Niagara University’s Black Student Union presents:

DEFINING AND CONNECTING THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, ACADEMICS, AND COMMUNITY

Download a pdf copy of this program at www.niagara.edu/conference
FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016

1:00-2:00 p.m. – REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS, St. Vincent’s Hall, 4th Floor Atrium

1:00-4:45 p.m. – EXHIBITS, St. Vincent’s Hall, 4th Floor Atrium

2:00-2:30 p.m. – NIAGARA UNIVERSITY WELCOME, St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407
   - Father James J. Maher, C.M., President of Niagara University
   - Gabrielle Jackson & Ferrah Staley, NU Class of 2018, NU Black Student Union

2:35-4:00 p.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 1-A to 1-D, St. Vincent’s Hall

4:05 p.m. – REFRESHMENTS, St. Vincent’s Hall, 4th Floor Atrium

4:20-5:45 p.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 2-A to 2-D, St. Vincent’s Hall

6:00-8:30 p.m. – DINNER & CONFERENCE ADDRESSES, Castellani Art Museum
   - Honorable Hugh B. Scott, United States Magistrate Judge, NU Class of 1971, Trustee of the
     Board of Niagara University, Black Student Union Founding Member and Vice President
   - Dr. Bryan E. Walls, C.M. O. Ont. DDS. Founder and Owner of Historic Site and Underground
     Railroad Museum in Ontario, Canada

9:00-11:00 p.m. – STUDENT MEET & GREET, Lower Level Gallagher

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016

7:30-8:30 a.m. – BREAKFAST—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 405/406

8:30-9:30 a.m. – MODERATED DISCUSSION: “Black Revolution on Campus, — St. Vincent’s Hall 407

9:35-11:00 a.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 3-A to 3-D, St. Vincent’s Hall

11:00 a.m. – COFFEE AND BEVERAGES, St. Vincent’s Hall, 4th Floor Atrium

11:05 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 4-A to 4-D, St. Vincent’s Hall

12:45-1:45 p.m. – LUNCHEON, Castellani Art Museum
   - 1:15-1:45 p.m. – African American Cultural Center’s Dance & Drum Performance Company
   - 1:45-2:15 p.m. – Dr. Blanca Vega, Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Institute for Urban & Minority Education at Teachers College, Columbia University

2:15-5:00 p.m. – EXHIBITS, St. Vincent’s Hall, 4th Floor Atrium

2:30-4:00 p.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 5-A THROUGH 5-B

4:05-4:45 p.m. – “Summary & Next Steps: Town Hall Meeting” — St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407
Please use the #NUJustice hashtag when posting on social media, to connect with other attendees, and to follow conference happenings on social media. Additional accounts to follow include:

Hashtag: #NUJustice

Niagara University Black Student Union
Niagara University Presents: Fostering Racial & Social Justice Conference

@NiagaraBSU
@BSUconference

Friday: 1:00-2:00 p.m.

1:00-2:00 p.m. – REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS
—St. Vincent’s Hall, 4th Floor Atrium

1:00-4:45 p.m. – EXHIBITS
—St. Vincent’s Hall, 4th Floor Atrium

Exhibitors:
- College Simulation Experience, Buffalo
- Burning Books, Buffalo
- Heart, Love & Soul, Niagara Falls
- National Federation for Just Communities of Western New York, Buffalo
- Levesque Institute for Civic Engagement
- Student Association, University at Buffalo
- PUSH Buffalo
- Slow Roll Buffalo
- Western New York Peace Center

Niagara University social justice student organizations:
- Black Student Union
- Human Rights Initiative
- Feminism Today
- NU Alliance
2:00-2:30 p.m. – NIAGARA UNIVERSITY WELCOME
—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407
• Father James J. Maher, C.M., President of Niagara University
• Gabrielle Jackson & Ferrah Staley, NU Class of 2018, Black Student Union, Niagara University

2:35 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 1-A to 1-D

1-A: “Student-Community Partnership: A Discussion to Take Us to the Next Level” —St. Vincent’s Hall Room 315
• Dr. Amelia Gallagher, John Spanbauer, Lisa Williams, and Joanne Lorenzo, Department of Religious Studies, Niagara University

1-B: Aggregate and Individualized Effects of Systemic Racism
—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 301
• “Institutional vs. Personal Racism and Oppression”
Chelsea Anderson, Andrew Benson, Lilton Kelly, Isaiah Thomas, and Tavion Williams, Sociology of Higher Education students, Niagara University
• Moderator: Dr. John Sauter, Assistant Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Niagara University
• “Civil Rights, Human Rights, Trauma and Restorative Justice”
Vicki Ross, QCSW, LMSW, MALD, Executive Director of the WNY Peace Center

1-C: “Workshop – Cultural Pursuit”
—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407
• Panelists: Alecia Lutrario, Gina Notaro, Emma Fermier, Elle Tymorek, Angela Kendt, Stephanie Rosso, and Christine Burke, Honors program students, Niagara University
• Moderator: Dr. Carrie Teresa, Communication Studies, Niagara University
Friday 4:20-5:40 p.m.

4:05 p.m. – REFRESHMENTS, *St. Vincent’s Hall 4th Floor Atrium*

4:20 p.m. – 5:40 p.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 2-A to 2-D

2-A: “Student Panels for Fostering Social & Racial Justice: Part 1”
—*St. Vincent’s Hall Room 306*

- “Dissecting White Privilege for the American Consumer” - Michael Gaut, Department of English, Niagara University Alumni
- “Diversity: A Student’s Perspective” - Jamie Lanier, Research Assistant & Ph.D. candidate in Leadership and Policy, College of Education, Niagara University
- “Seeing is Believing: Media-driven Divisions” - Kalif Crutcher, SUNY Fredonia

2-B: “College Experiences: Unpacking Privilege, Gender, Identity, & Intersectionality”—*St. Vincent’s Hall Room 315*

- Patricia Burdick, Dominic Hannon, Maegan Jones, Carlee McIntosh, Ferrah Staley, and Tiara Summers, Sociology of Higher Education Students, Niagara University
- Moderator: Dr. John Sauter, Assistant Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Niagara University

2-C: “Reclaiming Our Ancestors: A University at Buffalo Gender Institution Initiative of Systems of Oppression”
—*St. Vincent’s Hall Room 405/406*

- Dr. Kari Winter, Department of Transnational Studies, University at Buffalo

2-D: “Film and Workshop – Do Black Lives Matter on Campus?”—*St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407*

- Aisha Abdelmula, Graduate Assistant, Intercultural and Diversity Center, University at Buffalo
Friday 6:00-11:00 p.m.

6:00-8:30 p.m. – DINNER & CONFERENCE ADDRESSES
— Castellani Art Museum
  • Honorable Hugh B. Scott, United States Magistrate Judge, NU Class of 1971, Trustee of the Board of Niagara University, Black Student Union Founding Member and Vice President
  • Dr. Bryan E. Walls, C.M. O. Ont. DDS. Founder and Owner of Historic Site and Underground Railroad Museum in Ontario, Canada

9:00-11:00 p.m. – STUDENT MEET & GREET
— Lower Level Gallagher
Master of Ceremonies: Nataisia Johnson
  • Musical Performance by Bentleé Gavin Wright with special guest Will Holton, featuring Tifani, G.C, Steven McCaster
  • Spoken Word Poetry from Gabrielle Jackson, Tia Robinson and Ferrah Staley, NU Class of 2018, BSU representatives; Sarah Volmy, NU Class of 2017; and Michael Gaut, Department of English, Niagara University Alumni

Saturday 7:30-9:30 a.m.

7:30-8:30 a.m. – BREAKFAST
— St. Vincent’s Hall Room 405/406

8:30-9:30 a.m. – MODERATED DISCUSSION:
  “Black Revolution on Campus: Niagara University in the 1960s and Today—What are the Broader Lessons for Community and Campuses?” — St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407
  • Nataisia Johnson, Eric Rigg, Tia Robinson, and Simone McKinson Becker, NU Black Student Union representatives;
  • Dr. David Reilly, Department of Political Science & Moderator, NU Black Student Union;
  • Bill Bradberry, Founding Member and Original President of NU Black Student Union (1969)
9:35-11:00 a.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 3-A to 3-D

3-A: “Unique Perspectives on Race: Transracial Adoption, Multiracial Identity, & College Experiences”
—St. Vincent’s Hall 315
- Dr. John Sauter, Assistant Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Niagara University
- Zachary Fried, Adoption Star
- Nadège Petrie, Baker Victory Services, Niagara University Alumni
- Suheiri Rodriguez, Diversity Advocate, Niagara University
- Stephanie Vargas, Department of Political Science student, Niagara University

3-B: “Black Beauty: Women of Color in the Media”
—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 301
- Kristina Bourret, Kristen Cavelleri, Mary Martin, Emily Parisi, Ferrah Staley, & Sarah Volmy, Honors program students, Niagara University
- Moderator: Dr. Carrie Teresa, Communication Studies, Niagara University

3-C: “Student Workshop: Organizing, Framing, & Communicating for Change” —St. Vincent’s Hall Room 306
- Moderator: Michael Nicolás Okińczyc, Executive Director of Gamaliel of Western New York (Niagara Organizing Alliance for Hope & VOICE-Buffalo)

3-D: “My Experiences Teaching Race & Ethnicity as a White Professor at a Predominantly White University”
—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407
- Dr. Todd Schoepflin, Department of Sociology, Dr. Michael Durfee, Department of History, Dr. Shannon Risk, Department of History, Dr. Hope Russell, Women’s Studies, Niagara University

11:00 a.m. – COFFEE & BEVERAGES
—St. Vincent’s Hall, 4th Floor Atrium
11:05 a.m.–12:30 p.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 4-A to 4-E

4-A: “Student Panels for Fostering Social & Racial Justice: Part 2”
—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 315
- “The Afro-Latino Movement in Latin America and the Black Lives Matter Movement in the United States” - Stephanie Vargas, Department of Political Science student, Niagara University
- “The Sociological Roots of Federal Marijuana Prohibition” - Marc Notaro, Department of History student, Niagara University
- Moderator: Dr. Chris Lee, Political Science, Niagara University

4-B: “Systems, Stereotypes, and Safe Spaces”
—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 301
- “Reducing Racial Microaggressions to Foster Safer Spaces” - Berg K. Miller, School of Social Work, University at Buffalo
- “Abolitionism and the Prison System” - Brandon Absher, Department of Philosophy, D’Youville College and Lou Dejesus, Save the Kids
- “Examining White Privilege” - Robynn Murray, Criminal Justice student, Niagara University,
- Moderator: Dr. Hope Russell, Women’s Studies, Niagara University

4-C: “Social Media for Social Justice: A Primer in Best Practices for Protest Movements” —St. Vincent’s Hall Room 306
Dr. Doug Tewksbury, Communication Studies, Niagara University

4-D: “Connecting Students to the Community through Project-Based Learning” —St. Vincent’s Hall Room 405/406
- Mitchell Alegre, Department of Management, Amber Thiel, College of Business student, and Dr. David Taylor, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice and the Levesque Institute, Niagara University

4-E: “Disability Civil Rights Workshop”
—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407
- Dave Whalen and Dr. Janine Hunt-Jackson, Disability Awareness Training Program, Niagara University
Saturday 12:45-4:45 p.m.

12:45-1:45 p.m. – LUNCHEON
—Castellani Art Museum

1:15-1:45 p.m. – Performance by the African American Cultural Center’s Dance & Drum Performance Company

1:45-2:15 p.m. – “You Are Not Crazy: How Understanding Campus Racial Conflict Can Empower You & Your Community”
• Dr. Blanca Vega, Ed.D Researcher Affiliate, Institute of Urban and Minority Education (IUME), Columbia University

2:15-5:00 p.m. – EXHIBITS
—St. Vincent’s Hall, 4th Floor Atrium

2:30-4:00 p.m. – PANEL PRESENTATIONS 5-A to 5-B

—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 405/406
• Dr. Ernesto Silva, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies/Foreign Languages, Dr. Seneca Vaught, Department of History and Philosophy, Kennesaw State University

5-B: “Workshop—Racial Injustice, Student Empowerment, & Conflict Resolution”—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407
• Dr. Mark Montgomery, Coordinator for Academic Success Initiatives, Alfred State University

5-C: “Justice for Animals: Student-led Vegan Activism at Canisius College”—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 306
• Adam Fix, faculty advisor and Rachel Pawelski, club president, Canisius College Veg Club

4:05-4:45 p.m. – “Summary & Next Steps: Town Hall Meeting”—St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407
Conference Planning Committee

Nataisia Johnson, Gabrielle Jackson, Ferrah Staley, Shawn Robinson,
Stephanie Vargas, Black Student Union

Dr. David Reilly, Political Science Department, Moderator Black Student Union
Dr. Chris Lee, Political Science Department
Dr. Hope Russell, Women’s Studies Program
Dr. Carrie Teresa, Department of Communication Studies
Dr. Doug Tewksbury, Department of Communication Studies
Dr. Shannon Risk, Department of History
Dr. Michael Durfee, Department of History
Dr. James McCutcheon, Department of Modern & Classical Languages
Dr. Todd Schoepflin, Department of Sociology
Dr. Abigail Levin, Department of Philosophy
Dr. John Sauter, College of Arts & Sciences

Thank You

This conference is an initiative and a labor of love by the Niagara University
Black Student Union with the help of our campus and local Niagara Falls and
Buffalo communities. We would like to extend special thanks to the following organizations
and departments:

• YWCA of the Niagara Frontier
• The Book Corner
• Niagara University Graduate Education
• Public Relations Student Society of Niagara (PRSSN)
• Levesque Institute
• Metz Catering
• Document Center
• Michael Jeswald
• Mike Freedman
• Dean’s Office, College of Arts and Sciences
• Office of Multicultural Affairs
• Niagara University Administration
• Honorable Hugh B. Scott
• Dr. Bryan E. Walls, C.M. O. Ont. DDS.
• Dr. Martha Biondi—thank you for your inspiration!
Campus Map

Conference Locations
- St. Vincent’s Hall
- Castellani Art Museum
- Gallagher Center
- Recommended Parking Lots

Niagara University
Education That Makes a Difference

1. Gooch Family Alumni and Admissions Center
   Admission/Transfer Engagement / Institutional Advancement
2. Lynch Hall
3. O’Donoghue Hall
4. St. Vincent’s Annex
5. St. Vincent’s Hall
6. Alumni Hall
7. Human Resources / Provost / Human Resources
8. O’Halloran Theater
9. Our Lady of Angels Library
10. Science Building
11. Gallagher Center
12. S. Thomas Galligan Center
   for Integrated Sciences
13. Academic Cafeteria / Dining Hall
14. Women’s Housing, West / West
   Residential Center
15. Butler Building
   Office of Student Affairs
   and Enrollment Services
16. University Bookstore
17. Village Shops
18. Village Cafe
19. Times Hall
20. O’Shea Hall
21. Dwyer Hall
22. Castellani Art Museum
23. Other Hall
24. Gannon Center
25. Physical Plant
26. Floyd Hall
27. Campus Safety Information
28. Deverney Arena
29. Student Apartments
30. Robert Moss Park
31. Residence Halls
32. Tennis Building

Visitors must obtain a parking pass at Campus Safety — Blg. 27
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