



#GSAsummit2024



Thursday April 18th, 2024

Time	Session Name	Presenter	Room
8:30-9:40AM	Welcome and Keynote Address	Indigo Thomas	C209
9:50-11:00AM	Beyond Representation: the Healing and Transformative Power of Queer Literature <i>C209B</i>	Robin Gow	C209B
9:50-11:00AM	An Intro to Intersectionality: A Reflective Workshop	Jae Whitlow	C125
9:50-11:00AM	Do you know your Pennsylvania LGBTQ+ history?	Barry Loveland	C209A
9:50-11:00AM	Pain to Power: Cultivating Community through Art	Brady Pappas	C210
11:10-12:20PM	GSA Advisor workshop	Gabe Taylor	C204
11:10-12:20PM	Beyond Representation: the Healing and Transformative Power of Queer Literature	Robin Gow	C209B
11:10-12:20PM	Arts and Crafts Hour		C125
11:10-12:20PM	Pain to Power: Cultivating Community through Art	Brady Pappas	C210
12:20-1:10PM	Lunch		
1:10-2:20PM	Empowered Rhythms Group Drumming	Dani Fiore	C125
1:10-2:20PM	The Role of Advocacy in Inclusive Education	Alex Domingos	C209A
1:10-2:20PM	The Art of Connection: Fostering Healthy Relationships on ALL Levels	Omotunde Sowole-West and Kira Johnson	C209B
1:10-2:20PM	Pain to Power: Cultivating Community through Art	Brady Pappas	C210
2:20-3:00PM	Closing Session		C209



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Workshop Descriptions:

Beyond Representation: the Healing and Transformative Power of Queer Literature with Robin Gow (it/fae/he) - In this workshop, we will examine a brief history of LGBTQIA2+ literature and discuss the concept of queer and trans representation. Next, we will learn about three queer and trans books published in the last two years as a case study in both the challenges queer books face and the opportunities for healing and transformation. In the final portion of the workshop, we will build a toolbox for learning through queer books and stories.

An Intro to Intersectionality: A Reflective Workshop with Jae Whitlow (he/him) - The ability to find common ground and shared language when discussing topics of identity is critical to effective social change. Through this reflective workshop, participants will come to understand the unique intersections of their social identities and how these impact their self-perception and their interactions with the world around them.

Do you know your Pennsylvania LGBTQ+ history? With Barry Loveland (he/him) - For more than ten years, the LGBT Center of Central PA History Project has been documenting LGBTQ+ history in Pennsylvania through oral histories, archival documents, historical photographs and artifacts. Hear fascinating and inspiring stories about your community's history and expand your knowledge about nationally significant history that happened right here in Pennsylvania. Knowledge is power and knowing your history may help you create a brighter future!

Pain to Power: Cultivating Community through Art with Brady Pappas (they/them) - This workshop will share background information on the life of Brady Pappas growing up queer in South Central Pennsylvania and how art led them to self-love, a chosen family and finding their purpose in their community. Pappas will share lots of visuals and hopes to inspire viewers to put themselves out there, to cultivate their own unique voice in their community, and find their personal power by celebrating those around them.

GSA Advisor Workshop with Gabe Taylor (they/he) - Meet other local GSA advisors and discuss the trials and tribulations of creating a safe space for students in schools.

Arts and Crafts Hour - Take a break to create beaded bracelets and other easy crafts



Empowered Rhythms Group Drumming with Dani Fiore (they/them)- Explore connection through drumming! In this fun workshop you'll learn how to play simple rhythms on hand drums and percussion instruments and interact through group music-making. No musical experience is needed, just willingness to try something new.

The Role of Advocacy in Inclusive Education with Alex Domingos (he/him) - Like other states, Pennsylvania has seen an increase in coordinated attacks on BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ communities, stories, and histories in public schools. This panel will discuss some common threats and the ongoing advocacy efforts to counter these extremist policies.

The Art of Connection: Fostering Healthy Relationships on ALL Levels with Omotunde Sowole-West (she/her) and Kira Johnson (she/her) - Discover the art of effective relationship-building, a cornerstone in fostering trust, understanding, and mutual respect within and among individuals and groups. Learn how these vital elements contribute to equitable interactions and create pathways for collaboration, open communication, and advocacy for each other's needs. Come connect with us and be a part of this empowering journey!



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Friday April 19th, 2024

Time	Session Name	Presenter	Room
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1:10-2:20PM	Pain to Power: Cultivating Community through Art	Brady Pappas	C209B
2:20-3:00PM	Closing Session		C209



Workshop Descriptions:

The Necessity of Poetry & The Power of Voice with Dr. Nicole Santalucia (she/her) - This workshop will introduce the power of voice through the lens of poetry. Participants will listen to poems and write their own. Together we will build a collective voice that responds, speaks out, and reaches for togetherness and change. As we engage in poetics where the personal is political and the political is personal, we'll build a deeper understanding and connection to our part, our voice, and our communities.

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