



# AFP 2019:

# Engage for Change

October 2 and 3  
SUNY Buffalo State  
Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

Performances, workshops, and  
speakers

Free and open to the public and  
campus community

Register online and view the full  
schedule at  
[www.annefrankproject.com](http://www.annefrankproject.com)

11th Annual Social Justice Festival

Questions?

[theannefrankproject@buffalostate.edu](mailto:theannefrankproject@buffalostate.edu)

(716) 878-5559



# AFP 2019: Engage for Change

About the Anne Frank Project .....	3
President's Welcome .....	4
Daily Schedule .....	5
Campus Map.....	7
Featured Speakers, Artists, and Exhibits.....	8
Session Descriptions .....	11
Biographies .....	17
Alphabetical by last name	
Staff, Committee, Donors .....	23
Sponsors & Friends .....	24
Friends of AFP.....	25

# 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 mission 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 *Engage for Change* 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

Follow us!

Twitter @annefrankprjct

Instagram @annefrankproject

annefrankproject.com

Like us on Facebook



# A Welcome from President Katherine Conway-Turner

It is my pleasure to welcome all participants to the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Anne Frank Project Social Justice Festival. Each year we come together at this festival to ponder how we can forge just communities locally, regionally and internationally. The hope is that we leave feeling a new sense of comradery and a renewed energy to enhance our personal understanding of the importance of social justice. This is a space for all to understand the importance of seeking a just, fair, and equitable world. Today, as we see around us the purposeful erosion of democracy, as we hear the vitriol rhetoric spewed daily toward men, women, and children that are perceived as different, as we see policies being forged that do not serve the many---multiple tasks have been created for us to tackle at this year's festival. We must decide what can be done together to stop, slowdown, and reverse the sieges that we are facing around the world. How many times has the current federal philosophy shown itself to be on the wrong foot? How often have you screamed internally or out loud at the unimaginable assaults being made against people of color, women, immigrants, refugees, children and others who have little power and no voice?

At this year's festival, let us come together to define our concerns, share our worries, and bemoan the anti-democratic policies and actions emerging from autocratic government officials here or afar. Let this year be the year where we come together to ask the question ***what can we do?*** Let our concern for today and tomorrow fuel our commitment to plan for a better future. May this be the year that concern moves to much needed action. I wish all who join us the compassion to understand the challenges we face as well as the fortitude to activate our apprehensions into a comprehensive strategy to reignite our energy to move toward productive and positive action.



ANNE FRANK PROJECT

BUFFALO STATE • The State University of New York

# Daily Schedule

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Time	Session	Location
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Tales from the Porch, Get Fokus'd Productions</b> Artist Talk with Aitina Fareed-Cooke	Upton Hall 230
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	<b>An Evening with Celebrated Author – Dr. Alexis De Veaux</b> 2019 Dr. Paul G. Bulger Lecture Series	Auditorium Burchfield Penney Art Center

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

Time	Session	Location
Gallery Hours M-F, 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.	<b>Tales from the Porch, Get Fokus'd Productions</b>	Czurlas-Nelson Gallery Upton Hall
	<b>Engaging through Change: The Underground Railroad in Niagara Falls</b>	Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Student Gallery Upton Hall
9:00 - 10:15 a.m.	<b>Welcome to AFP 2019!</b> Dr. Mayrose, Interim Provost & Professor Drew Kahn	Social Hall Campbell Student Union
	<b>What If: Imagination as Engaged Action</b> Dr. Alexis De Veaux, Distinguished Speaker	* <i>Rwandan tea and amandazi (donuts)</i>
10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>Remarkable Rwanda Stories</b> Lucas Colón, Lila Rollo, Travis Emmons, Amanda Montgomery	Social Hall Campbell Student Union  * <i>Rwandan tea and amandazi (donuts)</i>
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Sophia's Legacy</b> Sophia Veffer, Drew Kahn, Colin Dabkowski	Social Hall Campbell Student Union
1:45 – 3:15 p.m.	<b>Flying to Learn/Learning to Fly: Social Circus as a Vehicle for Social Change</b> Kathleen Golde	Social Hall Campbell Student Union
	<b>Life Recorded: Honoring the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthdays of Roswell Park Cancer Survivors</b> Alicia Larson	Assembly Hall Campbell Student Union
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	<b>Peace Jam with Rock Va Mic</b> Vicki Ross and Lonnie Barlow	Social Hall Campbell Student Union
	<b>Peace, Love, Action!</b> Tanya Zabinski	Assembly Hall Campbell Student Union
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	<b>Artist Reception</b>	Upton Hall Lobby <i>Light refreshments</i>

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

Time	Session	Location
Gallery Hours M-F, 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.	<b>Tales from the Porch, Get Fokus'd Productions</b>	Czurles-Nelson Gallery Upton Hall
	<b>Engaging through Change: The Underground Railroad in Niagara Falls</b>	Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Student Gallery Upton Hall
	<b>Anne Frank Annex Virtual Reality Tour</b>	Sign-up: Social Hall Viewing: CSU 415
9:00 - 10:15 a.m.	<b>Exploring Empathy Through Movement and Stories</b> Susan Moser	Social Hall Campbell Student Union
	<b>Reimagining the Teaching Profession to Meet the Needs of Teacher Shortage</b> Drs. Keli Garas-York and Pixita del Prado Hill Francoise Uzamukunda, Ondiso Madete, Zarina Wafula, Gillian Kemunto	Room 415 Campbell Student Union
10:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	<b>Living Library</b> Katie Bertel and Micah Jones	Social Hall Campbell Student Union
	<b>Anne Frank House Virtual Reality Experience and Social Justice VR Demonstrations</b> Ken Fujiuci	Room 415 Campbell Student Union, 415
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>The Past is Present: Social Justice and Diversity Addressed Through Collaborative Printmaking</b> Mary Kozub	Education Workshop Burchfield Penney Art Center
	<b>Engaging through Change: The Underground Railroad in Niagara Falls</b> Director's Talk with Ally Spongr	Upton Hall 230
	<b>Dialogue on Citizenship: Let Your Voice Be Heard</b> Laura Rao and Joy Guarino	Social Hall Campbell Student Union
1:45 – 3:15 p.m.	<b>Freedom Collage</b> Jason Hall	Social Hall Campbell Student Union
	<b>Healing from Historical Trauma &amp; The Power of Recognizing Our Potential – A Native American Example</b> Pete Hill	Assembly Hall Campbell Student Union
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	<b>Microaggression Project: Fashion Speaks for All</b> Erin Habes and Dr. Keunyoung Oh	Social Hall Campbell Student Union
	<b>Hip Hop Based Education and Cyphers</b> Judith Harris, Christine Seshie, and the Urban Teachers Academy	Assembly Hall Campbell Student Union
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	<b>Remarkable Rwanda Stories</b> Imani Smiley Herring, Janaé Leonard, Monique Newman, Lisa Shaw, Tierra Purdue	Social Hall Campbell Student Union  <i>*Light Rwandan Fare</i>



**BUFFALO STATE**  
 The State University of New York  
 1300 Elmwood Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14222-1095  
 (716) 878-4000 • www.buffalostate.edu

**DIRECTORY**

H8	Neumann Hall
F7	North Wing
G6	Perry Hall
G8	Porter Hall
F8	Power Plant
J8	Rockwell Hall
F4	Science Building
E4	Science and Mathematics Complex
F8	Softball Field
E5	South Wing
F8	Sports Arena
C7	Student Apartment Complex
E6	Technology Building
F3	Tower 1
G3	Tower 2
F3	Tower 3
F3	Tower 4
E2	Donald Savage Building
F7	Houston Gym
G8	Ketchum Hall
F2	Moore Complex
H4	Moore Hall
F6	Moot Hall
H8	Weigel Health Center
H8	Bacon Hall
G7	Bishop Hall
D7	Buckham Hall
H5	Bulger Communication Ctr
J9	Burchfield Penney Art Center
H6	Butler Library
G6	Campbell Student Union
J7	Campus House
G5	Cassidy Hall
H5	Caudell Hall
G7	Chase Hall
D8	Child Care Center
F6	Classroom Building
H7	Cleveland Hall
F9	Clinton Center
C3	Coyer Field
I8	Donald Savage Building
D5	Houston Gym
E2	Ketchum Hall
F2	Moore Complex
G2	Moore Hall
H4	Moot Hall
F6	Weigel Health Center



**LEGEND**

- Student Lots
- Faculty/Staff Lots
- Visitor Lots
- Reserved Lots
- Accessible Parking
- Accessible Entrance
- NFTA Bus Stop
- Campus Circular

buffalostate.edu

**Social Hall and Assembly Halls - Campbell Student Union  
 Czurles-Nelson and Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Gallery - Upton Hall  
 Parking - G LOT 21 and 22 (Grant Street lots)**

# Dr. Alexis De Veaux

*Distinguished Speaker*

*Dr. Paul G. Bulger Lecture Series*

Born and raised in Harlem, the product of two merging streams of black history in New York City –immigrants from the Caribbean on her mother’s side and migrants from North Carolina on her father’s side –who settled in Harlem in the early decades of the Twentieth Century. The second of eight children, that history was embedded in her mother’s view of life: “You got three strikes against you. You poor, you black, and you female.” But Alexis was drawn to the world of words and books, and literature soon became the means by which she re-imagined the world her mother understood.



The social movements of the 1960s and the black writers associated with them had a determining impact. Alexis began to envision the possibilities of living as a writer. In the early 1970s, she joined the writers’ workshop of the Frederick Douglass Creative Arts Center in Harlem. The workshop was run by the late writer, Fred Hudson. Under his guidance, she won first place in a national black fiction writers’ contest (1972) and published her first children’s book, *Na-ni* (1973) and the fictionalized memoir, *Spirits in the Street* (1973). By the end of the 1970s, Alexis’s reputation as a writer bridged multiple genres: fiction, children’s literature, playwriting, and poetry.

In the ensuing decades, the tensions between the Black Arts Movement, an emerging black feminist movement, and, later, the Third World Gay and Lesbian Liberation Movement, were the backdrop for Alexis’s writing. Her work began to be defined by two critical concerns: making the racial and sexual experiences of black female characters central to her work and disrupting boundaries between forms. In 1980, she published *Don’t Explain*, an award-winning biography of jazz great, Billie Holiday, written as a prose poem. Her short stories were also exercises in disrupting the lines between poetry and prose. As a freelance writer and contributing editor for *Essence Magazine* in the 1980s, Alexis penned a number of socially relevant articles, traveling on behalf of the magazine to Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Egypt. She was chosen by the magazine to go to South Africa in 1990 to interview Nelson Mandela upon his historic release from prison, making her the first North American writer to do so. As an artist and lecturer, she has traveled extensively in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America, Japan, and Europe. Alexis published a second award-winning children’s book, *An Enchanted Hair Tale* (1987) before moving to Buffalo, where she finished graduate school, earning a doctorate in American Studies in 1992. A project nearly ten years in the making, her biography of Audre Lorde, *Warrior Poet* (2004) has been the recipient of several awards, including the Gustavus Meyers Outstanding Book Award (2004), the Lambda Literary Award for Biography (2004), and the Hurston/Wright Foundation Legacy Award-Nonfiction (2005). Her work is available in English, Spanish, Dutch, Japanese, and Serbo-Croatian.

Today, Alexis is a celebrated writer and activist, recognized for her lifelong contributions to a number of women’s and literary organizations. She has collaborated with the visual artist Valerie Maynard and poet Kathy Engel on the digital project, “Are You Now or Have You Ever Been Terrorized?”(available on YouTube), and co-founded with Kathy Engel, Lyrical Democracies ([www.lyricaldemocracies.com](http://www.lyricaldemocracies.com)), a cultural partnership aimed at communities interested in working with poets to enhance existing social projects. With her new work, *Yabo*, Alexis has returned to her first love, writing fiction.



# Featured Exhibits and Artists

## *Engaging through Change: The Underground Railroad in Niagara Falls*

**Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Gallery, Upton Hall  
Sept. 30-Oct. 11, M-F, 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.**

Standing on the border of freedom, Niagara Falls was one of the most important points on the Underground Railroad. For some free African Americans, it was home and a safe place to work and live. For others, the city was a crossing point over the last barrier to freedom – the Niagara River.



The stories of the Underground Railroad in Niagara Falls are shared at the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center, an experiential museum that opened to the public in 2018. The Heritage Center shifts the focus from benevolent abolitionists to freedom seekers themselves and highlights the extraordinary results that are achieved when ordinary people stand against oppression. These stories are brought to life with powerful animated watercolor illustrations by award-winning illustrator and fine artist, E.B. Lewis.

In alignment with the Anne Frank Project, the Heritage Center aims to engage through change. By facilitating conversations that reveal present-day consequences of historical events in ways that are meaningful for visitors and touch them personally, we strive to encourage our visitors to take action for civil and human rights for everyone. Together, we hope to be a spark for global change that begins right here in our communities in western New York

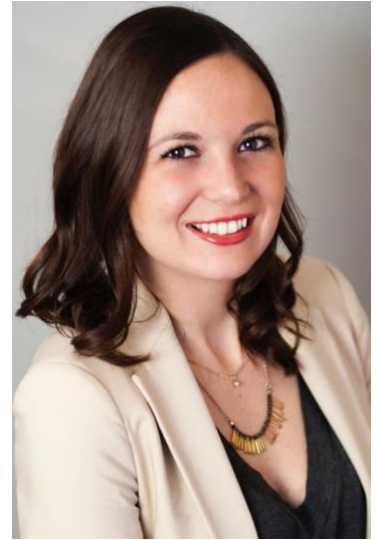
### **E.B. Lewis Bio**

Award-winning illustrator and fine artist, E.B. Lewis has illustrated over seventy books for children and created illustrations for the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center's permanent exhibition, *One More River to Cross*, in 2018.

Inspired by two artist uncles, as early as the third grade, Lewis displayed artistic promise. Beginning in the sixth grade, he attended the Saturday Morning Art League and studied with Clarence Wood. Lewis attended the Temple University Tyler School of Art, where he discovered his medium of preference was watercolor. During his four years at Temple, Lewis majored in Graphic Design, Illustration, and Art Education. After graduating, he taught art in public schools for twelve years. Presently, E.B. teaches at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. He is also a member of The Society of Illustrators in New York City and an artist member of Salamagundi Art Club of New York. In 2003, the Kerlan Collection at the University of Minnesota purchased a collection of original watercolors from E.B.'s first fifty children's books. Today, his works are displayed in museums, owned by private collectors, and sold in art galleries throughout the United States and Europe.



**Ally Spongr** As the interim director of the Heritage Center, Ally provides dynamic leadership to the Center’s operations, fundraising, exhibitions, and initiatives. Through her work, Ally takes a creative approach to ensuring the successful implementation of the Center’s mission and vision.



Throughout the development of the Heritage Center, Ally worked creatively with the project team to bring the stories of freedom seekers to the forefront of the Underground Railroad narrative. With a background in arts and culture, she brings enthusiasm for the advancement of Niagara’s cultural assets and dedication to local community.

Ally previously held positions at the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site, Anna Kaplan Contemporary, and Arts Services Initiative of Western New York. She holds her BFA in Fine Arts and Art History and has completed courses for her MA in Museum Studies on the Collections Management and Curatorial Track at SUNY Buffalo State College.

## **Tales from the Porch by Get Fokus’d Productions**

***Czurlen-Nelson Gallery, Upton Hall, Sept. 30-Oct. 9, M-F, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.***

You ever wonder what stories nestle deep in the essence of a neighborhood? Many times as I ride through my city, I see people sitting on their porches (mainly in the summer) laughing, arguing, children playing, varying in ages, varying in race, varying in economic status... All Human. I've always wondered, if given the opportunity, what stories would be told? What have they seen from the vantage point of their porch? How are their stories different from others and how are they similar? How do their stories connect? I'd like to capture these stories through photography and film, traveling to the four corners of Buffalo NY (Eastside, North Buffalo, Westside, and South Buffalo) selecting a variety of "porches"/people to share their stories.

## ***Aitina Fareed-Cooke***

Aitina Fareed-Cooke was told at a young age that she would be a “failure to thrive” as a result of her biological mother's addiction to drugs. At 14 months old, she and her siblings were placed in foster care and, when Aitina was three years old, her mother died of a drug overdose. Though the odds were against her, she managed to thrive, due to taking advantage of community arts programs that introduced her to photography and film, while incorporating her love of writing music and poetry.



Aitina is now an award-winning photographer and lyricist recognized by 43 North's Ignite Buffalo People’s Choice Award, CEPA Gallery-Exhibition Award, the National Society of Leadership & Success-Excellence in Teaching Award, Kingdom Choice Award, and more. Aitina has also been featured in Buffalo Healthy Living Magazine, Upstart New York, Challenger, National Young Audiences Emerging Leaders, Rapzilla, and many more. Aitina’s original work has been featured in CEPA Gallery, Jamestown Community College, Darwin Martin House, and the Blue Plate Studio. Adding to her extensive resume, she has worked with “Say Yes” Community Schools, Young Audiences of WNY, CEPA Gallery, CAO Youth Services, Heart Foundation, Gateway-Longview, and more.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

### Session Time and Description

### Location

**12:15-1:30 p.m.**

**Tales from the Porch, Get Fokus'd Productions**

*Artist Talk with Aitina Fareed-Cooke*

Upton Hall 230

**7:30-8:30 p.m.**

**An Evening with Celebrated Author – Dr. Alexis De Veaux**

*2019 Dr. Paul G. Bulger Lecture Series*

Auditorium  
Burchfield Penney Art Center

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

### Session Time and Description

### Location

**9:00-10:15 a.m.**

**Welcome Remarks**

*Opening remarks by Dr. Mayrose, Interim Provost, and Professor Drew Kahn*

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union

**What If: Imagination as Engaged Action**

*Dr. Alexis De Veaux*

About Dr. Alexis De Veaux's work:

**The Writer:** Alexis De Veaux has written in multiple genres—poetry, fiction, memoir, journalism, biography, children's literature, and plays. Writing is a way she reimagines the inequities of race, gender, sexuality, and class in black diasporic lives.

**The Speaker:** As a speaker, Alexis De Veaux addresses social issues and connects them across historic and contemporary moments. Whether speaking in a community setting or on a college or university campus, she continually interacts with new voices and new possibilities.

**The Activist:** Alexis De Veaux is committed to participating in imagining a more just, socially conscious, sustainable, and literate world. She speaks of a literate world, a global world, in which textual and non-textual ways of learning and knowing are equally valued.

**10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

**Remarkable Rwanda Stories**

*Lucas Colón, Lila Rollo, Travis Emmons, Amanda Montgomery*

Enjoy interactive presentations by Buffalo State students who traveled to Rwanda with the Anne Frank Project in June, 2019! *Light Rwandan refreshments will be served.*

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union

**12:15-1:30 p.m.**

**Sophia’s Legacy**

*Sophia Veffer, SUNY Doctor of Humane Letters, and Drew Kahn, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, Colin Dabkowski, BSC Social Justice Fellow*

Sophia’s Legacy is an interactive resource for educators where they can access chapters of videos where Sophia shares her stories of a young girl growing up in Amsterdam, Holland, attending school with Anne Frank, and experiencing the unthinkable atrocities of the Holocaust. She recounts how she rebuilt her life following the war. This session gives an overview of the project, such as lesson plans, conversation starters, and story-based exercises where teachers can actively extend the lessons into their classrooms. Sophia will also share her story with unflinching honesty, poignancy, and her trademark humor. The Anne Frank Project is proud to partner with Buffalo State’s School of Education and US Holocaust Memorial Museum Fellows to create Sophia’s Legacy.

Social Hall,  
Campbell Student Union

**1:45-3:15 p.m.**

**Flying to Learn/Learning to Fly: Social Circus as a Vehicle for Social Change**

*Kathleen Golde*

Social Circus welcomes all beings and values their uniqueness. In our session, Flying to Learn/Learning to Fly: Social Circus as a Vehicle for Social Change, we will share stories, images, and discoveries from our journey. Buffalo State College’s inaugural Aerial Dance and Circus Arts set the stage for collaboration, transformation, and community. We share our experiences, Flying to Learn/Learning to Fly!, and pass along lessons and games we have learned and created in our work sessions. We continue to share the legacy of Circus Arts as a vehicle for social change. Attendees may witness and are welcome to engage in the workshop.

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union

**Life Recorded: Honoring the 90th Birthdays of Roswell Park Cancer Survivors**

*Alicia Larson, M.A.*

As Anne Frank would have turned 90 years old this year, we honor several members of the Roswell Park community who are celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays in 2019. In this session, you will be introduced via video and audio recordings to the stories of some amazing individuals. The idea for this session was born in the knowledge that survivors of varying types of traumas face similar challenges and the opportunity for hope toward healing. When the stories of our elderly are shared, this community gains a voice that, at times, is only heard as a whisper in the lives of younger generations. People of all ages deserve their voices to be heard, especially those who have irreplaceable knowledge based on unique and wide-ranging life circumstances. The goals of this project from Roswell Park’s Life Recorded program is to highlight a generation’s strength and to showcase the parallels that can be seen not only among the lives of those who are 90 years old, but among all of our lives. We all have something to learn from one another’s world views. And let us not forget: Who would Anne Frank be today if she were still alive? What would she have accomplished? What else might we have learned from her? What else can we still learn from her, thanks to the voices of those who have persevered through 90 years of this crazy thing we call life?

Assembly Hall  
Campbell Student Union

**3:30-5:00 p.m.**

**Peace Jam with Rock Va Mic**

*Vicki Ross and Lonnie Barlow*

Interactive musical and verbal expression using language, rhythm, melody, and harmony to express Truth, Love, Justice, Community, and Connection. Collaborating means to labor together. The workshop will be an opportunity to labor together— to create together—using music as the vehicle for the co-creation. Drums, percussion, and musical instruments will be available, and the session will be about creating music together over the session with the materials and creativity of all at hand. Stressing the use of music and poetry and collaborating or jamming together to create and communicate will cause people to "do things differently" and thus open up different neural pathways as we do when we are challenged by new input. This should add new impetus to the creative process and excite a new spirit of community in the individuals in the group.

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union

**Peace, Love, Action!**

*Tanya Zabinski*

The exhibit will consist of the portraits of 25 peaceful activists, their accompanying mini biographies, and illustrated actions from my book, "*Peace, Love, Action! Everyday Acts of Goodness from A to Z.*" The book itself will also be available. Before participants view the exhibit, I'll highlight a group of the peaceful activists who relied on collaboration as a central part of their lives. I'll also introduce the active part of the workshop, letting participants know that, as they view the exhibit and read the mini biographies, they can let the question simmer in their mind, "What living person in my own life has been a supporter of me? Who's nurtured me? Who's seen the good in me and helped bring it out? Who's helped me tell my story?" Workshop overview: after viewing the exhibit, participants are asked to write a letter of appreciation to the person who has been their supporter. Participants are then taught a simple stamping technique to embellish their letters and envelopes. Sharing stamps is permitted. That's collaboration! Remaining time will be used to share letters aloud. Mail them!

Assembly Hall  
Campbell Student Union

**5:00-7:00 p.m.**

Artist Reception

Join us in celebrating our featured artists!  
*Light refreshments are served.*

Upton Hall Foyer

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

### Session Time and Description

### Location

#### 9:00-10:15 a.m.

##### **Exploring Empathy through Movement and Stories**

*Susan Moser*

Movement is a universal language that drives empathy--the ability to understand another. Together, we will explore communicating basic human needs and emotions through elements found in movement and dance. This workshop provides participants a safe moving model of identifying one's senses and feelings through practices aligned to create empathy with the other participants. Through somatic, physical awareness of others and ourselves, we learn to communicate without words and connect, following our instincts. Practices include exercises such as a "Simple Pleasures" walk, interviews via common word associations, and textual stories evolving into movements. The awareness of positive and negative space and the application of the elements of dance--time, space, and energy--will result in an ultimate group experience. This will honor the original ideas of each participant. We shift out of a place of criticism and judgment to consideration and trust. We will learn to deepen our skills of nonverbal, physical communication in a world of social media and isolation.

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union

##### **Reimagining the Teaching Profession to Meet the Needs of Teacher Shortage**

*Dr. Keli Garas-York and Dr. Pixita del Prado Hill*

*Francoise Uzamukunda, Ondiso Madete, Zarina Wafula, Gillian Kemunto*

Current data detail the nature and extent of teacher shortages at global, national, and local levels (Garcia & Weiss, 2019; NYSUT, 2018). Significant among the findings is an acute shortage of teachers from underrepresented groups (Kozleski, Artiles, McCray, & Lacy, 2014). More specifically, Ingersoll, May, and Collings (2017) noted, "Research shows that while the nation's student population has grown increasingly diverse with regard to race and ethnicity, the opposite is true of the elementary and secondary teacher workforce." The purpose of this session is to have an open dialogue about the challenges of recruiting young people and career changers into the teaching workforce. Session leaders will engage AFP Festival participants by posing questions related to recruiting, retaining, and sustaining educators who can meet the needs of students in today's classrooms. Session leaders seek to listen to participants' experiences, ideas, and visions to imagine ways to change the current narrative of teaching. Please join us to share your perspectives!

Assembly Hall  
Campbell Student Union

#### 10:15 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

##### **Living Library**

*Katie Bertel and Micah Jones*

A Living Library (aka Human Library, see <http://humanlibrary.org>) is an event designed to bring together people from different backgrounds and situations to engage in meaningful interactions. The "books" are real-live humans with diverse, marginalized, or underrepresented backgrounds, such as those who identify as homeless, LGBTQIA, or refugees. "Readers" are community members who "borrow" these books for a brief conversation during the event. This event allows attendees to speak honestly and openly with a person they might not otherwise come into contact with. These one-on-one interactions can increase understanding and empathy – two qualities that are becoming increasingly important in today's partisan political and social climate.

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union

## **Anne Frank VR Experience and Social Justice VR Demos**

*Ken Fujiuchi*

Room 415  
Campbell Student Union

Introduction for attendees to experience Virtual Reality (VR) as storytelling medium for social justice. We will start with a VR exhibit of the Anne Frank House (<https://annefrankhousevr.com/>), followed by a variety of other VR experiences that showcase how artists are using VR to tell other stories of social justice. Some examples include "Traveling While Black" (<https://www.felixandpaul.com/?projects/twb>), "Notes on Blindness" (<http://www.notesonblindness.co.uk/vr/>), and "My New Home" (<http://mynewhome.plansverige.org/>). We want this exhibit to be a kickoff to gather community members who are interested in this new media, and work towards developing projects that can be presented for next year.

**12:15- 1:30 p.m.**

## **Social Justice and Diversity Addressed Through Collaborative Printmaking**

*Mary Kozub and Burchfield Penney Art Center Docents*

Looking at a variety of topics including human rights, physical or learning disabilities, gender issues, poverty, immigrants or refugees, participants will create a collaborative work of art affirming acceptance and respect after viewing *The Past is Present, Paintings and Prints* by Harold L. Cohen. This exhibit focuses on work created over the last twenty years by the artist. After retiring from teaching, Cohen focused on painting, printmaking, and sculpture. Works included in the exhibition focus on the past and present atrocities committed by authoritarian regimes. Numerous works from Germany and Europe reflect on the horrors of the Nazi genocide during World War II and its aftermath. Concentration camps in Belgium, Germany, and Poland are depicted. Also included are images of refugees from Darfur affected by the genocide in Western Sudan. Images from Israel of some of the historically important sights that the artist visited are included as well. These represent both the struggles of the Jewish people and the solace that the historic homeland provides.

Education Workshop  
Burchfield Penney Art  
Center

## **Director's Talk: Engaging through Change: The Underground Railroad in Niagara Falls**

*Ally Spong*

Learn more about the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center, the illustrator who brought Freedom Seeker stories to life, and the collaboration that went into surfacing the Freedom Seeker narrative.

Upton Hall 230

## **Dialogue on Citizenship: Let Your Voice Be Heard**

*Laura Rao and Joy Guarino*

Engaged work can bring the diverse members of a community together to work on an issue of common concern. As a result of extensive impacts and significant outcomes of community engagement, Buffalo State proudly describes itself as SUNY's urban-engaged institution and is focused on the ways in which our community-campus partnerships are able to address concerns and impact the lives of our neighbors. Session leaders will invite students, faculty, staff, and community members to engage in dialogue on issues generated by the life of communities and consider how community partnerships can contribute towards change. Through kinesthetic activities and visual actions, we hope to provide an atmosphere of respect for and openness to ideas and perspectives different from one's own. Participants will have the ability to reflect on community priorities and individual values, talk about deeply felt social issues, and reimagine how to be an effective advocate and contribute to community change.

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union

**1:45pm-3:15 p.m.**

### **Freedom Collage**

*Jason Hall*

The MBK Freedom Collage is a large-scale community art project designed to honor and celebrate WNY's unique Underground Railroad heritage through and within the art of multi-media collage. In this session, scholars from the Buffalo Public Schools' My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Male Academy, led by MBK curriculum designer, Jason Hall, will present the local contributions and heroes of the Underground Railroad, then collaborate with as many community members as possible to continue to build and expand the MBK Freedom Collage. Since its creation in the fall of 2018, the MBK Freedom Collage has been hosted in several locations throughout WNY, including during Black History Month 2019 at the Albright Knox Art Gallery, as over 300 WNY community members have now added their work to the collage! Get creative and collaborate with the MBK team as they use the power of the arts to overcome what they see as a current social justice issue in their community, i.e. the widespread lack of knowledge and celebration of WNY unique Underground Railroad heritage.

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union

### **Healing from Historical Trauma & The Power of Recognizing Our Potential – A Native American Example**

*Pete Hill*

The "All Our Relations" Project and the "Healing Our People through Empowerment" (HOPE) Approach developed at Native American Community Services of Erie & Niagara Counties, Inc. (NACS) are grounded in many Native American traditional cultures and philosophies that recognize the interconnected, comprehensive, and holistic nature of life. This session will describe how the "All Our Relations" Project and HOPE Approach were developed within this encompassing perspective of the interconnectedness of all areas of life and the many challenges caused by unresolved historical traumas. Since health disparities among many Native communities are evident in a wide array of areas (such as diabetes, cancer, alcoholism, suicide, child abuse), the "All Our Relations" Project has delivered hundreds of Native American Cultural Competency trainings that address the historical traumas impacting indigenous peoples as well as strategies for participants to more effectively provide services to Native people. Organizations that have benefitted from these trainings include educational systems, human services providers, law enforcement, substance abuse treatment agencies, court systems, veterans' services, and dozens of others. To begin to resolve these deep issues and impacts of historical traumas, this workshop promotes the understanding that a truly encompassing approach is needed.

Assembly Hall  
Campbell Student Union

**3:30 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.**

### **Microaggression Project: Fashion Speaks for All**

*Erin Habes, M.A. and Dr. Keunyoung Oh*

During this workshop, students will make t-shirts showing a word or phrase capturing microaggression they have experienced. The "Microaggressions Project: Fashion Speaks for All" will increase awareness of how hurtful microaggressions are and how they negatively affect people's lives. The "Microaggressions Project: Fashion Speaks for All" was originally developed as a service-learning project in FT150 that was also funded by an Equity and Diversity grant in Spring, 2019. This "Microaggressions Project: Fashion Speaks for All" embraces the Buffalo State's commitment and dedication to the personal growth of students as stated in our mission statement, "...to empower a diverse population of students to succeed as citizens of a challenging world."

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union



**Hip Hop Based Education and Cyphers**  
*Judith Harris, Christine Seshie, and the Urban Teachers Academy*

Assembly Hall  
Campbell Student Union

The SUNY Buffalo State/ Buffalo Public Schools Urban Teachers Academy (UTA) is a program designed to nurture and develop future urban educators. Our small summer institute learning community focused on Hip Hop-Based Education (HHBE) and Cyphers. Both are dependent upon collaboration, are culturally relevant, and critically engaging. Through the use of evidence-based practices that meets the needs of urban youth, our collaborative efforts promote team-building, identify formation, community activism, storytelling, and problem-solving. This partnership engages urban youth in a way that speaks to their cultural identity and social inequalities. HHBE & the art of Cyphers speak to social justice and empower urban students to use spoken word for the social change they want to see, as does the Anne Frank Project.

**5:00-7:00 p.m.**

**Remarkable Rwanda Stories**

*Imani Smiley Herring, Lisa Shaw, Janaé Leonard, Monique Newman, Tierra Purdue*

Social Hall  
Campbell Student Union

Enjoy interactive presentations by Buffalo State students who traveled to Rwanda with the Anne Frank Project in June, 2019! *Light Rwandan refreshments will be served!*

## BIOGRAPHIES

**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 holding 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 and engaged in the independent practice of psychotherapy, supervision, training, and forensic psychological services. They have three daughters, Shana, Anya, and Jameela.

**Lonnie Barlow** was born and raised in Buffalo and has spent many years working as a community organizer, as he does now as PUSH. He's also a fantastic musician, producer, activist, business owner, and audio engineer. He spends most of his time as Communications Specialist at PUSH and working for the good of the community through his recording studio. Lonnie is a leader with a spirit of service and love. He has been a mainstay of most of the rallies and marches organized by the WNY Peace Center.

**Katie Bertel** is the Outreach and Engagement Librarian at Buffalo State's E. H. Butler Library and has been at Buffalo State since 2013. Katie earned an M.L.S. from the University at Buffalo and a B.A. in communication studies from Manhattanville College. At Butler Library, Katie works to build relationships and provide support to the campus community through information literacy instruction, reference, and library programming. Her professional interests include the user experience, information-seeking behavior, information visualization, and outreach services for vulnerable or underserved populations. Guided by the value that libraries are for everyone, she sees access to information as a foundational element of lifelong learning and community building.

**Harold L. Cohen** is a rebel. During World War II he joined the Navy and served on a ship in the South Pacific. He found the racism and anti-Semitism on that ship so appalling that he wrote a letter from Pearl Harbor to his senator to complain about it. He said that the enemy was aboard the ship. The letter was later published in PM, a liberal paper published in New York from 1940-48. When his superiors on that ship found out about the letter, they didn't like it, but he was good at his job, so they left him alone. It was there that he learned that your skills keep you alive, and what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. Over the next fifty years, Cohen worked at various colleges and universities teaching design. He also worked with the Institute for Behavioral Research at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois and later served as dean of the School of Architecture and Design at the University at Buffalo. His past is filled with many accomplishments. He says that art must reflect an appreciation of all people, and that he must do what he believes in.

**Colin Dabkowski** is a digital editor and reporter at *The Buffalo News*, where he served as arts critic for 12 years. Before joining The News in 2007, he was the founding managing editor of *Voice of Witness*, a series of oral history books on social justice and human rights issues published by *McSweeney's* in San Francisco. He is a 2004 graduate of Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, with a B.S. in magazine journalism and Spanish language and literature. Since October of 2015, he has served as vice president for mobilization of the Buffalo Newspaper Guild. He is currently pursuing his certification in English education at SUNY Buffalo State College.

**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 Story-Based Learning. Eve is an alum of the Harvard Program for Refugee Trauma: Global Mental Health Trauma and Recovery certificate program through Harvard's Medical School. Eve serves on the board of Stitch Buffalo, an organization that advances social justice and cross-cultural exchange through the textile arts. Eve served on board of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo, facilitated CommUnity Build retreats with the National Federation for Just Communities, and is trained in Restorative Justice practices. Eve received 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, and is happily pursuing an MS in Childhood Education at her alma mater. Eve trained at Canada's National Voice Intensive, Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, and studied art history in Italy. Eve acts locally and is a massive supporter of the Theatre of Youth in Buffalo, NY. Eve's favorite place to be is in the woods with her husband, Dave.

**Ken Fujiuchi** is the head of Information Commons and Emerging Technology Librarian at the E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State College. Ken holds a Master's in Library Science from the University at Buffalo. His research interests include information literacy, extended reality, social media, linked data, and other emerging technologies. He is currently working with the Western New York Library Resource Council to develop a community-driven open Virtual Reality (VR) repository. This project wants to make VR content creation accessible to everyone and look at VR media as a way to preserve community experiences and history in new ways.

**Kathleen Golde** is an aerialist, choreographer, actor, voiceover artist, intimacy director, and educator. Kathleen Golde is a creator, collaborator, and teaching artist. Golde served as National Representative for the Association for Theatre Movement Educators, is Co-Founder/Associate Artistic Director of Buffalo Laboratory Theatre, and Founding Director of Dance for Music is Art Festival (Robby Takac/Goo Goo Dolls). Golde is the co-creator of Hyper Movement Exploration, a rehearsal and training tool for performers. As a researcher, collaborator, and creator, she works in venues from theatre and dance, to film, to business, to medicine. Golde represented American Circus Educators at Ecole Nationale de Cirque (Montreal). She served as faculty mentor for pARTicIPATE, a President's Circle-funded research initiative integrating arts, community, and individuals with communicative disorders. She was honoured to represent the USA at the First International Social Circus Symposium in Mexico. A three-time New York Foundation for the Arts grant awardee, NYFA-supported residencies include: Physical Graffiti Dance, AscenDance Project (America's Got Talent), and NECCA. Golde co-created work for Balasole (Dance Theatre Workshop, NYC), *Cirque du Sabres!* (Ryan Miller's Steadfast Foundation), and Roswell Park Cancer Institute's *Annual All Star Gala*. As a voiceover artist, her notable clients include Xerox, Proctor & Gamble, Fisher Price, FedEx and Barbie/Mattel. Golde is the national voice of David's Bridal and Hunter Douglas (all media). Golde created and teaches aerial dance and circus arts curriculum for Dance Masters of America, University at Buffalo, Buffalo State College, and New York State Theatre Educators Association. She is a SUNY-Approved Applied Learning Fellow and a proud member of SAG/AFTRA and Actor's Equity Association.

**Joy Guarino** is a professor of dance and coordinator of the dance program at SUNY Buffalo State, teaching studio technique, choreography, and dance theory courses. Professor Guarino is also the College's Faculty Coordinator for Service-Learning. Ms. Guarino earned her MFA from Temple University and holds a NYS Teacher's Certification in Dance. She has combined her passion for dance and community welfare to develop a unique higher education program and conduct her scholarship that focuses on kinesthetic learning, dance/movement integration, service-learning, and community engagement. As a practitioner and consultant in the arts-in-education profession, both personally and as a mentor for her students, she is committed to finding innovative and practical ways of designing and implementing meaningful arts curricula for diverse populations. Her creative work accentuates the use of mixed media and audience participation and she has presented her choreography internationally. She enjoys working collaboratively with professionals, students, and community partners all over the world, achieving extensive knowledge and experience in the field.

**Jason Hall** is a proud employee of Buffalo Public Schools who currently works as the ELA instructional coach at Highgate Heights, BPS#80, as well as a curriculum developer for the district's My Brother's Keeper All Male Academy. He specializes in middle school English language arts instruction, culturally and linguistically relevant teaching practices, hip-hop literacy curriculum design, and building positive school cultures and communities. Jason has earned a BA and MA in English, a CAS in Educational Leadership, and is currently completing his MSC in Creativity and Change Leadership. He will receive his initial School Building Leader

certificate this summer and is looking forward to continuing his career as a creative educational leader and administrator within the WNY community.

**Judith Harris** is a retired Buffalo Public School special education teacher (30 years), 20 spent as a professional development specialist with the NYS VESID Special Education Training and Resource Center. For the past nine years, Judith has been a lecturer with SUNY Buffalo State's School of Education Exceptional Education Department.

**Erin Habes** is a lecturer in the Buffalo State Fashion and Textile Technology Department, faculty director of the successful Buffalo State "Runway" series, and style editor for *Buffalo Spree* magazine. Habes also just recently completed a M.S in Creative Studies at Buffalo State. Habes has 15 years of experience in various positions in the fashion industry, from retail to wholesale and buying, as well as development, branding, strategy, fashion show production, and event planning. She's also known for bringing her keen sense of style and unbridled enthusiasm to the Buffalo scene. Her mission is to spark the conversation about fashion in her region and to create collaborations between artists, local designers, businesses, students, and entrepreneurs. Living in Buffalo has allowed Habes' creative energy and abilities to flourish: the city's uniquely supportive community shares, builds, creates, and enriches. Buffalo has empowered her to think big and "connect the dots" creatively. <http://fashion.buffalostate.edu>

**Micah Jones** is a junior at SUNY Buffalo State majoring in Individualized Studies with a focus on inspirational speaking. He is a part-time student and works with the basketball program at Buffalo State. Micah also volunteers for different community organizations such as Camp Good Days and Special Times Inc. In the summer, he volunteers at the Food Pantry in Niagara Falls. Micah is also a member of The Niagara Falls Church of Christ. He wants to talk to anybody and everybody.

**Drew Kahn** is a Distinguished Service Professor at SUNY Buffalo State where he has taught acting, devised theater (*President's Award for Excellence in Teaching/SUNY*) and directed productions (*Kennedy Center Award*) for 25 years. He taught K-12 populations for 10 years previous to his work in higher education. 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 story and performance. He presents and teaches internationally on the universal language of theater and the intersection of story, conflict resolution and community building—most recently in Rwanda, Kenya, Switzerland, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burma, Viet Nam, Morocco, New Zealand, Greece, Croatia and Turkey (*Toby Ticktin 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*), 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.

**Gillian Kemunto** is a teacher at Woodland Star International School, Kenya.

**Mary Kozub** *Learn more about Mary soon!*

**Alicia J. Larson**, M.A. is the life-recorded coordinator at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. She has been a Roswell Park employee since 2010. Her professional work is inspired by her mom's battle with

breast cancer. Alicia's mom passed away less than six months prior to her hire at the Roswell Park Alliance Foundation in September, 2006. In various roles at Roswell Park, Alicia has come to hear the incredible stories of many patients, caregivers, and employees. Her educational background is in journalism, communications, and marketing. Since joining the Spiritual Care team at Roswell Park and becoming a part of the larger Supportive Care team, Alicia has discovered a strong interest in all things related to narrative's place in the world of medicine. She is a caregiver for her father who has been a kidney cancer survivor since 2013 and for her 84-year-old aunt who suffered a stroke in February, 2019. Alicia and her husband are the proud parents of a son welcomed through adoption in July, 2018. Life Recorded is a program inspired by StoryCorps, brought to Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in 2015 thanks to generous donations from the Jayne and Phil Hubbell Family. The program invites all those from within the Roswell Park family to record their stories in audio or video format. Each 40-minute Life Recorded session is customized to the storyteller's preferences. Storytellers may choose to share stories about their upbringing, their cancer journeys, and/or everything but things related to cancer. Some people share messages of gratitude, while others bring voice to what they have been through so as to help others. The program is supported by a part-time coordinator and a team of volunteer facilitators and ambassadors. Housed within the Spiritual Care Department, the program is a part of Roswell Park's broad scope Supportive Care offerings. Recordings are done in varying "studios" across WNY (and beyond through long-distance technology) including the storyteller's home, hospital/hospice rooms, and private community settings. Copies of each recording are given back to the storyteller as our gift to them to share as they would like.

**Ondiso Madete** is a teacher at Woodland Star International School, Kenya.

**Susan Moser** received her dance education from The Ohio State University Department of Dance, with a focus on Composition and Performance. Post college, she was a principal dancer with the Valois Company of Dance, Detroit MI. Her modern dance performance and training continued with The Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Ruth Solomon, Shawn Womack, and the famed Lyndon Branaugh (with the Graham Institute in London). Susan composes and performs her original works for the Contemporary Dance Theater, Cincinnati Aronoff Center, and the School for Creative and Performing Arts. She is the founder, owner, and artistic director of Tänze Performing Arts Studio, a performing arts school located in Fairfield, Ohio., serving the community with multi-cultural/generational programs in dance, theater, and music. She is also a former resident dance artist with the Ohio Arts Council-Arts in Education Program. Professional affiliations and awards include International Thespian Society, National Dance Association, Ohio Dance Association, 4C Childcare Recognition Award, and the NAACP President's Community Service Award through the Hamilton Fairfield Chapter. Susan is currently a movement specialist for Miami (OH) University Theater Department and an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music in the Acting Undergraduate and Opera Graduate programs for the past thirteen years. <http://tanzearts.com/>

**Dr. Keunyoung Oh** is an associate professor and the chair of the Fashion and Textile Technology. She developed the New World, New Wardrobe (NWNW) project as part of FTT150 (Introduction to Fashion Merchandising) in fall, 2012. The NWNW had been carried out for refugee students attending Lafayette High School on the west side of Buffalo until Spring, 2018. With the NWNW, thousands of clothes and accessories were collected through cause-based clothing drives and given away to refugee students and their families. The NWNW project also helped Buffalo State students understand how refugee students have become accustomed to a new culture, especially with regard to their body/self-image and appearance management. She also received the Equity and Campus Diversity Program Grant for the Microaggressions: Fashion Speaks For All project in Spring, 2019. She has been chairing the President's Council on Equity and Campus Diversity at Buffalo State since 2016.

**Laura Rao** is the director of the SUNY Buffalo State Civic and Community Engagement Office (CCE). Laura facilitates and supports students, faculty, and community partner community engagement efforts to enrich scholarship, research, and creative activity; enhance curriculum, teaching, and learning; prepare educated, engaged citizens; strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility; address critical societal issues; and contribute to the public good. Buffalo State is deeply committed to providing students with civic learning opportunities connected to addressing community need, and the CCE is instrumental in leading Buffalo State initiatives. Rao holds an M.S. in Environmental Education from Lesley University and a B.A. in Psychology from SUNY Buffalo. She taught environmental and experiential youth programs for a number of years before moving into educational program administration.

**Victoria Ross**, Executive Director of the WNY Peace Center since August, 2015, is a social worker and peace activist. Vicki co-organized the past three Women's Marches, and emphasizes principles and the Spirit as what we need for radical change. She offers a variety of workshops for all ages to educate, inspire, and activate for Truth and Love; and consults for the Interfaith Peace Network. Vicki has an MSW from Boston University, a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy (International Economic Development) from Tufts University's Fletcher School, and a Diplôme from GIIS in Geneva, Switzerland. Her recent awards include an honorary doctorate from Medaille College in May, 2018. She's also musician and dancer.

**Christine Seshie** is a teaching artist for the Anne Frank Project at SUNY Buffalo State College. Christine is a recent SUNY Buffalo State Alum originally from Ghana, West Africa, and raised in Staten Island, New York. She graduated with a B.A. in Arts and Letters with a primary concentration in Theater, and secondary concentration in Journalism. Christine now specializes in youth outreach and story-based learning. In addition to her work with the Anne Frank Project, Christine has acted in local productions at Buffalo State and Theater of Youth. You can see her in *Mr. Popper's Penguins* and *The Outsiders* at Theater of Youth for their 2019-2020 season. Most recently, Christine constructed and facilitated a story-based learning workshop for the Urban Teachers Academy summer institute, designed to empower youth to find solutions through creative problem solving by understanding their own stories through music. In her free time, she enjoys acting, arts and crafts, being outdoors, and spending quality time with her loved ones.

**Drs. Keli Garas-York and Pixita del Prado Hill** are co-directors of the Professional Development Schools Consortium which connects SUNY Buffalo State to approximately 100 school/community partners locally, nationally, and internationally. Dedicated to mutually beneficial collaboration, the PDS co-directors seek to leverage the combined resources of the Consortium to meet school need. Dr. Garas-York studies literacy and is director of the SUNY Buffalo State Literacy Specialist Program. Dr. del Prado Hill's teaching and research interests include international education and content area literacy. Together, they study school-university partnerships and co-edited the book, *Doing PDS: Stories and Strategies from Successful Clinically Rich Practice*. They are co-editing another volume which is under contract that explores the impact of PDS and includes chapters written by members of the Consortium.

**Francoise Uzamukunda** is the Global Engagement Institute Senior Program Manager of East Africa.

**Sophia Veffler**, a survivor of the Nazi campaign that orchestrated the systematic slaughter of more than 6 million European Jews during World War II, was born in Amsterdam, Holland, in 1929. Her father was a stamp dealer, and the family lived in a middle-class neighborhood, where Veffler attended school with Anne Frank. Veffler became a special education teacher, receiving her bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Buffalo and her master's degree in special education from Buffalo State College. She also raised three sons, all of whom are now successful attorneys. Veffler began publicly sharing her story several years later. She has taught thousands of students and young adults the important lessons of the Holocaust and other

mass atrocities. In January, 2006, Veffler received the National Conference for Community and Justice Brotherhood Sisterhood Award for outstanding leadership in promoting goodwill and understanding in the community. That same year she was contacted by Drew Kahn, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, who requested her assistance with his theater production of *The Diary of Anne Frank* and became a founding member of the Anne Frank Project. Sophia is a past president of the Women of Studio Arena Theater and the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo where she currently serves on its Executive Board. In addition, Sophia serves on the Advisory Committee of the Jewish Repertory Theatre of Western New York. In May, 2019, she was named an honorary doctor of humane letters by the State University of New York.

**Zarina Wafula** is a teacher at Woodland Star International School, Kenya.

**Tanya Zabinski** views life as the ultimate artwork and aspires to live an artful, heartfelt, and mindful life. She is a recipient of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Tomie dePaola Award. She studied art, design, music, and philosophy at Buffalo State College, Parsons School of Design, and Kansai Gaidai University in Japan. Tanya uses a self-invented reduction process with silkscreen printing and combines strong composition and flat color to create bold, graphic, eye-catching images. A true community artist, Tanya and her husband, Joe DiPasquale, co-founded the Elmwood Avenue Festival of the Arts in Buffalo, NY. For 25 years they have run Planet Love (planetlovedesigns.com), their own art-based business, exhibiting at more than 20 outdoor art and music festivals per year. Instantly recognizable to those who know and love her art, Zabinski's prints reach a wide audience through printing on the accessible media of T-shirts, banners, and paper. She is a life-long yoga and meditation practitioner, bicyclist, camper, and hiker, and, because she lives in the very snowy hills south of Buffalo, NY, a cross-country skier. <http://www.peaceloveaction.com>

## Staff & Advisory Committee

### *AFP 2019 Staff*

Founding Director: Drew Kahn, SUNY Distinguished Professor

Assistant Director: Eve Everette, M.A.

Visual Arts Coordinator: Carol Townsend, Associate Professor, Art and Design

Graphic Art: Sam Kahn

AFP 2019 Crew: David Burgos, Rose Corrado, Lucas Colón, Janaé Leonard, Mariah Faulkner, Jonise Hall, Zhanna Reed, Christine Seshie, Dijon Stone.

### *AFP 2019 Advisory Committee*

Sister Charlene Fontana, Peter Gabak, Tamara Horstman-Riphahn, Pascal Karangwa, Josephine Kearney, Cassie Lipsitz, William Lin, Barbara Nelson, Alice Pennisi, Deb Renzi, Irene Sipos, Win Min Thant, Carol Townsend, Aimable Twagilimana, Sophia Veffler, Donn Youngstrom,

### *AFP 2019 Development Committee*

Melissa Brinson, Peter Gabak, Kathryn Neeson, Eskinder Tefera, Donn Youngstrom

## Donors

Scott Burns  
Amy and Scott Chavez  
Cheryl Silverberg  
Katherine Conway-Turner  
Alvin Turner  
Mary Cummings  
Deb Renzi  
Deborah Dee  
Richard and Elizabeth Dichristina  
Don Erwin  
Carol Townsend  
Honorable Lisa Rodwin

Melinda Saran  
Barbara Nelson  
Fay Northrup  
Jerry McGuire  
Annemarie O'Connor  
Wendy Patterson  
Sophia Veffer  
Marylin Toth  
Cynthia Turner  
West Herr Automotive Group  
Donn Youngstrom  
Aimable Twagilimana

## Sponsors & Friends

EduAfrica Kenya  
Global Engagement Institute  
Inn Buffalo (Official B&B of AFP)  
Pepperdine University, Lausanne Switzerland  
SUNY Buffalo State Academic Affairs Office  
SUNY Buffalo State Equity and Diversity Office  
SUNY Buffalo State New Student and Family  
Programming Office

SUNY Buffalo State Student Life Office  
SUNY Buffalo State Student Success Office  
SUNY Buffalo State Theatre Department  
SUNY Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
SUNY Office of Global Affairs  
University of Missouri, College of Education  
Urukundo Learning Center, Muhanga, Rwanda  
Woodland Star International, Kenya



## *Friends of AFP*

AEGIS Trust (Rwanda)

The Anne Frank Center USA

Buffalo Public Schools

Buffalo State Civic and  
Community Engagement Office

Buffalo State Marketing and  
Communications Office

Buffalo State Instructional  
Resources (RITE)

Buffalo State Weigel Wellness  
Center

Scott Burns

Dr. Karen Clinton Jones

Katherine Conway-Turner,  
President, Buffalo State

Sally Crimmins Villela, Assistant  
Vice Chancellor, Global Affairs,  
SUNY

Ms. Mary C. Cummings

Dr. André De Shields

Erie 1 BOCES

Don Erwin

Dr. Shirley Hayes

Holocaust Resource Center of  
Buffalo

Hope Made Real/Urukundo  
Village, Rwanda

Inema Art Center, Rwanda

International Institute of Buffalo

Maria Kahn

Melaine Kenyon

Mary Luongo

Dr. Maryalice Mazzara

Office of Equity, Diversity and  
Inclusion, SUNY

The Metauro Family

Millersville University, MUSE

MindLeaps

Muhanga District, Rwanda  
(Buffalo Sister City)

Professor Mathilde  
Mukantabana, Rwanda  
Ambassador to the United States

National Federation For Just  
Communities of WNY

Barbara Nelson

Fay Northrup and Jerry McGuire

Dr. Wendy Paterson

Kathleen Petko

The Podolefsky Family

Dr. Dennis Ponton

Say Yes To Education

Rebecca Shenk

St. Luke's Mission of Mercy

James Thor

Marilyn Toth

Carol Townsend

Ms. Esther F. Trachtman

Ms. Cynthia Turner

Mr. Michael R. Turner

Dr. Aimable Twagilimana

United Nations, Permanent  
Mission to Rwanda

Sophia Veffer

W.A.S.H. Project, Buffalo

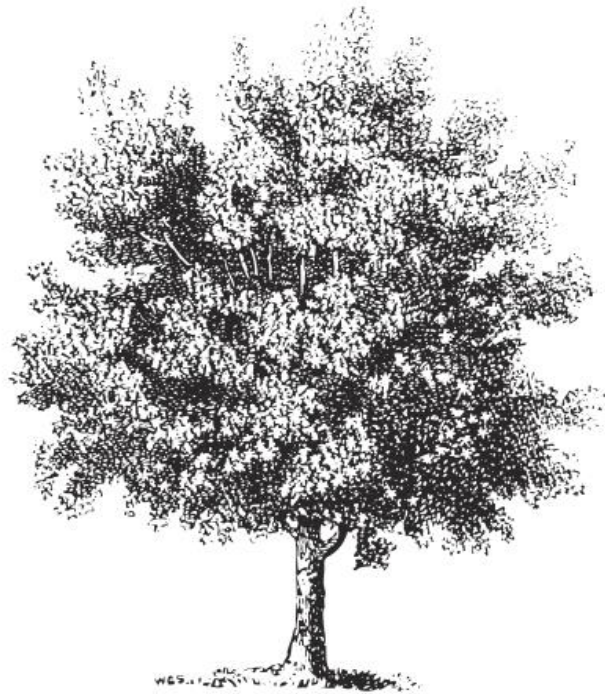
The Weisenberger Family

WNY Peace Center

World Outside My Shoes

Young Audiences of Western New  
York

Donn Youngstrom



## the anne frank project

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

### **Follow us!**

[@annefrankprjct](#)

[annefrankproject.com](http://annefrankproject.com)

Like us on Facebook

