)

Survivor Panel Dialogue: Sophia Veffer, Joseph Diamond, Victor Habinshuti with Carl Wilkens.

11:00 a.m. – 12:30- p.m. Flexible Seat Theater (Savage 205)

Survivors of genocides from around the world will share their stories and create dialogue with the audience.

Musical Interlude by *Diaspora Drumming*

12:40 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Rockwell Quad

Ringo Brill, Gabriel Gutierrez, Tiffany Nicely

Closing Ceremonies: Music, Dance Group Celebration

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Rockwell Quad

"WE" Song written for **The Anne Frank Project 2010 "Our Shared Humanity"**

Lee Becker-Student, Theater Department, Buffalo State College

Griffen Smith- Student, SUNY Fredonia

September 12-17, 2010

Visual Arts On Display

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Curlzes-Nelson Gallery, Upton Hall

Here and Now

Sean Murty- Student, Arts and Letters, Buffalo State College

An audio/visual project exploring history through the use of the symbolic meanings of different colors.

Design Students Respond to Genocide

DES 104 Students- Amanda Albertsson, Kristen Almeter, Rob Borgen, Kelly Caruso,

Francesca D'Angelo, Brian Gouchi,

Jeff Marshall, Vincent Pontillo, Tina Rott

Students created allegories about genocide by manipulating landscape and/or architectural form. Based upon reading and research, each student's concept is to incorporate form and material with idea and meaning. Concepts range, for example,

from a statement about the proliferation of hate groups in the United States, to the flawed nature of humanity, to expression of the earth healing itself, and to hope and light.

Stages of Thunder

Gabe Saur-Student, Communication Design, Buffalo State College

A series of seven 20" x 20" paintings, representing the hope and faith in mankind that Anne Frank was able to maintain even though she was subject to the horrible persecution and pain of the Holocaust. Time is represented from left to right, left being the harsh times of the Holocaust gradually moving to the right, which represents the effects of Anne Frank's words and enduring hope.

Keep It Open

Sam Kahn- Student, Grand Island Senior High School

This pot follows the path of the Anne Frank Project in examining "Our Shared Humanity." As it grows upward, it follows the lives of seven distinctly different people while showing the connection between them.

NANI

Errol Daniels- Social Documentary Photography

9-yr-old Nani was born with Spina Bifida, and was unable to walk. When you're in her presence, you forget that Nani is disabled. She can't walk, yet she seems to fly everywhere, illuminating her surroundings with her beauty, her charm and her true happiness. Her smile is captivating. Photographs are of Nani are taken in and around her home in Cuba.

Modupe Akin-Deko, Ph.D., serves as the Associate Director and Clinical Coordinator of the Buffalo State College Counseling Center. She received her educational degrees from University of Ibadan, Nigeria, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti and University of Ife, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Dr. Akin-Deko is active in and has coordinated the BSC Critical Incident Support Team. Her clinical interests include: depression, anxiety, anger, sexual abuse/trauma issues, grief and loss, adjustment to college, relationship and multicultural issues.

Cecelia Barron, a sophomore Theater Major at Buffalo State College. She made her Buffalo State debut in *Anything Goes* (Angel). Cecelia has also performed locally in *Ragtime* (Sara), *Man of La Mancha* (Aldonza), *Suessical the Musical* (Sour Kangaroo), *Once ON This Island* (Dancer), *Fame* and *Chicago* (Chorus).

Lee Becker, sophomore theater major at Buffalo State College. In addition to his interest in theater, Lee has been an active part of the local music community for nearly fifteen years. His interest in music began in Kindergarten with his first vocal solo. He began playing trumpet in fourth grade and has since taught himself keyboard and guitar. Lee writes music and loves to jam with any interested local musician. He resides on Grand Island where he records music in his basement studio.

Lindsey Bessman, senior Arts and Letters major, Dance concentration at Buffalo State College. She has played an active role in the dance program and has been seen for the past three years in the *Annual Spring Dance Concert* as well as several outside performances in the Buffalo area. Originally from Hyde Park, NY, Lindsey has been trained in many dance styles and techniques. She hopes to pursue her dance career after graduation. This is Lindsay's second year participating in The Anne Frank Project.

Rev. Jeff Carter, Jr., pastor of Ephesus Ministries, is a senior facilitator for the NFJC, and is an advocate and leader in the field of diversity/inclusion work.

Sharon E. Cooper, award-winning playwright and teacher, has had theatre productions from coast to coast; most recently, she was produced in the Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Short Play Festival, 2009. She is published in *Laugh Lines: Short Comic Plays* and *The Bedford Introduction to Literature* and will soon be published in *Literature to Go* and *The Best Short Plays of 2010*. The topics of her plays range from Israel/Palestine to Gay liberation, to women's roles in our society. She is a graduate of Longwood College, studied at the Kennedy Center's Playwriting Intensive Program and has been a proud member of the National Coalition Building Institute for ten years.

Eriketa Curilli, currently a senior at Buffalo State College in Arts and Letters, (Dance and Theater). Upon graduation she plans to pursue a career in dance performance, choreography and education. Eriketa has been involved in the Theater Department's annual Spring Dance Concerts; *The Myth of Miles*, *The World With: Collaboration of Dance and Fiber*, and *Illumination*, as well as the musical *Anything Goes*. Other

performances include *Choreographers Showcase* (2008) - performing with Janet Reed, Dr. Benjamin Christy-Dean of Arts and Humanities and Bryan Boyce-Music Department's Percussion Ensemble in a piece about Jon Cage the musical composer for the late dancer/choreographer Merce Cunningham. She is a recipient of the Summer Undergraduate Research/Creativity Fellowship; *Compare and Contrast Classical and Contemporary Jazz* and participated in the 2010 Student Research and Creativity Celebration.

Diaspora Drumming, is a trio dedicated to learning, performing and teaching percussion music of the African Diaspora. Members **Ringo Brill, Tiffany Nicely** and **Gabriel Gutierrez** have studied in countries such as Guinea, Mexico and Brazil, as well as with African teachers in the U.S. They focus on tracing the connections between the musical traditions of Africa and Latin America. Tiffany Nicely teaches World Music, African Music and Cultures and the West African Drumming Ensemble at Buffalo State College.

Saul Elkin, Distinguished Service Professor at University of Buffalo and for many years was Chair of the Theater Department. He is Founder and Artistic Director of Shakespeare in Delaware Park, now in its 35th season, and Co-Founder and Artistic Director of the Jewish Repertory Theater of Western New York. Saul's numerous acting include the memorable portrayal of Otto Frank in *THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK* at Theatre of Youth, Willy Loman in *DEATH OF A SALESMAN* at the Kavinoky Theatre, George in *WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF* at Ujima Company, Juror #11 in *TWELVE ANGRY MEN* at Studio Arena Theatre. In addition to being a well known actor, Saul is a respected director whose work has been enjoyed at many of the theaters in the region and beyond.

Ann Emo, Assistant Professor at Buffalo State College where she teaches Costume Design and Technical Theater. In addition to her design work at Buffalo State College, Ann has designed costumes for stage, film, opera and dance in the NYC area and locally at Studio Arena Theater, Geva TheaterCenter, Kavinoky, The Irish Classical Theater Company, and TOY. Her costume designs for *The Tempest* for Shakespeare in Delaware Park, 2009, earned her the *ArtVoice, Artie Award*. Ann is honored to be the Conference Coordinator for The Anne Frank Project and to have been involved in its development since its early days. Tae Kwon Do is among her other passions; she has earned a third degree black belt. She received her MFA from New York University, Tisch School of the Arts. Ann is proud to claim her three children as her greatest accomplishment.

Erica Fire, Costume Director for Buffalo State College Theater Department. She is responsible for construction, fitting and altering costumes for the department's theater and dance productions and for teaching students costume construction. Ms. Fire has worked for theater and opera companies around the country, including, Glimmerglass Opera Company, Shakespeare Theatre Company in Washington DC, The Santa Fe Opera, Geva Theatre Center and Studio Arena Theatre. As part of her professional

work Ms. Fire has researched the clothing of many eras and cultures reproducing garments for stage using modern materials. Her own interest in textiles and their history, and a passion for knitting led her to learn to spin her own yarn a little over ten years ago. She teaches spinning classes in the area and serves as treasurer for the newly formed "Common Threads" guild for spinners and dyers.

Paul Gabriellini, a sophomore, theater major at Buffalo State College where he has had the opportunity to work with director Donn Youngstrom in *Seven Keys to Baldpate* as Lou Max, and director Joe Price, playing the of "Groucho Marx" version of Whitney in *Anything Goes*. He will be taking on the role of Richard in the upcoming production of *Fuddy Meers*. Through his participation, Paul hopes to contribute something very special to the Anne Frank Project.

Jill M. Gradwell, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Social Studies Education in the Department of History and Social Studies at Buffalo State College, State University of New York. She teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses in the teaching of history and research in social studies education. Her research centers on teaching, learning, and assessing history and has been featured in such journals as *Theory and Research in Education* and *Social Studies Research and Practice*.

Peter J. Grieco, a native of Buffalo, NY, teaches writing in the College Writing Program at Buffalo State College. A musician, composer and PhD graduate of SUNY Buffalo, he has also taught in Ankara, Turkey, and Seoul, South Korea. His publications include, "Swirling Voices: Considerations of Working-Class Poetic Property", and "Lyric Subject as Communal Fragment in the Works of Claude McKay". He has published his poetry widely. Peter also keeps a personal journal.

Joy Guarino, Assistant Professor of Dance at Buffalo State College. Introduced to the arts at a very young age, she evolved into a dynamic member of the WNY arts community as a performer and choreographer of dance and musical theater. Her passion guided her career path and she pursued the Master's of Fine Arts degree in dance from Temple University. Ms. Guarino teaches a variety of studio technique classes, dance history, choreography, and dance education. Actively involved both personally and as a mentor for her students in the extensive arts-in-education community, she is a practitioner and consultant for the arts-in-education profession; committed to finding creative and practical ways of designing and implementing meaningful children's arts programs. She has developed courses, conducted research, and delivered professional development workshops on kinesthetic learning, movement integration, and youth development. She holds a NYS Teacher's Certification in Dance.

Robert J. Heffern, Board Member of HRC, Vice President and Chair of the Education Committee. Retiree of Maryvale High School (Social Studies); formerly Adjunct at Daemen College teaching Methods of Secondary Social Studies.

Jeffrey Hirschberg, Assistant Professor and Director of the Television and Film Arts program at Buffalo State College. He has been a professional screenwriter for eighteen years and has written fifteen feature length screenplays and numerous television scripts. A member of the Writer's Guild of America and judge for the WGA Awards, Jeffrey has had screenplays optioned by Hollywood production companies and has written and/or created shows for Showtime Networks, Lifetime Television, and ABC. Jeffrey is a winner of the Broadcast Education Association's National Writing Division Paper Competition and has been a finalist in the Scriptapalooza national screenwriting competition. He has worked at NBC, Warner Bros., and Viacom and has taught at Cornell University, Syracuse University's Newhouse School, and R.I.T.'s School of Film and Animation. Jeffrey is also the founder and Managing Partner of ThreeAct Partners, a script consulting service (www.ThreeAct.com). Prior to founding ThreeAct, Jeffrey held numerous executive marketing and advertising positions in New York City and Rochester, NY. Jeffrey holds an M.A. in TV-Radio-Film from Syracuse University's Newhouse School and a B.S. from Cornell University.

Natalie Jordan, graduated from Buffalo state College in 2008 with a BA in Sociology and a BS in Criminal Justice. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Student Personnel Administration at Buffalo State. As an undergraduate student she was involved in many areas around campus including: serving as the Program Coordinator for Weeks of Welcome, working as Teaching Assistant in the Sociology Department and serving as President of the Residence hall Association. She has completed internships with the Erie County District Attorney's Office and with the Buffalo State Judicial Affairs Office. Natalie currently works as the VIVA Project Assistant.

Carlos Jones, Assistant Professor, is a SUNY Diversity Faculty Fellow in the Theater Department at Buffalo State. Professor Jones teaches Musical Theater and Dance and has a passion for progressive integrated arts education. Prior to his arrival at Buffalo State, Jones enjoyed a professional career in film, television, regional theater, and concert dance. Among his credits are *the Nanny*, the *Drew Carey Show*, *Shut up and Dance*, *Once Upon a Mattress* under the direction of Carol Burnett and guest soloist with the *Great Falls Symphony* to name a few. Jones' current creative research lies in the composing of cross cultural dance works.

Drew Kahn, is Chair and Professor in the Theater Department at Buffalo State College where he teaches acting (*President's Award for Excellence in Teaching*) and directs main stage productions (*Kennedy Center Award*). He is the Founding Director of *The Anne Frank Project*, an idea that has evolved out of a unique production of *The Diary of Anne Frank* he directed at Buffalo State in 2006. He presents nationally and internationally on the universal language of theater and the intersection of the arts and genocide as a means towards meaningful social change. Drew has extensive acting experience in regional theatre and off-Broadway (part of Andre' DeShields' original cast of *Saint Tous*), feature film (Paramount Pictures' *Necessary Roughness*) as well as several television and commercial credits. In Buffalo, New York, Drew was the host of WKBW-TV's (ABC) *AM Buffalo* for six years, hosted the WNET (PBS) documentary *Saving a Landmark: The Darwin Martin House* (*Telly Award*) and has

numerous local stage credits including *Lobby Hero*, *A Cat On A Hot Tin Roof* and *Baltimore Waltz* (ArtVoice Artie Award). He received an MFA in Acting from Southern Methodist University and a BA in Drama from San Diego State University. His favorite roles are husband to his wife Maria and dad to his children Sam and Nate.

Samantha Kahn, currently a junior at Grand Island Senior High School. She has been a part of her school art shows for many years and has a few of her ceramics on sale at the Burchfield-Penney Art Center Gift Shop. She is also very involved in theater, music and conservation. Sam is a volunteer at a NYSDEC camp in Rushford and a part of her High School Orchestra as well as being involved in her school's theater program. She plans on going to college to pursue a career in art education.

Charles B. Kenyon, Ed.D., is the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students at Buffalo State College, where he is responsible for overseeing student judicial affairs, the counseling and health centers, career services and disability services, along with four grant-funded pre-college programs and a U.S. Department of Justice grant to prevent violence against women on campus. Dr. Kenyon earned his Master's and Doctoral degrees from Harvard University with a concentration on organizational behavior and labor relations in higher education. He previously served as Director of Academic Support Services at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, MA, during which time he was elected President of the New England Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel and served as a board member of the Council for Opportunity in Education, based in Washington, D.C. Dr. Kenyon obtained a specialization in negotiation and dispute resolution from the Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School and has taught courses on negotiation and organizational behavior at both the University of Massachusetts and at Buffalo State College.

Tammy Kresge, has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from University at Buffalo and a Master's degree in Student Personnel Administration from Canisius College. Before joining the Buffalo State College staff she worked at Rochester Institute of Technology coordinating their Department of Justice Violence Against Women on Campus Grant. Tammy began working at Buffalo State in 2002 as the Coordinator for Alcohol, Other Drugs and Violence Prevention. She was promoted to Coordinator for Health Promotions in 3004 and continues to hold that position

Joe Marren, Associate Professor in the Communication Department of Buffalo State College where he teaches courses in journalism ethics, history, editing, literary journalism and convergent media. He has also taught humanities and communication courses in the Social Justice Learning Community at Buffalo State College. Prior to his academic career he worked as a newspaper journalist for 18 years at several Western New York community and business newspapers and as a sports stringer for the Associated Press in Buffalo. He also does occasional commentaries on WBFO, the National Public Radio affiliate in Buffalo.

Mary Jane Masiulionis, an alumna of State University of New York College at Buffalo, she earned both her Masters and Undergraduate degrees at Buffalo State, majoring in English. While attending Buffalo State College, she earned numerous awards and scholarships, including the Estelle Engel Scholarship for Writing, the McNair Scholarship, the Summer Research and Creativity Fellowship, and the prestigious Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. She has presented at various state and local conferences including the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, The McNair Summer Research Conference, The Union for Democratic Communication Conference, the State University of New York College at Buffalo's Conference for Children and Social Justice, the National Association of African American Studies Conference and several Research and Creativity Student Conferences. She is presently on faculty at Bryant and Stratton College, teaching courses in Research Methods and Oral Presentations. Ms. Masiulionis is currently engaged in a collaborative interdisciplinary project with Melanie Aceto and Jon Lehrer, writing on their choreographic works in book entitled "*The Voice of Dance in the 21st Century*".

Brenna McCabe, junior at Buffalo State College majoring in Music Education. She plays flute and piccolo in various ensembles, including Buffalo State College Wind Ensemble, BSC Philharmonia and Woodwind Quintet. This past summer Brenna attended Imani Winds Chamber Music Institute at Juilliard in New York City. Currently, Brenna is vice President of the Collegiate Music Educators National Conference, Buffalo State Chapter. The Chapter supports activities of music education majors, allowing students to network with colleagues, local school music educators and future employers. Outside of music Brenna is a champion level Irish Dancer performing in local parades, festivals, nursing homes, hospitals and other venues.

Joan McCool, Ph.D., serves as the Director of the BSC Counseling Center and is a licensed psychologist. She received her doctorate at SUNY at Buffalo in Counseling Psychology and her undergraduate degree in Social Psychology from Cornell University. Dr. McCool's expertise and interests are in stress management and coping, trauma, academic achievement, student development, violence prevention, anxiety, mood disorders, relationships and parenting. She is beginning her 30th year at BSC where she enjoys working with students and the BSC community regarding mental health and adjustment to college issues.

Liz McGough, has a BS in Recreation Administration from Eastern Michigan University, an MS in Clinical and Humanistic Psychology from the Michigan School of Professional Psychology, a Graduate Certificate in Addiction Studies from University of Detroit Mercy and a PhD in Counseling Psychology from the University at Buffalo. Before moving to Buffalo to pursue her PhD, Liz spent about 10 years working for HIV/AIDS service and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender organizations in the Detroit area. Liz completed her pre-doctoral internship at the Buffalo State College Counseling Center. She has worked on Violence against women issues at Buffalo state since 2007 and is currently the VIVA Program Coordinator/Case Manager.

Laura Mooney, a sophomore theater major at Buffalo State College. She is a graduate from Kenmore West High School where she performed in *The Spoon River Anthology* and *Shakespeare Abridged*, under the direction of Vanessa Bargness-Scinta. She has worked with the Town Players on several productions, including *A Man for All Seasons*, *You Can't Take it With You*, *Stage Girls* and *Murder in the Cathedral*. Most recently she was a part of Subversive Theater's Subversive Shorts series playing Jean in the original play by Joan Broadman, *Honey Bakes Ham*. Laura was also the Stage Manager for Subversive Theater's production of *The Mother* for the Infringement Festival.

Gabriella Moreno, currently a student at Buffalo State College. She pursues a career in the Theater Arts in conjunction with French Language and Anthropology. She has been part of several Casting Hall Productions shows as House Manager, Understudy and Assistant Stage Manager. Her passion for diverse disciplines such as theater, visual arts, literature, language, dance, etc. along with her responsibility to the world, inspired her to write a piece specifically for The Anne Frank Project (AFP). After volunteering for last year's conference, she became attached to the AFP's cause and is enthusiastic to remain involved in the Project. The experience revealed to her a responsibility to humanity and now she searches for the opportunity to share her discovery and maybe engender that same sense of duty in others.

Candace Morrison, recent alum of Buffalo State College. Upon graduation last May, Miss Morrison was awarded the Dean's Award for Excellence in Theater. During her time at Buffalo State, she was a part of the All College Honors Program and Arts and Humanities Dean's Student Council. She was an active member of the Theater Department and Casting Hall, the student side of the season production, honing her leadership skills as Vice President in her senior year. As an actor she was busy learning how to be superhuman both onstage and off. Early in her theater training, Morrison discovered a love for theater outreach. She has worked on the Olmsted World Arts Fair, Take Back the Night and, most recently, the Anne Frank Project. Morrison hopes to continue working for social change.

Yahye Omar, is from Somalia and is a leader in the Muslim community in Western New York and also the Executive Director of HEAL International (Help Ensure Africa Looms), a community-based organization that provides direct service to refugees. He is also a founding member of BIREC.

Ken Orosz, holds a PhD in modern European history from Binghamton University specializing research in French and German colonial Africa. He received a 1995 Fulbright Grant to conduct dissertation research in Germany and is currently a member of the Department of History and Social Studies Education where he teaches courses in European, African, world and colonial history. His book *Religious Conflict and the Evolution of Language Policy in German and French Cameroon, 1885-1939* was awarded the 2009 Heggoy Prize for the best work in French colonial history.

Fred Pascolini, senior Theater Department at Buffalo State College. He has designed scenery for the BSC Theater Department's production of *The Shape of Things*, and *Fuddy Meers* (upcoming), and has designed lighting for "Bitches Brew" a piece choreographed by Janet Reed and performed during *The Myth of Miles*, spring dance concert. Fred has also worked for Walt Disney World, Theater of Youth and designed the lighting for *Evil Dead* at the ALT Theater. He earned an AS degree in Technical Theater from Niagara County Community College. He would like to acknowledge his friends, family and colleagues at People Inc.

Marc Rummenie, the Program Director at The NFJC of WNY, Inc., a graduate of UB, and a NYS certified teacher.

Sylvia Schwartz, a native of New York City. Her parents were Holocaust survivors. She received her BA in Communications/Broadcasting from Buffalo State College. She has worked as Executive Director of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo since 1999.

Dan Shanahan, Adjunct Professor, Theater, is founder and artistic director of Torn Space Theater. He has directed over 25 plays; many were U.S. and area premieres. He has written and produced five original works for the stage that have been performed in Buffalo and New York City. He created two site-specific installation performances that took place in the Central Train Terminal and the grand ballroom of the Dnipro Ukrainian Home. Shanahan was chosen Best Director by Artvoice for direction of his original work *Terminus*, which also received Best Production of WNY from Buffalo Spree magazine. He is the recipient of NYSCA's Individual Artist grant for playwriting and has been nominated for Artie Awards in stage direction and for Best New Play.

Derick Sherrier, a second year Theater major at Buffalo State College. He has been involved in theater since the age of eight. While his main focus is acting, Derrick also participates in the dance program.

Irene Sipos, full-time lecturer in the College Writing Program at BuffaloState. For the last four years she has taught writing in the social justice learning community. In spring 2010, Irene presented on teaching social justice in the writing classroom at both the SUNY Council on Writing and the Pennsylvania College English Association. For eleven years, Irene was Academic Coordinator in Student Support Services Program while teaching writing as an adjunct. As a poet, Irene is a participant in poetry events in Western New York, including Buffalo State's Rooftop Poetry. Last year two of her poems appeared in *Waging Words for Peace: Buffalo Poets Against War*.

Julia Squilla, a sophomore Television and Film Arts student at Buffalo State College. She has great love for all things "Movies". Julia is originally from Rochester, NY and in addition to her film work she swims for Buffalo State College.

Kimberly Taylor, secretary for the Buffalo State College Theater Department. Kimberly is the newest member of the department, joining them in August 2009 after transferring from Student Accounts. She has been primarily involved in assisting the conference director and coordinators in the planning and behind-the-scenes aspects of the Anne Frank Project. Kimberly is also a part-time student here at Buffalo State.

Emily Tennant-Koller, has B.S degree from SUNY Brockport in Political Science and Women's Studies, and is currently a graduate student at Buffalo State College in the Student Personnel Administration program. She has been a Graduate Assistant in the Equity & Diversity Office on campus. Prior to that, she worked for 4 years in the Drop-In Center Coordinator of Gay & Lesbian Youth Services in downtown Buffalo, taking over 100 youth to Albany, she supported them in learning how to lobby our legislators for bills such as the Safe Schools/Anti-Bullying bill, Marriage Equality bill, and GENDA and supported them in creating a safe space for LGBTQ youth at the Drop-In Center. Her passion in higher education is reaching out to underserved youth and trying to engage them in the college experience.

Nshagayintwari Thomas, is from Rwanda. He is a Refugee Case Worker for Catholic Charities and has been involved with BIREC from the beginning. He is currently BIREC Interim Board President.

Sophia Veffler, lived in Amsterdam, Holland during the Holocaust. She came to the United States in 1954 and settled in Buffalo. Now a retired Special Education teacher, a past President of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo and is presently on the Executive Board of the Holocaust Resource Center. She was the President of the Women of Studio Arena Theatre. Currently, Sophia is on the Advisory Committee of the Jewish Repertory Theatre of Western New York.

Amitra Wall, Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at Buffalo State College. In the classroom she embraces the orientation that encourages and empowers students to be active participants in society. She teaches social statistics, social thought, internship, research methods, introduction to sociology, race and ethnic relations, and women in society. She considers herself an applied sociologist who is often found working alongside community organizations. She spends most of her energies on addressing issues that affect women and children. She serves on Erie County's Commission on the Status of Women.

Merritt Weisenburger, Program Specialist at the NFJC of WNY, Inc., a graduate of the Tisch School of the Arts, and is currently enrolled in the MA Counseling Program at Canisius College.

Gary Welborn, teaches sociology at Buffalo State College and is Faculty Coordinator for Service-Learning on the campus. He has also been a community activist on the West Side of Buffalo for 25 years.

Timothy White, a recent graduate of the Visual Arts Department at the University of Buffalo. He was involved with the production of *Organic* as an onsite photographer and as the projectionist during performances. White has also served as the web photographer for College Relations at Buffalo State College. He currently works as a freelance photographer.