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the anne frank project





# **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 7th Annual Anne Frank Project at Buffalo State College. This year our theme is Identity, Inclusion and the World. As we prepare to fully participate in this year's festival let us remind ourselves of the broader context of this event. We frame our discussions and insights to deepen our understanding of the search for true social justice. We understand that issues of equal rights and social justice impact all segments of our community. Regardless of our locations and our personal background, we must comprehend and grasp the contemporary ways that inequality and discrimination are exhibited locally, regionally, nationally, and worldwide. We often perceive the effects of these inequalities best when we listen to the stories of those who have the courage to share their personal histories. As we understand the many manifestations of social inequality, we are then better prepared to add our voices and our efforts to support social justice for all segments of our local and world populations. I invite your full participation in the 2015 Anne Frank festival and may this focus on story, memory, and survival open a personal space for us all to renew our commitment to universal equality and justice.

# AFP 2015: Identity, Inclusion, and the World Featured Speakers



## **Jasmine Mans**

A chronicle of her journey and vision, Mans released her first book, Chalk Outlines of Snow Angels in May 2012. Transcending boundaries, Chalk Outlines includes works addressing issues varying from broken relationships, fear, racism, and sexuality. 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 Woman in College. 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.



# **Mykel Discus**

Pieces of Me will play in NYC 2015 on Theater Row; presented by the worlds largest solo theater festival- United Solo. Mykel, star of Pieces of Me is an entertainment professional with credits like- America's Got Talent Season 5 and Jesus Christ Superstar America/European Tours.



# Michele Costa, theatreFigüren

Michele Costa is BFA Graduate of SUNY Fredonia. Since 1990, she has been creating original performances incorporating puppetry, music, movement, poetry and paintings. These "allages" performances have been presented at the Chautauqua Institution, ArtPark and schools, museums and galleries in WNY and beyond.

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# ALL DAY EVENTS - UPTON GALLERIES

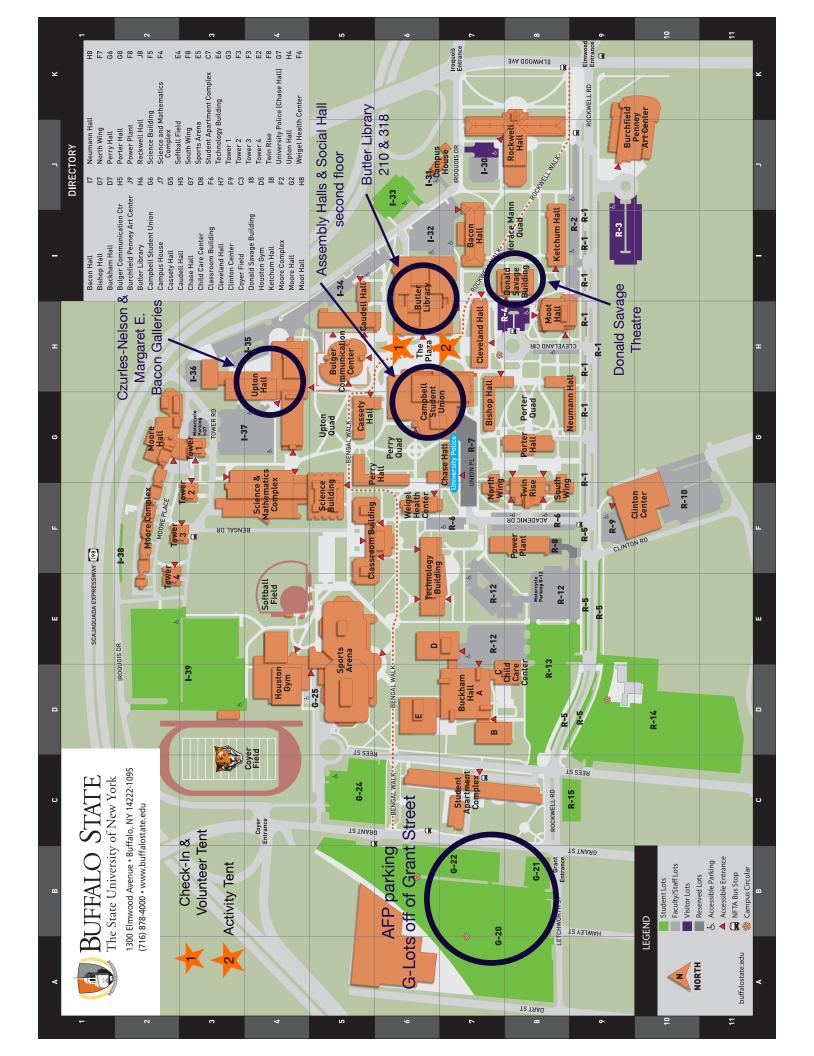
Stitch Buffalo: Refugee Women's Workshop (Czurles Neslon Gallery) with co-founders Dawne Hoeg and Shelby Deck \*create your own Stitch Buffalove Heart Pin workshops 10:00am-12:00pm, gallery hours 9:00-4:00pm

ACTIVITY TENT in THE PLAZA

Keep Pedaling, Madeline Allard (1:40-2:55)

Theatre Game Exchange, Barry Kornhauser (11:10-12:10pm, 4:20-5:00pm)

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SEPTEMBER 17	9:00-10:00	10:10-11:05	11:10-12:10	12:15-1:30	1:40-2:55	3:05-4:20	4:20-5:00	5:00-7:00	7:15-9:00



# WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2015 ALL DAY & ACTIVITY TENT EVENTS

## Stitch Buffalo: Refugee Women's Workshop

Dawne Hoeg, Shelby Deck Czurles Neslon Gallery, Upton Hall

9:00am-4:00pm; workshop 10:00am-12:00pm

September 14-September 18, The Stitch Buffalove Heart Project comes to Buffalo State's Czurles-Nelson Gallery. Learn basic embroidery skills and create a one-of-a-kind Stitch Bufalove heart pin. Each day from 10:00-12:00pm, the Stitch Buffalo Refugee Women's Workshop will be on site for a totally unique cross-cultural experience. Each heart created will be featured in the gallery exhibit allowing everyone to add their creative voice to this city-wide movement of inclusion, diversity and possibility.

## The Eyes of Others

Molly Bader

Bacon Gallery, Upton Hall 9:00am-5:00pm

The Eyes of Others is an artistic research project about rape culture. Rape culture is the term for the social norms and expectations that contribute to the sexual violence against, objectification of, and dehumanization of women. This project uses art-drawings, paintings, mixed media- to examine the ways our social norms affect individuals and our collective consciousness. Viewers will be invited to create artistic responses to the topic matter.

# *Keep Pedaling, Madeline Allard (12:15-1:00 & 3:30-4:30) Activity Tent, The Plaza*

This session begins by telling my story about how moving forward helped me find my identity. Participants will be split into groups of five. One person from each group will ride a bike a certain distance. When the rider returns, each group will come up with five adjectives describing what it feels like to ride a bike. The group will construct a poem about moving forward using those five adjectives.

# *Theatre Game Exchange,* Barry Kornhauser (11-12:15, 4:30-5:45) Activity Tent, The Plaza

This is a simple opportunity for participants to come out and play by sharing theater games and exercises that have worked well to inspire and energize "spect-actors." The price of admission is a favorite game or exercise to share with everyone else during the session and a one paragraph description of that activity which will be collected for a digital compilation to be sent to all participants.

## Story-Pit (10:00am-6:00pm) Activity Tent, The Plaza

The Story Pit is a place for participants to relax and connect with one another. It is a kiddie pool filled with balloons, and each balloon has a get-to-know-you question on it. Participants are invited to remove their shoes and come on in, and as the pool fills with people the balloons serve as icebreakers so they may learn about each other's stories and make connections.

# WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2015 SCHEDULED EVENTS

9:00-9:20 AM

CONFERENCE WELCOME

President Katherine S. Conway-Turner, SUNY Buffalo State

Professor Drew Kahn, Director, Anne Frank Project

Donald Savage Theatre

9:20-10:50 **Shifting Self** 

**Jasmine Mans** 

**Donald Savage Theatre** 

Using storytelling as a catalyst medium, Jasmine Mans will draw on her own original poetry to approach both the internal and interpersonal dialogue surrounding aspects of society and identity. Following the metaphoric devices of Melissa Harris -Perry and WEB Du Bios, --Mans' will discuss the "Crooked Room Theory", "Controlled Narrative" & "Wearing the Mask". She will discuss how such ideologies are still used as navigation tools for people of color and oppressed groups alike today. Using poetry to approach such issues affords all participating individuals a vocabulary for "idea", "trauma", and "experience". Most importantly, Jasmine Mans and scholars will discuss: how can we develop (personal and powerful) "voice" in a world of chaos?

**Terminology for Scholars:** Crooked Room Theory, The Mask, and Controlled Narrative **Scholars will Need (Tools):** Pen, Paper, Cell Phone (internet access)

#### 11:00-12:15

## LGBTQ Relationship Violence

#### **Dr. Charlene Vetter**

Assembly Hall 1, Campbell Student Union

This interactive session will provide a basic understanding of relationship violence in LGBTQ relationships that will cover common assumptions, stereotypes, and misconceptions about LGBTQ individuals and the issue of intimate partner violence. Via collaboration on a true/false item quiz, participants of this session will be able to identity unique tactics utilized by the abusing partner, risks faced by those who experience violence, and barriers to accessing supportive services for survivors of violence.

#### 11:00-12:15

## Turning Research Into Revolution

#### Dr. Andrea Nikischer

Assembly Hall 2, Campbell Student Union

This session will explore the research findings from a qualitative content analysis of education articles in the Buffalo News, with a focus on how those findings were packaged for mass consumption, and the ways in which they were used to promote community activism. This session will challenge researchers, educators and activists to identify the ways in which academic work can be brought to the community to inform and inspire movements for change.

#### 12:15-1:00- **BREAK**

See what AFP has to offer in the Activity Tent or the Upton Galleries!

#### 1:00-2:50

## Bond or Barrier: Language and Social Identity

# Dr. Charles Campbell, David Hulett, Emilio Virella, Naheem Shabazz

## Donald Savage Theatre

Bond or Barrier: Language and Social Identity," addresses language and its ability to reproduce or frame our social realities. When the stories of history, biography, culture, and character are easily transferred and share our livelihoods, and when they convey that our commonalities are more far-reaching than our differences, language becomes a window for empathy and connectivity, but when it transforms the living, incarnate world into a static, reductive environment, language can also become our barrier.

#### 1:00-2:50

# Employing Visual Imagery, Photo Elicitation, and Image Theater to Explore Identity and Social Justice

# Beth Powers-Costello, Barry Kornhouser, Marion O'Sullivan, Karen Rice

## Assembly Hall 2, Campbell Student Union

In line with the aim of the festival, this hands-on workshop will focus on issues of community, human rights and identity across disciplines. This session aims are to explore identity, inclusion, and power through anti-oppressive arts-based engagements including selecting photographs that depict relevant topics, creating visual images through forum theater, transforming these images, and relating these experiences to issues that are relevant to both the focus of the festival and participants' interests and work.

#### 1:00-2:50

# Virtual You, Virtual Me: Avatar Identity, Real World Identity Andrew Wheelock

## Butler Library Cyber Quad, 318

Through our work with virtual environments in K-12 Education we have come across an incredibly interesting outcome: Students have a real desire to make avatars unique and in many cases fantastical and creative representations of themselves. So how does it relate to their perception of themselves? This hands on course will allow participants to create their own unique avatar, take its picture, then talk about what it means to them or perhaps what it means in a large context in society. A multimedia presentation will be generated based on the pictures and avatars created.

#### 3:00-4:15

#### MIRROR/RORRIM

## **Anne Frank Project/BSC Theater Dept**

## **Donald Savage Theater**

Mirror/Mirror is the latest original play created by SUNY Buffalo State/Anne Frank Project students. Following their trip to Rwanda in January 2015, 12 students processed their experience through the creation of a new play: inspired in Rwanda, developed at Buffalo State, delivered to local Buffalo schools (Fall 2015). Mirror/Mirror follows Anna, a teen girl who is filled with self-hate and personal judgment. She is pulled into a fantastic journey that reveals her inner secrets and leads her to learning to

love her story. The performance is 40-minutes followed by a 40-minute workshop activating the lessons of the play.

4:30-5:45

# Mindful Teachers Will Change the World Dr. Roberta Schnorr

Assembly Hall 1, Campbell Student Union

Teachers have power. We must acknowledge our power and cultivate our intention to serve responsibly. In each moment, we are creating conditions to nurture possibilities in our students—or neglecting opportunities, or even (unintentionally) sowing seeds of harm. Mindfulness of the teacher is the critical foundation for developing peaceful, inclusive, and effective learning communities. This session will guide participants in basic mindfulness practices and offer considerations for exploring an ongoing, personal practice.

4:30-5:45

# My Thoughts Can Change the World Rachel DiNunzio

Assembly Hall 2, Campbell Student Union

What we do outwardly and what we think internally impacts everything around us. The project's goal is to make a positive impact through the sharing of thoughts and ideas. Consider this statement: An idea, a thought, a hope, however big or small, can start a ripple. No matter if it is to help your family or neighborhood, school or community, nation or world: It starts with you. What will you do? What could we all do?

5:50-7:05

# *Identity Exploration Through Multi-Disciplinary Art*Marissa Lehner, Gordon Barrett, Cassie Lipsitz

Assembly Hall 1, Campbell Student Union

This session will summarize the Ferry Street Corridor Project (2014-2015). The Buffalo Public School district is home to a richly diverse population of students. The inclusion of the arts is essential for understanding and developing relationships between our diverse groups and creating a strong community. We will discuss how the FSCP vision manifested through teachers, teaching artists, and the Anne Frank Project. Participants will create self-expressive multidisciplinary works of poetry and visual art.

5:50-7:05

#### What Does It Mean to be a Survivor?

# Dr. Jill Gradwell, Kevin Finn, Christy Galletti, Katherine Pessecow, Luke Salerno

Assembly Hall 2, Campbell Student Union

In this interactive discussion, teachers will share a social studies Holocaust inquiry, or unit plan, they developed utilizing the new digital documentaries of survivor testimonies from the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo. The teachers will model activities around the compelling questions, "What does it mean to be a survivor?" "Who is a survivor?" "What are the needs and obstacles for survival?" and "What are the costs and sacrifices of survival?"

7:15-9:00

#### PIECES OF ME

#### **Mykel Dices**

Donald Savage Theatre

A 50-Minute Musical Journey of Oh Shit Moments, and how one man powerfully dealt with what life threw his way. 35 different roommates in a one bedroom railroad apartment, humorous stories, and an assault that nearly ended his life. A show that is committed to transform people's lives who live in the world as victims. Laughter, Life, and Ultimate Triumph.

# THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th, 2015 ALL DAY & ACTIVITY TENT EVENTS

## Stitch Buffalo: Refugee Women's Workshop

Dawne Hoeg, Shelby Deck Czurles Neslon Gallery, Upton Hall 9:00am-4:00pm; workshop 10:00am-12:00pm

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Molly Bader

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# THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th 2015 SCHEDULED EVENTS

9:00-10:00

**ELLE** 

#### Michele Costa - theatreFigüren

**Donald Savage Theatre** 

Mask, movement and scrolling, painted imagery tells the story of a "wished-for" girl. Elle is unlike anything else in this world--but she is greatly loved. When all seems lost and forgotten, it is the memory of LOVE that restores her. Post-performance, participants will consider what makes Me "unlike anything else in this world -- more importantly, what thought/word/wish would we gift to another to validate and sustain them.

10:10-11:05

# Poetry and Atrocity

Dr. Gunilla Kester

Assembly Hall 1, Campbell Student Union

Poetry as individual and community response to atrocity. Since the time Homer's epics The Iliad and The Odyssey, poetry has been a powerful vehicle for shaping history and recovering from it, through use of imagination, poetics, tone, authenticity, and surprise. This session will illustrate these aspects in the work of poets who wrote during and after WWII and the Holocaust, such as Paul Celan, Nellie Sachs, Yehuda Amichai, and Dahlia Ravikovitch, among others.

10:10-11:05

## Clothes Cards for the Congo Timothy Lane, Rebecca Treimer

**Butler Library 210** 

Our presentation is an exhibit to raise awareness about sexual abuse worldwide with a focus on the atrocities in the Eastern Congo. This exhibit consists of a clothesline containing statistics, stories and photos of victims from the eastern Congo and elsewhere. This is an interactive exhibit where people can share their stories and reflections and also write letters or send donations to support the women survivors at Panzi Hospital in the DRC.

11:10-12:10

## "It Will Never Happen To Me" Has Happened To Me Paula Madrigal

#### Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

How can someone feel secure let alone relate to others after experiencing things such as murder and tragedy? One member of the Buffalo State community shares her personal story of tragedy, triumph and belonging. This presentation will be told through identifying connections with personal possessions, demonstrating how strangers can have so much in common, and exploring difficult situations to create positive change. Attendees will participate in an interactive discussion and poetry workshop that will demonstrate these connections and how to translate difficult situations into creating change (baggage into power).

11:10-12:10

I AM (8x10)

#### **Candace Masters**

Butler Library, 210

The exhibit and session includes 8" x 10" paintings created by Buffalo State graduate students, faculty and alumni. The artwork was created specifically in response to the theme. There will be an 8' x 10' paper surface, to write responses to the prompts "I AM", "THEY PERCEIVE ME TO BE.." and "I AM PROUD THAT I...". Participants will have opportunities to share responses confidentially in written format, or during open forum discussion.

12:15-1:30

# Civility and the Peace Paradigm David Katz, III

Assembly Hall 1, Campbell Student Union

"Civility is the place of encounter between self & other where altruism and self-interest find a harmonious way to coexist." The "peace paradigm" is that sweet spot of empathetic understanding that exclusion and "othering" are the psychological roots of violence and injustice interpersonally and globally. In this multi-dimensional, interactive, participatory presentation we will explore ways we can increase the chances of positive, engaged collaboration toward more kind, harmonious and inclusive relations between people and nations

#### 12:15-1:30

# The Eyes of Others Molly Bader

Upton Hall - Margaret E. Bacon Student Gallery

The Eyes of Others is an artistic research project about rape culture. Rape culture is the term for the social norms and expectations that contribute to the sexual violence against, objectification of, and dehumanization of women. This project uses art-drawings, paintings, mixed media- to examine the ways our social norms affect individuals and our collective consciousness. Viewers will be invited to create artistic responses to the topic matter.

#### 1:40-2:55

# Communication and Identity: Creating a Common Language Marc Rummenie, NFJC, Kara Oliver

Assembly Hall 1, Campbell Student Union

Our identity markers (e.g. race, ethnicity, religion, etc.) are the filters through which we communicate; they determine how we share who we are, and how we interpret what others share with us. Spoken language, body language, emotions and interpretation of emotionality are reflections of our individual and group/cultural identities. As such, for us to have true, meaningful dialogues on difference, we must first develop a common language we can use to truly hear each other.

#### 1:40-2:55

#### Docu-Drama

#### Kristie Fuller, Kathleen Golde

Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

Docu-drama allows us to explore current events in our world and deal with serious social/political issues concerning us. Docu-drama uses historical records of real events as its foundation. Through research, investigation, script-writing and devised theatre activities, students can create theatre that gives a voice to the marginalized and help to make a change in this world. Story-telling is at the heart of good docu-drama. Complex ideas and information are often best conveyed through drama

3:05-4:20

# The Many Faces of Anne Frank: Identify Our Heroes Sophia Veffer, Drew Kahn, Eve Everette, Donn Youngstrom

**Donald Savage Theatre** 

The play Compulsion focuses on Sid Silver (modeled on writer Meyer Levin) whose obsession with Anne Frank drives the story. Having read her diary in France after World War II he lobbied to have the diary published in the U.S., wrote a NY Times review that helped make it a best seller and adapted it for the stage. His play was passed over by Broadway producers (and Otto Frank) in favor of a softer, more sentimental version that kept Mr. Levin in loud litigation for many years to come; passion turned obsession. This session will feature live performances of several scenes from the play. The audience will analyze first-hand the treatment of Anne Frank's Identity throughout the scenes in a brief guided discussion. Directly following this discussion, audience members will have the opportunity to ask Holocaust Survivor, Sophia Veffer, the difficult questions the play presents. What ethical dilemmas surface when presented with alternative identities? How do we remember Anne Frank? What would she think of this play?

4:20-5:00- **BREAK** 

See what AFP has to offer in the Activity Tent or the Upton Galleries!

5:00-7:00

**ARTIST RECEPTION** 

Stitch Buffalo: Refugee Women's Workshop, Dawne Hoeg The Eyes of Others, Molly Bader

Upton Hall, Czurles Nelson & Margaret E. Bacon Galleries

#### 7:15-9:00

# In Search of a Nation Nepali Documentary & Meditation session Lamin Tamang

Social Hall, Campbell Student Union

IN SEARCH OF A NATION (documentary) is a true story of mine, a story of 120,000 Bhutanese origin Nepali ethnic population who have resettled in eight different countries of the world as Bhutanese refugees over the past 7 years. They have lived more than two decades in exile (Nepal). We have some population still struggling in the refugee camps in Nepal. Some are on their way to find permanent homes in the West. This film reflects the true identity of our population as the Bhutanese Nepali speaking ethnic group who have struggled for two decades for repatriation but failed several times. They finally opted for the third country resettlement seeking permanent homes, IDENTITY, inclusion, opportunity, hopes and dreams, and above all, to feel as HUMAN with great respect and dignity. Documentary film will be followed by a REIKI meditation for love and compassion, world peace, mindfulness and ONENESS (15-20 minutes.).

# The Anne Frank Project 2015: Identity, Inclusion, and the World Who's Who

## **The Anne Frank Project**

The Anne Frank Project devises its own plays that tells stories about characters wrestling with conflicts, exploring their identities, and connecting with their communities. Our plays are always paired with a workshop that asks participants to practice the skills and vocabulary they experienced in the play. In these workshops we encourage people to tell their stories and build a community.

#### **Madeline Allard**

Madeline is 19 years old and will be a sophomore at SUNY Buffalo State in the fall of 2015. She is majoring in Television and Film Arts and double minoring in Theatre and Dance. Madeline dreams of being a writer, director, or actor in TV, Film, or Theatre someday.

#### Molly Bader

Molly Bader is a senior Theater major with a minor in Painting at Buffalo State College. She is the Assistant Festival Director for the Anne Frank Project and traveled to Rwanda with AFP in 2015. Molly's part in creating Shattered, AFP's devised play about sexual violence, helped inspire *The Eyes of Others*, her artistic research project.

#### **Dr. Charles Campbell**

Charles Campbell is a musician, poet, fiction writer, editor, publisher, and educator. He holds a B.A. in Communications and a minor in Religion from Lee University, an M.A. in English from

Eastern Kentucky University, and a Ph.D. in English Literature and Creative Writing from the University of Southern Mississippi.

#### **Dr. Katherine 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 womens 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 firstgeneration 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.

#### **Caleb Corkery**

Caleb Corkery is a professor of English who has won playwriting awards and has expertise in African American culture and literature.

#### **Shelby Deck**

Shelby Deck is a textile enthusiast and passionate global community volunteer. Shelby is a cofounder of Stitch Buffalo.

#### **Rachel DeNuzio**

Author and Illustrator. Born and raised in Buffalo. Attended Rochester Institute of Technology achieving duo degrees in Illustration and Graphic Design, now pursuing her Masters In Publishing at the George Washington University. Currently working on the next books in the Forsynthia Series, spreading the MTCCTW traveling project and other books!

#### **Eve 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 dramabased 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 also trained at Canada's National Voice Intensive and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London. Eve recently acted in the BFG at the Theatre of Youth, and is directing/curating The Apology Project for lbs/sq" Productions (Toronto, CA) at Silo City (Summer 2016). She is a board member of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo. Eve travels a lot, and enjoys running, camping, and cooking.

#### **Kevin Finn**

Currently a 7th and 8th grade Social Studies teacher at Spencerport Central Schools. In 2011, Finn graduated from Mercyhurst University earning his degree in Social Studies Education and is currently pursuing his Master of Science in Education in Educational Technology at SUNY Buffalo State.

#### **Kristie Fuller**

Kristie is the Theatre Teacher at Indian River High School. Her favorite directing credits include: And a Child Shall Lead, The Women of Lockerbie, and The Laramie Project. Her Theatre program was recognized as the ETA's Outstanding School (2007). She received the Reba R. Robertson Award for Outstanding Theatre Teacher.

#### **Christy Galletti**

A recent graduate of the Social Studies Education, 7-12 (M.S. Ed.) program at SUNY Buffalo State, where Galletti also received her Bachelor's degree in December 2013. She has worked in Sweet Home Central School District, and is currently teaching social studies in the Cleveland, Ohio area.

#### **Barrett Gordon**

Barrett Gordon, of The WASH Project -- an arts and resources based community center within a Burmese, refugee-owned laundromat in Buffalo -- manages the projects daily programming. Mr. Gordon has a Bachelor of Arts from the SUNY Buffalo, and a Masters of Library and Informations Science from Dominican University.

#### Dr. Jill Gradwell

Professor in the Department of History and Social Studies at SUNY Buffalo State. She teaches courses in history, museum studies, social studies education and her work has been featured in such journals as Theory and Research in Education, Social Studies Research and Practice, and Journal of Social Studies Research.

#### **Pralhad Gurung**

Pralhad Gurung is the Art Director and Post Production director of IN SEARCH OF A NATION. He is also the Co-Founder of IFACANS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION.

#### **David Hulet**

David Hulett is a drummer for The Phaction, a band from the Buffalo, NY area with various interlocking core members.

#### **Dawne Hoeg**

Dawne Hoeg is an accomplished studio textile artist and contemporary textile arts teacher. Dawne is a co-founder of Stitch Buffalo.

#### **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 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), 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.

#### **David Katz III**

Professor David R. Katz III has been in higher education for 34 years. Currently David is Executive Director of Organizational Development at Mohawk Valley CC. He is an endurance athlete and fly fisherman who enjoys spending time with his wife Marilyn, his two dogs, and his three grown children!

#### Dr. Gunilla Kester

A native of Sweden, Dr. Gunilla Theander Kester makes her home in two languages and on two continents, as well as at Heritage Academy in Ghana, West Africa. The author/editor of five books in three genres, she has won prestigious poetry awards and published widely.

## **Barry Kornhauser**

Recipient of Children's Theater Foundation of America's Medallion; Chorpenning Cup, honoring a body of distinguished work by a nationally known writer of outstanding children's plays; and Pennsylvania's Educational Theater Award for outstanding service by an individual for the advancement of theater education. Directs White House-honored theater program for at-risk youth.

#### **Timothy Lane**

Timothy recently graduated from Westminster College in Pennsylvania with a BA in Theater and Music. He has designed and performed in numerous productions at Westminster and at Buffalo's Subversive Theater. He recently traveled to Rwanda with AFP and hopes utilize his experiences to facilitate Spiritual growth and community building.

#### Marissa Lehner

Marissa Lehner is the Project Director of the Ferry Street Corridor Project, an innovative citywide community-based arts initiative. She is a practicing artist, founder and community arts coordinator of Emerging Leaders of the Arts Buffalo, and recently finished her Masters of Science in Art Education from Nazareth College.

#### **Cassie Lipsitz**

Cassie Lipsitz is a Buffalo Public School art teacher. She currently works at Lafayette high school, but over my career have worked at over a dozen city schools. She loves educating her students on a range of art styles and techniques and giving them the opportunity to practice and express themselves.

#### Paula Madrigal

Paula is the Wellness & Prevention Coordinator for Weigel Health Promotions and serves on the NASW Board of Directors. Paula's experience includes a jail-diversion program serving the homeless with mental health and/or substance abuse issues. An Arthur Schomburg Fellow; she obtained her MSW from the UB School of Social Work.

#### **Candace Masters**

Candace Masters, Artist and Associate Professor of Art Education has had extensive involvement in many community service projects, engaging with local schools, community programs and arts organizations. She has been recognized for her community-based work and artwork, often dealing with identity, has been shown nationally and internationally.

#### Dr. Andrea Nikischer

Andrea Nikischer is an Assistant Professor in the Adult Education Department at SUNY Buffalo State. She holds an M.S. in Adult Education, and a Ph.D. in Educational Culture, Policy and Society. Dr. Nikischer previously worked as a sexual assault and domestic violence crisis counselor, educator and community activist.

#### Kara Oliver

Kara is the Program Specialist at NFJC. Originally from New York City, Kara has lived in WNY for eight years. After earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from Niagara University in Communications, with a minor in Sociology in 2011, she attended Buffalo State College, earning her Masters in Multidisciplinary Studies.

#### **Katherine Pessecow**

A recent graduate of SUNY Buffalo State's master's degree in Social Studies Education, Pessecow is currently interviewing for educational positions in the Buffalo area. She has taught social studies in the past and relocated to Buffalo to complete her degree.

#### **Beth Powers-Costello**

Beth is an Assistant Professor of Early, Middle, and Exceptional Education at Millersville University. She has worked with diverse children and families across the United States and overseas including Costa Rica, Thailand, and Zimbabwe. Her research, teaching, and service are focused on social justice, equity, and the arts

#### **Karen Rice**

Karen Rice, Assistant Professor of Social Work. She learned of the importance of the arts in helping individuals process their experiences and as a mechanism to foster social change through her national and international work. She is certified in Art therapy and has extensive research experience using photo elicitation.

#### **Marc Rummenie**

Marc is the Program Director for the National Federation for Just Communities of WNY (NFJC). A lifelong WNYer, he is committed to building equitable and inclusive communities and has been with NFJC since 2006. A UB grad, he is a NYS Certified Social Studies teacher, and a former English teacher.

#### Luke Salerno

Luke Salerno teaches History and Social Studies at The Gow School in South Wales, NY. He also serves as the Director of Student Activities and oversees their leadership and service organizations. Salerno graduated from Buffalo State in 1999 and is currently pursuing his master's degree in social studies education at SUNY Buffalo State.

#### Dr. Roberta Schnorr

Dr. Schnorr serves as a professor at SUNY Oswego. Her teaching, scholarship, and advocacy efforts focus on mindfulness, effective inclusive education practices, and maximizing literacy development for all learners. She leads a local sangha (mindfulness group) in central NY and is an aspirant in Thich Nhat Hanh's Order of Interbeing

#### Naheem Shabazz

Naheem Shabazz is a Trombone player in The Phaction, a band from the Buffalo, NY area with various interlocking core members.

#### **Lamin Tamang**

Lamin Tamang is the President of the Bhutanese-Nepali Community of Buffalo. He is also an Independent producer of IN SEARCH OF A NATION.

#### Rebecca Treimer

Rebecca Treimer is a recent graduate of Westminster College where she studied Media Art + Design and Theater. She currently works for Haski Aviation, Inc. on their website. She hopes to someday travel and pursue her passion for photography further to capture the worlds stories.

#### **Sophia Veffer**

Sophia Veffer, 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.

#### **Dr. Charlene Vetter**

Charlene J. Vetter, Ph.D is a psychologist on staff at the SUNY Buffalo State Counseling Center. Dr. Vetter's areas of professional interest include HIV/AIDS and quality of life, LGBT-related issues such as sexual orientation and gender-identity development, alcohol and substance use in at-risk populations, and motivational interviewing.

#### **Emilio Virella**

Emilio Virella is a trumpet player in The Phaction, a band from the Buffalo, NY area with various interlocking core members.

#### **Andrew Wheelock**

Andrew Wheelock is a Technology Coordinator at Erie 1 BOCES/ WNYRIC. He is the Chairperson of ISTE's Virtual Environments Network that explores virtual environments and how they can be used for educational purposes.

#### Marion Wood O'Sullivan

Marion Wood O'Sullivan is a Theater and Communication Instructor and has extensive experience in using Boal Theater activities and techniques to explore issues of social justice.

#### **Donn Youngstrom**

Donn Youngstrom studied acting at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts West. He has worked as an actor, director, and fight choreographer in Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Buffalo, New Jersey, North Carolina and Off-Broadway. Locally, he has directed and acted in productions for Buffalo United Artists and the Kavinoky Theatre. Prior to joining Buffalo State in 1995, Youngstrom taught at Brooklyn College and East Carolina University.

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Technical Director: Mario Cataffo

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