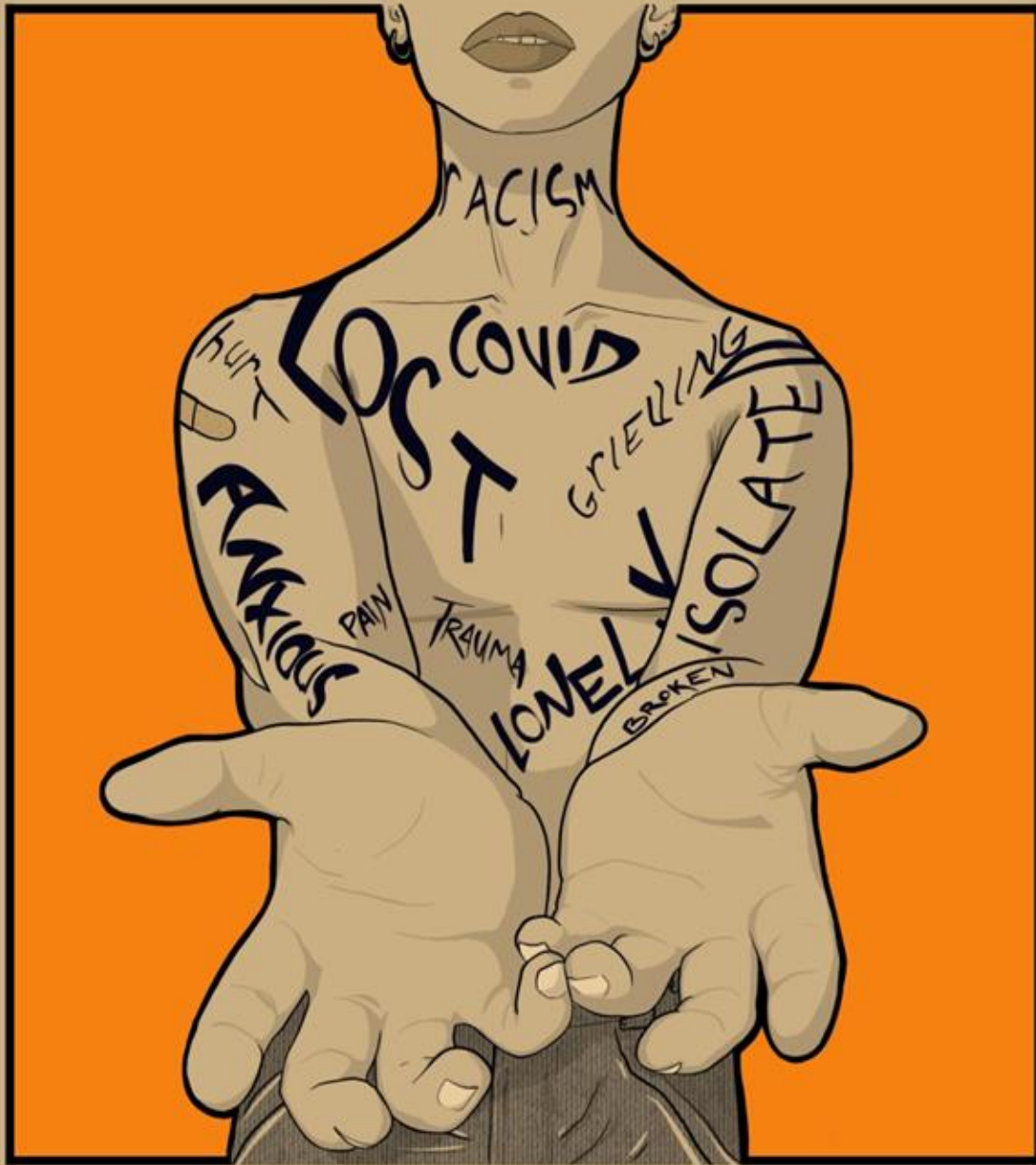


The Anne Frank Project's 14th Annual Social Justice Festival
Healing Through Stories



October 12, 13, 14, 2022

Registration and schedule of events at www.annefrankproject.com



BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York



AFP 2022: Healing Through Stories

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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 *believe, inspire, and achieve* in the spirit of the project's namesake, with open eyes, open ears, and open hearts.

Our Theme

While we make our way into our new, post COVID lives, we cannot ignore the wounds that surface regularly as we struggle to return to a sense of 'normalcy'. These feelings of loss, grief, and anxiety have been heightened following the racially motivated mass shooting in our community at Tops supermarket. Our stories have been broken—how will we put them back together? Fortunately, we are universally wired for stories—our brains crave the order that stories can bring to the chaos we now find in all of our lives. At AFP 2022, speakers, artists, and activists will reflect on stories that have, will, or can heal the personal, social, national, and global wounds that surfaced in the last two years. The sharing of unique skillsets, knowledge and approaches to healing is an act of both social and personal justice.

“How wonderful it is that we need not wait a single moment
before starting to improve the world.”

— Anne Frank

www.annefrankproject.com

A Welcome from President Katherine Conway-Turner

Welcome to SUNY Buffalo State's 14th annual Anne Frank Project social justice festival!

We are excited to have you join us in the first fully in-person festival since the pandemic hit in 2020. Although we have discovered that through creativity and ingenuity, we can virtually gather successfully, it is still preferable to be in a face-to-face format.

Today we convene at a time where we again must recognize the sustained crises that we maneuver. Unprovoked wars, gun violence, rape, murder, and injustices of all forms have become too commonplace.

Buffalo State community members and our friends in the fight for a just world have joined together for decades to lend our voices and energy to conceive and push toward a more just and inclusive world. Buffalo State supports our JEDI philosophy to seek *Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion* in all aspects of our life, our world and across the globe. We were reminded of the existence of hatred when we faced an unbelievable tragedy within our community this past spring. On May 14, 2022, a person, racially motivated, came into our community and committed mass murder targeting the African American community. Ten of our Buffalo family members lay dead at the hands of this individual. Even as we attempt to heal from this episode, we stand for a world that is free from such horrific acts and we work to uplift our collective understanding that justice and inclusion is attainable. We must eradicate the discriminatory behaviors and attitudes that grow and spew poison in our world and those attitudes that result in the killing, harming, belittling, and exclusion of those defined as "the other."

Today we come together again. We call again for a world where black and brown people, women and men, immigrants and newcomers, diverse people in all ways, can live, love, and contribute to making our communities stronger and fruitful. It continues to be a heavy lift to replace hatred for love, to exchange bigotry for acceptance, and to transform ignorance into enlightenment, but still, we must continue to strive for these best versions of ourselves. It is my hope that those that support and live by the truth of JEDI excellence will rise to lead our communities and stamp out the negativity, hatred and bigotry that is sometimes disguised and always hurtful and reductive of what the world can be. Acquiring the necessary tools and vocabulary to make these ideas active realities is what the AFP social justice festival is all about.

Participate fully in the festival and be renewed to continue to seek and nurture the best from those around you now and those who will continue to join us. We hope you will find a variety of strategies to 'heal through stories' during the three days AFP 2022.

Campus Spotlight at AFP 2022

It has been a tradition for AFP to highlight the excellent research, scholarship and creative activity accomplished by Buffalo State faculty and staff. It is our pleasure to spotlight the Art and Design Department for our 14th annual social justice festival. *AFP 2022: Healing Through Stories* shares tools on healing oneself and the world. The Art and Design department are also our featured artists this year and will be showcasing their work reflecting on stories that heal along with Dreamspace Center, a program designed for children and adults to have access to a safe space to create. Art exhibitions will be displayed from October 5th – October 19th with a session and a closing reception below.

Thursday, October 13th

12:30-1:30pm

Reflections: Social Justice in Art and Design

Various Faculty and Students of Art and Design Department, Renee Brown, Founder of Dreamspace Center.

Czurlis-Nelson Gallery, Margaret E. Bacon Student Bacon Gallery - Upton Hall

Wednesday, October 18th

5:00-7:00pm

Reflections: Social Justice in Art and Design – Closing Reception

Upton Hall Lobby

We are pleased to spotlight the work of our students and colleagues and look forward to featuring a different department or office on campus each year.

AFP 2022's Donn Youngstrom's Featured Speaker

Nic Stone

#1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author of *Dear Martin* and *Dear Justyce*

Tuesday, October 11 at 7:00pm, Burchfield Penney Art Center's Tower Auditorium.

Wednesday, October 12 at 10:00am, Social Hall, Campbell Student Union.



Samant Nic Stone has dedicated her life to writing the stories she needed when she was younger—the stories that make us feel seen, represented, and ready to connect with others. She didn't read about characters who looked like her or who came from her world in her childhood books, and she wanted to bring her own story, and the stories of people like her, to life. She'll teach you how the stories you read shape the way you see the world and the people in it, reminding us that we all have our own authentic story to share.

Nic says that sharing our stories is vital to doing the essential, necessary work of racial and social justice. If we want to rebuild and heal, making connections and embracing empathy through stories will go a long way: “the more we see Black people living—loving and doing and being and feeling...solving mysteries and being the heroes—the more we recognize our shared humanity.” She is also a fierce advocate for reading freedoms in public education. Having her own work banned in some parts of the country, she champions the rights of readers to pick up any book they choose and for authors to tell their authentic stories without fear of censorship.

She has put her passionate convictions into practice in her award-winning novels, which have been lauded by NPR (her books have appeared twice on NPR's Best Books of the Year list), *The Atlantic*, and *Publishers Weekly*. Nic's #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Dear Martin* was a William C. Morris Award Finalist and was called “an unforgettable tour de force of social justice” by *Booklist*. *The Horn Book* has lauded how Nic's writing—which includes blockbusters *Dear Justyce*, *Odd One Out*, *Jackpot*, and *Clean Getaway*—“carries the weight of history” as much as it is memorable, beautiful, and captivating.

This speaker series is made possible by the generous donations from Donn Youngstrom.

Schedule of Events

Group Registration is online at www.annefrankproject.com

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Time	Session & Description	Location
7:00-9:00 p.m.	<p>An Evening with Nic Stone <i>President Katherine Conway-Turner, SUNY Buffalo State</i> <i>Drew Kahn</i> <i>Nic Stone</i></p> <p>New York Times Bestselling Author of <i>Dear Martin</i> and <i>Dear Justyce</i>, Nic Stone, delivers her keynote address. Followed by a Q&A and book signing.</p>	Burchfield Penney Art Center's Tower Auditorium

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Time	Session & Description	Location
10:00-12:00 p.m.	<p>AFP 2022 Festival Welcome and Donn Youngstrom's Featured Speaker Nic Stone: On Being Human, The Power of Storytelling <i>Dr. James Mayrose, Provost, SUNY Buffalo State</i> <i>Drew Kahn</i> <i>Nic Stone</i></p> <p>Welcoming remarks from Dr. James Mayrose, Provost and Professor Drew Kahn.</p> <p>Nic Stone draws on the full scope of her work to explain how marginalization is rooted in the subconscious dehumanizing of other people. She reveals how sharing our human stories, both past and present, builds the empathetic foundations necessary to dismantle all forms of oppression. This talk helps audiences tune into the stories of others and unlock their own—finding within themselves the listeners and storytellers our world needs to effectively address social injustice. Followed by a workshop.</p>	Social Hall – Campbell Student Union

12:15-1:45 p.m.

Living Library
Eugene Harvey

Social Hall – Campbell
Student Union

A Living Library (aka Human Library) is an event designed to bring together people from different backgrounds and situations to engage in meaningful interactions. The “books” are real-life 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 small-group conversations can increase understanding and empathy – two qualities that are becoming increasingly important in today’s partisan political and social climate.

12:15-1:45 p.m.

Finding Your Hero
Dana Kemp
Matthew Lapennas

Assembly Hall – Campbell
Student Union

What does it mean to be a hero?
Is heroism reserved for Marvel Comics or the rich and famous? Or can we find a glimpse of this super-power within? Join us on a colorful movement journey into the unknown. Joseph Campbell’s interpretation of the mythical Hero’s Journey will help map workshops participants toward “revealing and healing.” Through collaborative storytelling, we’ll travel back to the less-celebrated triumphs of our everyday lives. The movement stories that emerge serve as a much-needed basis for profound personal narratives and establish a framework for deeper healing.
Come discover your own inner hero.

2:00-3:30 p.m.

Sophia’s Legacy
Sophia Veffer
Drew Kahn

Social Hall – Campbell
Student Union

Witness Sophia Veffer’s legacy as she 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 Sophia’s Legacy 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.

4:00-5:00 p.m.

Social Circus: Circus Arts for Individual and Collective Transformation

Benjamin Berry

In this experiential movement-centric workshop, participants will experience the ways that prop-based circus arts promote individual wellness through accessing the psychological state of flow (as coined by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi) and developmental movement patterns, as well as its potential for community (re)building through partner/group exercises that promote the social emotional skills of self-efficacy, trust, and solidarity.

Social Hall – Campbell Student Union

3:45-5:15 p.m.

Using Micropoetry to Catalyze Change

Dr. Andrew Hashey

Gliset Colon

Each of us has an untapped power: Humans are storytellers. Sharing our stories has the power to help us heal from harm and injustice to shape others' perspectives, and to create avenues for change in our communities. Healing begins when we tell our stories and recognize the sources of our wounds. Reflection, however, is only one part of the healing process. Participants in this workshop will use micropoetry and theatrical strategies to develop empowering counter stories that offer a path towards healing and social justice. Informed by successful advocacy & protest movements across the ages, participants in this session will begin to actively address and redress the challenges in our world. We will also explore ways to use these storytelling tools as a means of civic engagement and to agitate for a better society. Join us as we use our stories to become agents of change.

Assembly Hall – Campbell Student Union

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Remarkable Rwanda Stories

Rose Corrado, Gabriella McKinley, Jonise Hall, Zhanna Reed, Amanda Rojo, Amitra Wall

Enjoy interactive presentations by the 2022 Rwanda delegation. Light Rwandan refreshments will be served.

Social Hall – Campbell Student Union

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

Time	Session & Description	Location
10:00-11:30 a.m.	<p>LIVE from Africa: Healing the Classroom with Stories <i>Drew Kahn</i> <i>Urukundo Foundation</i> <i>Woodland Star International School</i></p> <p>During this session, participants will interact with students, teachers, and educators in Rwanda and Kenya.</p> <p>Join us as Urukundo Learning Center share how they use Story-Based Learning in their classrooms and Kenya Woodland Star International School share their version of the Diary of Anne Frank/Song with Signing.</p>	Campbell Student Union 419
11:30-12:30 p.m.	Break	
12:30-1:30 p.m.	<p>Reflections: Social Justice in Art and Design <i>Various faculty and staff, students, and alum from Art and Design department</i> <i>Renee Brown, founder of Dreamspace.</i></p> <p>Art, design, and scholarly work that affirms differences of race, sex, class, gender and/or ability. Featuring Dreamspace's work created by children and adults following the tragic events at Tops supermarket in Buffalo, NY. Light refreshments will be served.</p>	Czurlles-Nelson Gallery and Margaret E. Bacon Student Bacon Gallery - Upton Hall
1:45-3:15 p.m.	<p>Addic-Shunned. From Disgrace to Dignity <i>Aleks Malejs</i></p> <p>Addic-Shunned is an opportunity for the audience to get inside the mind of someone struggling with addiction. To see themselves in that person and develop empathy and understanding. The audience will be asked to participate in the shaming of someone and then hold the mirror to themselves. How can we identify and not judge? How can we reverse the stigma? How can we normalize asking for help? How can we participate in breaking down of walls and use those fragments to help build the foundations of intelligent, productive, creative, beautiful broken souls?</p>	Social Hall – Campbell Student Union

1:45-3:15 p.m.

Highlighting Asian American Voices and Histories in Social Studies Education

Dana Serure, Ed.D
Melissa Stanley

Assembly Hall North–
Campbell Student Union

This session will present an instructional resource for educators, teacher candidates, and civic-minded participants to inquire upon Asian American history through the lenses of resistance, preservation, and reclamation. Participants will engage in primary sources, view multi-media videos by StoryCorps that express Asia Americans first-hand accounts, and discuss taking informed action to understand “How have Asian Americans resisted racism to preserve their cultural heritage and reclaim their personal histories and identities?”

3:30-5:00pm

You Can't Dance Like That: Successfully Navigating Authentic Cross-Cultural Friendships

Yanick Jenkins
Carole Miller Canestrari

Social Hall – Campbell
Student Union

Two friends from different racial and cultural backgrounds share the story of their relationship, including conflict resolution experiences and tips for maintaining and cultivating authentic communication and navigating difficult conversations. Participants will understand individual and personal roles and responsibility...the importance of communicating, seeing one another, and willingness to have difficult conversations Through storytelling and sharing, participants will be guided to review and reflect on their own lives and experiences.

3:30-5:00 p.m.

Light in the Darkness - A World Away

Gabriel Ssenyondo
Sarah M. Baird
Kyra Laurie

Assembly Hall South–
Campbell Student Union

Art display of large drawings and photos depicting the power of solar lights to brighten lives in the Bulenga, Uganda community. Photos will be accompanied by short descriptions on the theme of healing and quotes from the subjects. At the entrance to the show, Baskets of sleep masks with the question displayed above: WHAT CAN YOU DO IN THE DARK? Baskets of note cards and pens with a clothesline and pins for people to hang their answers to the question.

5:15-6:30 p.m.

What Our Bodies Hold

Gaitrie Subryan

Social Hall – Campbell
Student Union

Often times the stories we hold are not ours, they are the stories of our parents, grandparents and possibly further beyond that. In this session participants will move inward and outward to tap into stories that they hold within their bodies. They will explore movements and exercises that can help to bring them to the surface in a creative and healing manner.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

Time	Session & Description	Location
10:00-11:30 a.m.	<p>LIVE L.A.B. with Me <i>Zhanna Reed</i></p> <p>LIVE L.A.B. with Me is a community initiative that uses creative art practices for wellness. The LIVE L.A.B. is an acronym and mantra for a lifestyle to Live, Love, And Be. When we define these for ourselves, we are then able to truly bring value to the accounts and events that have and will occur in our lives. During this session, participants will experience a performance and will be led through a collaborative exercise called “Reflections and Projections”, simply reflecting on the past and projecting how we will move forward. Participants will move through a few disciplines including but not limited to visual art, written/spoken word, song, and movement.</p>	Social Hall – Campbell Student Union
10:00-11:30 a.m.	<p>When the Hugs are Gone <i>Janelle Brooks</i> <i>Nina Pierino</i></p> <p>This session is an RJ Circle designed for post-traumatic incidents. Focus will be on the Massacre at Tops on Jefferson as well as other national traumatic events that impact how individuals interact with one another. This space will allow participants to share their stories, talk about healing, restoration and reconciliation. Following with kinesthetic activities.</p>	Assembly Hall North – Campbell Student Union

11-45-1:15p.m.

Reclaiming our Human Connection Stories Through Theatre in Post-Pandemic Times
Bonface Beti

Social Hall – Campbell Student Union

This playful experiential workshop will draw on the lived experiences of participants during and in the post-pandemic world as ways of exploring meanings of this transitional worlds through reclaiming of their own senses and connection. The workshop will draw from Augusto Boals "Games for Actors and Non-actors" to utilize Image Theatre techniques, Machine-Game as well as elements of Theatre of the Oppressed process leading to developing of a Forum Theatre improvised play for workshop audience interactions. The overall aim will be looking for ways to reimagine a different world and transform internal monologues to dialogues as collective stories and pathways for transformation and social change with justice as participants journeyed through and are emerging out of Pandemic oppression experience.

11:45-1:15 p.m.

"We'll be Nervous Together" - Confronting the Consequences of Racism
Jim Golden

Assembly Hall South – Campbell Student Union

The pursuit of social justice is often operationalized through the well-intended actions of those seeking to help victims of hate crimes. However, these efforts focus on the consequences of racism, rather than the causes. Sharing a personal story of going to the site of the Buffalo shooting and the "epiphany" that arose from the experience to motivate others to not (a) learn about the enduring and shameful thread woven through American history of white violence inflicted upon Black communities, (b) recognize the incredible strength of faith and character that has sustained Black communities despite such attacks, and most importantly (c) seek opportunities to address racism within white communities before it manifests into more violence.

1:30-3:00 p.m.

Our Story Through Comics
Afrim Gjonbalaj

Social Hall – Campbell Student Union

Join Afrim as he talks about comics and how deeply ingrained they are to our culture of storytelling. Followed by a workshop of exploring the structure of games and exercises, accessing/allowing our subconscious, writing and drawing. Participants will collaborate and present work.

Biographies

Katherine S. Conway-Turner, Ph.D. began her tenure as the ninth president of Buffalo State College on August 3, 2014. Her professional leadership can be seen in the many and varied aspects that are part of a major academic anchor institution. As president of SUNY's largest and only comprehensive college located in an urban setting, Dr. Conway-Turner oversees and manages more than 1,500 faculty, staff, and administrators who provide more than 75 undergraduate and 60 graduate academic degree programs to 6,500 undergraduate and 1,000 graduate students each year. President Conway-Turner's vision for Buffalo State to become "Buffalo's College" through engagement, excellence, and social responsibility has been embraced and is paying off in dividends for both the college and the community including garnering significant philanthropic support for the institution.

Buffalo State's commitment to service has been recognized nationally under President Conway-Turner's leadership. In 2016, Buffalo State was among five colleges and universities from across the country chosen to share in the Washington Center's annual Higher Education Civic Engagement Awards. The college has also earned the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's Community Engagement Classification under Dr. Conway-Turner, as well as accolades from the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll and recognition of excellence from AASCU.

One of President Conway-Turner's signature events, "Bengals Dare to Care Day," was initiated as part of her inauguration week of activities in 2014, and she officially launched the annual service day the following year. Buffalo State students, faculty, alumni, staff, and friends of the college provide community service within the City of Buffalo one Saturday during the fall semester. Each year hundreds of the Buffalo State community members provide service to 40 community agencies throughout the city.

Dr. Conway-Turner also lends her talent and time to several boards, committees, and programs nationally, statewide, and locally. She serves on the Distinguished Alumnus Award Search and Selection Committee for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and she is a member of the Association of American Colleges and Universities' Presidents' Trust. She is also a member of the review and selection panel for the American Council on Education Fellows Program, and she is a member of the Division III President's Council, a member of NCAA Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity and Pathway Program mentor for the National Collegiate Athletic Association. President Conway-Turner is the vice chair and commissioner for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, which is the accrediting body for higher education institutions in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. She is the vice chair of the board of Campus Compact and member of the executive board of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU).

Her statewide commitments include service on the Western New York Youth Apprenticeship steering committee. In Buffalo and Western New York, she serves on the advisory board of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County, emeriti member the Western New York Women's Foundation, Say Yes Buffalo's Operating Committee, the Richardson Center Corporation Board, and co-chairs the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council.

President Conway-Turner earned her Ph.D. and Master of Arts degrees in social psychology, and her bachelor of arts degree in microbiology, all from the University of Kansas. Her scholarship focuses on adult development and aging; the psychological impact of aging on family relations, health, and development; and women and intergenerational relationships. She is the author of numerous articles, chapters, books, and book reviews.

Before coming to Buffalo State, President 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 University of Delaware, Santa Clara University and California State University, Long Beach.

President Conway-Turner's personal journey mirrors that of many of her students, past and present. As a first-generation college student, she appreciates the process of education and embraces its transformative aspects. She listens to the ever-changing needs of her students and attempts to implement and monitor new programs and processes to help these students become successful, contributing members of society.

She has also become known on campus and in the community for her social media outreach, including blog posts, tweets, and Instagram posts that highlight activities occurring on campus, as well as many of her humanitarian efforts.

Dr. Conway-Turner is married to Dr. Alvin L. Turner, a psychologist licensed in New York and Delaware, who is engaged in the independent practice of psychotherapy, supervision, training, and forensic psychological services.

James Mayrose, Ph.D. received a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering, a M.S. in Mechanical Engineering and a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University at Buffalo. Dr. Mayrose joined the Buffalo State family in 2006 as an assistant professor in the Engineering Technology Department. He went through the academic ranks and was promoted to full professor in 2015. He has served as Chair of the Engineering Technology Department, as Dean of the School of the Professions, as Interim CIO and VP for Enrollment, Marketing and Communications and now, since 2019 serves as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. He has been the recipient of the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching (2009), the Outstanding Faculty Member Award from the Campus Life Student Group (2010), and the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching (2015). Outside of the world of academia, Dr. Mayrose was the founder and CEO of Tactus Technologies, Inc., a software company that specialized in virtual reality applications. Dr. Mayrose was named "*Inventor of the Year*" by the Niagara Frontier Intellectual Property Law Association and Technical Societies Council in 2004, he received the small business *Innovation Award* from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce in 2011, and in 2014 he received the *Tibbetts Award for Innovation* from the U.S. Small Business Administration during a ceremony at the White House.

Sarah Baird, MA, MPS, is the Founder and Executive Director of Let There Be Light International (LTBLI), a nonprofit dedicated to combating Climate Change and Global Energy Poverty through solar programming in off-grid Africa. Sarah's work focuses on the intersection between SDG7 and poverty, health, education and women's empowerment. Since 2014, LTBLI under Sarah's leadership and working with grassroots partners has solar-electrified 69 prioritized off-grid health clinics in Uganda and donated 28,500 safe solar lights to vulnerable individuals and families living in Energy Poverty in Uganda, Malawi, and Kenya.

Resources: www.lettherebelightinternational.org

Benjamin Berry (they/he) is a modern hoop dancer, circus artist, teaching artist, and performer based in Buffalo, NY who specializes in making creative movement accessible for all abilities. In 2015, they connected with the online circus community by participating in Hooping Idol Season 5, ultimately earning them Hooping.org's "Hooper of the Year 2015." Since then, they have embarked on multiple cross-country workshop tours, having taught in over 50 cities nationwide. In 2017, they moved to Buffalo and began working as a full-time teaching artist at the local level as a rostered artist through Young Audiences of Western New York, helping share creative movement in over 100 local schools, libraries, eldercare facilities, and other settings. Since then, they expanded their pedagogy by receiving training in Brain-Compatible Dance Education at the Creative Dance Center in Seattle, WA, as well as in Holistic Circus Therapy with Anne Maglio, a methodology that applies occupational therapy principles to circus arts. Most recently, they launched Accessible Circus Project in 2021, an initiative in partnership with the non-profit Accessible Festivals to share free/subsidized circus props and accessible movement-based programs to individuals and organizations who lack the budget for recreational opportunities.

Resources: www.benjaminberry.com, www.facebook.com/benjaminberryhoops www.facebook.com/accessiblecircus @fruit_hoops, @accessiblecircus

Janelle Brooks is the Assistant Dean for Conduct and Community Standards. She came to Buffalo State in 2007 from St. John's University (Queens, NY campus) where she served as Assistant Director of Campus Activities. She holds a master's degree in Student Personnel Administration and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Canisius College of Buffalo, NY. Janelle served as a Complex Director in Residence Life from 2007-2011 and as Assistant Director of Residence Life for Student Conduct from 2011- January 2017. From January 2017- November 2017, Janelle served as Assistant Director within the Dean of Students Office. After an Internal Search Process, Janelle was hired as Assistant Dean of Conduct and Community in November 2017. In August 2019 Janelle and the Student Conduct Team opened the Restorative Justice Center to offer restorative practices to members of the Buffalo State community. Janelle served as advisor to the Residence Hall Association from 2011-2016 and began advising Black Active Minds in 2015. Black Active Minds is an organization committed to student engagement through conversation and exposure to current events which directly impact minorities. Janelle enjoys working with student leaders and has always been committed to providing them with support for their organizations. Janelle has received numerous awards throughout her career in Student Affairs for her support of student leaders and respective departments. During her time at Buffalo State, Janelle has served on countless committees. Currently she serves as a member of the Campus Safety Taskforce, and the High-Risk Admissions Committee.

Resources: studentconduct.buffalostate.edu, @buffalostaterjc

Carole Miller Canestrari was born in Buffalo and raised in Western New York; Carole is currently a Senior Counselor in the Educational Opportunity Program at Buffalo State. She has served in the role for the past nine years assisting students as they persevere towards a college degree. Carole has a bachelor's degree in health science and a master's degree in counselor education from SUNY Brockport. Previously, she worked as an elementary school counselor in the same school district she grew up in. Carole was certified in 2004 as a Child-Centered Play Therapist. She used this training extensively with the students who displayed anxiety, difficulty with social skills, and disruptive behavior. She also volunteered her time to help co-facilitate a grief support group for children for six years. For the past eight years, Carole has also served as a facilitator for the National Federation for Just Communities.

Dr. Gliset Colón is currently an Assistant Professor in the Exceptional Education Department at SUNY Buffalo State. She has the distinct pleasure of coordinating the Teaching Bilingual Exceptional Individuals Graduate Certificate Program. She is actively involved in several professional organizations including the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE), and the New York State Association for Bilingual Education (NYSABE). Dr. Colón teaches courses on topics related to bilingual special education, behavior and classroom management, and foundations of special education. In addition to teaching, she has research interests and expertise in literacy and language outcomes for multilingual students with and without disabilities, multi-tiered systems of support, disproportionality, and culturally relevant and sustaining pedagogy.

Dreamspace Center was created to fill a need for access to a safe space to create. By design, Dreamspace workshops provide encouragement for children and adults on how to pause and find peace. Dreamspace offers pathways through a series of art workshops allowing peace and reflection with creative self-expression. These pathways have been designed to unlock the inner child of both children and adults using art experiences. Dreamspace, created by founder, artist, author, and educator Renee Brown is a wonderland of joy for children and adults seeking a safe place to let their minds soar and release what is inside. Renee Brown has published on the value of using a strong foundation of basic art skills found throughout the lessons in her book *Lines and circles*. These lessons inspire inner release and discovery, and a respect for fundamental art foundations.

Resources: <https://www.followmydream.net/>

Justin Crossfox is a Senior Assistant Librarian at the E. H. Butler Library. He received his MLS from Queens College, in Queens, NY. Justin had previously spent his career in Public Libraries, focusing on children's librarianship. Crossfox is also on the event planning team for the Living Library.

Afrim Gjonbalaj is a native New Yorker of Albanian descent, born and raised in Brooklyn. Afrim grew up reading comics, dreaming of time travel and science fiction while watching every Martial Arts, Horror and Anime film he could find on bootleg VHS tapes at corner stores and bodegas. As an Actor, Afrim received his B.A. in Theater with a concentration in Acting from Buffalo State College in 2006 as a member of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). As a member of SAG-AFTRA/AEA, Afrim has been seen on *Ramy* (Hulu), *Daredevil* (Netflix), *The Blacklist: Redemption* (NBC) and many more screen and stage projects. As a writer, you can find his comic, *The Legend of the Night Owl*, based on his mother being an "Albanian Muslim crime fighter addicted to Coffee, with a shadowy past" over at LegacyComix.com. Afrim is currently working toward his MFA at the David Lynch Screenwriting program at Maharishi International University.

Resources: <https://www.legacycomix.com/product/legend-of-the-night-owl-o-physical/>

Dr. Jim Golden is an assistant professor in the Social Work Department at Buffalo State College. His research focuses on social justice advocacy, anti-racism, and implicit bias. Golden is also on the event planning team for the Living Library.

Eugene Harvey is an Associate Librarian at E. H. Butler Library and holds master's degrees in library science and Social Work. Besides being a librarian with experience in teaching, reference services, and library assessment, Eugene also has a background in adult mental health treatment and psychotherapy and remains interested in many social welfare issues. This is Eugene's fourth time planning the Living Library event, which has been immensely successful over the years in bringing a variety of "human books" to share their stories with our students.

Resources: <http://humanlibrary.org>

Dr. Andrew I. Hashey is an Assistant Professor in the Exceptional Education Department at SUNY Buffalo State College. In his K-12 teaching career, Dr. Hashey taught in classrooms serving students with complex learning and behavioral profiles; his teaching philosophy is rooted in the belief that all individuals possess strengths and interests that can be harnessed for growth and learning. Dr. Hashey's research interests include evidence-based literacy instruction, video-based reflection as professional development, school-university partnerships, and self-regulation. An active member of his local union, United University Professionals, Dr. Hashey is committed to strengthening communities through active participation in initiatives at the local, state, and national level.

Yanick Jenkins was born in Au Cap, Haiti, and raised in Spring Valley, New York. Yanick Heriveaux Jenkins has had the honor of serving as the director of the Buffalo State College Arthur O. Eve Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) for 20 years, and as senior adviser for Precollegiate Programs since 2019. As such, she has created an energetic atmosphere for the growth and development of academic scholars and future community leaders. With a B.S. in social work and a master's in counselor education specializing in counseling minority groups, she worked for eight years as the creator and director of the Office for Multicultural Affairs at D'Youville College. She is also a former EOP adviser at SUNY Brockport and a former HEOP adviser at the Rochester Institute of Technology. She has dedicated her life to fostering and supporting the empowerment, leadership, and self-enhancement qualities of all she encounters, paying special attention to those who are marginalized within society. Ms. Jenkins is the Western New York regional coordinator for the Educational Opportunity Program Directors Group, President of the Educational Opportunity Director's Council, a 20-year consultant and program facilitator with the National Federation for Just Communities of Western New York, a 2001 graduate of Leadership Buffalo, and an active member of the women's empowerment group Women in the Spotlight Going Global. She partners with EMBRACE WNY, an organization working toward equality for all Western New York residents, especially in the LGBT community; the Young Miss Buffalo Empowerment Training and Pageant; and the Haiti Outreach Program Pwoje Espwa. She is also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.

Dana Elise Kemp is a CONCEPT CREATIVE working to broaden the scope of the arts through innovative ideas and artistic expertise. She is an English educator, writer, concert curator, artist relations manager, mixed media artist, and jazz promoter. With regard to music, she saw a natural progression from being a "listener and appreciator" of music, to possessing the skill set and capabilities to properly assist artists in developing careers in music and the arts through her attention to the broader scope of organizational management within "the industry." Her publishing credits include "A Flash of Dark: Poetry & Flash Fiction; An Afro-futurism Anthology" (jazz flash fiction), Western New York Heritage Magazine, Buffalo Spree, The Challenger News, and JazzBuffalo. An established grant writer, and member of the Jazz Journalists Association, she has met and worked with numerous artists in the genre, using her knowledge of the arts market to provide coaching, guidance, and expertise to professional artists and educators. Having an affinity for making sound performance connections within a grander musical framework, she garnered curatorial assignments for major festivals and concerts. Prior to pursuing arts management, she founded an arts-integrated school, as well as an internationally recognized mixed-media art supply club. Owner of CurlyGig Face and Body Painting, she makes children of all ages smile through her vibrant face and body designs. In addition to having certification in Human Development, she is a certified Waldorf teacher (Rudolf Steiner Centre Toronto). She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English Education and Africana Studies (University at Albany) and a Master's Degree in World Literature and Writing (Virginia Commonwealth University). She is a collector of things, and enjoys concerts, singing, painting, and playing with paper.

Matt Lapennas has been an English as a Second Language teacher in Buffalo Public Schools for ten years. Born in Olean, NY, Matt went on to study at SUNY Geneseo and D'Youville College. He is committed to engaging students in deep learning and connecting the class curriculum to students' lives. For the past three years, Matt and his students at Lafayette International High School have used Story Based Learning to explore themes of identity and social justice. Outside of school, Matt is a member of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) and can be found in the streets, pushing for progressive change. In his free time, Matt enjoys being a father of two, cooking, playing tennis, and splashing around in creeks.

Kyra Laurie is a Junior at Canisius College with a double major in Strategic Communications Studies and Digital Media Arts. She is passionate about community service and is the Photo Director at the campus newspaper, The Griffin.

Aleks Malejs has a BFA in Acting from The University of Montana and an MFA in Acting from The New School for Drama. Aleks has been on 2 National Tours with The Montana Repertory Theatre, spent 10 years in NYC expanding her education and craft, and landed back in Buffalo in 2013. Aleks enlarged her Theatre Education life in Buffalo, serving as the Education Coordinator and Teaching Artist at Theatre of Youth. She was an Adjunct Professor at NCCC and at Buffalo State College all while pursuing performance at The Kavinoky Theater and Irish Classical Theatre. Aleks has been featured in over a dozen shows here in Buffalo, two of which earned her the prestigious Outstanding Actress in a Play Artie Award. In 2020 with the arrival of the pandemic, Aleks was forced to engage in a career pivot. As she sought to discover additional passions and purpose and utilize existing skills, all roads kept leading to the Helping Professions in Addiction and Recovery. Aleks has been in recovery since May of 2012 and is passionate about helping others find their way. She completed an education both as a Certified Peer and a Counselor and now works as a Recovery Coach at Save The Michaels of the World. Aleks works with individuals and families who are struggling with substance use disorder and provides empathy, education and hope.

Resources: www.aleksmalejs.com

Nina Pierino currently serves as the Assistant Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards at Buffalo State. She has worked on campus for 6 years and served previous roles in the Residence Life and Dean of Students Departments. Nina has received extensive training in Restorative Justice practices from the Erie County Coalition for Restorative Justice, as well as the Gehring Academy.

Zhanna Reed is an emerging entrepreneur and traveling artist who humbly enjoys creating a moment of connection with herself and others. She is an actress, craftsman, dancer, model, vocalist, and writer, who values the use of creativity, as a tool for lifelong learning and self-expression. She has performed at many festivals including the Pappy Martin Masten Jazz Festival, The Burlington Jazz Festival, and The Elmwood Arts Festival. Her art has been featured in the Arts Collaboratory "Live Your Art at Home". She was an artist in collaboration for "Black Roots Summer", named Best Theater in 2021 by the New York Times. She has traveled with Electric Root to put on hope and radical healing concerts for surrounding communities. She is also an artist in an ongoing practice, research and performance study with Naila Ansari, "The Movement of Joy". Other works include, SISTER ACT, as Deloris Van Catier at The Lancaster Opera House, THE COLOR PURPLE, as Celie at Buffalo State, and more recently, ONCE ON THIS ISLAND as Ti Moune, making her debut as lead actress and being a part of the first ever production of Shea's 710 Theater, which received rave reviews from the Buffalo News and Broadway World. Zhanna Reed is an alumna of Buffalo Academy for Visual and Performing Arts. She is a Magna Cum Laude Alumna of Buffalo State University of New York, from where she holds an Arts degree. Her devotion to service, research, and natural leadership earned her the Arts and Humanities Dean's Award, and the 2019 SUNY Chancellor's Award. As a former teaching artist with the Anne Frank Project, Reed was a 2022 delegate to travel to Rwanda. Currently based in Buffalo, NY, Zhanna Reed holds the responsibility of "Miss Heart of New York 2022", a local title with the Miss New York and Miss America Organization. At the end of October 2022, she will be relishing her title in order to compete for scholarship and a new title at the Miss Buffalo 2023 competition. Reed's work focuses on self-expression, inter-generational healing and art. Through her initiative "Live LAB With Me", she encourages and educates communities to use creative arts practices for wellness.

Resources: @LIVELABWITHME, @ZHELRE, livelabwithme@gmail.com

Dana Serure, Ed.D. is an Assistant Professor in the History and Social Studies Education Department at SUNY Buffalo State College located in Buffalo, New York. Dr. Serure teaches social studies methods and graduate courses. Her scholarly interests include understanding the current state of social studies, social justice, and civics education. Formerly, Dr. Serure served as the lead social studies instructional specialist at two Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) organizations in Western New York. Her education career included teaching Global Studies, AP European History, and Participation in Government.

Gabriel Ssenyondo, aka Wings Panic, is a self-taught artist who lives in Bulenga, Uganda, on the outskirts of Kampala. Gabriel supports Solar Health Uganda's and an international nonprofit, Let There Be Light International's, mission by photographing solar projects in the field and depicting how solar lights change lives through his drawings and paintings. Gabriel is a self-taught artist who wants the world to recognize the universal quality of love through his art.

Resources: www.lettherebelightinternational.org

Julie Setele is a Senior Assistant Librarian at E. H. Butler Library. They hold a PhD in Sociology, as well as an MLIS. They are passionate about social justice, especially reproductive justice, intersectional feminism, and prison abolition. This is their first time working on the Living Library event.

Melissa K. Stanley is a doctoral candidate in the College of Education at The Pennsylvania State University on the main campus at University Park. She was a former high-school social studies teacher in North Carolina where she also coached National History Day at the regional, state, and national levels. She worked as a graduate assistant for the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Education Initiative at Penn State for two years and now works as a graduate teaching and supervision assistant at Penn State. Her academic interests include social studies education, classroom discussion, and the teaching and discussion of contentious issues.

Resources: mks6421@psu.edu.

Gaitrie Subryan is a Choreographer, Dancer, Yoga Instructor and Teaching Artist. She is a 2022 recipient of the Creatives Rebuild New York grant which is designed to employ artists for up to two years where they have the opportunity to develop artistic work, community building, and mutuality that these collaborations will create and inspire. Gaitrie is the founder of Devi Bollywood Performing Arts, where she develops choreographic works with her troupe for showcases, events, and festivals. As a teaching artist for Arts for Learning for eight years she has served over fifty schools and organizations to bring dance and yoga into the schools. She has presented works at the University at Buffalo, Buffalo State College, D'Youville College and Niagara University. Gaitrie is fascinated with the body, how to move and what it contains. She believes that the stories that we hold within us set the tone for our lives, but it does not need to justify how we live.

<https://devibollywooddance.com/about/>

Urukundo Foundation is dedicated to education for Rwandan children, created and funded through Hope Made Real and its incredibly kind donors. Founded by Arlene Brown, Hope Made Real is dedicated to improving the lives of orphaned and abandoned children, and the poor and vulnerable people of Rwanda, Africa.

Resources: <https://hopemadereal.org/>

Sophia Veffler, a survivor of the Nazi campaign that orchestrated the systematic slaughter of more than six 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.

Resources: <https://www.annefrankproject.com/sophias-legacy>

Woodland Star International School is “ad astra per aspera,” meaning “through hardships to the stars. "As a school, Woodland Star is an incredible opportunity to empower children to see, to think, and to become. Woodland Star is a place of stability and mindful transformation, enabling children to reach beyond the limitations constructed around them. Through avant-garde education, exploration of identity, and a strong environmental focus, we offer a holistic experience that teaches children to discover their passions, analyze society, and value connectedness. Ultimately, Woodland Star wants to teach children how to take actions that lead to a better world through overcoming their own unique challenges – growing, through hardship, towards the stars. Woodland Star's vision is to develop lifelong learners who will live meaningful lives in a complex and changing world.

Resources: <https://www.woodlandstarkenya.com/>

Donn Youngstrom joined the faculty at Buffalo State in 1994 following an extensive theatrical career. After receiving a bachelor's degree in history from Lewis & Clark College, he studied acting at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts/West. He began his career acting and directing in semi-professional theaters in LA and later Seattle. He relocated to New York City, where he joined CSC Rep, a classical repertory company. In 1984 he played the lead in *Comus* directed by Donald Savage as part of a Milton Festival at Buffalo State. There he met Donna and Dennis McCarthy, as well as Horace (Hank) Mann. At the urging of Dr. Savage and Dr. Mann, Donn completed a master's in fine arts in directing at Brooklyn College. He subsequently taught as a Lecturer at East Carolina University for four years before returning to New York City as an adjunct professor. In 1994 he was invited by the Chair of the Theater Department, Donna McCarthy, to return to Buffalo State, this time initially as a full-time temporary faculty and later tenured faculty member. Mr. Youngstrom retired in 2018. As a member of the Buffalo State faculty, Mr. Youngstrom left a lasting impression on countless students, in his classes and as a director of 22 student productions. He served as chair of the Theater Department and was a member of the Faculty Senate. He has also been a long-time member of the Anne Frank Project advisory board.

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