



AFP 2016:

ENGAGE. LEAD. IMPROVE THE WORLD.

8th Annual Social Justice Festival at
SUNY Buffalo State

September 28 & 29

Performances, workshops, and speakers
Campbell Student Union

**Free and open to
students, faculty, staff
and community!**

Register individuals and groups,
and view the full schedule online!
www.annefrankproject.com

Questions?
(716)878-5559



About the Anne Frank Project

The Anne Frank Project is a social justice initiative of SUNY Buffalo State. What began as a theater department production in 2006 has evolved into a distinctive reflection of the college's diversity, community and global missions articulated throughout the year with local, national and international programming. Using story-building as its primary vehicle, AFP provides tools and vocabulary for conflict resolution, community building and identity exploration. AFP strives to honor and continue the stories of Anne Frank and the countless victims of oppression whose stories were unjustly cut short. AFP welcomes you to Identity, Inclusion, and the World in the spirit of the project's namesake: With open eyes, open ears and open hearts.

"How wonderful it is that we need not wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." — Anne Frank

Interested in bringing your story to AFP? Please contact our office:
theannefrankproject@buffalostate.edu | 716-878-5559

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A Welcome from President Conway-Turner

Welcome to the 8th annual Social Justice Festival at
Buffalo State College:

This year's festival provides an opportunity for those attending to explore examples of past injustices, reflect on current manifestations, and to dream of a future where our world is free of discrimination, injustice, and acts of violence. What is clear is that reflection and analysis of such unpleasant acts is the only way that we can hope to prevent injustice in our future.

I am aware that it is not easy to stare in the eye of cruelty and see horrific acts, but we much shed a bright light on these issues and learn to craft, shape, and form a better world. This can only be done if we as a community are willing to do the hard work, be vigilant, and keep refining our communities until they manifest the best possible world. This best world is possible! It is a world where we value and embrace the contributions of all around us. It is a world where we understand that cultural, religious, social, ethnic, racial, and geographic differences add strength and vibrancy to our communities.

It is a world where differences in gender and sexual orientation enhance the complexity and power of our neighborhoods. It is a world where families do not face the crippling and multiple negative consequences of poverty. It is the world that Buffalo State supports and nurtures every day and in many ways.

So please join the Buffalo State 8th annual Social Justice Festival as we engage and provide leadership for a world that is worthy of the bright future we seek.

SPECIAL THANKS



BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York



ART EXHIBITS

SEPT. 26-30

SEPT. 29, **12:15-1:30pm**, Artist Talk

THROUGH THE LENS: BRUCE FOX REFLECTS ON THE ANNE FRANK PROJECT IN RWANDA

Bruce Fox

EXHIBIT GAME, Andy Wheelock

Czurlis-Nelson Gallery, Upton Hall, Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-4:00pm

My initial intention when traveling with the Anne Frank Project- Rwanda trip was to document the students' experiences. What began in my mind as a photojournalism project quickly grew from telling the students' stories to telling my own story as well. But my story is not only about genocide. It is about the discovery of a beautiful nation and wonderful people, finding ways to rebuild not only infrastructure but also relationships, all while vowing to never forget the past and never allowing it to happen again.

Test your knowledge: This exhibit has a corresponding gaming platform where participants can answer questions about the exhibit and Rwanda. Points can be scored for accuracy and speed. The person with the most points will win a prize!

SEPT. 26-OCT. 8

Sept. 27, **12:15-1:30pm**

Questions Hidden By Answers - Artist Talk & Workshop

NINE AMERICAN BOYS

Alice Pennisi, PH.D, Associate Professor, SUNY Buffalo State

Margaret E. Bacon Student Gallery, Upton Hall, Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-5:00pm

This project focuses particularly on the Scottsboro Boys, nine African American youth aged 12-19 who were falsely accused in 1931 of raping two White women in Alabama. They were arrested, tried, convicted, and given death sentences (the 12 year-old was given life), all within 15 days. After huge international protests and many court cases, the last one left prison in 1950. I painted portraits of each of the nine boys based on photos taken at their arrest or imprisonment, and depicted them instead as school graduation images.

The paintings will be exhibited with a statement introducing visitors to the story of these nine people, along with background on mass incarceration and the demonization of young African American males. I want visitors to consider how we treat not only teenagers, but particularly male youth of color. I also want visitors to know these “boys” were nine individuals with potential if given opportunities so many of us were given. The process of the arts-based research in this project will be visually presented if there is space. Following the talk there will be a dialogue and reflective art/writing activity that connects these boys’ lives and experiences to the contemporary world.

INSTITUTE OF FINE ART AND COMMERCIAL ART BHUTAN
(IFACA BHUTAN)
Artist Collaborative
Social Hall, Campbell Student Union, 10:00AM-8:00PM

IFACA Bhutan, a group established by Bhutanese refugees in an eastern Nepali refugee camp, exhibits art work inspired by their culture and incredible journeys.

PERFORMANCES & WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, September 28

9:30-10:00am

FESTIVAL WELCOME
President Conway-Turner and Drew Kahn
Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

10:00-11:45am

HELLO, MY NAME IS_____
ANNE FRANK PROJECT & BSC THEATRE DEPARTMENT
Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

Meet Alex, a young girl who lives in a future world where individual identity is forbidden, and conformity mandated. A moment of inspiration launches her into a journey through mystical lands and dangerous obstacles. Will Alex brave the unknown to claim her identity or will she surrender to the status quo? Alex learns she must embrace her struggles in order to celebrate her Self. Interactive workshop immediately follows performance focusing on identity exploration, peer pressure and social conformity.

12:00-1:45pm

WRONGFUL CONVICTION: GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT
Jason Parker, BSC Office of Equity and Campus Diversity
Kara Oliver and Marc Rummenie, National Federation for
Just Communities of WNY
Margaret E. Bacon Gallery & Upton Hall Foyer

The Wrongful Conviction: Guilty Until Proven Innocent session is in sync with the Anne Frank Project’s social justice focus. The incredulous epidemic of mass incarceration and wrongful convictions has long plagued communities of minorities all across the United States for decades. We hope to engage the Buffalo State community in this noteworthy discussion, while exploring opportunities for dealing with this critical issue. During this dialogue experience participants will have the opportunity to explore Dr. Alice C. Pennisi’s art-based research project entitled Nine American Boys. Dr. Pennisi’s project focuses on the 1931 Scottsboro, Alabama case where nine African American males were wrongly convicted of raping a white woman. The young men ranged in age from 12-19 years of age. Within 15 days, all but one of the young men were arrested, tried, convicted, and sentenced to death. The 12-year-old was sentenced to life in prison.

2:00-3:45pm

SURVIVOR PANEL: TELLING STORIES THROUGH DIFFERENT MEDIA
Sophia Veffer (Western Europe), Salumu Honore (Dr Congo),
Deo Rai (Bhutan/Nepal) Drew Kahn - Moderator
Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

Meet three survivors from separate conflicts who’s story sharing has enabled them to engage and lead audiences around the world.

6:00-7:45pm

YOUR VALUES AND THE WORLD: a Workshop

Aimable Twagilimana

Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

Your values, your vision, your legacy and the world. This session will focus on brief, free-writing assignments promoting participants' self-awareness as a foundation for leadership and engagement. The theory behind the workshop is emotional intelligence, a concept popularized by psychologist Daniel Goleman, which consists of self-awareness, self-regulation, empathy, social skills, and self-motivation as foundational elements of leadership. I will facilitate the workshop by asking participants to write about themselves (and share) in a series of assignments exploring their values, visions, and legacies and how these shape their involvement in their communities and/or in the world.

8:00pm-9:45pm

ART AS PROTEST

Jasmine Mans – poetry performance and workshop

Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

We normally understand art as a tool of expression. For many, art is a tool of direct “engagement” with self and society. So, how do we use art as protest? How do we activate "art form" as an accessory to change? This workshop seeks to explore how we use art, be it: poetry, music, or even visual, as tools to acknowledge and deconstruct facets of oppression and injustice.

Thursday, September 29

9:00-10:45am

UNIVERSAL DESIGN YOGA

Sue Mann Dolce, Julia Kress, Patrick Moltane

Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

Welcome. Safe. Comfortable. Take time to slow down for a minute and relax. Through a safe, warm and comfortable yoga class students will engage mind, body and spirit. Students will be given permission to do less and feel more. As we quiet the outside world and draw our attention inward, we can listen to and act upon our instincts, feelings and sensations or we can ignore them. Students will be encouraged to listen to and be guided by their instincts as we move through this gentle class. This will empower students to identify with their truth, which will enable them to become more grounded, better balanced, stronger and compassionate. Fostering their leadership skills and helping prepare them to bring individuals together and build community will ultimately make the world a better place- one mindful act at a time.

12:15-1:40pm

THROUGH THE LENS: BRUCE FOX REFLECTS ON THE ANNE FRANK PROJECT IN RWANDA

Bruce Fox

Czurles-Nelson Gallery, Upton Hall

My initial intention when traveling with the Anne Frank Project- Rwanda trip was to document the students' experiences. What began in my mind as a photojournalism project quickly grew from telling the students' stories to telling my own story as well. But my story is not only about genocide. It is about the discovery of a beautiful nation and wonderful people, finding ways to rebuild not only infrastructure but also relationships, all while vowing to never forget the past and never allowing it to happen again.

2:00-3:45pm

From Memory

TheatreFiguren - MICHELE COSTA, JEREMY SPINDLER, CARRA

STRATTON, Kate Stapleton Parzych

Interactive Workshop - Airi Kohlbach

Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

Puppetry & music conjure a curious circle, hungry tiger, brave mouse, sweet moment-unforgettable. Here, we present a handful of short pieces with diverse, yet similar themes: community, compassion, courage and contentedness.

Whether by leading or simply “not following”, the heroes in each story possess Character to be admired and emulated today. **Workshop:** Explore the meaning of being present by talking through connections between Tiger and Strawberry, and the Circle and Story of Jumping Mouse, which are presented in the performance. Discover and learn about embracing the present moment throughout the workshop. Learn the difference between remembering the memories and clinging on the past.

5:00-7:00pm

ARTIST RECEPTION

THROUGH THE LENS: Bruce Fox Reflects on the Anne Frank Project in Rwanda by Bruce Fox
NINE AMERICAN BOYS by Alice Pennisi
Upton Hall Galleries

Celebrate incredible artists and the stories they've shared through art.

7:15-8:15pm

CLOSING MEDITATION

Lamin Tamang (Bhutan/Nepal)
Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

Guided Meditation: This will be my second year participating in the Anne Frank Project initiated " Justice Festival". My technique includes the guided Reiki meditation with soft healing background music and also chanting some powerful Tibetan mantras along with cleansing toxins from the body, mind and soul with Tibetan singing bowls and deep visualization process.

BIOGRAPHIES

DR. KATHERINE S. CONWAY TURNER

Katherine S. Conway-Turner, Ph.D., was confirmed as the ninth president of Buffalo State College by the SUNY Board of Trustees on June 16, 2014. She is a lifelong learner, educator, scholar, author, and humanitarian. During her 31-year career, she has served in a variety of leadership and administrative positions as well as held the rank of professor of psychology at five universities.

Most recently, Dr. Conway-Turner was provost and vice president for academic affairs at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, from July 2010 until July 2014. From 2004 to 2009, she was provost and vice president for academic affairs at SUNY Geneseo. Dr. Conway-Turner was the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Georgia Southern University and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Delaware, where she also served as director of the women's studies program and graduate program coordinator.

She was an American Council on Education (ACE) fellow at the College of New Jersey and she has held teaching positions at Santa Clara University and California State University, Long Beach.

In addition to her administrative responsibilities, teaching, and research, Dr. Conway-Turner regularly travels to Haiti to perform humanitarian work as a member of H.O.P.E., a nonprofit, volunteer organization based in Rochester, New York. Through this organization, she and her colleagues assist the people of Borgne, Haiti, in achieving equitable, just, and sustainable living conditions. Dr. Conway-Turner received her Ph.D. and M.A. in psychology and her B.A. in microbiology, all from the University of Kansas. As a first-generation college student, she embraces the transformative power of education. She has experienced firsthand the potential of schools like Buffalo State, and she views the college as a special place that does incredible work to move its students forward. In short, Buffalo State transforms lives.

Dr. Conway-Turner is married to Dr. Alvin L. Turner, a psychologist licensed in New York and Delaware engaged in the independent practice of psychotherapy, supervision, training, and forensic psychological services. They have three daughters, Shana, Anya, and Jameela.

MICHELE COSTA

Michele Costa/theatreFiguren has been designing and performing original productions since 1990. Her passion is taking the small & ordinary and finding the meaningful and relevant story within it. She is also a professional scenic artist, costume designer and builder of special props, puppets and masks for area theaters and dance companies.

SUSAN MANN DOLCE

Susan (Sue) Mann Dolce is Associate Director of the UB Accessibility Resources office. Sue's Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Science and clinical background in Occupational Therapy support the Participation Consultation Model she developed and uses in her work with UB students with disabilities.

Research and program evaluation interests include participation, disability studies, collaborative programming, and universal design and programming, including Universal Design Yoga, which was the recipient of a 2014 SUNY award in student programming. Annual presentations at the national Association of Higher Ed and Disability (AHEAD) conference, chairing the AHEAD Disability Studies special interest section since 2009, and membership in the Society of Disability Studies (SDS), and the International Association of Yoga Therapists (IAYT) provide multiple opportunities for exploration of mindfulness, disability, wellness and participation.

EVE C. EVERETTE

Eve Everette is the Assistant Director for the Anne Frank Project at SUNY Buffalo State where she curates the annual Social Justice Festival, co-directs devised theatre, and teaches drama-based education. Eve holds an MA in Classical and Contemporary Text for Acting from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. She received a BA in Theatre and a BA in Art History with honors from SUNY Buffalo State. Eve trained at Canada's National Voice Intensive and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, and studied art history in Italy. Eve recently acted in the BFG at the Theatre of Youth, and directed "It Happened Here" for the Friends of the Buffalo Story (summer 2014). She is the Assistant to Director for The Apology Project for pounds per square in performance (Toronto, CA) at Silo City (Summer 2017). Eve is a board member of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo, and a CommUnity Build/IEEE Facilitator for the National Federation for Just Communities of WNY. Eve travels a lot, and enjoys running, camping, and cooking.

BRUCE FOX

Bruce Fox has been the university photographer at Buffalo State College for over ten years. In this role, Bruce works with faculty and staff on digital imaging needs for classroom and research as well as photography for college promotional uses. His work ranges from photojournalistic event photography to studio portraits and small product photography. Prior to coming to Buffalo State, Bruce was the University Photographer at Michigan State University for over 16 years and taught photography and new media classes at SUNY Fredonia and Jamestown Community College.

Bruce's educational background includes a BFA in Visual Arts and New Media from SUNY College at Fredonia and an Associate of Science in Photography from Lansing Community College, Lansing, Michigan. In addition, he has attended workshops at the Maine Photographic Workshops, the Cone Editions Workshops, and numerous technical symposia presented by the University Photographers' Association of America.

SALUMU HONORÉ

I was born in 1988 in Kalemie, Democratic Republic of Congo. At the age of 9, my family and I fled my country due to a massacre that took place in my home village conducted by the Rwandaese rebel group, the Henderahamwe, during the civil war of 1996-1997. I survived because my friends and I were fishing when the slaughter occurred. I lost my two older brothers and one sister, and many friends. In 1998 we left the Congo and lived in the UNHCR Lugufu refugee camp in Tanzania for two years until we moved to Buffalo, New York in 2010. I learned English through ESL classes, earned my associates degree at Erie Community College, and am now currently enrolled in an International Relations degree with a minor in French at SUNY Buffalo State. This life story is to be continued...

DREW KAHN

Drew Kahn is Professor of Theater at SUNY Buffalo State where he teaches acting and devised theater (President's Award for Excellence in Teaching/SUNY) and directs productions (Kennedy Center Award). He is the Founding Director of The Anne Frank Project, a multi-layered social justice initiative at SUNY Buffalo State that utilizes the wisdom of Anne Frank as a springboard for the examination of genocide and intolerance through the lens of storytelling and performance. He presents and teaches internationally on the universal language of theater and the intersection of storytelling, conflict resolution and community building—most recently in Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burma, Viet Nam, Morocco, New Zealand, Greece, Croatia, Turkey, and Kenya. (Toby Tickin Back Award for Holocaust Education, Community Leader Award, National Federation for Just Communities). Professor Kahn has extensive acting experience in professional theater (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, he was the host of WKBW-TV's (ABC) AM Buffalo for six years, hosted the WNED (PBS) documentary Saving a Landmark: The Darwin Martin House (National Telly Award), is a regular narrator with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and has numerous local stage credits including In a Dark, Dark House, Lobby Hero, A Cat On A Hot Tin Roof and Baltimore Waltz (ArtVoice Artie Award). He received an MFA from Southern Methodist University and a BA from San Diego State University. His favorite roles are husband to his wife Maria and dad to his children Sam and Nate.

AIRI KOHLBACH

Airi is a fourth year theater major at buffalo state college, studying set design and prop design specifically.

Productions she has worked on in the past include: sound design for Romeo & Juliet, prop design assistant for A funny thing happened on the way to the forum, Prop design for Noises Off, director for Red Demon and Face of Jizo, as well as ensemble in Footloose, and MIRROR/RORRIM. Airi would like to develop advanced skills in puppetry, and prop design.

JULIA KRESS

Julia has a BA in Exercise Science from the University at Buffalo, is a Certified Yoga Instructor at the Advanced 500 Level, E-RYT500, has a certification as an Ayurvedic Specialist, and has been part of the Universal Design Yoga program at UB since 2009. She is the Administrative Coordinator and Senior Teacher for the Teacher Training Program at the Himalayan Institute of Buffalo and has served as instructor for other numerous teacher training programs in PA and Western NY. She works privately with clients to find the most effective method of yoga practice to fit their unique needs and abilities.

JASMINE MANS

A author, performer, poet, teacher...yes to all of those titles, but more importantly Jasmine Mans is an artist...an artist who enjoys having various forums to express her thoughts, moods, opinions and a voice to speakout on behalf of others and the community around her. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Madison (2014), Jasmine received her BA in African-American Studies (Black Theory & Literature) and is the recipient of the Star Ledger – NJPAC; Arts Millennia; and (New York) Knicks Poetry Slam Scholarships and awards. However, Mans began stringing rhymes together as a middle-school student in her hometown of Newark, New Jersey. Those artistic skills were honed while attending the first performing arts high school in the nation, Newark Arts High School. Jasmine has never been described as the quiet type. Her poetry has teeth. Her stories are told to evoke the emotional wellbeing of those who are apprehensive about culture, politics and social stigmas. In 2012, Jasmine was chosen by Glamour Magazine, as one of their Top 10 Most Influential Women in College. She has also successfully competed in HBO's Russell Simmons Presents Brave New Voice and Knicks Poetry Slam competitions.

Jasmine has also received recognition from Nylon Magazine as the performer who drops knowledge every time she grabs the mic. Whether critiquing Nikki Minaj as a role model or celebrating the presence of a black couple in the White House, she is not afraid to stand and deliver representing her beliefs.

Jasmine uses spoken word to single-handedly bring change to the world with positive agitation; hoping to prompt dialogue where there is normally fear. Her goal is to encourage bravery and activism in the youth of tomorrow. Mans released her first book, Chalk Outlines of Snow Angels in May 2012, a chronicle of her journey and vision. Transcending boundaries, Chalk Outlines includes works addressing issues varying from broken relationships, fear, racism, sexuality, death and the overall human experience. Receiving local and international success, Chalk Outlines, has often been described using one word...breathtaking. Jasmine has opened for artists such as Goapele, Mos Def, and Janelle Monae. Her work has appeared alongside other artists such as NoMalice of C!ipse and Pharrell. Her artistry has brought her to theatres and stages including the Kennedy Center, Broadway's New Amsterdam Theater, the Wisconsin Governor's Mansion and the Sundance Film Festival, amongst others. In 2013, Jasmine released her first multi-media project, Black Boy Gold, which is critically acclaimed for its highlight of real and overlooked issues facing black men. She has also completed her Pens and Needles Tour in London, England. So it should come as no surprise that Jasmine Mans has been deemed "The Lauryn Hill of her generation."

Jasmine began mentoring younger poets and teaching creative writing in the University of Wisconsin's First Wave program. Realizing the difficulty that may arise for young artists in being able to formulate their thoughts and ideas into words, Jasmine has really enjoyed developing curriculums which engage all ages to the creative writing and performing process through poetry and raps/lyrical music. Mans recently gained a residency in Norfolk, VA coaching six young poets for the Brave New Voices International Poetry Festival. Through Jasmine's teachings, they were able to make it to final stage at the Kennedy Center with a second place win.

PATRICK MOLTANE

Patrick is adjunct in the Department of Theater and Dance at Buffalo State College. He has been involved with Buffalo State since 2011: he taught yoga classes in the fitness center for several years and joined the Theater Department in 2015. Patrick has been involved with and inspired by the Universal Design Yoga program at UB under the direction of Susan Mann Dolce since 2012. Patrick is a certified yoga instructor at the Advanced 500 Level, E-RYT 500, he was trained in Vinyasa/Ashtanga and Yoga Therapy. Patrick attended Matthew Sanford's Level I/II training in MN and has completed multiple yoga workshops since 2009.

He teaches at east meets west yoga studio, hive Lifespan Center, D'Youville College, Buffalo Seminary, has led multiple workshops with students at UB and Buffalo State, and is co-owner of Celtic Roots Yoga, which serves the community, individuals and corporate clients.

KARA OLIVER

Kara Oliver is a passionate and dedicated individual who has solidified herself not only as a young professional but a true “champion for change” with the Western New York community. Kara is a native Harlemitte who moved to western New York in 2007 to attend Niagara University. There she earned a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), in Communication and Media Studies and was inducted in the Lambda Pi Eta National Communications Honor Society. Upon graduation she interned at CBS Corporation there where she was able to transition to Programs and Discharge Management: Community Specialist at NYC Department of Correction. It was there where she discovered her true affinity towards community engagement as a means of improving urban communities, while promoting safe, healthy, and sustainable environments. She then received the State University of New York College at Buffalo Fellowship to complete her Masters of Science (M.S.), in Creative Studies/ Public Relations. Kara currently works as the program Specialist at the National Federation for Just Communities of WNY in which she coordinates events, and facilities workshop trainings for children and adults within all social-economic backgrounds to assist them in developing cultural competency and movement towards holistic approach of a better community.

As an extension of her work, Kara spreads her message of peace and equality, through writing and speaking engagements such as TEDx Buffalo. Kara's work in the community does not end when she leaves the office. She also mentors as a Big Sister in Buffalo's East Side, as it is a constant reminder of where she has come from, what she has to offer, and where she is trying to move her community. Kara is a champion for young women alike and her goal is to continue to be a member and role model in the community and beyond.

JASON PARKER

Jason Parker is the diversity program coordinator for the Equity and Campus Diversity Office at SUNY Buffalo State College. He is charged with leading the campus diversity initiative and heightening the profile of the Equity and Campus Diversity Office. Prior to his appointment at Buffalo State, Jason served as the St. Louis Community College campus coordinator for the African American Male Initiative, a federally-funded program dedicated to recruiting and retaining African American male students. His work included community outreach to area middle and high schools to foster college pathways planning among minority students. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration at the University at Buffalo.

KATE STAPLETON PARZYCH

Kate Stapleton Parzych is a visual artist and arts educator who revels in drawing with light. A Western New York native, she received her MFA from University at Buffalo and is an adjunct professor of photography. She prefers to record the spaces between the moments we recall later as memory.

DR. ALICE PENNISI

Dr. Alice Pennisi is Associate Professor and Chair of Buffalo State's Art Education Department. She earned her doctorate in Art Education, along with an Ed.M in Art Education, and an M.A. in Curriculum & Teaching from Teachers College at Columbia University and also holds a B.A. in Visual Art from Barnard College. Her artwork often centers on using portraiture as a means to investigate human rights issues. In 2016, she received the Eastern Region Higher Ed Educator's Award from the National Art Education Association.

DEO RAI

Living the life under the shadows of mercy, poverty and hunger in the refugee camp, a small group of art-loving children gathered together under the supervision of young artists to form an IFACA Bhutan (Institute of Fine Art and Commercial Art Bhutan.) December 25 1994 AD was the official day we established this organization in the refugee camp of eastern Nepal, which became a great art environment for Bhutanese refugees. Since then, young art-loving minds started to learn and share art in open areas or under the shadows of big saal trees. There was a lack of art materials, classrooms and other necessities.

Drawing on earth, sketching with broken stubs of pencils, and squeezing green leaf for color on the outer cover of note paper were the ways and techniques we used to learn art. We do not have the well-educated teachers to share the art knowledge of the outer world. But what we had at that time was enough for us at that moment. The whole universe was our university and the problem we faced day to day was our daily lesson. It's very interesting to share the past moments by standing in the present. Whenever I remember that moment it fills me with energy and I make a sweet smile with tears in my eyes.

Although we do not have professional painters and paintings in this exhibition, we want to share our untold, bitter, hidden true story about the Bhutanese refugee. How has this massive Bhutanese community lost its identity for more than 23 years? To the world, it is a long journey, which we passed from the dark days to this present moment standing in Buffalo, New York, and the very humble members of Anne Frank Project members. Thank you.

MARC L. RUMMENIE

Marc Rummenie is the Program Director for the National Federations for Just Communities of WNY, inc. A lifelong Western New Yorker, Marc is committed to building equitable and inclusive communities and has been with the NFJC since 2006. He is a NYS Certified Social Studies teacher and an alum of the College of Wooster and the University at Buffalo. Prior to the NFJC, Marc taught English at the prestigious Gow School, a boarding school for dyslexic students, for 9 years. The son of a Buffalo Public School Teacher and a graduate of the BAVP-Marc knows well both the struggles and issues of BPS and the impact that a positive learning environment can have on a student(s). He has run many programs related to Youth Leadership Development and Anti-Bullying, and he designs and implements all programs developed and implemented by the NFJC. A resident of East Aurora, Marc is father to Ryan, Cristian, and Celia.

JEREMY SPINDLER

Jeremy Spindler is an autodidact musician who primarily performs on the accordion and voice. Often solo and with the group Volver, he plays an eclectic repertoire of traditional and contemporary music from Brazil, Colombia, France and Eastern European countries. His main artistic philosophy relies on the melding of musical/auditory memorization with the intuitive and improvisational exploration from our most ancestral being.

CARRA STRATTON

Carra Stratton, a Buffalo native, studied Literature at UB and at UCSC and has since continued to explore the arts - playing the hurdy gurdy and accordion, writing, and dancing. She is excited for the opportunity and the challenges of learning about puppetry and working with Michele Costa.

LAMIN TAMANG

My name is Lamin Tamang, originally from Bhutan, exiled for the twenty years in Nepal since 1992 to 2012. I'm married in 2009 and was a teacher of Social studies, Health and physical training, Moral Science, Environmental Science, and English for five years in Nepal in three different private boarding schools. I have an associate degree from ECC and a Masters Degree in Reiki Healing and a basic training in dynamic yoga. I was the president of Community yoga studio back in Nepal and a student of Hundustani Classical music for 2 years. Currently I serve as a President of the Bhutanese-Nepali Community of Buffalo, Inc. and also work for the Board of education at the Buffalo Public Schools as a Nepali Registration Cultural Specialist.

Guided Meditation: This will be my second year participating in the Anne Frank Project initiated "Justice Festival".

My technique includes the guided Reiki meditation with soft healing background music and also chanting some powerful Tibetan mantras along with cleansing toxins from the body, mind and soul with Tibetan singing bowls and deep visualization process.

AIMABLE TWAGILIMANA

Aimable Twagilimana received his Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo and joined the English Department at SUNY Buffalo State in September 1995. Dr. Twagilimana also has degrees from the National University of Rwanda (BA and MA, 1984; 1986), the University of Reading (United Kingdom) (MA Applied Linguistics, 1989), and the School of Management at the University of Buffalo (MBA, 2014). He is a part-time faculty at the Graduate School of International Policy and Management of the Middlebury Institute of International of Monterey (California) and a full-time professor at SUNY Buffalo State in the English Department, where he teaches courses in linguistics and literature. He was the 2008-2009 Chair of the Association of African Studies Programs (AASP). He directed the African and African American Studies Interdisciplinary Unit at SUNY Buffalo State from May 2006 to December 2012.

He has received awards and scholarships from the Fulbright program (3 times), the British Council, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, among others. He has published several books and numerous encyclopedia entries and chapters in book. He is a board member of the International Institute of Buffalo and the Educators' Institute for Human Rights.

SOPHIA VEFFER

Sophia Vefffer, 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, Sophia is 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.

AFP 2016 Staff

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