Dr. Ley joined our practice and began direct training with Dr. Meltzer in November 2015. She is committed to providing the same quality of surgical care and is now accepting new patients. For more on Dr. Ley’s surgical training please visit our website.
4 | Welcome Letter
5 | Sponsors
6 | Gender Diversity Introduction
8 | Keynote Speakers

12 | Media and Privacy Guidelines
13 | Where To Eat
16 | Accessibility
17 | Security

18 | Wednesday Schedule
19 | Wednesday Workshops
28 | Wednesday Keynotes
29 | Seattle GO Conference
31 | Thursday Schedule
32 | Thursday Workshops
41 | Thursday Keynotes

42 | Planning Committee
45 | Acknowledgements
Welcome to Gender Odyssey Los Angeles!

Thank you for joining us for this inaugural event. Our world is a much different place than when our founder, Aidan Key, launched the original Gender Odyssey community conference in Seattle in 2001. Only two states, Minnesota and Rhode Island, offered statewide protection under the law. Only the largest North American cities had any kind of transgender health services. Finding a knowledgeable doctor in your hometown was nearly impossible. Even the word “transgender” itself was only beginning to become part of the community vernacular, gaining favor over older, more pejorative terms.

Today, thanks to the ceaseless and persistent efforts of advocates, educators, and allies, 18 states and scores of municipalities at least partially cover gender identity rights in employment, housing, and/or public accommodations. You can privately use the internet to find supportive care providers and services, even in small towns like Goshen, Indiana. Kindergarteners at some schools are encouraged to share their pronouns in the discussion circle each week—and it’s perfectly okay if it’s a different pronoun than it was last week. In fact, the word “transgender” itself is beginning to take a back seat to other terms in our perpetual effort to be seen and affirmed as our authentic selves.

And yet, for all the forward progress, there are those who remain willfully ignorant (and worse) about the reality of the transgender experience. A September 2016 Pew survey¹ found that only about 30% of Americans reported even knowing someone who was transgender. While that is a vast improvement over the reported 8% only one year earlier, it still means that far too many people rely on stereotypes and myths to inform their beliefs and opinions rather than take the time to sort out fact from fiction. That survey and others all agree that knowing a transgender, non-binary, or gender-diverse person is the single most important factor in whether someone supports compassionate and affirming policies and practices.

As a trans man myself, I thank each of you personally for coming, for listening to our stories, for sharing stories of your own, and for imparting this collective wisdom to all those within your spheres of influence, because 18 states are not enough: anti-trans discrimination should be illegal at all levels and in every aspect of each federal, state, municipal, institutional, and corporate policy. Private internet research for safe doctors is not enough: every person should expect respectful, appropriate, adequate, and equitable care or service regardless of their gender identity or expression and regardless of the individual, organization, or institution they seek it from. Enlightening kindergarteners at randomly scattered schools is not enough: gender conformity must be recognized globally as a tool of oppression and control and eradicated in the name of justice. Words like “transgender” or “non-binary” should not be seen as fundamental character flaws, but recognized simply as one of myriad possible experiences of human life.

Authentically yours,

Michael Woodward, MPH
Gender Odyssey Conference Director
he/him pronouns
@morphingmichael

PS: The Gender Odyssey conferences are driven by the needs and concerns of the participants. We welcome any helpful feedback or suggestions you might have. Please be sure to complete the evaluations for the sessions you attend. I also encourage you to join our mailing list at genderodyssey.org to stay abreast of conference news, announcements, and annual calls for workshop submissions.

Thank You, 2017 GO Pro Los Angeles Sponsors!

Presenting Sponsor
Logical Alternative

Partner
Toby Meltzer, MD

Advocate
Los Angeles Gender Center

Supporter
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Contributor
Trans Family Support Services
"I hadn’t even thought about protecting trans kids from the rest of the kids at school. I was so preoccupied with my own kid’s right to privacy, I just didn’t get it,” a woman at a special PTA meeting is speaking at the microphone. She is directing her gratitude to Aidan Key, founder and executive director of Gender Diversity, at the end of a special PTA meeting about gender inclusion. Her sentiments are common.

For more than a decade, Washington educators have had Key on speed dial to help them navigate transgender student rights. In addition to educating parents, he has helped school districts develop policy, provided faculty training, and even led classes about gender inclusivity with elementary school students.

Working with schools is only one prong of Gender Diversity’s year-round mission. It also runs parent support groups for families with gender-diverse kids and produces the annual Gender Odyssey conferences. Key leads a small team of employees in these endeavors, who in turn partner with dozens of dedicated volunteers to bring support to trans people, their families, and allies.

In 2008 Gender Diversity started its first support group for parents whose kids are trans or gender diverse. Two families attended. The following month, four families attended. Today, Gender Diversity has family support group meetings of up to 20 families at a time, every Sunday. Each week, parents meet with the group aligned with the age of their trans child—young kids, tween, and teen to adult, and on the fourth Sunday, parents are invited to attend Extra Credit, a special topics session.

As Key will tell you, magic happens in these weekly support groups. While a trained volunteer hangs out with the kids, parents and caregivers gather in a different room to talk about navigating their child’s transition: coming to terms with their own feelings; legal and school issues; doctors, clothes, and puberty; disclosing to extended family; losing friends and making new ones. “These parents step into their own fears to support their child,” Key glows. “It’s not unusual that everyone is transformed.”

To find out more about the work of Gender Diversity, or to donate, visit www.genderdiversity.org. Aidan Key travels nationwide to provide guidance and training to schools implementing policies on transgender student rights. To inquire, email info@genderdiversity.org.

Nikki Neuen
Gender Diversity Associate Director
A comprehensive training designed for professionals interested in providing sensitive and competent mental health and medical care for gender non-conforming children, transgender youth and young adults. CMEs, CE and CEUs offered.

Who’s this training for?

• Medical Providers
• Mental Health Providers
• School Counselors
• Teachers/Educators
• Social Workers
• DCFS/Probation
• Community Organizations
• Parents/Family Members

Training Provided by:

Aydin Olson-Kennedy, MSW
Executive Director,
Los Angeles Gender Center

Susan P. Landon, LMFT
Child & Adolescent Program Director,
Los Angeles Gender Center

Johanna Olson-Kennedy, MD
Medical Director
Center for Transyouth Health & Development
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

For more information contact Aydin at akennedy@lagendercenter.com or 818-850-2029

Gender Abacus

Changing the way we talk about our gender

The gender abacus was designed as a tool to help individuals define their experience of gender in a more complete manner than within the limited binary of "male" or "female." The psychosexual aspects of our core selves are complex, and certainly encompass more than is represented here. It is our hope that this simple tool will allow individuals of all gender experience to demonstrate that there are numerous and rich combinations of our psychosexual aspects that work together to make us each unique. The Gender Abacus is a useful tool for therapists, educators, medical providers, and individuals!
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS - WEDNESDAY

We are excited to have such a great line-up of powerful speakers for our inaugural Gender Odyssey Los Angeles Professional Conference!

WEDNESDAY | 4:45PM | CITY BALLROOM

Michelle Honda-Phillips is a member of the Human Rights Campaign Parents for Transgender Equality Council and the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance Family Acceptance speaker bureau. Michelle advocates for transgender and gender-nonconforming youth speaking out about her family’s journey of unconditional love in hopes other families will embrace their children for their authentic selves. Their story has been featured on NBC Nightly News, The Today Show, the Human Rights Campaign, and in Elle France magazine.

Michael M. Honda, who served as US Representative for California’s 17th congressional district (Silicon Valley) from 2013 until 2017, was born to parents who were natural-born US citizens. They were native Californians sent to a concentration camp American-style in Amache, Colorado, in 1942 under President FDR when he issued Executive Order 9066. EO 9066 made Mike at the age of eight months an enemy alien #328862C. Cloaking him with an unconscious, internalized sense of “lessness”ness, this internalized oppression became a struggling effort to re-teach himself to health as a youthful adult—an effort that continues today while shaping his beliefs and principles in the guarantees of our nation’s Constitution.

As a returned Peace Corps Volunteer in El Salvador, and a civil servant in public schools, appointed office, and elected offices, Mike doggedly adheres to the Constitution to which he swore oaths. Cyrus the Great, Mohammed (peace be unto his name), Jesus, Gandhi, MLK Jr, and Cesar Chavez all have taught and lived believing in Universal Human Rights, and Mike tries to follow those teachings in all that he does. His personal and professional lives reflect a struggle for a more perfect union—to make the rule of law Constitutional.
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS - THURSDAY

STATE OF THE MOVEMENT PANEL

THURSDAY | 4:45PM | CITY BALLROOM

Kris Hayashi, Transgender Law Center
riKu Matsuda, Gender Justice Los Angeles
Chandi Moore, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
Bamby Salcedo, TransLatin@ Coalition
Nick Adams, GLAAD Transgender Media
Michelle Enfield, Transgender Service Provider Network

riKu Matsuda works in the Human Relations Branch of the LA County Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services Department as a senior intergroup relations specialist. He is an analyst for the annual hate crime report and leads the department’s work to end violence against transgender and non-binary communities. riKu also coaches for the Groundswell Foundation’s Grassroots Organizing Institute and hosts a public affairs program called Flip the Script on Pacifica’s KPFK 90.7FM Los Angeles.

Bamby Salcedo, a transgender Latina Woman, is president and CEO of the TransLatin@ Coalition, an organization addressing the issues of transgender Latin@s in the US, and she is currently developing the Center for Violence Prevention & Transgender Wellness in LA. Bamby’s remarkable and wide-ranging activist work has brought voice and visibility to not only the trans community, but also to the multiple overlapping communities and issues that her life has touched including migration, HIV, youth, LGBT, incarceration and Latin@ communities, and she has been invited to speak publicly about many of these issues. Her powerful, sobering and inspiring speeches and her warm, down-to-earth presence have provided emotional grounding and perspective for diverse gatherings. She speaks from the heart, having transcended many of her own issues, as seen in the documentary made about her life called TransVisible: Bamby Salcedo’s Story.
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS - THURSDAY

Kris Hayashi has over 20 years of movement building, leadership, and organizing experience. As a public transgender person of color, Kris has been a leader in movements for justice and rights for transgender and gender-nonconforming communities for over 13 years. Having served as executive director at the organizations Youth United for Community Action in California and the Audre Lorde Project (ALP) in New York City in the past, Kris now serves as executive director at Transgender Law Center, one of the largest organizations in the country advancing the rights of transgender and gender-nonconforming people. During his tenure at ALP, ALP launched one of the first organizing and advocacy projects in the country led by trans and gender-nonconforming people of color, the annual NYC Trans Day of Action now in its 11th year, and won a monumental campaign getting NYC’s welfare agency to adopt community-developed policies on serving trans and gender-nonconforming people.

Los Angeles native Chandi Moore is a nationally recognized HIV and Trans activist. She currently works for the Children’s Hospital Los Angeles Center for Trans Youth and Development. In her current role, she leads a nationally recognized and evidence-based, trans youth-specific project called BLUSH (Brave Leaders Unified to Strengthen Our Health). Chandi was recently named one of Advocate Magazine’s 25 Trans pioneers who took us past the tipping point in 2015. Also in 2015 she joined forces with the Centers for Disease Control for their Act Against AIDS initiative campaign “Doing It,” which encourages the community to get tested for HIV and know their status. A 2015 Positive Images Statement of Courage award recipient, Chandi was featured alongside American television personality and Olympic champion Caitlyn Jenner on the GLAAD media award-winning series I Am Cait. Chandi loves to empower others to reach the light that is at the end of the tunnel.
Nick Adams is the director of GLAAD’s Transgender Media Program. He has worked at GLAAD since 1998 and transitioned at that time. Nick works with journalists and entertainment industry professionals who are creating stories about transgender people. For the past seven years Nick has also served on the board of Transforming Family, an organization for families with trans and gender-nonconforming children, running the peer support group for trans teens.

Michelle Enfield, a Diné of the Red Running into the Water people Clan (Tachii’nii), is originally from Lukachukai, Arizona, but now resides in Los Angeles, California. She has trained in fine arts, and now studies psychology and business at Antioch University LA. She has first-hand experience working with homeless youth, as an HIV-test counselor, and specifically with the Native American population providing HIV education, support, and referrals. She is a member of the Transgender Service Provider Network (TSPN) and co-chair of the Underrepresented Cultural Communities with the LA Department of Mental Health.
MEDIA AND PRIVACY GUIDELINES

PRIVACY
The Gender Odyssey gathering is a safe space for all, but with the diverse social media that exists, it is important we all self-monitor. While there will be opportunities for structured social media outreach it is important to remember that not everyone wants to participate and that anyone posting on social media should be aware that any posting will be public in nature on some level. Also, we will have media representatives, journalists, and some documentary filmmakers present, covering the conference and interested in speaking with attendees of all kinds, from keynote speakers to those attending for the first time. We are especially sensitive to the needs of youth and families.

PHOTOGRAPHY
For those who do NOT want to be photographed, red dot stickers are available for your registration badges, and we will alert media that this indicates you are off limits for photos. If you are interested in talking to the media, you can contact GO’s media coordinator Cathy Renna at 917-757-6123 or cathy@targetcue.com to discuss any opportunities or ask questions. She will be onsite for the entire conference.

FOR JOURNALISTS
The organizers of Gender Odyssey ask that you respect the wishes of our attendees regarding interviewing, photography, and filming. You are expected to work closely with our communications staff and volunteers, led by Cathy Renna of Target Cue. She can be reached at any time at 917-757-6123 or cathy@targetcue.com.

You will notice that attendees may have a red dot on their registration badges—this signifies that they are not able to be or not interested in being photographed or interviewed, and we ask that you respect their privacy and wishes. All media must register and be credentialed. Only certain workshops will be open to media and we will have a separate quiet space for interviews upon request.

INTERNET ACCESS
The lobby and some public areas of the Burbank Marriott have complimentary wireless. If you experience difficulty with the Wi-Fi connection, please contact the front desk for assistance.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST
To receive email updates about Gender Odyssey, please join our mailing list. Our newsletter includes conference updates, deadlines, news, and upcoming programming and events. We do not share or sell addresses. You’ll find the Join Now button right on the home page of our website, genderodyssey.org.
WHERE TO EAT

NOTE: Registered attendees are invited to enjoy a complimentary lunch at the hotel on both Wednesday and Thursday. Information will be provided at registration.

At this Hotel

Breakfast
- Buffet breakfast, fee from: 21.95 USD
- Continental breakfast, fee from: 16.50 USD
- Full American breakfast, fee from: 19.95 USD
- Grab-n-Go breakfast, fee from: 13.95 USD
- Hot breakfast, fee from: 19.95 USD

Daily Grill - American
The Daily Grill is known for hearty American breakfast, lunch and dinner choices. Enjoy your meal from one of the intimate booths at our restaurant in Burbank, CA while friendly staff ensures that you receive a quality dining experience.
- Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-840-6464

Media Lounge - Coffee House
Don’t have time to sit down for a full-service breakfast? We’ve got you covered! Swing by our Media Lounge and grab your favorite Starbucks® coffee and a convenient to-go breakfast item on your way out. The lounge is just steps away from your door.
- Open for breakfast
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-840-6464

E.D.B. - Eat, Drink, Be- NOW OPEN! - American
A casual outdoor social experience featuring sharable plates with local flavors, creative hand crafted cocktails, regional craft brews on tap and California wines.

More Options Nearby

California Pizza Kitchen - Pizza, 2.6 miles
California Pizza Kitchen serves innovative pizza, creative salads, distinctive pastas, soups, sandwiches, appetizers and desserts.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-972-2589

P. F. Chang’s China Bistro - Chinese, 3.1 miles
Experience a unique combination of Chinese cuisine, attentive service, wine, and tempting desserts all served in a stylish, high-energy bistro.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-391-1070

Morton’s The Steakhouse - Steakhouse, 4 miles
Morton’s strives to exceed guests’ expectations through their food, award-winning wine list, atmosphere and their genuine hospitality and unparalleled service.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Dress Jeans
- Phone: +1-818-238-0424

Granville Cafe - American, 3.2 miles
Granville Restaurants are casual gourmet cafes that feature gourmet sandwiches, salads, soups, pastas, premium coffees and desserts.
- Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-848-4726
WHERE TO EAT

Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant - Other, 3.3 miles
Fresh brewed Lagers and an exhibition kitchen make this brewery restaurant a destination for anyone visiting Los Angeles or the San Fernando Valley.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-569-5240

Hard Rock Cafe - American, 7.1 miles
Serving the best down-home American food seasoned with a healthy dose of Rock ‘n’ Roll.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-323-464-7625

Outback Steakhouse - Steakhouse, 1.4 miles
Inspired by the adventurous spirit of Australia, Outback Steakhouse has created bold, iconic flavors served in a quality casual environment.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-567-2717

Saddle Ranch Chop House - Steakhouse, 6.6 miles
Saddle Ranch is a rock meets western steak house and bar featuring a Texas-sized food menu, a dance floor, stage, and mechanical bull.
- Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-760-9680

Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. - Seafood, 6.6 miles
Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. combines quality seafood in a casual family atmosphere and models itself after the 1994 hit movie “Forrest Gump.”
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-753-4867

Wasabi At CityWalk - Japanese, 6.6 miles
This restaurant offers innovative specialty rolls and amazing sushi creations in a Zen-like atmosphere.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-763-8813

Buca Di Beppo® - Italian, 6.6 miles
Celebrating the passion and flavor of Little Italy, Buca di Beppo serves huge, family-style portions of authentic Southern Italian cuisine.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-509-9463

Wolfgang Puck LA Bistro - Italian, 6.6 miles
Enjoy Wolfgang’s gourmet pizzas, signature dishes and seasonal specialties.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-985-9653

Kabuki Japanese Restaurant - Japanese, 3.2 miles
Experience the cuisine and beverages passionately crafted providing you the best in Japanese cuisine.
- Open for lunch and dinner
- Dress code: Casual
- Phone: +1-818-843-7999
WHERE TO EAT

Picanha Restaurant - Bar-B-Q, 3.1 miles
Picanha Restaurant serves traditional Brazilian style churrascaria barbecue. They offer deliciously seasoned grilled meats, sword-like skewers, traditional Brazilian side dishes with an extravagant 40 item salad area, and much more.
• Open for lunch and dinner
• Dress code: Casual
• Phone: +1-818-972-2100

Wokcano Cafe Restaurants - Asian-Fusion, 3.3 miles
Featuring fresh sushi and creative maki rolls as well as modern riffs on traditional fare, Wokcano offers guests a broad and savory tasting tour of popular Asian cuisines.
• Open for lunch and dinner
• Dress code: Casual
• Phone: +1-818-524-2288
ACCESSIBILITY

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS
All spaces at the hotel comply with ADA regulations and requirements. If you need assistance in any way, please visit the conference registration desk.

RESTROOM FACILITIES
During conference hours, restrooms located within the immediate area of the meeting rooms are open to all genders, so please feel free to use any restroom you like. Public restrooms in other areas of the hotel are gender specific.

PLEASE NOTE that we may be sharing restrooms with other guests at the hotel. You may encounter folks in the restrooms who have never been in gender-desegregated facilities. Please be gentle with them. If you experience any restroom “gender policing” by hotel staff, please talk to Gender Odyssey staff at the registration table. We will immediately address any problems should they arise.

INTERPRETER SERVICES
Interpreters for the deaf and hard of hearing are available each year. Requests for services must be made in advance to ensure the participation of informed, qualified interpreters.

USE OF SERVICE ANIMALS
According to the US Department of Justice, a service animal is any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not considered service animals. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual’s disability.

A therapy animal does not assist an individual with a disability in the activities of daily living and does not accompany an individual with a disability all the time. Therapy animals are not by laws related to service dogs.

Individuals with disabilities may bring their service dogs to the conference space. Other animals including therapy animals are not permitted.

Conference Etiquette Regarding Service Dogs:
• When a service dog is working, you should not engage with it in any way. You may not always be aware when an animal is working, however. Some people, for example, mistakenly think that a service dog at rest beside its handler is not working, and they approach to pet it.
• Here’s a good rule to follow: If you see a service dog wearing a harness or cape, ask the handler if petting or talking with the animal is permitted—even if it seems to be at rest. The handler may tell you that the dog is on duty or in harness. This means that although the dog is not active, it is still working and should not be petted.
• Do not offer food or water to service dogs unless requested to do so by the handler.

Source: www.pacer.org/parent/php/php-c164.Pdf

SCENT-FREE SPACE
To make the conference accessible for as many people as possible, all conference events will be non-smoking and as scent- and fragrance-free as we can make them. We cannot guarantee that the venues will be safe spaces for people with multiple chemical sensitivities. We do request that you refrain from wearing scents, perfume, cologne, essential oils, etc.

REDUCED-EMF SPACE
To make the conference more accessible for people with electromagnetic field (EMF) sensitivity, please turn off your cell phones and electronic devices if at all possible, or limit your usage while in the conference area.
SECURITY

To ensure a smooth experience, ALWAYS WEAR YOUR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION BADGE AND LANYARD at all Gender Odyssey events.

Gender Odyssey has always considered our attendees’ safety in our event planning. Both hotel security personnel as well as our own safety monitors are present at the conference.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES
If a medical emergency occurs while you are at the conference or in the hotel, please call 911 and then contact Gender Odyssey staff immediately thereafter. Ask any uniformed hotel employee (or Gender Odyssey staff or volunteer) to assist you.

FIRE ALARMS / EVACUATION
On occasion, fire alarms will sound during events at the hotel. If you are in an affected area at the sound or flashing lights indicating a fire alarm, please vacate the space to a non-affected area in the nearby vicinity.
Full building evacuations are rare. In the case of an evacuation, the decision to evacuate will be made by hotel supervisors and managers. At that time, a facility-wide announcement will be made and Marriott staff will direct all guests to the nearest and safest exit.

FIRST AID
If you need first aid, please contact the hotel front desk.
## WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 9:20</td>
<td>Pasadena</td>
<td>Holistic Trans Care at Intersections Zacharias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:50</td>
<td>Glendale</td>
<td>Straight from the Source: Adult Panel</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 12:20</td>
<td>Hollywood</td>
<td>Trans Medical 101 Gromko</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:20 – 1:40</td>
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<td>Parents of Trans Children: Panel Moore</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:40 – 3:00</td>
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<td>Counseling Couples Anderson-Minshall</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:10 – 4:30</td>
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<td>Keynote &amp; Networking Reception: Mike Honda and Michelle Honda-Phillips</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:45 – 7:00</td>
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<td>City Ballroom</td>
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</tbody>
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**Family Coaching & Support**

**Medical System Guidance**

**Education Advocacy**

**Legal System Guidance**
WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS

8:00am – 9:20am

HOLISTIC TRANS CARE AT THE INTERSECTION OF ADDICTION, MENTAL HEALTH, AND TRAUMA

Current estimates are that thirty percent of the LGBT community has some form of addiction in their lifetime. Clinicians theorize that this statistic is vastly underreported due to the requirement of a double coming out—that of an LGBT person and that of an individual facing an addiction. Also vastly under-researched are the experiences of trans/genderqueer people with regard to addiction. Additionally, knowing that addiction does not occur in a bubble by itself but rather through a more complex system of mental health issues and trauma, it is imperative that clinicians develop stronger tools to holistically treat the community. Utilizing an all-avenues-to-wellness perspective, this workshop will allow participants to feel energized and focused, and prepared with more up-to-date tools and interventions to assist the community in leading richer lives.

JEFF ZACHARIAS has extensive clinical experience in working with the LGBT community at the intersection of mental health, addiction, and trauma. Currently, he is the clinical director of New Hope Recovery Center Chicago and maintains a private practice where he works with individuals, groups, and families. He is a national and international speaker on these topics, serves on the board of directors for NALGAP and is the 2015 NASW-IL Social Worker of the Year.

DR. MICHELE ANGELLO offers individual, couples, group, and family therapy, as well as corporate education and training on a variety of issues concerning sexuality. She has presented internationally on her work with transgender, gender-variant, and gender-nonconforming youth. She facilitates several monthly support groups for transgender adults, youth, and parents and offers sessions to people around the world via webcam. Dr. Angello has appeared as a guest expert on Dr. Phil, Larry King Live, The Tyra Banks Show, ABC Primetime, Dr. Oz, and many more shows and documentaries. She is also an adjunct professor at Widener University and has developed the first graduate course in the U.S. that focuses on clinical issues in transgender communities. Her private practice is in Pennsylvania.

THE NEW NORMAL: THE TRANS-INCLUSIVE WORKPLACE, PART ONE

The barriers to employment for trans people often stem from a lack of understanding of trans identities by employers. Many of the disparities that trans people face are rooted in economics and the lack of employment opportunities. This two-part workshop will examine the issues trans people face in the workplace.

PART ONE will be co-facilitated by Carolyn Weiss, former director within the City of Los Angeles Community Development department and currently working as a consultant with employers. In this workshop we’ll examine existing data, review current trans cultural competency best practices, and discuss the future of trans-inclusive workplaces.

PART TWO will focus on building inclusive workplaces and will be co-facilitated by Michaela Mendelsohn, out trans CEO of Pollo Corp West and founder of the California Trans Workplace Project. Michaela is working to take CTWP nationally and will discuss her experience transforming her restaurants into inclusive workplaces where trans people are thriving.

ASSESSING GENDER IDENTITY IN YOUTH

This session will describe the evaluation of adolescents for possible medical interventions, such as puberty-blocking medication and cross-sex hormone treatment. Throughout this workshop, recommendations for working sensitively with transgender children and adolescents in all medical and mental health settings will be provided. Finally, recommendations for evaluating more complex cases (e.g., co-occurring mental health issues, difficult family dynamics) will be provided.

DR. MICHELE ANGELLO offers individual, couples, group, and family therapy, as well as corporate education and training on a variety of issues concerning sexuality. She has presented internationally on her work with transgender, gender-variant, and gender-nonconforming youth. She facilitates several monthly support groups for transgender adults, youth, and parents and offers sessions to people around the world via webcam. Dr. Angello has appeared as a guest expert on Dr. Phil, Larry King Live, The Tyra Banks Show, ABC Primetime, Dr. Oz, and many more shows and documentaries. She is also an adjunct professor at Widener University and has developed the first graduate course in the U.S. that focuses on clinical issues in transgender communities. Her private practice is in Pennsylvania.

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WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS

8:00am – 9:20am (continued)

DRIAN JUAREZ works as a consultant on transgender issues in the workplace and assists in developing programs for communities endeavoring to help transgender people get back to work. Juarez has served as the program manager for the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center’s Transgender Economic Empowerment Project (TEEP). Building a solid foundation for TEEP, Juarez established cross-organizational/cross-functional teams to assist in the mission of developing substantive employment and business opportunities.

CAROLYN WEISS worked for the City of Los Angeles for over 30 years, and has 11 years of experience working with business professionals as deputy director of the Community Development Department’s Economic Development Division. She also managed the City’s State Enterprise Zone & Federal Empowerment Zone Programs. Carolyn transitioned on-the-job in 2011, and presented her story to over 200 fellow employees, with excellent results. Her transition was successful, and a major reason for its success is the Transgender Awareness Training the managers and staff received from a trans woman professional. Carolyn’s business, and goal, is to pay that forward.

NAVIGATING THE “HUMAN BARRIER”: OVERCOMING BIASES WHILE WORKING WITH SCHOOLS

After a guardian’s/parent’s realization that their child is transgender—but often before they have had a chance to catch their breath—the question of how to navigate schools looms large and immediate. Teachers, administrators, and even counselors may put up some resistance to taking inclusive steps to support the child and recognize the school’s role in the transition process. Even principals say, “Why should we do all this for one student?” Or they may ask a bewildered parent, “Just tell us what to do.” During this session, we will explore the origins of this resistance and some concrete steps for navigating a successful student transition. Content discussed will include: how to field the “bathroom question”; age-appropriate ways to talk to children; proactive addressing of concerns from other parents; and other ways of framing trans issues for those within a school community. This session will provide educators and other interested professionals important information for optimizing a child’s experience as well as a template for creating the optimal inclusive school environment. There will be time for Q&A as well as addressing specific situations you may have already encountered.

AIDAN KEY is the director of Gender Diversity, an organization that provides education to teachers, staff, counselors, and administrators regarding gender-inclusive schools grades K-12. Additionally, he provides support for families of transgender and gender-diverse children and teens through his parent support groups in Washington State. Key speaks regularly to universities and organizations seeking to expand their knowledge of issues related to gender identity in children and adults. He is also the founder of the Gender Odyssey and Gender Odyssey Family conferences.
STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE: EXPERTISE ON TRANS LIVES – ADULT PANEL

This is your opportunity to hear directly from transgender-identified panelists and ask them questions. With a “what-we-want-you-to-know” approach, our goal is to provide attendees with a window into just a few trans people’s lives to highlight the multifaceted, complex paths we often travel. Our goal is to start to fill in the framework being introduced throughout the conference.

FAMILIES IN TRANSITION: WHAT A CLINIC CAN DO

This session is designed to provide an opportunity to share best practices and support provider dialogue in how to support families of transgender children and youth. Presenters will draw upon their multi-disciplinary backgrounds to highlight current initiatives being undertaken at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles to increase available support for diverse families. Framed by current literature and emerging practice, the session will offer a framework for evaluation of existing services and provide opportunities for strategic planning.

ANNABEL AGUSTIN serves as a case manager for the CTYHD, where she supports patients and works with young trans and gender-nonconforming patients and families, helping them locate and access resources as well as develop life skills.

BIANCA SALVETTI, NP, provides direct medical care as well as medical care coordination for the CTYHD.

JENNIFER COLLINS, LCSW, has worked at CHLA since 2013, first on the HIV care team, and currently with the Center for Transyouth Health and Development and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment programs. Her private psychotherapy practice is in Pasadena.

TRANS IMMIGRANTS: PANEL

This session presents a panel of trans people who will share their personal experience in the immigration system. Participants of this session will be able to recognize issues related to immigration and learn about the experiences of trans immigrants who have been caught in the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) machine.

BAMBY SALCEDO, a transgender Latina Woman, is president and CEO of the TransLatin@ Coalition, an organization addressing the issues of transgender Latin@s in the US, and she is currently developing the Center for Violence Prevention & Transgender Wellness, in LA. Bamby’s remarkable and wide-ranging activist work has brought voice and visibility not only to the trans community, but also to the multiple overlapping communities and issues that her life has touched including migration, HIV, youth, LGBT, incarceration, and Latinx communities, and she has been invited to speak publicly about many of these issues. Her powerful, sobering, and inspiring speeches and her warm, down-to-earth presence have provided emotional grounding and perspective for diverse gatherings. She speaks from the heart, having transcended many of her own issues, as seen in the documentary made about her life called TransVisible: Bamby Salcedo’s Story.
WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS

9:30am – 10:50am (continued)

STRAIGHT EXPECTATIONS: THE STORY OF A FAMILY IN TRANSITION
Peggy tells her personal story of being a mental health professional and the mother of a transgender son. She shares her philosophy of how it’s important to not have straight and rigid expectations of who our children should be if we want them to develop into happy, healthy, and productive members of society. Peggy uses humor, compassion, and her personal experience in conjunction with her professional expertise to make this workshop empowering, inspirational, informative, and enjoyable.

PEGGY CRYDEN is a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) with over 18 years of clinical experience. Her specialties include: gender identity, sexual orientation, adult ADHD, and any other issues that may have an impact on her clients’ interpersonal relationships. Peggy is a trained public speaker who has presented on launching a transgender child at numerous conferences. She has also made several national television appearances.

11:00am – 12:20pm

TRANS MEDICAL 101
What are the common health concerns your trans patients should keep in mind during and after transition? Let’s discuss guidelines for keeping our patients healthy, including monitoring hormone levels and changes in blood values, accessing important screening tests and exams, protecting the liver, utilizing heart screening exams, and more. Bring your questions, and empower your patients to take charge of their healthcare.

LINDA GROMKO, MD, is a board certified family physician who has practiced in Seattle for 27 years. She has treated transgender clients—from ages 6 through 83—over the past 19 years. Having assisted her late husband in home dialysis, Dr. Gromko has a personal interest in living with chronic illness. She has authored four books, including “Where’s MY Book?” A Guide for Transgender Youth, Their Parents, & Everyone Else.
CONSCIOUSLY PARENTING THE GENDER-EXPANSIVE CHILD

Conscious parenting is an important element in raising a happy, secure child. When raising a gender-expansive child, conscious parenting becomes even more important in order to help the child be their authentic self. This workshop will cover the basics of conscious parenting, and explore how staying conscious throughout the child’s gender journey can help both the parent(s) and the child. Staying within and trusting oneself and one’s child can help immensely when dealing with others’ reactions, choosing the next step in the journey, and coping with the parent’s own emotional responses all while remaining close and connected to their child.

DARLENE TANDO, LCSW, has a private practice in San Diego and has been working with transgender youth and adults since 2006. She writes a blog (www.DarleneTandoGenderBlog.com) about the many facets of gender and gender transition. Darlene is a proponent of the Informed Consent model and believes the individual is the “expert” on one’s own gender identity. Her role is to make the journey easier. Darlene recently authored the book The Conscious Parent’s Guide to Gender Identity.

BEST TRANS-THEMED BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

The past few years have seen a welcome flood of books depicting transgender and gender-expansive kids and their life experiences. From picture books like *I Am Jazz* to young adult novels like *If I Was Your Girl*, positive stories that provide both a window and a mirror into the lives of LGBTQ kids are finally being published by major houses. We’ll offer a list of positive books for teachers to share with students and their families, and also discuss where progress remains to be made.

M.G. HENNESSEY is the bestselling author of *The Other Boy*. An ally and supporter of the Transgender Law Center, Gender Spectrum, and the Human Rights Campaign, she lives in Los Angeles with her family.

KRISTIN ELIZABETH CLARK is an activist and youth advocate. She’s author of *Freakboy* (FSG Macmillan, 2013), named to the Young Adult Library Services Association Top Ten Rainbow List. *Freakboy* tells the tale of a teen exploring their gender fluidity, aided by a young trans woman who’s made peace with her own past. Clark’s second novel, *Jess, Chunk, and the Road Trip to Infinity* (FSG 2016), is a whirlwind tripping tale of best friends journeying to confront the protagonist’s estranged father. Her books have received starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *VOYA*, *Booklist*, and *Publisher’s Weekly*. Clark lectures and leads workshops on writing and social justice. KristinElizabethClark.com.

IN FULL BLOOM: TRANSCENDING GENDER TO FIGHT STIGMA

Participants will have an opportunity to meet the producers and stars of the groundbreaking documentary, *In Full Bloom: Transcending Gender*. The film features the personal stories of thirteen transgender individuals. Participants will have an opportunity to view the film, and discuss specific issues or questions with some of the film’s subjects following the screening.

JAZZMUN NICHCALA Crayton is an African-American Trans*/Gender-Nonconforming Queer Person of Color residing in Hollywood, California. She is a seasoned performer who has traveled the world showcasing her passion for entertaining audiences worldwide. She can be seen in both major motion pictures and television. She landed roles in the hit comedies *The Forty-Year-Old Virgin* with Steve Carrell and *Blast from the Past* with Christopher Walken and Brendan Frasier. On the small screen, she has also had several recurring roles on popular American television shows such as *Big Shots*, *CSI-New York*, *NYPD Blue*, *Nip/Tuck*, and *ER*.
PARENTS OF TRANS CHILDREN: PANEL
When a parent steps up to the task of supporting their transgender or gender-exploring child, they often find that the next step involves changing the environment surrounding that child. If negotiating their own personal fears weren’t enough, parents are now in the position of educating siblings, extended family, friends, co-workers, teachers, neighbors, healthcare providers, childcare providers, and many others. This awareness-raising extends not only to individuals, but also to systems such as school communities, insurance companies, afterschool programs, and state and federal agencies. Join us in this session as parents share the journey that begins when they tell their child “yes.”

KATHIE MOEHLIG is the founder and executive director of TransFamily Support Services in San Diego, California. For over thirty years, she has been a public speaker, a workshop presenter, and a support group leader. Kathie is a certified life coach, a licensed minister, and a certified parent counselor. As a parent advocate for her transgender son, Kathie navigated his admittance as the first transgender patient at the Rady Children’s Hospital Gender Management Clinic in San Diego. She provides compassionate and informative support for other transgender families and friends. Kathie works tirelessly to help transgender youth and their families navigate the journey.

PUBERTY DELAY AND CROSS HORMONES FOR TRANS YOUTH (DOUBLE SESSION)
Transgender tweens and teens and their families often struggle to find appropriate, thorough, and sensitive health care services. Up-to-date, informed medical care can greatly increase the positive effects of physical gender transition and overall mental well-being for youth. This workshop focuses primarily on medical intervention for transgender youth and will cover the use of puberty-blocking agents such as Lupron as well as cross-sex hormones. For gender-questioning tweens who are showing the earliest physical changes of adolescence, puberty blockers can delay the development of physical changes to allow a young teen time to consolidate their gender identity, or avoid them altogether, often obviating the need for expensive surgeries or electrolysis down the road. Puberty blockers—when correctly used—have been demonstrated to improve psychosocial outcomes in transgender youth. Cross hormones may be introduced independently to transitioning teens who have already experienced puberty, or used in conjunction with blockers as tweens head into adolescence.

JOHANNA OLSON-KENNEDY, MD, is the medical director of the Center for Transyouth Health and Development at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. She has been working with gender-nonconforming children and transgender adolescents for the past 11 years, providing puberty blockers and hormone therapy for over 800 youth. Dr. Olson-Kennedy has spoken around the country to professionals, families, and media about the importance of providing thorough, competent, and timely care for transgender youth.
THE STATE OF TRANSHEALTH: TRANS LATIN@S AND THEIR HEALTHCARE NEEDS

In this workshop, Bamby Salcedo, president and CEO of TransLatin@ Coalition, and Jacqueline Caraves, PhD candidate at UCLA, will discuss their collaborative report that focuses on Trans Latin@ health in Southern California. They will discuss the community-based participatory research approach they took to understand the needs of Trans Latin@s. Ultimately, the report brings visibility to the needs of the Trans Latin@ community in Southern California, and an understanding of the various components of Trans Latin@ lives and what allows them to be physically, socioeconomically, and emotionally healthy individuals. Salcedo and Caraves will discuss their findings of the 129 surveys they collected from January to August 2016, from key areas in the Southern California region.

BAMBY SALCEDO, a transgender Latina Woman, is president and CEO of the TransLatin@ Coalition, an organization addressing the issues of transgender Latin@s in the US, and she is currently developing the Center for Violence Prevention & Transgender Wellness, in LA. Bamby’s remarkable and wide-ranging activist work has brought voice and visibility not only to the trans community, but also to the multiple overlapping communities and issues that her life has touched including migration, HIV, youth, LGBT, incarceration, and Latin@ communities, and she has been invited to speak publicly about many of these issues. Her powerful, sobering, and inspiring speeches and her warm, down-to-earth presence have provided emotional grounding and perspective for diverse gatherings. She speaks from the heart, having transcended many of her own issues, as seen in the documentary made about her life called TransVisible: Bamby Salcedo’s Story.

JACQUELINE CARAVES is a gender-nonconforming queer Latina and a PhD candidate in the César E. Chávez Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where she also received her Master of Arts degree in Chicana/o Studies and is in the process of completing her graduate certificate in Gender Studies. Jacqueline holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Latin American & Latino Studies and Politics from the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC). Jackie’s dissertation work centers the experiences of Trans and gender-nonconforming Latin@s and the role of family and spirituality in serving as spaces of empowerment and resistance. Jackie hopes to lend visibility to the Trans and gender-nonconforming community and show how this community survives and thrives in the most beautiful ways.

UNDERSTANDING NON-BINARY TRANSITION AND IDENTITY

More and more people are identifying outside the binary, feeling their gender does not fit into a male or female box. For these folks, as well as for the professionals supporting them, questions surrounding transition are often left unanswered. What does a non-standard transition route look like? Is this quickly becoming the norm? Does it even exist? This workshop will explore the myriad options people have, covering social, medical, and legal transition needs. It includes busting myths and clarifying misconceptions, outlining alternatives and loopholes, and developing strategies for empowering you and your clients in their transgender journey.

ADDISON ROSE VINCENT (they/them) is 24 years old, an unapologetic transfeminine genderqueer feminist, and the lead advocate for Pride United, a program dedicated to supporting LGBTQIA+ survivors of violence in the Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley areas. Born in Canada and raised in Michigan, Addison also serves as the youth member of the Los Angeles Trans Advisory Council, the co-founder and referral services director of TransHaven LA, and a HuffPost Queer Voices blogger.
WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS

3:10pm – 4:30pm

COUNSELING COUPLES

There can be much discussion on how to best support someone through a gender transition and often very little discussion addressing the ways we can support and nurture their partners or other loved ones. A gender transition can be overwhelming and liberating for a trans person. It can result in some pretty profound changes for a spouse/partner as well. The stress can be very hard on both people. Many relationships, even loving, supportive ones, often do not survive the upheaval because this support and understanding can be hard to find. Partners often find themselves in the advocate/educator role with others while providing the bulk of the emotional support to their transitioning spouse. This leaves them isolated, drained, and with nowhere to turn for any resulting difficulties they might be experiencing. In this workshop, we will discuss ways of offering support to partners and insights into how an individual’s gender transition is really a transition for everyone.

DIANE ANDERSON-MINSHALL is a queer, Native-American journalist, editor, and author. She’s CEO of Retrograde Communications, a content development agency, where she serves as the editorial director of The Advocate, editor in chief of Plus, chief content officer of TinyLivingChic.com, and executive producer of The T with Dr. D. She and her husband of 26 years wrote about their experience transitioning from a lesbian couple to husband and wife in the memoir, Queerly Beloved: A Love Story across Genders.

JACOB ANDERSON-MINSHALL is a transgender journalist who, with his co-pilot of 26 years, co-founded the national lesbian magazine Girlfriends, and he has since written for numerous magazines (including Bitch and Women’s Review of Books). Jacob penned TransNation, a national column that ran for several years in dozens of LGBT newspapers. Today, he serves as senior editor of The Advocate and Plus magazines. He’s also the co-author of three LGBT mystery novels and one memoir, Queerly Beloved: A Love Story Across Genders.

LEGAL ISSUES AFFECTING THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

This workshop will give a broad overview of legal issues affecting the transgender community. The information provided will include descriptions of 1) federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to the rights and protection of transgender individuals, including in educational, employment, health care, and other settings; 2) ongoing and recent-past litigation related to discrimination against and federal protections of transgender individuals, including litigation related to enforcement of state protections of transgender individuals in the face of claims of religious exemptions, and other cases affecting the rights of transgender individuals; 3) an overview of other key litigation and legislative developments affecting the LGBT community generally that have an impact on the transgender community; and 4) California-specific legal issues related to the transgender community.

NANCY MARCUS (Senior Advisor, Law and Policy Project -Lambda Legal) handles impact litigation and public policy work, with a focus on working against legislative efforts to enact discriminatory laws and, conversely, for enacting inclusive non-discrimination ordinances.

FRANCISCO DUEÑAS (Co-Deputy Director of Education) co-directs Lambda Legal’s community education with a focus on outreach to Latinos.

PETER RENN (Senior Attorney, Lambda Legal) has represented transgender clients facing discrimination in the workplace as well as those seeking access to adequate healthcare.
TRANSGENDER AND GENDER-NONCONFORMING ELDERS: LIVING LIFE WITH DIGNITY

Transgender and gender-nonconforming individuals are survivors! But they do carry some specific considerations in aging and at the end of life. We can do better in caring for transgender elders by learning more about the community in general, examining specific challenges experienced by this population, and caring for ourselves and others when we serve as care providers. This medically focused presentation examines aging: what we know, what we fear, and practical information about dealing with common health-related issues that arise. Health maintenance, interactions with first responders and other health care professionals, maximizing the senses, mental health concerns, living with chronic health conditions, creating a livable space, end-of-life considerations, and grief management will be among the topics discussed, along with a review of basic transgender health considerations and terminology.

LINDA GROMKO, MD, is a board certified family physician who has practiced in Seattle for 27 years. She has treated transgender clients—from ages 6 through 83—over the past 19 years. Having assisted her late husband in home dialysis, Dr. Gromko has a personal interest in living with chronic illness. She has authored four books, including Where’s MY Book? A Guide for Transgender Youth, Their Parents, and Everyone Else.

AIDAN KEY is the director of Gender Diversity, an organization that provides education to teachers, staff, counselors, and administrators regarding gender-inclusive schools grades K-12. Additionally, he provides support for families of transgender and gender-nonconforming children and teens through his parent support groups in Washington State. Key speaks regularly to universities and organizations seeking to expand their knowledge of issues related to gender identity in children and adults. He is also the founder of the Gender Odyssey and Gender Odyssey Family conferences.

JENNIFER GORDON is a senior marketing consultant, representing iconic brands such as Netflix, McDonald’s, and Kraft. Gordon is also the parent of a 10-year-old transgender daughter. Inspired to help others tell their stories, Gordon is launching The GenderCool Project, an awareness campaign to spotlight the gender conversation. Gordon is also on the front line of policy work for gender-inclusive schools in Illinois, helping to lead the charge in District 112, representing 4,000 students.

DR. MICHAEL BREGY is the proud superintendent of Beverly Hills Unified School District and a proven leadership pioneer committed to student growth, development, and academic excellence. One of the first to earn National Superintendent Certification, Dr. Bregy leads his district in the development of student-focused initiatives, policies, and programs through which all students can be known, understood, and respected. Dr. Bregy has also served as superintendent in two Illinois school districts—North Shore School District 112 in Highland Park and Community Unit School District 300 in Algonquin.
MICHELLE HONDA-PHILLIPS is a member of the Human Rights Campaign Parents for Transgender Equality Council and the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance Family Acceptance speaker bureau. Michelle advocates for transgender and gender-nonconforming youth speaking out about her family’s journey of unconditional love in hopes other families will embrace their children for their authentic selves. Their story has been featured on NBC Nightly News, The Today Show, the Human Rights Campaign, and in Elle France magazine.

MICHAEL M. HONDA, who served as US Representative for California’s 17th congressional district (Silicon Valley) from 2013 until 2017, was born to parents who were natural-born US citizens. They were native Californians sent to a concentration camp American-style in Amache, Colorado, in 1942 under President FDR when he issued Executive Order 9066. EO 9066 made Mike at the age of eight months an enemy alien #328862C. Cloaking him with an unconscious, internalized sense of “lessness”ness, this internalized oppression became a struggling effort to re-teach himself to health as a youthful adult—an effort that continues today while shaping his beliefs and principles in the guarantees of our nation’s Constitution. As a returned Peace Corps Volunteer in El Salvador, and a civil servant in public schools, appointed office, and elected offices, Mike doggedly adheres to the Constitution to which he swore oaths. Cyrus the Great, Mohammed (peace be unto his name), Jesus, Gandhi, MLK Jr, and Cesar Chavez all have taught and lived believing in Universal Human Rights, and Mike tries to follow those teachings in all that he does. His personal and professional lives reflect a struggle for a more perfect union—to make the rule of law Constitutional.
Gender Odyssey
Exploring Gender. Together.
2017

Join us in Seattle!

Aug 23-24 | GO Pro Seattle
Aug 25-27 | GO Community + GO Family

Hormones | Surgery | Meet the Doctor
Music | Books | Play
Kids Day Camp
Elders | Aging
Parenting | Working with Schools

www.GenderOdyssey.org
**Wednesday Keynote Address & Networking Reception**

**Featuring**

Michelle Honda-Phillips  
& Former US Rep. Mike Honda (D-HI)

**Wednesday • 4:45-7:00pm • City Ballroom**

Light hors d’oeuvres & no-host bar

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**Thursday Evening**  
**State of the Movement**

**Join us at 4:45 for our closing plenary panel with:**

[Nick Adams]  
[Michelle Enfield]  
[Kris Hayashi]  
[Riku Matsuda]  
[Chandi Moore]  
[Bamby Salcedo]

**Event & Reception at the City Ballroom**

Light hors d’oeuvres & no-host bar
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WHAT’S WRONG WITH RIGHTS?
Isn’t equality what we’re aiming for? Many activists say no! This workshop looks at the ways in which the mainstream transgender movement can leave out many people with intersecting identities and how we can make this a movement that works to liberate all marginalized communities. Participants will discuss their own experiences as activists and how their work fits into a services/rights/justice organizational framework. We intend to build off of the collective knowledge of the audience to broaden attendees’ understandings of activism within their communities. We will examine the nonprofit industrial complex and the ways pinkwashed change may be disrupting trans justice-based activism in critical areas of concern such as marriage equality, education, foundation funding, hate crime legislation, police, and the military.

ELI ERLICK is a queer transgender youth activist, writer, and public speaker. She co-founded and directs Trans Student Educational Resources, a national organization dedicated to transforming the educational environment for trans students through collective action.

JUST A BOY/JUST A GIRL
My child will not talk about anything related to being transgender. She says she wants to be “just a girl.” Integrating transgender experience into one’s core self is an important element of development for transgender youth. This can be incredibly difficult when transgender identities are not celebrated within their social environments. This integration seems to be more challenging for those who are transitioning early in life. This workshop will present strategies for helping youth to include their transgender selves into their identities. Case examples will be presented for assistance in illuminating the pros and cons of the “just a girl, just a boy” phenomenon. We will discuss the importance of parent/caregiver language that celebrates transgender identities and encourages youth to embrace this part of their experience.

JOHANNA OLSON-KENNEDY, MD, is the medical director of the Center for Transyouth Health and Development at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. She has been working with gender-nonconforming children and transgender adolescents for the past 11 years, providing puberty blockers and hormone therapy for over 800 youth. Dr. Olson-Kennedy has spoken around the country to professionals, families, and media about the importance of providing thorough, competent, and timely care for transgender youth.

AYDIN OLSON-KENNEDY, MSW, is the executive director of the Los Angeles Gender Center where he provides therapy for gender-nonconforming and transgender youth, adults, and their families. He has spoken across the country on the importance of an informed-consent model of care, identifying and acknowledging domains of privilege and broadening clinicians and families understanding of gender dysphoria and its impact on the psychosocial well-being of gender-nonconforming and transgender individuals.

SUSAN P. LANDON, MA, LMFT, is the director of the Child and Adolescent Program at the Los Angeles Gender Center. She has worked with children, adolescents, and their families for over 30 years and with gender-nonconforming and transgender children, adolescents, and their families for 12. It is very important to her to provide a safe and welcoming environment in which to give these families the information they need to explore the many aspects of diverse gender expression and identity and navigate all the various challenges that this journey may present. She also offers in-service trainings on gender diversity for parents, teachers, and school administrators.
THURSDAY WORKSHOPS

ENSURING YOUR PRACTICE/CLINIC IS UP TO SPEED: TRANS CARE CONSIDERATIONS

This session will provide a space for providers to critically evaluate their practice and share concerns and opportunities to continually transform and adjust in response to the field and community. Presenters will use the example of their own practice to reflect on lessons learned and potential strategies regarding staff training, environment of care, community engagement, and the response to shifting insurance issues.

MIGUEL MARTINEZ is the manager for the Center for Transyouth Health & Development (CTYHD) at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, which houses primary medical services, mental health, research, health education, and capacity building assistance.

CHANDI MOORE is a health educator in the CTYHD and is involved in numerous community advocacy activities.

TEREZ YONAN, DO, MPH, is currently in her third year of Adolescent Medicine fellowship training. She provides primary care and consultative services within the CTYHD.

SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AND RISK FACTORS OF TRANS AND GENDERQUEER YOUTH

The support and affirmation of trans and gender-diverse students have increased substantially in the past decade. Nevertheless, risk factors for trans and queer youth continue to be significantly higher than those of their non-LGBTQ peers. This workshop will review data from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey and studies on youth in out-of-home circumstances that provide an insight into how trans and queer youth are affected and what potential risky sexual behavior they are engaging in, like sexting, online hook-up sites, survivor sex, and participation in commercial sex.

TIMOTHY KORDIC, currently the project manager for the Los Angeles Unified School District’s HIV/AIDS Prevention Unit, has been involved with comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention-education. He started as an educator in middle school for almost a decade and has since been involved with several grants relating to health education. Due to the large area that Los Angeles covers, using effective strategies in addressing specific sub-populations has been crucial. His projects involve implementing approaches specific to LGBTQ youth, including evidence-based interventions for adolescent sexual minority males.

JUDY CHIASSON, PhD, is part of the Human Relations, Diversity, and Equity Office of the Los Angeles Unified School District. She advocates for safe working and learning environments for students, staff, and families by creating policies, practices, and curricula that are affirming of sexual and gender diversity. Dr. Chiasson is a recognized national spokesperson for LGBTQ concerns in K-12 education, and has testified on behalf of legislation affecting LGBTQ youth. She was featured in the National Geographic documentary Gender Revolution for her work on creating gender-affirming policies.
CREATING SERVICES AND SPACES FOR TRANS PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Trans, two-spirit, gender-non-binary and gender-nonconforming people with disabilities (mental health, physical, intellectual, social, and sensory) are often inadequately supported in service settings and rendered invisible. This is often due to multiple forms of systemic oppression including transphobia and ableism. This training explores the needs of clients who hold intersecting identities connected to gender identity and disability and will work with participants to develop concrete strategies to support the creation of affirmative and accessible spaces and services. Structural barriers that impede this work will be discussed and tools to address some of these barriers will be collectively shared. Client-centered approaches will be explored as well as program models, specifically the work of Griffin Centre’s reachOUT program. Drawing on diverse examples from the past decade, the presenter will share about what has been successful and where the program has encountered difficulties, and how to transfer and adapt this important knowledge.

TAI VO is a trans, disabled person of color who supervises reachOUT, an accessible program in Toronto, Canada, that centers the needs of queer and trans youth, with a focus on newcomers, disabled folks, and people of color. He directed the documentary Our Compass, which was co-written by queer and trans youth labeled with intellectual disabilities.

CONSIDERING TRANSITION AS AN INTERVENTION

Many parents balk at the idea of letting their transgender child “make such a big decision” in regards to transitioning. We, as professionals, know that transitioning is not so much a decision but a natural response to something that already IS. Instead of thinking of it (or other appropriate responses to a transgender child) as a “decision,” let’s start thinking of it as a compassionate intervention and see how the story changes.

Professionals can empower parents to take actions when it comes to their child, in order to reduce distress and encourage authentic living!

DARLENE TANDO, LCSW, has a private practice in San Diego and has been working with transgender youth/adults since 2006. She writes a blog (www.DarleneTandoGenderBlog.com) about the many facets of gender and gender transition. Darlene is a proponent of the Informed Consent model and believes the individual is the expert on one’s own gender identity. Her role is to make the journey easier. Darlene recently authored the book The Conscious Parent’s Guide to Gender Identity.

PROVIDING EQUAL ACCESS FOR TRANS AND GENDER-EXPANSIVE POPULATIONS

Conducted by the author of Born on the Edge of Race and Gender: A Voice for Cultural Competency, this workshop will explore the breadth of identities associated with trans and gender-nonconforming communities, including the intersecting experiences of race, culture, socioeconomic circumstances, and disability. Participants will learn to utilize culturally competent language and behavior for addressing and working with this population, and increase their knowledge of health care access, educational access, and legal issues that impact trans communities. We will identify trans-affirming service delivery systems for educational and community health settings. Interactive, solutions-oriented, and engaging, this workshop will provide opportunities for learning and problem solving at all knowledge levels. Everyone welcome.

WILLY WILKINSON, MPH, is the author of the Lambda Literary Award-winning book Born on the Edge of Race and Gender: A Voice for Cultural Competency, which illuminates trans experience from a Chinese American and mixed-heritage perspective, and transforms the memoir genre into a cultural competency tool. Willy has provided LGBTQ and trans-specific training for hundreds of community health organizations, educational institutions, and businesses. www.willywilkinson.com.
THURSDAY WORKSHOPS

9:30am – 10:50am

PARENTS NAVIGATING SCHOOLS: PANEL
When parents of a transgender or gender-diverse child approach school administration looking for support and inclusion, administrators without appropriate training or resources often look back to the parents as their primary source of education. This can place both parent and child in a vulnerable position and exacerbate the school’s inability to fulfill its responsibility. Hear from a panel of parents about their experiences navigating schools—what worked and what didn’t—and learn how we as educators and administrators can better serve all students with regard to gender.

AIDAN KEY is the director of Gender Diversity, an organization that provides education to teachers, staff, counselors, and administrators regarding gender-inclusive schools grades K-12. Additionally, he provides support for families of transgender and gender-nonconforming children and teens through his parent support groups in Washington State. Key speaks regularly to universities and organizations seeking to expand their knowledge of issues related to gender identity in children and adults. He is also the founder and director of the Gender Odyssey and Gender Odyssey Family conferences.

11:00am – 12:20pm

TWO-SPIRIT CULTURE: ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND CHALLENGES
This presentation will focus on current and historical perspectives regarding the development and usage of the term “two spirit.” Gender differences and appropriate gender behaviors are crucial to social functioning in western society, but transgender individuals are often viewed differently and harassed. They experience greater discrimination due to pre-existing social programming that will be discussed, along with available resources.

MICHELLE ENFIELD, a Diné of the Red Running into the Water people Clan (Tachi’nii), is originally from Lukachukai, Arizona, but now resides in Los Angeles, California. She has trained in fine arts, and now studies psychology and business at Antioch University LA. She has first-hand experience working with homeless youth, as an HIV-test counselor, and specifically with the Native American population providing HIV education, support, and referrals. She is a member of the Transgender Service Provider Network (TSPN) and co-chair of the Underrepresented Cultural Communities with the LA Department of Mental Health.

THE NEW NORMAL: THE TRANS-INCLUSIVE WORKPLACE, PART TWO
The barriers to employment for trans people often stem from a lack of understanding of trans identities by employers. Many of the disparities that trans people face are rooted in economics and the lack of employment opportunities. This two-part workshop will examine the issues trans people face in the workplace.

PART ONE will be co-facilitated by Carolyn Weiss, former director within the City of Los Angeles Community Development department and currently working as a consultant with employers. In this workshop we’ll examine existing data, review current trans cultural competency best practices, and discuss the future of trans-inclusive workplaces.

PART TWO will focus on building inclusive workplaces and will be co-facilitated by Michaela Mendelsohn, out trans CEO of Pollo Corp West and founder of the California Trans Workplace Project. Michaela is working to take CTWP nationally and will discuss her experience transforming her restaurants into inclusive workplaces where trans people are thriving.
THURSDAY WORKSHOPS

11:00am – 12:20pm (continued)

DRIAN JUAREZ works as a consultant on transgender issues in the workplace and assists in developing programs for communities endeavoring to help transgender people get back to work. Juarez has served as the program manager for the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center’s Transgender Economic Empowerment Project (TEEP). Building a solid foundation for TEEP, Juarez established cross-organizational/cross-functional teams to assist in the mission of developing substantive employment and business opportunities.

MICHAELA MENDELSOHN is a Transgender activist, public speaker, groundbreaker, and businesswoman with over 40 years of entrepreneurial leadership experience. Her courage, determination, life experiences, and successes make her an expert speaker on a multitude of topics. Michaela is highly in demand as the “go-to person” for major LGBT media outlets for her in-depth perspective and “boots on the ground” approach to activism and is an active public speaker on LGBT issues with nearly 200 engagements since 2011.

DIANA FELIZ OLIVA, MSW, has worked in the field of social services and public health for over 20 years, and has been the Transgender Health Program manager at St. John’s Well Child & Family Center since 2015. Ms. Oliva has more than 15 years of experience working with the transgender population, including HIV+ positive individuals, sex workers, those with mental illness, substance users, homeless individuals, incarcerated adults, youth, elderly, people of color, and undocumented individuals. An effective social advocate and role model, she has a specific interest in advancing the development of public policy that addresses community-level health and social problems.

GETTING IT COVERED: ACCESS TO HEALTH INSURANCE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Transgender and gender-expansive adults face many difficult questions as they map out their transition and determine what types of transition-related care to seek, if any. At no time is this more clear than when it comes to medical decisions about physical transition. Once tough decisions have been made, another challenge becomes apparent: paying for the medical services being sought. This session will explore the intricate and evolving landscape of insurance coverage for gender-related medical services. With the Affordable Care Act on the chopping block, growing awareness of the needs of transgender and gender-expansive patients, and multiple treatment options, providers must be knowledgeable about what their clients and patients can expect to encounter as they seek to cover the costs of their transition-related care.

KNOWLEDGE, BEHAVIOR, AND ATTITUDES: STRATEGIES TO BUILD AFFIRMING SCHOOLS

Creating safe and affirming school communities requires a multi-prong approach. This workshop will cover the cornerstones of social change: inclusive curriculum to increase knowledge; enumerated policies to set guidelines regarding behavior; and facilitated dialogues to promote affirming attitudes. A special focus will be given to the SOGIE facilitated dialogues that the Los Angeles Unified School District has utilized for the past 25 years across the K-12 spectrum. Examples of curricula, programs, and resources used in elementary and secondary schools to strengthen our inclusive lens will be highlighted.

TIMOTHY KORDIC, currently the project manager for the Los Angeles Unified School District’s HIV/AIDS Prevention Unit, has been involved with comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention-education. He started as an educator in middle school for almost a decade and has since been involved with several grants relating to health education. Due to the large area that Los Angeles covers, using effective strategies in addressing specific sub-populations has been crucial. His projects involve implementing approaches specific to LGBTQ youth, including evidence-based interventions for adolescent sexual minority males.
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1:40pm – 3:00pm

WELCOMING SCHOOLS: TALKING TO ELEMENTARY STUDENTS ABOUT GENDER

In this session, participants will be introduced to the national Welcoming Schools program that works with educators, administrators, families, and staff to improve elementary school climates with training, resources, and lessons to embrace family diversity, create LGBTQ-inclusive schools, prevent bias-based bullying, and support transgender and gender-expansive students. Participants will explore developmentally appropriate ways to talk with elementary students about gender—including the opportunity to practice responding to predictable student questions and comments—as well as lesson plans and books that help educators to create gender-inclusive classrooms for all students.

TARAH FLEMING, MEd, PCC, is the education director at Our Family Coalition (OFC), and has over 25 years of experience as an educator on topics of social justice, equity literacy, anti-bias education, and the dynamics of power and privilege. As a white identified, cisgender, heterosexual mother of a mixed heritage teenager, she brings a radical perspective on allied behavior and a strong desire to work as change agent in multiple solidarity movements. For the past 14 years, she has been a dedicated participant and presenter at the White Privilege Conference (WPC) and developed and co-directed the Youth Action Project for high school students, which is now celebrating its tenth year of success at WPC.

TRANS SURGERY CONSIDERATIONS AND CARE

This session includes before-and-after photos; a discussion of surgical options; preparations for surgery; when and why electrolysis is needed; and preoperative and postoperative care for patients undergoing GCS with a focus on what the provider/patient needs to know. The presentation will also cover possible complications—what to look for and how to treat—and conclude with a question and answer period.

DR. ELLIE LEY is a plastic and reconstructive surgeon, board certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery. She joined the office of Dr. Meltzer in December, 2015. She has a true passion for working with the community, performing GCS and other plastic surgery procedures. Fellowships: craniofacial/pediatric surgery, hand and microsurgery, and plastic and reconstructive surgery. Dr. Ley is licensed and in good standing with AZ, CA, and UT Medical Boards and is trilingual in Spanish, Cantonese (conversational), and English.
WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH API TRANS FOLKS

Led by the author of *Born on the Edge of Race and Gender: A Voice for Cultural Competency*, this workshop will engage participants in meaningful dialogue about issues related to Asian and Pacific Islander (API) trans and gender-expansive experience. Topics include API trans identity, culture, mental health, family (those created as well as families of origin), the expectations of larger society, and other culturally relevant issues. Participants will leave better equipped to provide equal access for this population in service provisions, educational settings, and throughout society.

WILLY WILKINSON, MPH, is the author of the Lambda Literary Award-winning book *Born on the Edge of Race and Gender: A Voice for Cultural Competency*, which illuminates trans experience from a Chinese American and mixed heritage perspective, and transforms the memoir genre into a cultural competency tool. A seasoned cultural competency trainer with three decades of experience, Willy has provided LGBTQ and trans-specific training for hundreds of community health organizations, educational institutions, and businesses. www.willywilkinson.com.

SUPPORTING THE WHOLE FAMILY THROUGH TRANSITION

Trans youth experience many unique challenges during transition. Everything from dealing with peers and parents to secondary sex characteristics and typical issues of adolescence become major impediments to development. It is imperative for healthcare professionals to consider the relevant systemic variables—family, friends, siblings, school, spiritual affiliation, extracurricular activities, and medical community—with which the young person interacts. This workshop will examine the primary clinician’s role in supporting a minor and their family members as they navigate their way through these complex systems.

DR. MICHELE ANGELLO offers individual, couples, group, and family therapy, as well as corporate education and training on a variety of issues concerning sexuality. She has presented internationally on her work with transgender, gender-variant, and gender-nonconforming youth. She facilitates several monthly support groups for transgender adults, youth, and parents and offers sessions to people around the world via webcam. Dr. Angello has appeared as a guest expert on *Dr. Phil, Larry King Live, The Tyra Banks Show, ABC Primetime, Dr. Oz*, and many more shows and documentaries. She is also an adjunct professor at Widener University and has developed the first graduate course in the U.S. that focuses on clinical issues in transgender communities. Her private practice is in Pennsylvania.
THURSDAY WORKSHOPS

3:10pm – 4:30pm

STORIES FROM THE FRONT: TRANS YOUTH PANEL

Join us for a panel discussion with trans young people who will share their experiences, aspirations, and ideas for change. Don’t miss this powerful opportunity to hear the real-life experiences of these dynamic youth.

GIL RICH is the Gender Odyssey teen program coordinator and has run the youth groups for the Gender Diversity family support meetings in Seattle for the past nine years. He has over a decade of experience developing leadership and community-building programs that help youth recognize their potential, including teaching within the Seattle and Atlanta public schools, and working with Camp Ten Trees, Lambert House, the YMCA, and the WSU-4H Challenge Programs. Gil has presented workshops on supporting trans and GNC youth at the Creating Change and HRC Time to Thrive conferences, and facilitates transgender awareness training for corporate audiences. Gil had the unique opportunity to grow up as a gender-nonconforming kid with an identical twin who was also gender-nonconforming. Growing up knowing there was someone else like him in the world provided a foundation of self-confidence and pride that he hopes to pass on to the youth he works with.

GENDER GOOGLE FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

When should medical intervention be considered? What age is too young for chest surgery? What if a child doesn’t feel like a boy OR a girl—is that normal? This just seems like one big experiment—how are these kids really doing? This roundtable workshop with a panel of medical and mental health providers experienced in trans care will give participants a unique opportunity to ask these questions and any others that may not have been adequately addressed in other workshops.

SUSAN P. LANDON, MA, LMFT, is the director of the Child and Adolescent Program at the Los Angeles Gender Center. She has worked with children, adolescents, and their families for over 30 years and with gender-nonconforming and transgender children, adolescents, and their families.
A HISTORICAL SNAPSHOT OF TRANSGENDER STANDARDS OF CARE
The session will offer a brief historical review of the development of trans care, including the origins and progression of standards of care (SOC) and their impact on community. Participants will have the opportunity to reflect on how the evolution of the current SOC includes or excludes community and its residual implications.

JAMIE JULIAN is the intake coordinator for the Center for Transyouth Health and Development (CTYHD) at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and has been involved in supporting the ongoing transformation of services.

BIANCA SALVETTI, NP, in the CTYHD where she provides care for adolescents and young adults and supports building the health literacy of patients.

DR. JONATHON WARUS is a second-year adolescent fellow and provides medical care to adolescents and young adults in the CTYHD.

WHAT IF I’M CISGENDER, WHITE, AND HETEROSEXUAL? INTERSECTIONS, PRIVILEGE, AND FIERCE ALLY-SHIP!
What does it mean to have intersecting identities? How does the awareness of our privileged identities inform the way we develop and display allied behavior in social movements for liberation? This workshop is an opportunity to explore our intentions and more importantly our impact as allies to LGBTQ people, people of color, and other communities experiencing marginalization daily. Through self-reflection, storytelling and “group think,” we will focus on and commit to the most positive practices in conscious allied living.

TARAH FLEMING, MEd, PCC, is the education director at Our Family Coalition (OFC), and has over 25 years of experience as an educator on topics of social justice, equity literacy, anti-bias education, and the dynamics of power and privilege. As a white identified, cisgender, heterosexual mother of a mixed heritage teenager, she brings a radical perspective on allied behavior and a strong desire to work as change agent in multiple solidarity movements. For the past 14 years, she has been a dedicated participant and presenter at the White Privilege Conference (WPC) and developed and co-directed the Youth Action Project for high school students, which is now celebrating its tenth year of success at WPC.
STATE OF THE MOVEMENT: PANEL

RIKU MATSUDA works in the Human Relations Branch of the LA County Workforce Development, Aging, and Community Services Department as a senior intergroup relations specialist. He is an analyst for the annual hate crime report and leads the department’s work to end violence against transgender and non-binary communities. Riku also coaches for the Groundswell Foundation’s Grassroots Organizing Institute and hosts a public affairs program called Flip the Script on Pacifica’s KPFK 90.7FM Los Angeles.

BAMBY SALCEDO, a transgender Latina Woman, is president and CEO of the TransLatin@ Coalition, an organization addressing the issues of transgender Latin@s in the US, and she is currently developing the Center for Violence Prevention & Transgender Wellness, in LA. Bamby’s remarkable and wide-ranging activist work has brought voice and visibility not only to the trans community, but also to the multiple overlapping communities and issues that her life has touched including migration, HIV, youth, LGBT, incarceration, and Latin@ communities, and she has been invited to speak publicly about many of these issues. Her powerful, sobering, and inspiring speeches and her warm, down-to-earth presence have provided emotional grounding and perspective for diverse gatherings. She speaks from the heart, having transcended many of her own issues, as seen in the documentary made about her life called TransVisible: Bamby Salcedo’s Story.

KRIS HAYASHI has over 20 years of movement building, leadership, and organizing experience. As a public transgender person of color, Kris has been a leader in movements for justice and rights for transgender and gender-nonconforming communities for over 13 years. Having served as executive director at the organizations Youth United for Community Action in California and the Audre Lorde Project (ALP) in New York City in the past, Kris now serves as executive director at Transgender Law Center, one of the largest organizations in the country advancing the rights of transgender and gender-nonconforming people. During his tenure at ALP, ALP launched one of the first organizing and advocacy projects in the country led by trans and gender-nonconforming people of color, the annual NYC Trans Day of Action now in its 11th year, and won a monumental campaign getting NYC’s welfare agency to adopt community-developed policies on serving trans and gender-nonconforming people.

Los Angeles native CHANDI MOORE is a nationally recognized HIV and Trans activist. She currently works for the Children’s Hospital Los Angeles Center for Trans Youth and Development. In her current role, she leads a nationally recognized and evidence-based, trans youth-specific project called BLUSH (Brave Leaders Unified to Strengthen Our Health). Chandi was recently named one of Advocate Magazine’s 25 Trans pioneers who took us past the tipping point in 2015. Also in 2015 she joined forces with the Centers for Disease Control for their Act Against AIDS initiative campaign “Doing It,” which encourages the community to get tested for HIV and know their status. A 2015 Positive Images Statement of Courage award recipient, Chandi was featured alongside American television personality and Olympic champion Caitlyn Jenner on the GLAAD media award-winning series I Am Cait. Chandi loves to empower others to reach the light that is at the end of the tunnel.

NICK ADAMS is the director of GLAAD’s Transgender Media Program. He has worked at GLAAD since 1998 and transitioned at that time. Nick works with journalists and entertainment industry professionals who are creating stories about transgender people. For the past seven years Nick has also served on the board of Transforming Family, an organization for families with trans and gender-nonconforming children, running the peer support group for trans teens.

MICHELLE ENFIELD, a Diné of the Red Running into the Water people Clan (Tachii’nii), is originally from Lukachukai, Arizona, but now resides in Los Angeles, California. She has trained in fine arts, and now studies psychology and business at Antioch University LA. She has first-hand experience working with homeless youth, as an HIV-test counselor, and specifically with the Native American population providing HIV education, support, and referrals. She is a member of the Transgender Service Provider Network (TSPN) and co-chair of the Underrepresented Cultural Communities with the LA Department of Mental Health.
Aidan Key – Founder and Executive Director (he)

Aidan is thrilled to celebrate 17 years since organizing his first Gender Odyssey conference. Aidan leads the largest network of support groups in the nation for families raising transgender and gender-diverse children at Seattle Children’s Hospital. When the conference is not demanding his attention, Aidan offers trainings for schools, organizations, health providers, and social service agencies through Gender Diversity Education and Support Services. Aidan’s work has led to numerous speaking engagements, as well as TV, radio, and other media appearances. He is the author of *Trans Bodies, Trans Selves: Child Chapter* (Oxford University Press 2014) as well as a coauthor of “Gender Cognition in Children” (Psychological Science 2015).

C. Michael Woodward, MPH – Conference Director (he)

Michael is Gender Odyssey’s conference director. He’s also a writer, rock star, storyteller, body builder, award-winning social justice advocate, and aging queer trans guy. Michael has published myriad books, articles, and blogs, including the title essay of the much-acclaimed anthology, *Manning Up: Transsexual Men on Finding Brotherhood, Family, and Themselves* (Transgress Press, 2014). He received a Master of Public Health Policy and Management from the University of Arizona and a BS in Communications from Butler University.

Carolyn Langford Hussein Fort – CEUs & Registration Assistant (they)

Carolyn is a recent transplant to Seattle from Tucson, Arizona. They honestly, if not proudly, claim these titles as well: semi-Luddite, white Southerner, uncomfortable daughter, lover of most creatures great and small, occasionally somewhat adequate friend, descendant of a short line of intellectual snobs, introverted exhibitionist, and lover of stories. Few things on earth bring them as much joy as their love’s belly.

Carolyn MacGregor – Program Manager/Associate Conference Director (she)

Carolyn has been with Gender Diversity for about five years, and this year stepped fully into the role of conference programming and planning. An editor, musician, and mother of two children, one of whom is a transgender teen, she has attended the Gender Odyssey Family conference and Gender Diversity’s Family Support Groups since their inception, and currently serves as a support group facilitator. She is a fierce lover of animals and word/logic puzzles.

Cathy Renna – Media and Publicity Coordinator (she)

Cathy is a managing partner at Target Cue, an LGBT- and HIV-focused public interest communications and marketing firm. Prior to that, she was a founder of Renna Communications. During her seven years with the firm, Renna Communications partnered with more than 50 different organizations on diverse issues of importance to the LGBT and allied communities and HIV-related issues. Cathy is nationally recognized as both a media relations and communications expert and a leader within the LGBT community. She lives in Montclair, NJ, with her partner Karen and is the proud parent of her daughter Rosemary.
MEET THE COMMITTEE

Diana Campbell – Registrar/Database Administrator (she)

From delivering meals to AIDS clients to working on queer rights campaigns to presenting transgender workshops—Diana has been a longtime queer advocate. She volunteered at her first GO conference in 2013 and continues to serve on the conference planning committee. As a cisgender lesbian, she is proud to stand with all members of the queer community. She’s passionate about opening hearts and minds to support, embrace, and celebrate everyone on the gender spectrum.

Diane Hollands – Registration Assistant (she)

With a background in video production, Diane has always been interested in people’s life stories. She produced 28 video biographies of LGBT seniors in Vancouver, BC, that are now archived in Simon Fraser University’s library for the use of academics and those interested in LGBT history. Her newest hobby and passion is still photography. She enjoys living in Birch Bay with her wife, Diana, and loves doting on her seven great-nephews.

Joshua Riverdale – Web Manager (he)

Joshua is a web developer and marketer with more than 18 years of professional experience. He has been working on the Gender Odyssey websites since 2008. That year also marked the beginning of his gender transition, which he continues to chronicle on his popular blog, Gender Outlaw. Joshua lives in rural British Columbia, Canada.

Micah – Social Media (they)

A published writer, engaging advocate, and expert educator on transgender identities, Micah’s mission is to contribute positively to everyone’s experience with gender. The popular site neutrois.me is a balance of thoroughly researched information, easy to understand resources, and the personal chronicles of Micah’s transition, a public examination of what it means to live in a world that makes no room for non-binary gender. Micah presents humorously didactic workshops involving cookie metaphors, reluctantly talks to journalists for media interviews, volunteers at schools as a speaker for the SF LGBTQ Speaker’s Bureau, and is a closet idealist.

Nathan Tabak - Media and Publicity Assistant (he)

Nathan Tabak is a communications, writing, and research professional working at Target Cue to publicize the vital work of LGBT organizations and help their message reach a wider audience, a goal made all the more vital in the current political climate. He has previously worked for Springer Publishing, Renna Communications, and Media Matters for America. Nathan graduated from Vassar College with a degree in religion, and lives in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.
MEET THE COMMITTEE

Nikki Neuen – Associate Director, Gender Diversity (she)

Nikki is associate director of Gender Diversity year-round, working on organizational administration, graphic design, outreach, fundraising, and of course, Gender Odyssey. Her special focus is launching Gender Diversity’s online parent support groups—coming soon! She also volunteers as the guest relations coordinator/assistant for 3DollarBill Cinema’s film festivals TWIST and Translations. Otherwise, she is solo-parent to a transgender teen, a mad dabbler in all things arts and crafts, and is a sometime-philosopher.

Nina Rose – Lead Writer

From writing blog posts and press releases, to polishing data to a high shine, Nina is eager to do all she can to make herself useful for her first Gender Odyssey conference. That is, when she’s not volunteering with Gender Justice League and Washington Won’t Discriminate. She’s part dancer (lapsed), part wordnik, and part gaming geek. And she’s all trans girl, swivel-hipping through transition while she searches for the best way to direct her rediscovered voice.

Shelley Shore – Event Coordinator (she)

During the past several Gender Odyssey conferences, Shelley has been a key player on the GO Events Team, responsible for planning and hosting many of our fantastic events, including the Friday night GendeRevolution arts extravaganza. In facing the challenges of her own personal gender journey, Shelley has continually found herself nourished by family and friends, and has found the safe harbor of Gender Odyssey to be a powerful resource in providing a strategic roadmap for living harmoniously as a Trans person.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Gender Odyssey team wishes to thank the following individuals for their support in making our first endeavor in LA a great success.

Michael sends thanks and kudos to:

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• Our amazing staff and volunteers!
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Carolyn M. wants to thank Christa Erwin for program book design, Ben for the program cover and in-house ad design, Michael for keeping the ball rolling, everyone who has shared their enthusiasm for this endeavor, ALL of our talented presenters, and:

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- Tim Kordic
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- Cristina Magalhães
- Dr Michael Bregy
- Jen Grosshandler
Los Angeles Gender Center is committed to providing affirming and informed individual, family, and group therapy for transgender and gender non-conforming youth, adults, and their families. Through advocacy, training, education, and centering transgender voices and experiences, we aim to increase cultural awareness, and to decrease the stigma, discrimination, and oppression that transgender individuals and their families have long experienced. Services offered include:

- Individual, family, and group therapy (*income based sliding scale fees available)
- Letters of recommendation for surgery and other medical interventions with no minimum session requirement
- APA approved training for psychologists & mental health clinicians

www.lagendercenter.com  staff@lagendercenter.com  310-475-8880

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