

7th Women and Girls in Georgia Conference – Justice & Resistance
Saturday, November 11, 2017

Preliminary Conference Program

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7:30am – 8:45am

Miller Learning Center, 2nd Floor – Across from Jittery Joe's

Check-In and Coffee/Juice

8:45am – 10:00am: Morning Concurrent Sessions (A)

A1. Breaking Barriers with Community Organizing

Miller Learning Center, Room 245

Chair: Tiffany R. Smith, University of Georgia

"Breaking Racial Barriers Between Black and White Women: Time to Claim Your Throne"

Facilitated by Mokah-Jasmine Johnson, [Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement](#) and [VIP Girlz Program](#)

A2. Resisting Violence and Silence

Miller Learning Center, Room 253

Chair: Wanda Wilcox, University of Georgia

"Quietly Submissive: Constructions of Girlhood in Private Christian Education"

Madison Jones, University of Georgia, and Heidi Hadley, University of Georgia

"A Practical Feminist Embrace of Death"

Hannah Middlebrooks, University of Georgia

"ENUF"

Regina and Isis Oglesby

A3. U-Lead Athens, Like a Woman

Miller Learning Center, Room 248

Chair: Betina Kaplan, University of Georgia

Since August 2014, [U-Lead Athens](#) has offered support at various levels for "un(der)documented" students to improve their educational opportunities. Each Thursday, they meet at U-Lead Athens with mentors, tutors, and organizers to work one-to-one or in small groups on SAT/ACT preparation, finding and applying for college and scholarships that are open to their varied immigration statuses, or tutoring them in their school work (high school and college). For this panel, a group of women and girls will reflect on the interaction of the members at U-Lead Athens in their different roles in the organization, as students, mentors, and organizers.

Facilitated by members of U-Lead Athens, including Melissa Perez Rhym, U-Lead Athens Co-Director and Cedar Shoals High School, Rosemary Gay, U-Lead Athens Student Coordinator and CSH Garden, S J Dillon, U-Lead Athens Mentor, University of Georgia, Andrea Bobadilla, U-Lead Athens and North Oconee High School Student (Senior), and Jocelyn Bobadilla, U-Lead Athens and North Oconee High School Student (Sophomore)

A4. Women and Elected Office in Georgia

Miller Learning Center, Room 251

Chair: Juanita Johnson-Bailey, University of Georgia

A discussion of women's experiences in Georgia politics, featuring:

Deborah Gonzalez, Georgia House Representative – District 117, D. Gonzalez Law Group, LLC

Brenda Lopez, Georgia House Representative – District 99

Gwen O'Looney, served as Mayor of Athens-Clarke County, GA from 1991-1998

10:15am – 11:30am: Morning Concurrent Sessions (B)

B1. Educational Inequalities in Higher Education

Miller Learning Center, Room 245

Chair: Christina Hylton, University of Georgia

"Keeping it Real: Self-Articulation as a Form of Psychological Empowerment among Black Women"

Danielle Dickens, Spelman College

"Safe Agnes Scott Students (SASS)"

Tina Pippin, Agnes Scott College, and Summer Bosley, Agnes Scott College

"Mansplaining in the Classroom: Resisting the oppressive discourse and the oppressive nature of European philosophy"

Shara Cherniak, University of Georgia, Mel Kutner, University of Georgia, and Ashli Walker, University of Georgia"

"From Conformity to Transformative: Black Women Educators as Activists and the Continuation of Holistic and Radical Methods, Models, and Conscious Curriculum"

Amanda-Louise Adebayo, Clark Atlanta University

B2. WORKSHOP. Parenting with Dignity – The Policing of Mothers of Color

Miller Learning Center, Room 248

Chair: Kelly Happe, University of Georgia

This interactive workshop is intended to expand the discussion around mothering as a woman of color. The workshop is designed to highlight how the criminal justice system, welfare reform, and the health care profession interact in a way to regulate and isolate poor mothers of color. We seek to work together as a collaborative group to identify points of access for reproductive justice to stop the policing of mothers of color and its harmful effects on our communities.

Facilitated by Sequoia Ayala and Damaris Henderson, [SisterLove, Inc.](#)

B3. Feminist and Womanist Approaches to Activism and Organizing

Miller Learning Center, Room 253

Chair: Chris Cuomo, University of Georgia

"#RESIST: The Case for Prefigurative Feminist Community Organizing in the Age of Trump"

Joel Izlar, University of Georgia

"International Solidarity - A First-Hand Account: UGA Students March in Support of Black Lives Matter, the Pulse Nightclub Shooting and PRIDE While Studying Abroad in London"

Diann Moorman, University of Georgia

"A Womanist Vision of Reconciliation: Lessons from The Color Purple"

Chanequa Walker-Barnes, Mercer University

"Progressive Except for Palestine: Extending Intersectionality to the Anti-Zionist Cause"

Suman Barat, University of Georgia

B4. WORKSHOP. Playmaking for Girls

Miller Learning Center, Room 247

Chair: Patricia Richards, University of Georgia

Now in its fifteenth year, the Playmaking for Girls (PFG) program is dedicated to helping at-risk and refugee girls discover their unique and powerful voices. Working with experienced women theatre artists who serve as role models, our diverse group of girls learn the value of creative self-expression as they write and perform plays inspired by the real-world social issues they face. This session will include an overview of the PFG program, performances by a group of teen girls performing several short plays, a Q&A with the teen performers, and a screening of a [short documentary](#) about PFG and Synchronicity Theatre.

PFG was [featured on CNN](#), and is the topic of Dr. Maisha Winn's book [Girl Time: Literacy, Justice and the School-to-Prison Pipeline](#).

Facilitated by Rachel May and Susie Spear Purcell, [Synchronicity Theatre](#)

11:45am – 1:00pm: Keynote Address (plenary) Miller Learning Center, Room 101

"More than Storytellers – From Migration to Liberation"

Presented by Angy Rivera, Activist and Co-Executive Director at the New York State Youth Leadership Council

Welcome by Patricia Richards, University of Georgia
Introduction by Betina Kaplan, University of Georgia and U-Lead Athens

1:15pm – 2:30pm Miller Learning Center, 4th Floor Rotunda & Adjoining Rooms Lunch and Networking

2:45pm – 4:00pm: Roundtable (plenary) Miller Learning Center, Room 101

Intersectional Social Justice Activism in Georgia

Moderated by Angy Rivera, Activist and Co-Executive Director at the New York State Youth Leadership Council

Featuring:

- April Greene, [Magnolia Fund](#)
- Kelly Happe, [Athens for Everyone](#), University of Georgia
- Christina Hylton, [Athens Land Trust](#)
- Mokah-Jasmine Johnson, [Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement](#)
- Nayeli Quezada-Kuser, [Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights \(GLAHR\)](#), [Georgia Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition \(GIRCC\)](#), [Georgia Undocumented Youth Alliance \(GUYA\)](#), and [Freedom University](#)
- Tiffany R. Smith, [Black Lives Matter-Atlanta](#), [Southerners On New Ground](#), University of Georgia Multicultural Services and Programs

4:15pm – 5:30pm: Afternoon Concurrent Sessions (C)

C1. K-12 Education Inequalities

Miller Learning Center, Room 251

Chair: Beth Tobin, University of Georgia

"Inequality in Modern Day Education"

Andrea Portillo Knowles, Middle Georgia State University

"Reading Matters! DESTINED, Inc. 'Read to Succeed' Program for Rural Youth"

Tawana S. Mattox, Reneta Elder, Jo Smith, DESTINED, Inc.

"Challenging Deficit Discourse: Experiences of Black Teenage Pregnancy"

Taryrn Brown, University of Georgia

"It Takes a Village: Urban Latina Middle School Girls' Computational Thinking Self-Efficacy"

Rouhollah Aghasaleh, Georgia State University, Patrick Enderle, Georgia State University, Anton Puvirajah, University of Western Ontario, Renesha Hendrix, Georgia State University, Jennifer Rickard, Georgia State University, Andrew Boehnlein, Georgia State University, Jacob Bornstein, Georgia State University, Nikkia Nelson, Georgia State University

C2. WORKSHOP. Launch Forward: Lessons from a 40-year old Reproductive Justice Organization's Inaugural Fellowship Year

Miller Learning Center, Room 253

Chair: Gina Abelkop, University of Georgia

Beginning in March 2017, the Errin J. Vuley Fellows Program (EVFP) launched. EVFP is an intensive, hands-on, 10-month leadership development program. Errin J. Vuley was the [Feminist Women's Health Center's](#) first Community Engagement Coordinator (1997-1999); Errin inspired everyone she met with her passionate devotion to social justice, particularly in the areas of abortion access, trans justice, and racial justice. EVFP seeks to honor Errin's memory by strengthening the leadership in reproductive, gender, and racial justice movements in Atlanta, the state of Georgia, and across the global landscape of the justice forward community.

This knowledge-sharing presentation will convey reflections from the inaugural year of EVFP. As much as possible, presentation segments will be led by fellows from the inaugural year, a.k.a. First Class Feminists. Katie Mae Stewart, Community Engagement Coordinator and direct supervisor over EVFP alongside Leigh Bond, the EVFP coordinator will also facilitate. The presentation and facilitated dialogue with participants will focus on the reflections of the fellows and their fellowship projects.

Facilitated by Katie Mae Stewart and Leigh Bond, [Feminist Women's Health Center](#)

C3. Women and the Justice System

Miller Learning Center, Room 248

Chair: Jody Clay-Warner, University of Georgia

"A Transformative Justice Analysis of Shame and the Experience of Re-Gaining Child Custody as a Rite of Passage for Formerly Incarcerated Mothers"

Denise Woodall, University of Georgia, and Alan Mobley, San Diego State University

"'In black & white I'm a piece of trash': Abuse, depression & Georgia women's pathways to prison"

Alexa Adamo-Valverde, Georgia State University, Melanie Bliss, Emory University, and Sarah L. Cook, Georgia State University

"I Am Visible: I Hurt"

Maxine L. Bryant, Armstrong University

C4. WORKSHOP. Herbs, Social Justice, and Self-Care

Miller Learning Center, Room 245

Chair: Josie Leimbach, University of Georgia

Facilitated by Takisha Burke, Herbalist, Georgia Farmer Markets Association board member, and organic farmer

*This program is subject to change.
Please check back frequently.*