



Washington State

Saying It Out Loud Conference

May 26, 2021

*A Conference Committed to Increasing Competency
in Serving LGBTQ+ Individuals, Families, and Communities*

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

8:30 am - 9:00 am	Welcoming and Opening Remarks Award - Honoring Odyssey Youth Movement
9:00 am - 10:15 am	Keynote
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Break, Visit Exhibitors and Apple Health Plans
10:30 am - 11:30 am	Workshop (Round 1)
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	Choose your own Adventure
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Workshop (Round 2)
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Break, Visit Exhibitors and Apple Health Plans
2:15 pm - 3:15 pm	Panel Session
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Closing Remarks
3:30 pm	Conference Adjourns

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A Special Thank You to our Planning Committee Members

Aleks Martin
Amanda Lewis
Berle Ross
Beth McFadden
Carissa Stone
Cathy Assata

Crystal Thompson
Dae Shogren
Dennis Green
Harvey Funai
Ian Sullivan
Julia Elting

Kira Schneider
Kristen Royal
Manny Santiago
Trixi Yotsuda
Tylene Carnell



The College of Business
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

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For more information, contact us at conferenceteam@unr.edu or call 775-682-8545.



ODYSSEY
YOUTH
MOVEMENT


Promoting equity for LGBTQ+ youth
odysseyyouth.org | 509.325.3637

Odyssey Youth Movement

Odyssey Youth Movement promotes equity for LGBTQ+ youth and young adults in the Inland Northwest through youth-driven programming and services. OYM works alongside youth ages 13-18 and young adults ages 18-24 at our drop-in center, located in the South Perry District of Spokane, Washington. Drop-in programs are currently offered virtually via video chat on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays with a Discord server available seven days a week for participants. We also offer delivery of essential items and monthly care packages for our youth and young adults including hygiene supplies, clothing, bus passes, as well as art supplies, pride swag, and materials to participate in interactive virtual programs. For more information on programming, upcoming events, and other services, visit our website at odysseyyouth.org.



Promoting equity for LGBTQ+ youth in the Inland Northwest through youth-driven programs and community education

 1121 S Perry St
Spokane WA 99202

 (509) 325-3637

 oym@odysseyyouth.org

FIND US ONLINE!

 @odyssey_youth

 /OdysseyYouth

 @OdysseyYM

 linktr.ee/oym



FEATURED SPEAKERS



Keynote Speaker Justice G. Helen Whitener

Justice G. Helen Whitener was appointed to the Washington State Supreme Court in April 2020 and she was elected by the voters to retain her position on the State Supreme Court in November 2020.

Prior to her appointment to Washington State's highest court, Justice Whitener served as a Pierce County Superior Court judge. Justice Whitener also served as a judge on the Washington State Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals and as a pro-tem judge in Pierce County District Court and the City of Tacoma Municipal Court. Before becoming a judge, Justice Whitener litigated both civil and criminal cases for 14 years as first a prosecutor and defense attorney and later as a managing partner of the law firm of Whitener Rainey Writt PS.

Justice Whitener is well recognized by the legal community for her commitment to justice and equity. In January 2021, Justice Whitener

received the Western Region of the National Black Law Students Association Judge of the Year Award. The 400 Years of African American History Commission has also honored Justice Whitener, naming her a 2020 Distinguished 400 Awardee. Additionally in 2020, Justice Whitener received the Washington Women Lawyers Chief Justice Mary Fairhurst Passing the Torch Award and she received the International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges President's Award. In 2019, Justice Whitener was awarded the Washington State Bar Association's Charles Z. Smith Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Award, the King County Washington Women Lawyers President's Award, the Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Association Service to Diversity Award, and the Seattle University School of Law and Women's Law Caucus Woman of the Year Award. In 2018, Justice Whitener received the Pierce County Washington Women Lawyers Woman of the Year Award.

Justice Whitener is the Appellate Court Representative to the Washington Supreme Court Interpreter Commission, and she is the former co-chair of the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission. Justice Whitener serves on the Board of Directors of the International Association of LGBT Judges as well as on the Washington State Office of Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee. Additionally, Justice Whitener is a member of the International Association of Women Judges, the National Association of Women Judges, and the American Judges Association. She is also a former chair and co-chair of the Washington State Superior Court Judges' Association—Equity and Fairness Committee. Justice Whitener is a judicial member of Washington Women Lawyers and is a judicial member of the Advisory Council for the QLaw Association of Washington.

Justice Whitener is the first Black woman to serve on the Washington Supreme Court, the fourth immigrant-born Justice and the first Black LGBT judge in the State of Washington. Justice Whitener is often invited to speak to organizations locally, nationally, and internationally on human rights, access to justice, and the responsibility of the judiciary to ensure the right of all who appear before the court to basic dignity and respect in judicial proceedings.

Justice Whitener was born and raised in the Caribbean island nation of Trinidad and Tobago. In 2015, at the request of the United States Embassy, Judge Whitener visited her home country to speak on human rights. In 2016, Judge Whitener gave a TEDxPOS Talk entitled, "Claiming your identity by understanding your self-worth" where she discusses the empowerment of embracing respect and how it informs her philosophy and approach to living.

Justice Whitener earned her B.A. degree in Business Administration and International Marketing from Baruch College, New York, and received her J.D. degree from Seattle University School of Law. Justice Whitener lives in Pierce County with her wife, attorney Lynn Rainey (CSM-US Army Ret).



Emcee Aleksa Manila

As a proud FilipinX immigrant and genderqueer individual from the Asia Pacific region, she brings with her social justice lens and human rights activism to raise the visibility and voice of minority populations. Her first title is Miss Gay Filipino 2001 (Filipino Community of Seattle) where she focused on the senior and elders, and intersections of the LGBTQ+ groups with the API/Filipino-American communities. HISM Olympia XXXV, ALEKSA MANILA is the 35th elected Empress of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle, the Olympic and Rainier Empire. She is also Miss Gay Seattle XL (2004-2005), believed to be the oldest drag title West of the Mississippi.

Aleksa Manila is Seattle's sweetheart of social activism and philanthropy. She has produced numerous fundraisers and benefits for LGBTQ+ and social service organizations like ICON (Seattle Counseling Service), Gay Bingo (Lifelong), Aleksa Manila & FRIENDS (Pride ASIA),

Saying It Out Loud Conference (Health Care Authority) and so on. She is a sought-after speaker, presenter, facilitator, moderator and trainer on the subjects of sexual minorities, cultural competency and clinical consultations from students to doctors. Aleksa is a beloved staple in diverse family communities with her "Drag Queen Storytime with Aleksa Manila" working collaboratively with Seattle Public Library, Wing Luke Museum, Northwest Folklife Festival, International Children's Festival, Seattle Pridefest and so on; where she highlights stories that celebrate diversity.

In 2012, she founded Pride ASIA, whose mission is to celebrate, empower and nurture the multicultural diversity of the LGBTQ+ communities through the Asian Pacific Islander lens. (www.prideasia.org)

Mx. Manila's professional background is a licensed social worker with a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Washington with an Integrated/ Mental Health concentration and works for King County – Public Health in Seattle, Washington. She is also a licensed mental health therapist, addictions counselor and clinical consultant with a private practice office in Seattle's Chinatown/ International District. (www.aleksmartin.com)

To learn more about her journey, visit www.ALEKSAMANILA.com and on all social media platforms via @aleksamanila. Maraming salamat po! (Thank you very much!)

KEYNOTE | 9:00 – 10:15 AM

Identity, Intersectionality, Inclusion and the Law

Justice G. Helen Whitener, Washington State Supreme Court

Justice Whitener is WA State's first Black female Supreme Court Justice, its fourth immigrant born, she identifies as a person with a disability and she is the first Black LGBT Supreme Court Justice in the United States. She will discuss how an understanding of intersectionality will aid in eradicating phobias.

WORKSHOPS: ROUND 1 | 10:30 – 11:30 AM

Working WITH LGBTQ+ Youth

Youth Track

Julia Elting - They/them, Queer Vision Access Program (QVAP) Coordinator, Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS)

Nathan Silpakit - He/him, Program Specialist, Asian Counseling and Referral Service

"Working WITH LGBTQ+ Youth" introduces participants to the basic needs of the population in a healthcare context and ways to support through individual, community, and policy level action. This session assumes basic experience working with youth and LGBTQ+ populations separately and will inform work done at the intersection of those identities.

Supporting Older Adults- LGBTQ Seniors of the Inland NW

Elder Track

LGBTQ Seniors of the Inland NW:

Jacki Putnam - She/her

Nancy Avery - She/her

Christopher Lawrence - He/him

Al Steuart - He/him

Doug Kim-Brown - He/him

Christine Lette - She/her

Discussion on the history of LGBTQ Seniors of the Inland NW group and how they came to be.

Activism and Organization

Adult Track

Marsha Botzer - She/her, MA,

Monisha Harrell - She/her

How organizations make decisions around including social and political activism in their missions.

How to Make Mistakes

Fundamentals Track

Bam Mendiola - They/them, Diversity Strategist, Bam Organization

This workshop is for people who make mistakes. Bam will share some of the mistakes they have made as a diversity consultant and the lessons they are learning and un-learning. We will also discuss tools from their How Not to be a Terrible Ally course and discuss common harmful language that many allies are still using.

WORKSHOPS: ROUND 1 (CONT.) | 10:30 – 11:30 AM

Supporting Homeless LGBTQ+ Individuals

Advanced/Clinical/Specialized Track

Hadrian Starr - He/him, Peer Counselor, Compass Health Community Outreach Recovery Support Team, Compass Health

This presentation will explore and highlight the challenges faced by homeless LGBTQ+ individuals, from varying factors that keep people from seeking out help, to the systemic barriers they encounter when trying to do so. We will also discuss effective solutions to help navigate some of these challenges, and advocacy that providers, friends, and family can do to help support clients and loved ones.

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE | 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM

1. #AskAleksaAnything with Aleska Manila (S/he/Siya)
2. Social Networking with Dae Shogren
3. Meditation and Self-Care with Evie Lewis-McNeil (She/her)

WORKSHOPS: ROUND 2 | 1:00 – 2:00 PM

Youth and Young Adult Panel

Youth Track

Julia Elting – They/them - Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS)

Chandler Wheeler – He/him, they/them, Odyssey Youth Movement

Jacob Braxton– He/him, Passion to Action

Minnie Bliesner– She/her, Passion to Action

Milo Edwards – He/him, Student, Advocate

Axyl Knox – They/them, Student

Elliott Grey - He/him

Do you want more information on how to serve LGBTQ+ youth and young adults? This panel will focus on supports LGBTQ+ young adults wish they had when they were younger as well as tips for providers to improve services to LGBTQ+ youth and young adults. Basic understanding of LGBTQ+ terminology and culture is preferred, as this panel will not cover those topics. This panel is recommended for providers who already work with youth and young adults, and wish to know more about serving LGBTQ+ young adults. There will be time for Q&A towards the end of the panel discussion.

You Say What? LGBT+ People Get Old?

Elder Track

Pat McIntyre - She/her, MS

Tonya Ruckenbrod - She/her, MSW, LICSW

This workshop will help you understand the history, the discrimination but also the resilience of older LGBT adults. We will discuss what is happening now as three generations of older LGBT adults maneuver aging in a country where seniors are often invisible.

Gender Affirming Care Town Hall - What's Happening, What's New, What's Next?

Adult Track

- Jennifer "Jen" Estroff - She/her, Coordinated Care
- Scott Swan - He/him, Coordinated Care
- Jessica Blose - She/her, Health Care Authority
- Teresa Claycamp - She/her, Health Care Authority
- Erica Marchbank - She/her, they/them, Molina Healthcare of WA
- Donny Guerrero - He/him, Molina Healthcare of WA

Gender affirming care coverage is evolving in Washington State. Join the Health Care Authority, Coordinated Care of Washington, Inc., and Molina Healthcare of Washington for an overview of the new and improved coverage, and an opportunity to give feedback on how the system works on the ground.

We invite those with lived experience navigating gender, physical, and behavioral health care through Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) to join. Share (anonymously or not) your stories, barriers, solutions, and vision for a comprehensive system of care in our state. Providers, community organizations, and allies welcome!

LGBTQ+ 101

Fundamentals Track

- Jasper Marino - They/them, Co-Chair of Best Practices Subcommittee, Rainbow Alliance and Inclusion Network
- Marisa Sanchez-Reed - She/they, MPA, Co-chair of RAIN Best Practices Subcommittee, Rainbow Alliance and Inclusion Network

In this presentation you will hear from the Rainbow Alliance and Inclusion Network (RAIN), which is the WA state employee LGBTQ+ Business Resource Group. They will cover basic vocab related to the LGBTQ+ community, including the acronym LGBTQ+, and gender identity terms like transgender, cisgender, and non-binary. They will do an overview of pronouns, where they will talk about what to do if you don't know someone's pronouns and what to do when you mess up. This presentation is geared toward foundational knowledge and is good for any learning level.

LGBTQ+ Leaders Panel

Advanced/Clinical/Specialized Track

- Andre Lawes Menchavez - He/him, Student, member of WA State LGBTQ+ Commission
- Lisa Keating - She/her, Tacoma School Board, Founder of My Purple Umbrella
- Marsha Botzer - She/her, Ingersoll Gender Center, LGBTQ+ Commission
- Jeffrey Robinson - He/him, Commissioner Franklin County, WA State LGBTQ+ Commission

Join our panel of LGBTQ+ leaders as they share their expertise and personal experience on how they've advocated for laws and policies that protect the rights and lives of LGBTQ+ individuals and families. With their immense passion and drive they've pushed through barriers and challenges, foraging paths forward for stronger communities and a better future.

INSPIRING CLOSING PANEL | 2:15 - 3:15 PM

Moderator: Aleksa Manila

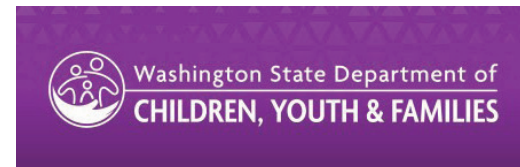
- Andre Lawes Menchavez - He/him, Student, member of WA State LGBTQ+ Commission
- Lisa Keating - She/her, Tacoma School Board, Founder of My Purple Umbrella
- Manny Santiago - He/him, they/them, Executive Director, WA State LGBTQ+ Commission
- Taffy Johnson - she/her, Founder and Executive Director, UTOPIA Washington

Panel session moderated by our one and only, Aleksa Manila. A Q&A session that will look toward the future, and what's next, inspiring attendees to be change makers, advocating for and supporting the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals and communities.

THIS CONFERENCE IS HOSTED BY:



BE SURE TO VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS!



Wellness with Pride

Aging with Pride • IDEA • WA LGBTQ Equity • Healthy Gen Center • Goldsen Institute

SPEAKER CONTACT INFORMATION

Aleksa Manila - S/he/Siya

amartin@seattlecounseling.org

Andre Lawes Menchavez - He/him

Student, member of WA State LGBTQ+ Commission
andrelawesmenchavez@gmail.com

Bam Mendiola - They/them

Diversity Strategist, Bam Organization
bam@bamorg.com

Chandler Wheeler - He/him or they/them

Odyssey Youth Movement
chandlerseli98@gmail.com

Donaciano "Donny" Guerrero - He/him

Molina Healthcare
donaciano.guerrero@molinahealthcare.com

Evie Lewis-McNeil - She/her

evielewismcneil@gmail.com

Erica Marchbank - She/her or they/them

erica.marchbank@molinahealthcare.com

Justice G. Helen Whitener, B.A., J.D. - She/her

Sylvia Campbell - sylvia.campbell@courts.wa.gov

Hadrian Starr - He/him

Peer Counselor, Compass Health Community Outreach Recovery Support Team, Compass Health hadrian.starr@compassh.org

Jacob Braxton - He/him

Passion to Action
jacob.braxton95@gmail.com

Jasper Marino - They/them

Co-Chair of Best Practices Subcommittee, Rainbow Alliance and Inclusion Network
jmarino@esd.wa.gov

Jeffrey Robinson - He/him

jsellers1987@gmail.com

Jennifer "Jen" Estroff - She/her

jestroff@coordinatedcarehealth.com

Julia Elting - They/them

Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS)
Juliae@acrs.org

Lisa Keating - She/her

Tacoma School Board, Founder of My Purple Umbrella
info@mypurpleumbrella.org

Marisa Sanchez-Reed - She/they

Co-chair of RAIN Best Practices Subcommittee, Rainbow Alliance and Inclusion Network
sanchez-reedm@sao.wa.gov

Marsha Botzer - She/her

mbotzer@olympen.com

Milo Edwards - He/him

Student, Advocate
milo@yesteensupport.com

Monisha Harell - She/her

mharrell@ruleseven.com

Nancy Avery - She/her

LGBTQ Seniors of the Inland NW
nancytavery@comcast.net

Nathan Silpakit - He/him

Program Specialist, Asian Counseling and Referral Service
nathansi@acrs.org

Pat McIntyre - She/her

patmackie@gmail.com

Scott Swan - He/him

scott.c.swan@coordinatedcarehealth.com