

TQA Pride: Youth + Educator LGBTQ+ Summit



APRIL 22, 2023
BERNA FACIO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPLEX & ONLINE

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NEW MEXICO

Welcome

Welcome! GLSEN New Mexico is honored to host the 2023 TQA (Trans, Queer, Ally) Pride: Youth and and Educator LGBTQ+ Summit! We are even more excited to host the event in a hybrid format. 2023 marks our return to an in person event.

Today, transgender and queer youth face many challenges, including higher rates of bullying, harassment, violence, and suicide. Despite these challenges, transgender and queer youth can thrive by building community, engaging in supportive programs and having supportive co-conspirators.

Together we have a vision for creating environments where each and every trans and queer youth, educator, and community member feels valued and supported in their communities. We want all trans and queer youth and educators to thrive in a culture of affirming language, to see themselves positively reflected in curriculum, and to experience a climate of possibility that enhances sense-of-self. We strive to create learning and community spaces where no one should ever feel they must leave part of themselves behind.

We value and appreciate your dedication to this vision in joining us today in the spirit of learning, collaboration, and enhancing the experiences and lives of trans and queer youth, educators, and community.

Have a wonderful, inspiring, and educational summit!

Sincerely,

**Damon R. Carbajal
Managing Director- GLSEN NM**

**Havens Levitt
Co-Chair - GLSEN NM**

**Jax Sugars
Co-Chair - GLSEN NM**



Appreciations

This summit was made possible by the hard work of the TQA (Trans, Queer, Ally) Pride: Youth and Educator LGBTQ+ Summit Planning Committee:

- Damon R. Carbajal, GLSEN NM
- Havens Levitt, GLSEN NM
- Jax Sugars, GLSEN NM
- ío Escamilla, NMGSAN
- Hendrix Olson, NMGSAN
- Shane Fox, NMGSAN
- Yesi Llerenas Daniel, PPRM RSEI
- Jessica Pollard, PPRM RSEI
- Heather Cowan, APS
- Allison Poccia, APS



Thank you to the New Mexico Department of Health: Office of School and Adolescent Health for being the funder for the TQA Pride Summit!

Thank you to Albuquerque Public Schools for partnering and making the event possible at Berna Facio Professional Development Complex.

Thank you to our outstanding ASL interpreters for their support of all things ASL for the TQA Pride Summit.

Thank you to the amazing youth that helped us plan the summit as part of our TQA Summit youth gatherings.

Thank you to Mikey Angelo for bringing his unique presence to our summit as our amazing keynote speaker.

Last, but not least, a huge thank you to all our fabulous presenters and volunteers, the summit would not be possible without your support in each session.



About GLSEN New Mexico

GLSEN NM is a queer and trans affirming non-profit dedicated to providing support and resources for our communities. We focus on racial, gender, and disability justice as it intersects with queer identities. GLSEN is the champion of LGBTQ+ issues in K-12 education, eliminating anti-LGBTQ+ bias and violence in schools today and laying the foundation of respect for all in the future.

glseennm.org | chapter@nm.glsen.org | 505-289-2814 | Social Media. @glseennm



Training - GLSEN NM offers GLSEN's Intentional Inclusion Series, QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Suicide Prevention, Youth Mental Health First Aid, and Policy Advocacy trainings. We can also provide coaching around LGBTQ+ intersectional inclusion.



Rainbow Library - The Rainbow Library is a GLSEN program that sends LGBTQ+ affirming text sets to schools across the state — for free. Visit rainbowlibrary.org/newmexico/ for more information.



Policy Advocacy - GLSEN NM works at various levels of governance to ensure safe and affirming policies are being enacted to protect LGBTQ+ youth and educators. The New Mexico chapter has a focus on district level policy, but also works in the state and national policy arenas as well.



Outreach and Networking - GLSEN NM attends events throughout year to share resources and connect with community. In addition, GLSEN NM host events to bring community together, including, but not limited to ice cream socials and educator TeachOUTs.



Awareness Campaigns - GLSEN NM runs various awareness campaigns throughout the year that focus on different elements of the intersectional LGBTQ+ experience. This includes, but is not limited to behavioral health, GLSEN days of action, resources, etc.

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Community Partners

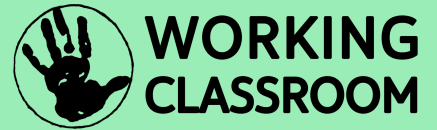
Albuquerque Public Schools



Transgender Resource Center
of New Mexico (TGRCNM)



Working Classroom



New Mexico Genders and
Sexualities Network (NMGSAN) -
The Mountain Center



HEAL + NM

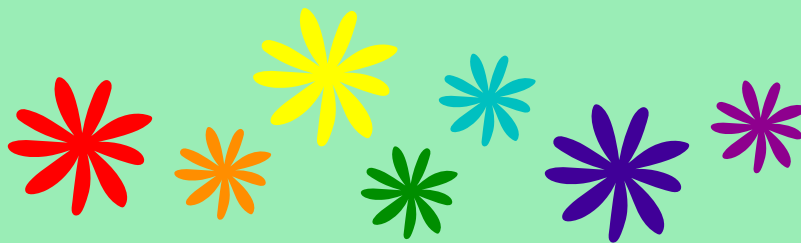


Responsible Sex Education
Institute (RSEI) - Planned
Parenthood of the Rocky
Mountains



Group Agreements

- **Throw glitter, not shade**
- **Be Curious**
- **Share Using “I” Statements**
- **Be Here Now**
- **Take space, Make space**
- **Take the stories, not the names**
- **Oops and Ouch**
- **One super star, one mic**



What is a group agreement?

A group agreement is a clear set of guidelines on how your group will handle discussions, meetings, and communication raised in the group setting.



In-Person: Schedule

9:00 - 9:30 AM: Registration and Breakfast

- Room 100

9:30 - 10:00 AM: Welcome 2023

- Room 100

10:10 - 11:10 AM: Workshop Session A

- See Workshop Schedule for Rooms

11:20 AM - 12:20 PM: Workshop Session B

- See Workshop Schedule for Rooms

12:30 - 1:15 PM: Lunch and Socializing

- Room 100/ Courtyard

1:15 - 1:45 PM: Keynote Speaker - Mikey Angelo

- Room 100

1:55 - 2:55 PM: Workshop Session C

- See Workshop Schedule for Rooms

3:00 - 3:30 PM: Closing - Queer Joy

- Room 100



***All times listed in MST**



Workshop Session A 8

10:10 – 11:10 AM

Creating Safer Spaces for LGBTQ+ Youth with Inclusive Curriculum | Havens Levitt (she/her) | Educator Focus

- We will focus on same basics about the experiences of LGBTQ+ young people and how to create a more supportive environment in schools, as well as other spaces where young people find themselves. We will cover LGBTQ+ terminology, stats on the experiences of LGBTQ+ students, the four supports GLSEN research shows make a difference, and how to rethink curriculum and activities so that they reflect the lived experiences of LGBTQ+ youth.
- Room: 101A

Envisioning your Affirmation | Pat Arreguin (they/them) & Michelle Pérez-Fuentes (they/them) | All

- Join Working Classroom for some mindfulness movement work and creating vision boards centered around meditation, art and of course affirmation. Affirming our identities, self-love and healing with art is one way to radiate your inner self. We'll open our workshop with movement then work towards our vision board message to keep for ourselves outside of this workshop. Working Classroom's mission is to cultivate the artistic, civic, and academic minds of youth through in-depth arts projects with contemporary artists to amplify historically ignored voices, resist systemic injustices, and imagine a more equitable society.
- Room: 101B

Know Your Rights Trivia with ACLUNM and EQNM | Dakota Waterson (she/hers), Lena Weber-Salazar (she/hers), & Victor Romero-Hernandez (he/him) | Youth Focus

- Have you ever wondered what your rights are at school around your pronouns, the dress code, or accessing certain facilities? Did you know New Mexico just passed some new pieces of legislation further protecting members of LGBTQ+ communities? Please join the ACLU of New Mexico and Equality New Mexico for a Know Your Rights workshop. During this fun workshop we will play trivia to explore some of our rights, particularly in school settings, and discuss what the recent legislation is all about! We will also talk about how to collaborate on a creative project to get this important information into the hands of our peers across the state.
- Room: 103

Storytelling for Social Justice | Hendrix Olson (they/ them) & Shelby McDaniel (they/them)v | All

- WHY WE NEED STORIES FOR LIBERATION: 1) To share our truth and gain visibility. 2) To challenge common assumptions and narratives. 3) To build empathy and solidarity. 4) To heal and grow from our own experiences. 5) To create the future we deserve. 6) To connect with others and gain support. WE NEED STORIES THAT: 1) Are created by and center the affected people. 2) Are effective and authentic. 3) Capture and keep attention. 4) Call people to action
- Room 102A

Chill Room | All

- Room: 111



Workshop Session B

9

11:20 AM – 12:20 PM

Question, Persuade, Refer Suicide Prevention | Hendrix Olson (they/ them) & Shane Baron-Deutsch (they/them) | Educator Focus

- For Ages 18+
- QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention is an educational program designed to teach people the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to respond. Gatekeepers can include anyone who is strategically positioned to recognize and refer someone at risk of suicide (e.g., parents, friends, neighbors, teachers, coaches, caseworkers). The process follows three steps: (1) Question the individual's desire or intent regarding suicide, (2) Persuade the person to seek and accept help, and (3) Refer the person to appropriate resources.
- Room: 101A

Zinemaking - Art as Activism | Camellia Termini (she/her/they) | All

- Teaching basic bookmaking (pamphlet fold) techniques and using collage, found images, and drawing media to explore themes of activism and justice. Think “vision boards” that you distribute within your community and exchange with others to share your voice and vision.
- Room: 101B

| Arra Carbajal (she/her) | Educator Focus

- This workshop will focus different tips and strategies to promote full inclusion of LGBTQ+ families within early childhood settings. It will provide different strategies on how to welcome and include LGBTQ+ within Early Childhood classroom settings, Early Childhood home based settings, and the overall Early Childhood program itself. The workshop will provide many different types of resources and ideas to assist program staff and program leaders to promote full inclusion of LGBTQ+ families.
- Room: 103

Transgender Experiences Panel | Tam Saimons, MSN, FNP-BC (they/them) & Rev. Amani Malaika (she/hers)|All

- This panel is a place to ask questions about all things transgender. From what are my options for transitioning to best ways to support each other as transgender and ally folx. Our panel has a wealth of knowledge including medical experience, community experience, and first hand knowlege of how we as community can create a space of safety for transgender and gender nonconforming folx.
- Room 102A

Chill Room | All

- Room: 111



Workshop Session C

10

1:55 – 2:55 PM

Intersectionality - Ways We Can Support BIPOC LGBTQ+ Youth | Damon R. Carbajal (he/él) | Educator Focus

- This session will focus on the experiences of LGBTQ+ BIPOC students, social location and privilege, and will develop strategies for responding to common scenarios. This session will break down and help you examine your positionality and how understanding one's positionality is essential for creating and maintaining safer spaces for all.
- Room: 101A

Creating The Representation We Need Through Storytelling | Carey Rose O'Connell (she/her) | All

- Promoting healthy, positive representations of the BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities require they be part of the storytelling that dominates modern society. How do we become the voices in the film and media industry essential to creating representation? Carey Rose O'Connell, founder of the Albuquerque Film and Media Incubator, shares an inspiring, actionable perspective of building a career in the industry to advance perspectives and representation. In this one hour workshop you will learn the unique foundations and challenges of working in film and television, types of opportunities across skill sets, and tips for finding the self-empowerment necessary to thrive in your career.
- Room: 101B

In Case You're Queerious: Queer & Trans Sex Ed 101 | Yesi Llerenas Daniel (they/elle) & Jessica Pollard (she/her) | Youth Focus

- Do you feel like when sitting in sex ed class, that it doesn't apply to you? Do you ever feel left out of the conversation about safer sex? Well, you've come to the right place! At the Responsible Sex Education Institute (RSEI) we are here to answer all of your sexual health queer-ies! In this workshop we'll explore topics like birth control, STIs, healthy relationships and consent all with a queer and trans lens! We aim to create a safe space to learn about sexual health that is inclusive and medically accurate so that you can make the best, most informed decisions for yourself.
- Room: 103

Rolling (Dice) While Queer: The Restorative Potential of Tabletop Roleplaying Games | Maegan Carter (she/they) | All

- This workshop hopes to expose those curious about tabletop roleplaying games such as dungeons and dragons, call of cthulu, vampire the masquerade, etc. to the inclusive and restorative potential of a queer tabletop roleplaying environment. Roleplaying games offer people from all backgrounds an opportunity to explore not only their sexual and gender identity, but also other parts of themselves they may keep locked away. The tabletop roleplaying community can be an excellent place to cultivate boundary formation and identity.
- Room 102A

Chill Room | All

- Room: 111

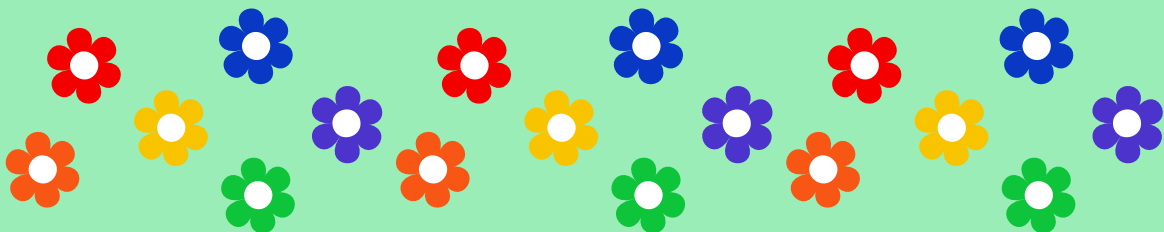


Online: Schedule

***Please take care of yourself, get up stretch, take bathroom breaks when needed, we are an open and positive space :)**

- **12:00 - 12:10 PM: Welcome 2023**
 - [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81401285819?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81401285819?pwd=ampCNldWemg0T0c0TXFxTm9LWFhuQT09)
[pwd=ampCNldWemg0T0c0TXFxTm9LWFhuQT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81401285819?pwd=ampCNldWemg0T0c0TXFxTm9LWFhuQT09)
 - Passcode: 422693
- **12:10-1:10 PM: Workshop Session AA**
 - See Workshop Schedule for Zoom Link
- **1:15-1:45 PM: Keynote**
 - [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84799574966?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84799574966?pwd=OVhFaIVBblcvR0JYME8zODYybldlQT09)
[pwd=OVhFaIVBblcvR0JYME8zODYybldlQT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84799574966?pwd=OVhFaIVBblcvR0JYME8zODYybldlQT09)
 - Passcode: 517877
- **1:55-2:55 PM: Workshop Session BB**
 - See Workshop Schedule for Zoom Link
- **3-3:30 PM: Closing - Queer Joy**
 - [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81130718170?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81130718170?pwd=Ni81RmxXVE5oRjd6R3JTOWsrZTVTd09)
[pwd=Ni81RmxXVE5oRjd6R3JTOWsrZTVTd09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81130718170?pwd=Ni81RmxXVE5oRjd6R3JTOWsrZTVTd09)
 - Passcode: 454129

***All times listed in MST**



Workshop Session AA

12:10 – 1:10 PM

Inclusive Curriculum: Making the Unseen, Seen | Colleen A. Schoenfeld (she/her)

- This workshop will cover resources, authors, works, research, and materials that can be incorporated into classroom curriculum that includes queer figures and topic areas.
- <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84091528371?pwd=Wi9SS2I2cEtoQ3BpWGhxKy9lOHdsUT09>
- Meeting ID: 840 9152 8371 | Passcode: 813070

SQUINCH Curriculum: Know Your Rights & Title IX Protections | Lyisa Jimenez (they/them)

- SQUINCH (Sharing Queer Understanding Inclusion, Nonviolent Communication, and Health) is a digital curriculum for Gender and Sexuality Alliances. It is designed by and for LGBTQ+ young people to learn about queer and trans identities, healthy relationships skills, and New Mexico resources for thriving. Each module has a video, facilitator guide, and an activity. www.healplusnm.org/SQUINCH. In this session, we will explore our two newest modules, "Know your Rights" and "Title IX: Protection from Gender Discrimination." We teamed up with New Mexico Legal Aid to share information about the rights of LGBTQ+ people and free legal services for victims of discrimination. Expect learning, games, and discussion in this workshop.
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86311116010?pwd=WTYxUDc5Z2tueXUzWkg3Y0c5Q2Zodz09>
- Meeting ID: 863 1111 6010 | Passcode: 975146

Workshop Session BB

1:55 – 2:55 PM

'Are You Ok?' - What Can Trans Voices Teach Us About Justice? | Jesse Freidin (he/him)

- Jesse Freidin's current series entitled 'Are You OK?' documents trans youth and their supportive families living in states facing dangerous anti-trans legislation. With portraits from more than half the states in America, this vast collection of personal accounts goes far beyond the simplicity of a traditional lecture on pronouns. On-screen images, audio interviews and moving personal narratives spark a thoughtful and emotional dialogue about trans rights, who is most at risk, and how we can become more effective allies. This presentation uses storytelling to uncover themes of strength, joy and survival and encourages the audience to reflect on their own commitment to social justice.
- <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85662754328?pwd=SFIOV2tUN1BUTC9McmNMV0wxZ2tYZz09>
- Meeting ID: 856 6275 4328 | Passcode: 522847

Queerness and Consent | Liana Sonne (welcoming any and all)

- Reflection(s) on the intersections of oppression, power and privilege regarding LGBTQIA2S+ communities. The possible work toward anti-oppression/community care. Understanding cycles of violence and ways to change. Norms and harms. Authenticity. Consent; its complexities and ways to inhabit and share.
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84700984224?pwd=Slk4QnVWwXcwQWxlWDZNa2grQTNDUT09>
- Meeting ID: 847 0098 4224 | Passcode: 408053



Keynote: Mikey Angelo



Mikey Angelo, aka Mr. Grande (@MrGrandeOfficial) is often referred to as the face of Gen Z by his 2.4 Million followers on TikTok. Mikey is a songwriter, rapper, singer, and long-time content creator currently living in Los Angeles California. His knowledge of memes and pop culture is seemingly endless and his witty raps have caught the attention of some big names including Doja Cat, Lizzo, The Kardashians and more!



Closing: Queer Joy

Denicia Cadena is a queer Chicana born and raised in the Mesilla Valley of New Mexico and now building her home and community in the South Valley of Albuquerque.

For many years, Denicia has led policy change, research, place-based community organizing, and culture shift by and for women and people of color in New Mexico. Denicia leads the design and implementation of change-making strategies and has deep experience working on issues of reproductive justice, racial justice, and queer liberation.

Denicia loves queer and trans people and creating openings for each of us to live in joy.



Presenter Bios

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Rev. Amani Malaika (she/hers) has been serving the 'spiritual but not religious' community for more than a decade at the Albuquerque Center for Spiritual Living. She is passionate about all people having access to spirituality and spiritual community. She is a member of the LGBTQIA community, a very proud mother of a trans kiddo, and a loudmouth ally to trans and nonbinary folks.

Arra Carbajal (she/her) has worked in the Early childhood profession for over 20 years in a variety of capacities including, teacher, home visitor, coordinator, and program director. Arra is currently the program director for the Native American Professional Parent Resources Inc. (NAPPR) Early Head Start Program. She is responsible for the oversight of the daily program operations, grant applications, budgeting and supervision. She holds a bachelor's degree in Native American Studies and Early Childhood Education and a master's degree in Early Childhood Education.

Camellia Termini (she/her/they) Visual artist, landscape photographer, and art educator based in Los Lunas, NM. Graduate of Maryland Institute College of Art with a MA in Teaching & BFA in Photography. Level III Licensed Art Educator. Recipient of 2020 Judy Chicago Art Education Award.

Carey Rose O'Connell (she/her) Gaining over 20 years of corporate management and communications experience, in 2017, Carey Rose left the box and created her New Mexico-based business, RoseBrand Consultation Services. She partners with content creators, non-profits, small businesses, independent brand owners, and entrepreneurs. In 2022 her passion for supporting the foundations of a sustainable film and media industry inspired her to focus a critical portion of her consultation work on independent, local content creators. The Albuquerque Film and Media Incubator is the space she developed to provide the missing components of systemic support to the community.

Colleen A. Schoenfeld (she/her) is the founder and Board President for the Center for Equity Education. She was previously a Senior Investigator at the University of Michigan, investigating Discrimination and Harassment concerns as well as Sexual Misconduct concerns. Prior to that she was a Civil Rights Investigator at Central Michigan University. Colleen began her career in the United States Army from 2003-2015 where in addition to flying Apaches, she also served as a Unit Victim Advocate and unit trainer. She is currently a 3rd year PhD student at the California Institute of Integral Studies; studying Human Sexuality.

Dakota Waterson (she/her) joined the ACLU of New Mexico as the Reproductive Rights Community Engagement Specialist in 2020. She focuses primarily on protecting and expanding access to reproductive rights for New Mexicans. Dakota also travels around New Mexico teaching students their protected rights while focusing on LGBTQIA+ rights. Dakota earned a Bachelor's degree from the University of New Mexico in Political Science and a minor in Anthropology in 2019. Dakota grew up in Taos, New Mexico, and has lived in Albuquerque since 2016. When she is not working, Dakota enjoys hiking with her family and dogs and exploring national parks.

Damon R. Carbajal (he/él) is a gay, queer Chicanx educator, scholar, and activist. He holds an MA in Chicanx Studies, graduate certificate in "Race" and Social Justice, a B.A. in Secondary Education, and a minor in Theatre from the University of New Mexico. He currently is the Managing Director for GLSEN New Mexico, sits on the New Mexico Educational Theatre Association Board, and is an instructor of Chicanx/ American Studies at Central New Mexico Community College. Mr. Carbajal's work focuses on the LGBTQIA+, Chicanx, and LGBTQIA+ Chicanx communities and aims at centering lost voices with a focus on equity and social justice. His teaching, leading, and advocacy centers intersectionality as a form of resistance to combat oppressive systems and to empower students, educators, and community members because they deserve to have their voices not only heard but centered. ¡Sí Se Puede!

Havens Levitt (she/her) is a proud, old, lesbian-feminist, a life-long resident of New Mexico, and retired math teacher. She had 12 years with APS as a student (Eubank, Grant, Sandia) and 29 years as a teacher. She has been at the forefront of social justice efforts for our community for over 40 years, is a founder of the GLSEN New Mexico Chapter, and one of its current co-chairs.



Presenter Bios

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Hendrix/Henny Olson (they/ them) is a Program Coordinator for the NM GSA Network at the Mountain Center. They moved to Ogap'oge Owingeh (Santa Fe, NM) in 2015 to attend the Institute of American Indian Arts, where they graduated in 2019 with a Bachelors of Fine Arts. Henny first got involved with the New Mexico GSA Network in 2016 as a Youth Council volunteer and has since joined NMGSAN staff as a program coordinator. They are also on the advisory council for the national GSA Network's Two-Spirit Initiative, working with other Indigenous LGBTQIA2s+ folks to create resources and opportunities for Native QT2s+ youth.

Jesse Freidin (he/him) is an award-winning queer/trans photographer + author. For 15 years he was America's leading fine art dog photographer, and now focuses his attention on elevating the experience of trans community through portraiture + interviews. His current series "Are You OK?" addresses the dangers of the current wave of anti-trans legislation in a passionate attempt to erase stigma + uncover voices of those most affected. Jesse's work is in over 150 private collections. He's featured in NYT, Insider, Huff Post, NPR + more. He is the author of two books: Finding Shelter: Portraits of Love, Healing + Survival + When Dogs Heal: Powerful Stories of People Living with HIV + Dogs That Saved Them.

Jessica Pollard (she/her) joined the Responsible Sex Education Institute of Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains in October, 2022. She teaches in classrooms about concepts like gender & sexuality and risk reduction in her role as an Education Program Specialist. Jessica previously worked as a full-time journalist covering many topics, primarily education, in New Mexico and in her home state of Oregon. She still writes and edits today on a freelance basis.

Lena Weber-Salazar (she/her) joined the ACLU of New Mexico in August 2022 as a Reproductive Rights Policy Advocate, joining the fight for reproductive justice in her home state. With a background in student organizing and queer activism, over the years Lena has collaborated with groups working on issues including migrant justice, reproductive justice, suicide prevention, LGBT2SQ+ issues and environmental justice. Lena has a B.A. from McGill University in Montreal, Canada, a MSc. from Lund University in Sweden, and a PhD from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Lena currently lives in Albuquerque with her wife, Mykel, dog, Storm, and their goats.

Liana Sonne (welcoming any and all) Liana, welcoming any and all p.nouns, white, gnc, queer, survivor, poor, raised mostly unsupervised by various non blood family, departed "home" in early adolescence and proceeded to be a nomad/organizer in 20 some odd regions and a number more spaces, not a graduate of anything academic, 18 years work in farming and food systems, facilitating and organizing in enviro and social justice capacities, 10 years in anti-oppression work and real pleased with all things physical...celebrating body nonconformity, gender fabulous ness, transformative justice and ways to kinect.

Lyisa Jimenez (she/they) Hello! My name is Lyisa Jimenez (They/She), and I am a recent graduate from Highlands University where I received my bachelor's degree in social work. Currently, I am working at HEAL Plus NM, which is a community nonprofit organization focused on achieving health equity and promoting the well-being of LGBTQIA2S+ people all across New Mexico. My passion for helping others and advocating for social justice has led me to where I am today, and I am very excited for the chance to meet with and learn from the wonderful community of individuals who attend this summit!

Maegan Carter (she/they) I am currently a clinical mental health counseling student at New Mexico Highlands University with the intention of gaining AASECT certification in sex therapy to work with marginalized clients such as the LGBTQIA+ community, the elderly community, the disabled community, etc. I have an interest in the therapeutic potential of tabletop roleplaying games.



Presenter Bios

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Michelle Pérez-Fuentes (they/them), born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico, is an alumnus of Working Classroom. Through Working Classroom programming, Michelle was introduced to the social justice issues in Albuquerque, and they quickly got involved with their communities. Michelle is an interdisciplinary artist, but they work primarily with printmaking, as well as digital drawing and digital painting, with a large focus on character creation and storytelling. The most recent project Michelle has worked on was leading a mural at Quirky Books, leading student apprentices during the summer

Pat Arreguin (they/them), a Dallas, TX native, is the 3rd of 4 children to their parents. They earned their bachelor's degree in Converged Broadcast Media with a minor in Marketing at the University of North Texas. Pat is a founder and producer of De Colores Collective. Their love of music has kept them actively working managing Dallas based artist Pretty Boy Aaron, while simultaneously helping their community as a cultural worker previously within library work. They currently reside in New Mexico and when Pat's not working with De Colores Co. or tending to their plants, you could find them attending shows, visiting the latest gallery exhibitions, or hiking with friends.

Shane Baron-Deutsch (they/them) is a non-binary artist, event organizer, and activist born and raised in so-called Albuquerque, NM, on unceded Tiwa territories. They are a GSA Network Program Coordinator for The Mountain Center. They have led youth-centered, social justice themed, adventure-based experiential learning trips in Peru, Bolivia, and Guatemala through Canadian non-profit Operation Groundswell. They facilitate a monthly trans and non-binary climbing group in Albuquerque, the Trans Senders, and are the author and editor of the weekly LGBTQIA2s+ e-newsletter The Gay Agenda Weekly. They are currently pursuing their MSW and MBA degrees at New Mexico Highlands University.

Shelby McDaniel (they/them) In every intention and action, they hope to inspire each young person to develop their own sense of voice, choice, empowerment, and peer support. Through meaningful rapport, they hope to foster and create resilience in each individual with whom they collaborate. Over many years, they've developed a unique combination of lived experience and professional experience working with young people. For four years, they've held a Certified Peer Support Worker certification. Shelby is a parent to their three cats and one dog. They are on a journey to complete their undergraduate degree program. Moving towards the future, they plan to pursue a dual master's degree in public health and social work.

Tam Saimons, MSN, FNP-BC (they/them) is a nurse practitioner who has practiced gender affirming and HIV primary care in Albuquerque at Southwest Care Center since 2015. They identify as queer/non-binary.

Victor Romero-Hernandez (he/him) was born in the capital city of Chihuahua, Mexico. Victor and his family moved to the US when he was only two years old. Upon arriving in the States, Victor and his family faced the same uncertainty that 11 million people in the US face as undocumented immigrants. His experiences as a formerly undocumented, queer person have really shaped his values. In addition to his role at EQNM, Victor is also a Human Rights Fellow for the United Nations. Victor is attending UNM, pursuing a degree in political science. Alongside his passion for fighting for justice, he holds a strong passion for dance. Victor has worked with incredible artists and has attended prestigious programs around the country. From dance, he has learned valuable lessons that he brings into all aspects of his life: to work hard, strive for excellence, and to believe in one's self.

Yesi Llerenas Daniel (they/elle) has been an educator with Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains in Santa Fe, New Mexico for more than 5 years. As an Education Program Manager for the Responsible Sex Education Institute (RSEI), Yesi manages and delivers bilingual comprehensive sex education programming to participants of all ages. Yesi brings over 10 years of professional experience working with social justice advocacy, education, and community-based programs. A self-identified queer trans masculine nonbinary Latine person of color, Yesi holds a B.A. in Gender and Sexuality Studies from New Mexico State University (NMSU) and a graduate certificate in Borderlands & Ethnic Studies also from NMSU.

