

18TH ANNUAL BLACK NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE



Living Out Loud:

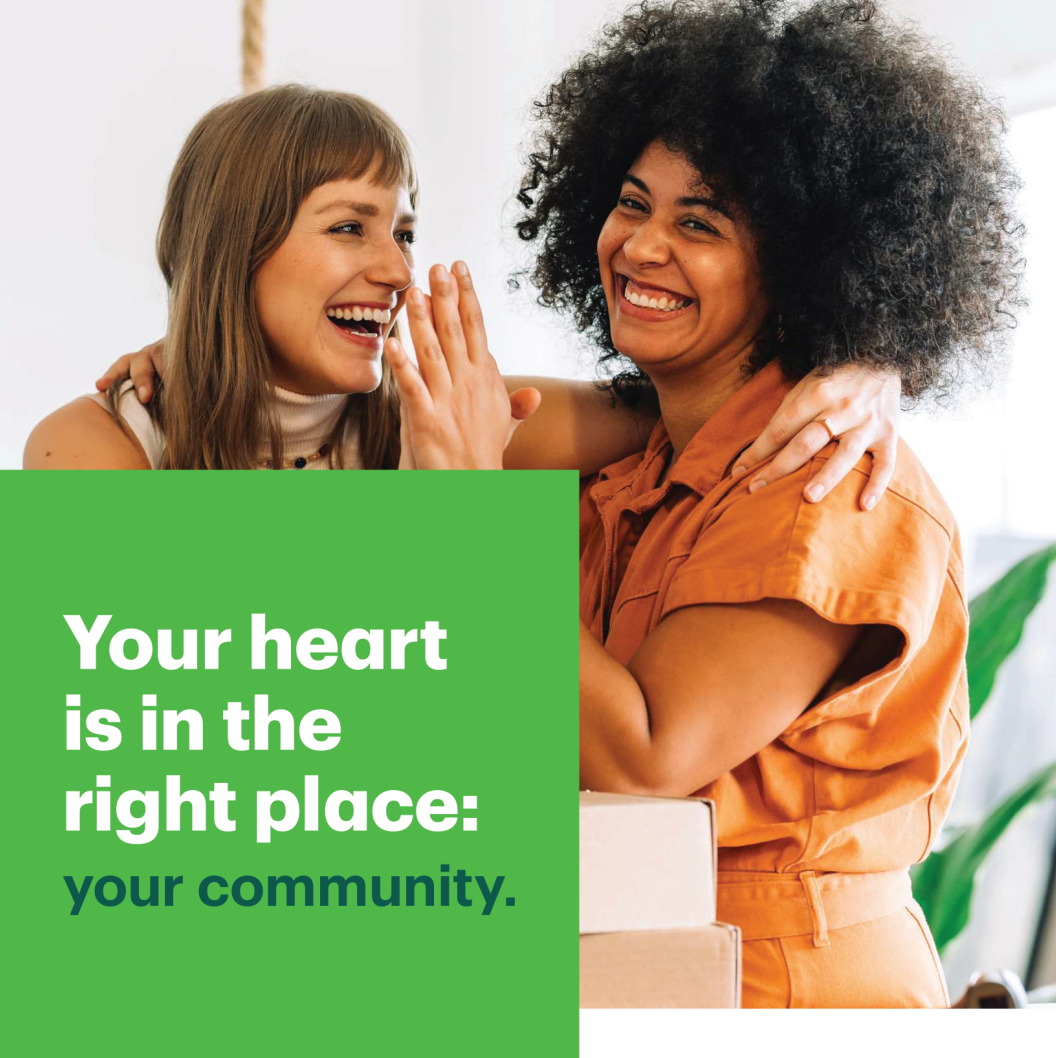
Embracing the Intersectionality of
Race, Gender, and Sexual Orientation

Presented by **BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL OF NEW HAMPSHIRE** and
SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY, MANCHESTER, NH

October 5, 2024

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:





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your community.**

Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire

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give back and make an impact.

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Welcome

On behalf of the Black Heritage Trail Board of Directors, the conference planning committee, our partners, staff, and volunteers, we welcome you to the **18th Annual Black New England Conference, Living Out Loud: Embracing the Intersectionality of Race, Gender, and Sexual Orientation**. We are also thrilled to welcome today's trailblazing leaders in the LGBTQ+ community, whose voices and vision are shaping crucial conversations on justice and equality.

From the civil rights movement to voting rights to the LGBTQ+ rights movement, individuals at the intersections of race, gender, and sexual orientation have played pivotal roles in challenging oppressive systems and advocating for social change. Black LGBTQ+ individuals have had to face unique challenges, often experiencing multiple layers of discrimination within their communities and the community at large.

This year's conference is about understanding that history and the complexity of the struggles individuals who navigate multiple marginalized identities have had to face. The conference will highlight the contributions the Black LGBTQ+ community has made to American history and explore evolving cultural norms, gender roles and presentation, depiction in popular culture, and emerging movements. We will discuss future trends and possibilities for greater inclusivity, equity, and social change by taking a forward-looking perspective.

We will celebrate the success stories of individuals and institutions that serve as beacons of hope for current generations, inspiring them to live their identities out loud and authentically. These stories are not just a testament to the resilience of the human spirit but also a source of motivation for us all.

We look forward to robust discussions, thought-provoking presentations, an engaging keynote conversation, and to celebrating Justice Roe Williams, our 2024 Citizen of the Year award recipient. And, we are deeply grateful to each of you for participating, whether in person or virtually. Your voice, your experience, and your expertise are invaluable to this gathering. Throughout the conference, we encourage you to be active, engaged participants, to join the discussions, and to offer your opinions and insights.

Thank you for attending, whether in person or virtually. And to our partner, Southern NH University, we want to express our deepest gratitude for hosting this year's conference.

BHTNH Executive Director JerriAnne Boggis

2024 Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire Citizen of the Year



Justice Roe Williams (he/him) is a poet, writer, author, and now co-editor of his anthology, *Deconstructing the Fitness Industrial Complex: How to Resist, Disrupt, and Reclaim What It Means to Be Fit in American Culture*—a unique book that takes the journey of diverse bodies, from coaches to fitness enthusiasts, and their experience of the fitness industry and what it means to create inclusive movement spaces.

Justice is also a Certified Personal Trainer, head coach at Kettlebell Justice, founder of The Queer Gym Pop Up and BodyImage4Justice, and Executive Director of Fitness4AllBodies based in Boston. Williams is a trans, body-

positive and social justice activist who continues to create safe spaces for all bodies now across the globe through his work with Fitness4AllBodies. He advocates for fitness being for everybody and the importance of trainers and fitness professionals using their status as gatekeepers to “act as a shield” to protect their clients and create safe, affirming practices, and spaces.

A key component of his work has been working with people of all backgrounds to address and dismantle toxic masculinity and how it operates within a white supremacist patriarchal culture. His work has been featured in *Men’s Health*, *Refinery29*, *Good Housekeeping*, NPR, *Pink News*, *Boston Neighborhood Network News*, and more.

About the book: *Deconstructing the Fitness Industry Complex: How to Resist, Disrupt, and Reclaim What It Means to be Fit in American Culture*, edited by Justice Roe Williams, Roc Rochon, and Lawrence Koval, was published in May 2023 through North Atlantic Books.

“Using the stories and experiences of trainers, coaches, and bodyworkers from diverse experiences, *Deconstructing the Fitness Industrial Complex* describes and defines the Fitness Industrial Complex (FIC). This framework is created to name that fitness as an industry acts systemically to produce and ideologically maintain dominant body cultures. Bringing together the voices of activists within the fitness industry who are deconstructing and re-envisioning how we experience and understand fitness as it presently exists, this book shows how we are all connected in this fight to redefine fitness as a practice or ritual for all bodies.”

2024 Black New England Conference Schedule

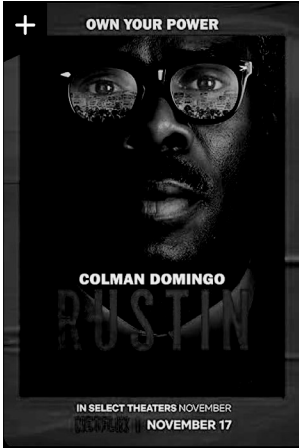
Conference Extras

Friday, October 4 | 6:00 PM | Currier Museum of Art
FREE & Open to the Public

Sponsored by the Currier Museum of Art



MOVIE SCREENING & DISCUSSION



The film *Rustin* tells the story of gay civil rights activist Bayard Rustin, who encourages Martin Luther King Jr. to lead a protest in Los Angeles ahead of the 1960 Democratic National Convention. However, Baptist minister and NY Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr. and NAACP leader Roy Wilkins are highly critical of Rustin on account of his romantic orientation, calling him a “queen.”

In the 1960s, Tom Kahn is Rustin’s love partner and works with him to expand civil rights. A. Philip Randolph (who is respected at the NAACP for convincing Roosevelt to sign an executive order in 1941 ending racial

discrimination in the defense industry, and Truman to sign an executive order ending racial segregation in the armed forces) is persuaded by Rustin to organize the 1963 March on Washington, DC. But skeptics at NAACP remind Rustin of the unsuccessful 1932 veterans protest. Because of Roy Wilkins’s objections to Rustin’s gay mannerisms, NAACP leaders and Whitney Young of the Urban League assent to the “Chief” (A. Philip Randolph) serving as the director of the 1963 March; the Chief later announces that Rustin will be the deputy director of the March.

Strom Thurmond publicly accuses Bayard Rustin of being a communist.

The 1963 March on Washington, DC was intended to increase congressional support for the civil rights bill President John F. Kennedy had proposed. Over 200,000 gathered in front of the Lincoln Memorial to call for an end to legalized racial discrimination in the US. Martin Luther King gave his famous “I Have a Dream” speech at the event.

Location: Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St, Manchester, NH

Moderator: **Dr. Lowell “Chris” Matthews**, (he/him) Professor of Business Administration and Management, Southern New Hampshire University

Conference Extras

Saturday, October 5 | 6:00 PM | Cost \$100

BLACK LIVES MATTER GALA



Hosted by Black Lives Matter New Hampshire

Join Black Lives Matter NH on October 5th, 2024, from 6 pm - 10 pm at the Bedford Event Center for an unforgettable night of Black performances, Black Food, Black music, and Black Art. All proceeds benefit the BLM Mutual Aid Fund!

This essential fund has given back over \$200,000 to the Black community for items like rent, utilities, and basic family

necessities. The Mutual Aid Fund is a radical act of caring for each other while working to transform our communities. There will also be a silent art auction featuring work by local Black artists. Folks in attendance can bid throughout the night before they announce the highest bidders at the end of the event!

Information and Tickets: <https://blmnh.org/gala>

Sunday, October 6 | 1:00 PM | Cost \$20

CONFERENCE BUS TOUR

A Small New Hampshire Town Remembers Its Black History

Rebecca Courser and Lynn Clark will lead a bus tour to explore the Black history of the Davisville section of Warner. We will see locations in Davisville where Black residents lived, worked, and attended school in the 19th and early 20th centuries.



Tour Guides: Rebecca Courser & Lynn Clark

Meeting Place: Warner Town Hall, 5 East Main Street, Warner, NH

2024 Black New England Conference Schedule

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 PANELS

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Registration Opens - Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

PANEL #1—BEYOND ERASURE: BLACK QUEER TRAILBLAZERS AND THEIR LEGACIES



In Honor of Stormé DeLarverie

Although general knowledge of Black LGBTQ+ history is limited, key individuals, past and present, have profoundly contributed to shaping our world.

For this panel, presenters will examine the frequently overlooked contributions of historic Black and queer individuals who have been instrumental in shaping the nation. They will explore the legacies and histories of these people and how they influence movements such as civil rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and social justice. Through

this discussion, panelists will illuminate how these stories have shaped, and continue to shape, the cultural and political landscape of the country.

Presenters

- **Ray Diamond**, (he/him) Distinguished Professor at Louisiana State University Law Center, *Pauli Murray, Life and Times of Pauli Murray*
- **Tanisha Johnson**, (she/her) Director, Child & Family Services, Community Action Partnership of Strafford County NH, and Adjunct Professor, UNH. *Drawn Outside the Lines: Impacts on the Past, Present, and Future*
- **Matt Garza**, Artistic Director and Community Partnerships, Haus of Glitter, Providence, RI (Dance Company, Performance Lab, Preservation Society) *Historical Fantasies of Black Queer Existence*

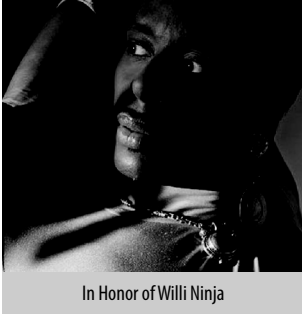
Moderator

- **Dottie Morris**, (she/her) is the Associate Vice President for Institutional Equity and Diversity and a member of the College President's Cabinet at Keene State College, Keene, NH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 PANELS

10:40 AM - 12:10 PM

PANEL #2—UNBOXED: REDEFINING CREATIVE SPACES AT THE INTERSECTION OF RACE, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY



Throughout history, despite facing immense societal setbacks and a persistent lack of safe spaces, many creatives, producers, and performers courageously challenged traditional gender and sexuality norms. By defying these conventions, they left an indelible mark on American culture and carved out spaces of joy and expression in environments that had long excluded them.

This panel will delve into the evolving cultural norms surrounding gender roles and presentation, examining how the LGBTQ+ community has profoundly influenced the arts. It will also explore how this vital and often underrepresented history has significantly shaped the contours of popular culture today.

Presenters

- **John Berst**, (he/him) Professor, University of Miami, FL. *Everybody Rejoice/ A Brand New Day – Celebrating the Legacy of Queer Black Theatre Artists Who Transform(ed) American Culture*
- **C. Rose Smith**, (she/they) Photographer and Assistant Curator of Photography, Boston, MA. *The Queer Lens: Constructing a Visual History*
- **Raquel Willis**, (she/her) award-winning activist, journalist, and media strategist dedicated to collective liberation, especially for Black trans folks. *The Risk it Takes to Bloom: On Life and Liberation*

Moderator

- **Melina Hill Walker**, (she/her) Program Director at New Hampshire Endowment for Health, Concord, NH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 PANELS

12:10 PM to 1:35 PM

LUNCHEON AND CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD—JUSTICE ROE WILLIAMS

Introduction by Anthony Poore

1:35 PM – 3:05 PM

PANEL #3—A BURST OF LIGHT: FUTURE TRENDS AND EMERGING MOVEMENTS IN THE QUEER COMMUNITY



In Honor of Major Griffin-Gracy

Audre Lorde once wrote: “Caring for myself is not self-indulgence; it is self-preservation, and that is an act of political warfare.” For Lorde, self-care is about reclaiming power over one’s life and body. It is an assertion of one’s worth and a refusal to be consumed by the demands and pressures of an oppressive society.

Panelists will explore forward-thinking approaches to uplifting marginalized communities and envision greater inclusivity, equity, and social justice possibilities. The session will examine strategies and innovations to drive meaningful change and create a more equitable future.

Presenters

- **Journee LaFond**, (they/them) Author, Podcast host, Restorative Justice Activist, Executive Director of Black Lives Matter New Hampshire. *Forward Together: Examining the Intersection Between Queer and Black Identity*
- **Amanda McGuire**, (she/her) Clinical Mental-Health Counselor. *Embracing Ourselves: Body Positivity & Self-Care for Queer BIPOC Empowerment*.
- **Harold Steward**, (they/he) Executive Director, New England Foundation for the Arts, Boston, MA. *Voguing: Transcend Boundaries and Dismantling Oppression*

Moderator

- **Bithiah Carter**, (she/her) President and CEO, Give Black Alliance, Boston, MA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 PANELS

3:15 PM – 4:00 PM

KEYNOTE CONVERSATION

A MODEL OF POSSIBILITIES: A CONVERSATION WITH TIQ MILAN AND HOST ANGEL SIMONE



Tiq Milan (he/him) is a sought-after host and strategic media consultant. He has moderated conversations about LGBT representation in media for HBO's NewFest Film Festival, The Toronto Film Festival, LOGO, and MTV. He's hosted authors in conversation at The Schomburg Center for Research, NYU, and at Princeton. He will host an evening at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York City. As a media consultant, he guides organizations and companies in creating detailed media. Campaigns that engage diverse audiences in ways that are inclusive and authentic. He's worked with HBO, NBC News, and various film and television producers on the rollout of several

projects, including the documentaries HBO's *Suited* and Netflix's *The Death and Life of Marsha P Johnson*. Tiq also served as the Senior Media Strategist and National Spokesperson for GLAAD, using data-driven strategies to engage various media in appropriate and honest LGBTQ.

Host



Angel Simone (they/she) speaker, trainer and coach, certified DEI consultant, TEDx speaker, Portsmouth, NH. Angel Simone is passionate about community mobilization and engagement. As a person with a marginalized identity, she is dedicated to creating spaces where people from diverse backgrounds and experiences can come together in ways that foster meaningful connections.

Special Thanks to Our Conference Volunteers

Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire & Volunteers

Sara Scholman, Valerie Fagin, Nur Shoop, Parker Keeler, Richard Gorkman, Jeannine Jacques, Jeanne Steele, Carl Steele, Chip Stiles, Grace Peirce, Janice Pierson, Terry Robinson, Brad Randolph, Cathy Wolff.

BHTNH Staff & BNEC Program Planning Committee

Gina Bowker, Dariya Steele, Barbara Ward, Nora Lewis, Janice Hastings, Anne Romney, Shelley Hartz, Rebecca Potter, Judy Posner.

Special Thanks

BHTNH is grateful to the Southern New Hampshire University staff, faculty, and student volunteers and The Currier Museum of Art for all their hard work making this event successful.

2025 BHTNH Schedule of Events

The 2025 BHTNH programs will be a year-long examination of the United States' journey to its 250th Anniversary.

Elinor Williams Hooker Tea Talks

Sundays, February 2-23 - *The Art of War: Conflict and the African-American Philosophy*



Juneteenth Celebration

June 11-19

The Amistad: "A Ship with a Story" will include Tours of the Amistad Ship, Panel Discussion, Music Performance, Drumming Celebration and more

Frederick Douglass Community Reading

June 28 - "What to the Slave is Your Fourth of July?"

Historic Marker Unveilings

April through October

Sankofa Tours and Speakers

Available throughout the year

Visit
www.BlackHeritageTrailNH.org



2024 Black New England Conference

Presenters Biographies

(In order of appearance)

FILM DISCUSSION & HOST



Dr. Lowell "Chris" Matthews is an associate professor of Global Business and Leadership at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU). During his tenure at SNHU he has developed courses on white privilege, workplace diversity, and gender equity. His area of expertise includes leadership, human resources, and strategic management. Matthews keeps active

in the community by volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire, City Year, and the Granite YMCA. He has served as chair of the board for DreamCatchers NH.

Prior to relocating to Manchester, NH, Dr. Matthews served as the director of fundraising events for the AIDS Foundation of Chicago and as an adjunct professor at Roosevelt University. Matthews completed his Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Management at the University of Delaware, his Master of Business Administration at Roosevelt University, and his Doctorate of Business Administration from Argosy University.

TOUR GUIDES



Lynn Clark holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from Binghamton University. She is a former executive director of the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum and retired as director of the Warner Historical Society in 2023. Her research interests include rural New Hampshire Black and Native families. With fellow researcher Rebecca Courser, she wrote *Rural Free Black Settlement in Post-*

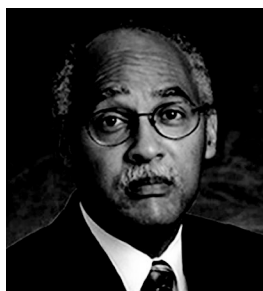
Revolutionary NH, A Study of Five Towns in 2007. As a volunteer she contributes to exhibits and tours at the Warner Historical Society and co-authors cemetery walks for the Hopkinton Historical Society. Through her work she aims to make historical narratives inclusive of all New Hampshire's peoples.



Rebecca Courser is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire and took graduate courses in the Heritage Studies Program at Plymouth State University. She was formerly the museum store manager and volunteer coordinator at the New Hampshire Historical Society. Long active in the Warner Historical Society she retired as director in 2019. While employed as assistant

town clerk in the 1980s she became intrigued by Warner's Black history while studying vital records. She has spent the last decades continuing to research the lives of families who lived in Merrimack County. Courser and Lynn Clark co-wrote "Rural Free Black Settlement in Post-Revolutionary New Hampshire: A Study of Five Towns" for the Historical New Hampshire special issue *Too Long in the Shadows: The Black Presence in New Hampshire*, (Vol. 61, No. 1, Spring 2007).

PANEL #1—BEYOND ERASURE: BLACK QUEER TRAILBLAZERS AND THEIR LEGACIES



Ray Diamond (he/him) is the James Carville Alumni Professor and Jules F. & Francis L. Landry Distinguished Professor at Louisiana State University Law Center, where he is Director of the George W. and Jean H. Pugh Institute for Justice and teaches criminal law and constitutional law. His scholarship is at the nexus of constitutional law, race, and legal history.

He is the co-author of *Brown v. Board of Education: Caste, Culture, and the Constitution*, which was awarded the 2003 David J. Langum, Sr. Prize by the Langum Project for Historical Literature. His scholarship in the area of the Second Amendment and the right to bear arms was awarded the 2000 Carter-Knight Freedom Fund Award, and has been cited three times in Supreme Court jurisprudence, most recently in *Rogers v. Grewal*, 140 S.Ct. 1873, (2020) (Justice Thomas dissenting). He was co-counsel on the amicus brief presented by the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) to the Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, decided in 2008. His most recent scholarship, "Helpless by Law: Enduring Lessons from a Century-Old Tragedy" (with Robert J. Cottrol), *Connecticut Law Review Online*; May 2022), examines questions of violence and self-defense in African American history in the contexts of crime in American cities

and of historical patterns of racist anti-Black violence prevalent in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, as exemplified by the destruction of the Greenwood community in Tulsa Oklahoma in 1921.



Tanisha Johnson (she/her) has a Bachelor’s Degree in Organizational Psychology and a Master’s Degree in Business Administration. Tanisha is the Child and Family Services Director for the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County. In July 2020, Tanisha co-founded the Black Lives Matter Seacoast Chapter. BLM’s mission is to dismantle anti-

Blackness, fight against racial injustices, and police brutality. Tanisha serves on various community organization boards along the Seacoast, she is a DEIJ trainer, advocate, and speaker. Tanisha is the Co-Host of the podcast *The Conversations We Should Be Having*. This podcast is with the Chief of Police of Eliot, Maine. Tanisha is the Vice President of BHTNH Board of Directors.



Matt Garza Artistic Director and leads Community Partnerships at Haus of Glitter—Dance Company, Performance Lab, Preservation Society, in Providence, RI. The Haus of Glitter lived in the former home of Esek Hopkins, commander of the slavery ship *Sally* as an endurance-based performance and community activation and historic intervention. Learn about

their approach to transform this racist national monument through research, local and state and national activism, community wellness, and multidisciplinary art and performance.



Dr. Dottie Morris (she/her) is the Associate Vice President for Institutional Equity and Diversity and a member of the College President’s Cabinet at Keene State College. Her main foci are providing support and direction to the Executive, Academic Affairs, Enrollment and Student Engagement, Advancement, and Finance and Administration divisions of the

college as the institution works to fulfill its commitment to diversity and multiculturalism. For years, Dottie has worked with undergraduate and graduate students in the capacity of counselor, teacher, academic advisor, and advisor of student groups. She has demonstrated a

consistent and persistent dedication and devotion to diversity, inclusion, multiculturalism and social justice over the past two decades. Prior to her position as Associate Vice President of Institutional Equity and Diversity at KSC, she served as the Associate Dean for Student Learning at World Learning School for International Training Institute (SIT) in Brattleboro, VT, the Director of Student Affairs for the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program at Antioch University New England in Keene, staff counselor at the Colorado State University Counseling Center, and the Coordinator of the Employee Assistance Program.

PANEL #2—UNBOXED: REDEFINING CREATIVE SPACES AT THE INTERSECTION OF RACE, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY



John Berst (he/him) serves on the faculty of the University of Miami in Florida. He is an active theatre historian/practitioner specializing in musical theatre and actor training. John has presented at several conferences internationally and domestically, including the Black New England Conference, the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, the Mid-America Theatre Conference, the New England Theatre

Conference, and the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. He holds a Master of Fine Arts in Acting from Purdue University's Professional Actor Training Program and a Bachelor's in Music and Theatre from the University at Buffalo (SUNY). John has extensive professional experience as a stage director, music director, and actor, and he is a proud member of the Actors' Equity Association and an associate member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.



C. Rose Smith (she/they) is an American photographer whose practice is a powerful tool for questioning societal norms through semiotics in historicized landscapes. Her self-portrait series, *Scenes of Self: Redressing Patriarchy*, is a compelling interrogation of the relationship between the white cotton dress shirt and identity and power in the context of antebellum homes owned by former cotton merchants and

plantation owners. This series, adopting the aesthetic and posture of historical 19th-century studio portraits and paintings, critically examines an industry that has shaped and sustained the modern US economy.

Influenced by how African American photographers have and continue to use photography for representation, Smith engages in the same practices, imaging herself in spaces that connote a present past to construct a visual record of storytelling about history and time. The basis of Smith's work is to offer new ways of seeing and visualizing oneself beyond the inventions of structure.



Raquel Willis (she/her) is an award-winning activist, journalist, and media strategist dedicated to collective liberation, especially for Black trans folks. She is the author of *The Risk It Takes to Bloom: On Life and Liberation*. She is also an executive producer with iHeartMedia's first-ever LGBTQ+ podcast network, *Outspoken*, and the host of *Afterlives*, a podcast centering the lives

and legacies of trans folks lost too soon to violence. Raquel has held groundbreaking posts, including director of communications for Ms. Foundation for Women, executive editor of *Out* magazine, and national organizer for Transgender Law Center. She co-founded Transgender Week of Visibility and Action with civil rights attorney Chase Strangio. She is the president of the Solutions Not Punishments Collaborative's executive board and serves on the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Art board.

She published the GLAAD Media Award-winning "Trans Obituaries Project" in 2022, and she executive-produced and hosted "The Trans Youth Town Hall" with Logo. The work was nominated for the GLAAD Awards and won Gold distinction in the Shorty Awards. She was also honored as a 2023 ADCOLOR Advocate.



Melina Hill Walker, (she/her) program director at the Endowment for Health, focuses on projects to advance health equity in New Hampshire. She has worked for Dartmouth's Aging Resource Center, as a grants coordinator for Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire, as a senior community health planner in New York City, and as a public health volunteer in the

Democratic Republic of Congo. Walker holds a master's in Health Policy and Management from Harvard and a bachelor's from Brown University. She has also served in volunteer and board roles for several academic and nonprofit organizations, including Dartmouth Hitchcock and the Upper Valley Hostel.



Anthony Poore is President and CEO of the New Hampshire Center for Justice & Equity, and an adjunct faculty member at Southern New Hampshire University. He serves on the Board of Directors of the New Hampshire Finance Authority, New Hampshire Endowment for Health, and the Currier Museum of Art. He has 30 years of experience in the community economic

development sector and has worked as a community organizer, economic development practitioner, academic, workforce housing and public health advocate, policy analyst, researcher, and executive addressing the needs of New Hampshire's urban and rural communities through participatory cross-sector collaborative processes in support of sustainable, inclusive, and equitable communities. Poore is the former Executive Director of New Hampshire Humanities, a National Endowment for the Humanities funded state affiliate. His leadership allowed New Hampshire Humanities to be recognized as a center of humanities excellence, and leader in New Hampshire's nonprofit sector known for its accessible, innovative, and inclusive programming, effective and efficient allocation of resources, cross-sector collaborative partnerships, and strong financial performance.

PANEL #3—A BURST OF LIGHT: FUTURE TRENDS AND EMERGING MOVEMENTS IN THE QUEER COMMUNITY



Journee LaFond (they/them) is a social worker, podcast host and writer, drag performer, event organizer and restorative justice advocate. Helping to advocate and create spaces for historically marginalized communities is their passion and purpose, and they have dedicated their life to redefining ideas on mental health, what it is to be Queer, and what it is to be a

Person of the Global Majority. Their work in the field has connected them with people from diverse backgrounds and lived experiences, adding to a lifetime of learning. Journee has a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of New Hampshire and is a certified life coach. They have worked closely with marginalized youth since 2011 and have hosted events to create a sense of community for LGBTQIA+ people and People of Color since 2015, from networking and speed dating events to the Decolonize and Discover Festival, highlighting the need for accessible, inclusive spaces for Disabled, BIPOC and Queer communities.

They have had the privilege to work with youth and families with varied behavioral and mental health concerns at the individual level as well as lobby for policy change around mental health issues.



Amanda McGuire (she/her) is a Clinical Mental Health Counselor & Clinical Therapist with 20+ years of experience in the healthcare industry. She helps children and adults overcome adversities, find their purpose, and build happy lives. She holds a MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Southern New Hampshire University and specializes in trauma, self-

empowerment, boundary setting, & social justice. Amanda aims to empower people, especially from marginalized communities, to regain control and optimize their lives for happiness. She loves to meet new remarkable people, explore their stories, and help them learn their true worth. Amanda is passionate about helping people break societal stigmas and heal from within. She provides a safe and prejudice-free zone to share stories and release burdens limiting happiness and success. Originally from Ridgecrest, CA, Amanda lives in Manchester, NH, and devotes her free time to crochet, adventurous stories, snow sports, and true crime documentaries.



Harold Steward (they/he) is a cultural strategist from Dallas, TX. They joined The Theater Offensive in Boston as the managing director in June 2017. They currently serve as executive director for the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA). Steward most recently served as manager of the South Dallas Cultural Center, a division of the City of Dallas Office of

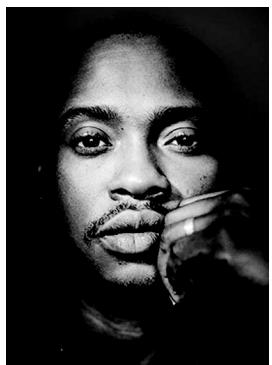
Cultural Affairs, which provides instruction and enrichment in the arts, emphasizing the African contribution to world culture. Harold served as a cultural equity facilitator with Equity Quotient and as affiliate faculty member in the Department of Theater Studies at Emerson College where his current research interests include: *The Queer Trap Aesthetic in American Theatre and Identity Reclamation*—The process in which oppressed individuals reclaim agency over their identity through cultural production.



Bithiah Carter is the President and CEO of Give Black Alliance. Bithiah is passionate about philanthropy and leveraging community assets to improve education, workforce, and economic opportunities for Black and Brown-led organizations. Her experience bridges Wall Street finance and nonprofit leadership, having previously served as Executive Director of Grand Circle Foundation and in senior roles at United

Way and the Girls' Coalition of Greater Boston. Carter also contributes her expertise to several local and national nonprofit boards, driving forward the 21st-century mindset in community development.

KEYNOTE CONVERSATION WITH TIQ MILAN, HOSTED BY ANGEL SIMONE: A MODEL OF POSSIBILITIES



Tiq Milan is a sought-after host and strategic media consultant. He has moderated conversations about LGBT representation in media for HBO's NewFest Film Festival, The Toronto Film Festival, LOGO and MTV. He's hosted authors in conversation at The Schomburg Center for Research, NYU and Princeton. This spring he will be hosting an evening at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York city. As a media consultant, he guides organizations and companies in creating detailed media campaigns that engage diverse audiences

in ways that are inclusive and authentic. He's worked with HBO, NBC News and various film and television producers on the rollout of several projects including the documentaries HBO's Suited and Netflix's The Death and Life of Marsha P Johnson. Tiq also served as the Senior Media Strategist and National Spokesperson for GLAAD, using data-driven strategies to engage various media in appropriate and honest LGBTQ representation and creative direction.



Angel Simone (they/she) is dedicated to creating spaces where people from diverse backgrounds and experiences can unite to foster meaningful connections. As speakers, trainers, and coaches, they have a passion for empowering others to discover their unique potential and become the next best version of themselves. Angel is a certified DEI consultant

and enjoys conversations on identity and belonging, inclusive leadership, and how we can build more inclusive spaces where more of us can feel welcomed, valued, respected, and heard. Angel has captivated audiences as a TEDx speaker, keynote speaker and podcast guest. Angel has corporate training experience in both non-profit and for-profit sectors. She currently volunteers on the advisory board of Elephant in the Room for New Hampshire Theatre Project. Originally from Liverpool, England, Angel now lives in Portsmouth, NH, with her children and holds a Masters in Engineering.



Tina Kim Philibotte is the Manchester School District’s (SAU 37) first Chief Equity Officer. A transnational transracial adoptee, Philibotte was born in Korea and grew up on Manchester’s west side. She received both her BA and Master’s degrees in Education from Plymouth State University. Prior to assuming her current position, she was the 2020 finalist for the NH State Teacher of the Year Program, and a two-

time National Writing Project Fellow. She served on the Advisory Group for the Endowment for Health’s Race & Equity Series and was a NAACP Education Committee contributor. In 2020 she founded NH Educators for Equity which is committed to developing anti-bias schools where all students and faculty belong. She spent 13 years teaching English and Dance at the high school level.

The Art of War

Conflict and the African American Philosophy

OF AFRICAN AMERICANS ARE UNKNOWN VICTIMS OF RACIAL TERROR LYNCHINGS WHOSE DEATHS CANNOT BE DOCUMENTED

2015 Elinor Williams Hooker Tea Talk Series
Sundays February 2–23



The POWER of 1 to 400,000

CELEBRATING & BUILDING ON A 30-YEAR LEGACY



Founded by cultural historian and civil rights activist Valerie Cunningham, the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail has grown over three decades into the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire (BHTNH). Today, we empower thousands across the state to experience the transformative power of history.

With dozens of historic markers across the state sharing stories that honor the rich tapestry of NH's Black History, we have an incredible opportunity at our doorstep to use the power of next generation technology to bring these stories to life in ways never before possible.

At this moment of opportunity, we also face significant challenges as our nation grapples with racial awareness. With its foundation in history, strong relationships, and a proven track record of effective leadership, the Trail is well-positioned to advance racial understanding and foster community inclusion. Our vision and mission have never been more vital.

BUILDING AN INNOVATIVE OUTDOOR MUSEUM

Imagine visiting a historic markers along the Trail, and stepping into a scene from history, hearing the voices of the past, and reliving pivotal moments where they happened. By leveraging next-generation technology, BHTNH is making a groundbreaking leap that will captivate and engage audiences into the future.

The first phase of this work is underway right now at the African Burying Ground in Portsmouth. The next phase will focus on key NH stories, including some firsts in Black History: Harriet Wilson, Wentworth Cheswell, Ona Marie Judge Staines, Richard Potter, Prince Whipple, and Amos Fortune.



Full information at:

blackheritagetrailnh.org/the-power-of-one/



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salutes the Black New England Conference
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2024 Black New England Conference Hosts



JerriAnne Boggis is the executive director of the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire, an organization that preserves, celebrates, and honors African-American history in the state. She is a writer, educator, and community activist whose work corrects the historical record on the racial complexity and richness of New Hampshire's diverse past. Through the development of community programs, exhibits, and tours, Boggis has raised the awareness of New Hampshire's people of color and increased

the visibility of Black history in the state. Boggis was named in 2015 by the New Hampshire Humanities Council as one of the 40 most influential New Hampshireites who have vastly enriched human understanding and whose original works and passion for excellence have put New Hampshire on the cultural map.



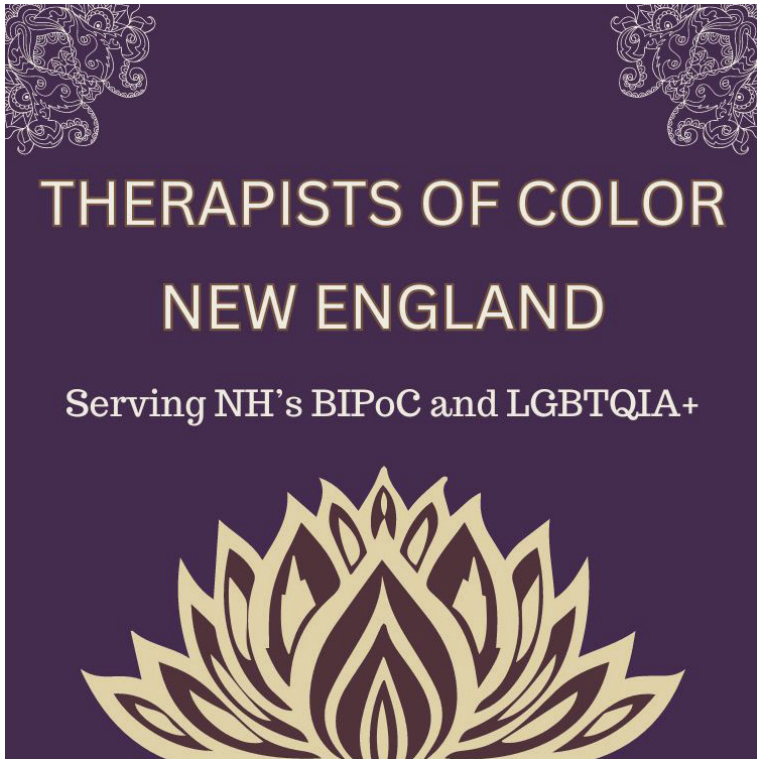
Jada K. Hebra in 2016 became the first Senior Vice President and Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU). Prior to SNHU, and after a stint in broadcast news at ABC in New York, Hebra spent 25 years working in the private secondary school sector designing and supporting diversity and inclusion initiatives while also serving in leadership roles such as Humanities teacher,

Associate Dean of Students, Director of College Advising, Director of Admission, Dean of Faculty, and Assistant Head of School.



Dr. Lowell "Chris" Matthews is an associate professor of Global Business and Leadership at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU). At SNHU he has developed courses on white privilege, workplace diversity, and gender equity. His areas of expertise include leadership, human resources, and strategic management. He volunteers with Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire, City Year, and the Granite YMCA. He

has served as chair of the board for DreamCatchers NH.



The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation is guided by a vision for strong, just and inclusive communities.

But no community can be truly strong when it is weakened by systemic racism.

The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation is honored to support the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire and its Annual Black New England Conference so we can all continue to learn about our shared history and build more inclusive communities today.

We will remain focused on that vision of justice and inclusivity for all communities and all people — because justice and inclusivity are the wellspring of our shared strength.



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