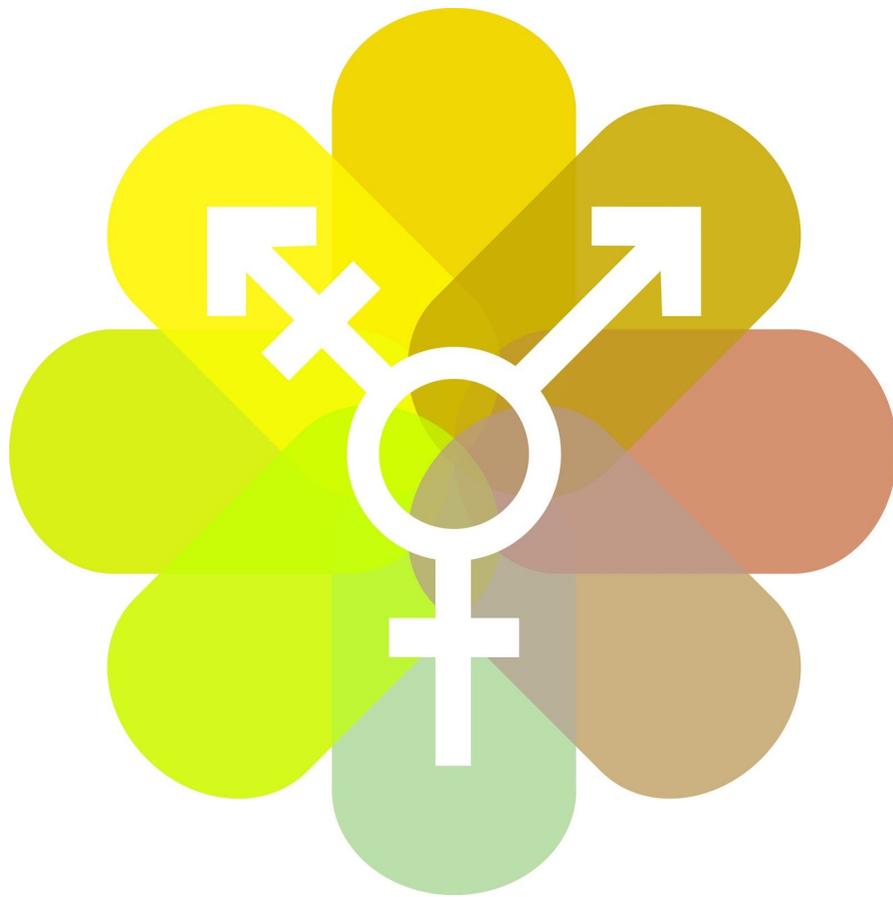


**trans
futurity
symposium**



11.19.16

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about

The Trans Futurity Symposium aims to be a space for community organizing, personal growth, and education. In the face of a dominant narrative that trans people's lives will be short and brutal, we want to imagine trans futures as full of vitality and love, and as infinitely varied as trans people. We want to promote the voices of our more marginalized trans siblings: black, brown, transfeminine, disabled, poor, undocumented, and incarcerated. Within our space of growth and education, we want to foster organizing and connecting, especially when trans people and communities are presently so isolated. In re-understanding ourselves within a future, we simultaneously aim to preserve community history, to better understand collective trauma, reopen and maintain lines of dialogue with our histories, nurture intergenerational conversations, closed spaces, and various community resources.

In Solidarity,

The Trans Symposium Organizing Team

contact us

web

hampshire.edu/qcac/trans-symposium

facebook

facebook.com/trans.symposium

twitter

[@transsymposium](https://twitter.com/transsymposium)

email

transsymposium@gmail.com

navigating campus

The conference takes place primarily in Franklin Patterson Hall (FPH). Most of the workshops are on the first floor in classrooms 101108. There are a few special events in the Main Lecture Hall on the ground floor and some in the East and West Lecture Halls and Faculty Lounge on the 2 nd floor. Maps are available at the registration table and volunteers will be happy to help with directions. The only conference events outside of Franklin Patterson Hall are:

- the Queer Yoga & Queer Self Defense workshops are held in the Merrill Living Room, which is located across from the main doors of Franklin Patterson Hall. Through the first door, the living room is the first door on your left.

- the Ace Caucus, held in the Dakin Living Room, which is located across from the Merrill Living Room

- the 80s Prom Dance Party is in the Robert Crown Center which is located next to the library—go out the front doors of Franklin Patterson Hall and take a right.

Places to eat on campus: The Bridge café is located in the top floor of the Robert Crown Center. The dining commons are in the Merrill quad—go out the front doors of Franklin Patterson Hall and take a left.

Parking is designated with event signs. Be sure to park in marked spaces. The bus stop is behind the library. PVTA Bus 38 and 39 run from Hampshire to the towns of Amherst and Northampton respectively.

community norms

This conference aims to create a safer space for trans individuals and for them to build community, find each other and exchange knowledge that is vital to their needs. To facilitate understanding and build a broader community everyone is welcome to attend. However, given the purpose of this conference we ask that attendees make sure they prioritize the voices of trans individuals; especially by being careful about pronoun usage and that non-trans attendees participate in the spirit of learning and growing. As a community space, we ask that everyone regardless of identity interact with each other in the spirit of compassion. As a guiding principle: be kind to one another. This includes taking the effort to make the space accessible by not congregating in the hallway and being mindful of firecode to provide access for those with mobility impairments. Disagreement and heated emotions are inevitable, but we ask that interactions, especially at panels, remain cordial. Be understanding that a panelist may choose not to answer your questions and be mindful of the space that you occupy. This requires avoiding inflammatory questions and keeping questions relevant to the panel at hand and addressing opinions from a space of good faith.

Overall, we are aiming to provide accountable and accessible spaces necessary for everyone to be able to participate in the event. If you have questions or concerns, please bring them to the conference organizers (who will be wearing Trans Symposium patches). If you have less immediate concerns or feedback, let us know on the feedback forms or via email. We ask that all participants be respectful while acknowledging and honoring the differences we all bring in our identities and politics without marginalizing or tokenizing each other. We encourage participants to speak from their own experiences and to honor other's experiences. Anyone who does not abide by the community norms or acts in a disrespectful way may be asked to leave the conference.

accessibility

The Trans Futurity Symposium does its best to provide an accessible space to all attendees which is curtailed by the budgetary constraints faced by a free conference. We ask that all attendees are mindful and respectful of the accessibility needs of others and would like to provide a few guidelines.

- Please be mindful of mobility needs of others and avoid blocking access to individuals who use mobility devices by refraining from clustering in the center of hallways, doorways, stairs, and elevators. If you are interested in engaging in a sit down conversation with others, please use the Clothing Swap space or other spaces.
- Flashing lights can trigger seizures or other symptoms, we ask that you avoid wearing/carrying decorative flashing lights and refrain from taking flash photography.
- Please minimize your use of scented materials, at a bare minimum refrain from applying perfume or scented spray deodorants inside the conference.
- The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVRTA), our local public transportation system, has several area buses that are free to the public. Conference organizers are happy to help you read maps and schedules.
- Please help us to diminish access barriers at the conference and continue to work and build with us so that the conference is more accessible to more people each year. If you have feedback, questions, suggestions, or want to volunteer or help organize around access, please email transsymposium@hampshire.edu As a conference we are committed to providing an accessible space. On our end this includes: using a space (FPH) that is mostly wheelchair accessible and doing our best to make parking accessibility work for attendees. Space will be reserved in all conference events for individuals with accessibility concerns. For ease of access here is an elevator guide.

Elevator guide:

Level 2 Faculty lounge, East Lecture Hall, West Lecture Hall, water fountains, single stall bathrooms (not accessible) Level 1 Rooms 101 through 108, water fountain, side entrance (not accessible)

Level “L” Lobby, checkin desk, main entrance (accessible), vending machine, multistall bathrooms (not accessible)

Level “G” Main Lecture Hall, Singlestall accessible bathroom, side exit to parking lot (accessible)

Level “B” Maintenance tunnels.

- *All lecture halls in Franklin Patterson Hall (Main, East, and West) have stairs, but are accessible by the ground level.*

self care

Take care of yourself! Taking care of your physical and emotional needs will help make the conference a safer and more enjoyable experience for you. We can help you stay healthy and safe to certain extents: We have several locations to fill water bottles, quiet spaces for you to rest in and/or connect with others. Please try to be proactive in taking care of yourself, and feel free to ask for help if you need it. Content in some of the workshops may be triggering, so please check workshop descriptions before attending. Peer Chaplains, confidential resources, will be available during the conference to talk to anyone who may need additional support. The Peer Chaplains will be wearing identifiable hoodies with "Peer Chaplain" written on them. They are on call at 413-313-6500. Conference organizers are also great resources if you need to check in with someone.

qtpoc closed spaces

QTPOC (Queer and/or Trans People of Color) closed spaces are a safe space for black and brown people who identify as LGBTQ+. QTPOC closed spaces are for students to share their experiences, discuss how their racial/ethnic and LGBTQ+ identities influence each other, and connect with other students who are navigating multiple communities and what that can mean in terms of feeling welcome, accepted, and included. All QTPOC identified sections are for the QTPOC community only: you must identify as POC and within the LGBTQ+ spectrum to participate.

trans closed spaces

We have designated closed spaces for folks who identify as trans, including but not limited to non-cis identities such as genderfluid, genderqueer, nonbinary, etc. These spaces will be labeled! Please

respect the spaces, and do not enter them if you do not identify as trans. Thanks.

media policies

- We ask that all participants who are not comfortable having their photographs published attach a red sticker on their nametags. Stickers are available at the registration table. Please wear your nametag visibly for this reason.
- We will take many photos, but will only share those in which participants have given consent. Whenever possible, we let participants know if their images will be used in external publications (for instance Hampshire College's webpage).
- We ask that attendees show the same level of concern for the privacy of others when taking photographs.
- Please remember that photos can be a great memento but can also out someone.

workshop schedule

11:00--11:45am Checkin & Registration (Lobby, L on elevator)
(Open all day)

12:00--1:00pm **Keynote Speaker Ruby Corado (FPH, MLH)**

1:10--1:30pm Lunch **(FPH, 2nd Floor Lobby)**

1:40--2:40 Workshop Session 1

- Trans Parenthood Panel (FPH, ELH)
- GALLERY Western Mass QTPOC Perspectives on Community Accountability and Transformative Justice: A Mixed-Media Presentation (FPH, 107) *Open to all during this session.*
- When A 45 Year Old Is An Elder: Celebrating Middle Age in the Trans and GNC Communities (FPH, 102)
- Yoga and Mindfulness as Tools for Trans Communities (Merrill Living Room) *Closed Trans Space*
- Trans* Stories Rising: Connection, Resilience, Liberation (FPH, 105)
- Surgery Feels (FPH, 106)
- Binding and Packing By Gaines Parker (FPH, 101)
- Clothing Swap (FPH, 108)
- Trans Chill Space (FPH, 2nd Floor Faculty Lounge)
Closed Trans Space

2:50-3:50pm Workshop Session 2

- Trans & Navigating the Workforce Panel (FPH, WLH)
- We've Come a Long Way, Baby! (FPH,101)
- Know Thyself: Creating Visual & Written Representations of Attraction (FPH, 102)

- How to Be Extremely Rare: On Medical and Self-Advocacy + Being Trans, Disabled, & Chronically Ill with Rare Disease (FPH, 103)
- Fertility and Family: Making Sexy the Methodological (FPH, 105)
- Western Mass QTPOC Perspectives on Community Accountability and Transformative Justice: A Mixed-Media Presentation (FPH, 107) *QTPOC Closed Space*
- Clothing Swap (FPH, 108)
- Trans Chill Space (FPH, 2nd Floor Faculty Lounge)
Closed Trans Space

4:00--5:00pm Workshop Session 3

- Trans Health Professionals on Trans Healthcare Panel (FPH, ELH)
- Using Theatre to Dismantle Internalized Oppressions (FPH,WLH)
- Go Forth and Shame No More (FPH, 101)
- Empowering Self-Care for Trans* Folks (FPH, 102)
- Queering The Outdoors (FPH, 103)
- Document Change Skillshare for Trans People (FPH, 104)
- Time Travel and Shapeshifting Beyond the Binary: Genderqueer (FPH, 105)
- Trans Femmes in Electronic Music (FPH, 106)
- Drag Time: Make up and Queer Liberation (FPH, 107)
- Clothing Swap (FPH, 108)
- Trans Chill Space (FPH, 2nd Floor Faculty Lounge)
Closed Trans Space

5:30--6:30pm **Plenary Speaker Precious Davis (FPH, MLH)**

6:30pm Cake and Raffle

keynote speaker

Ruby Corado

12:00 --1:00pm in the Main Lecture Hall, FPH (Ground Floor)



Ruby Corado born in San Salvador, El Salvador, is an activist who founded Casa Ruby, the only bilingual, multicultural LGBT organization in Washington, D.C. Casa Ruby opened in 2012; it identifies its mission as "to create success life stories among Transgender, Gender Queer, and Gender Non-Conforming Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people.

She is a self made tireless advocate and leader for social justice, her hard work has help gain legal protections in Washington, DC. She has fought for LGBT Human Rights, Transgender Liberation, Immigration Equality, Access to Health Care, Hate Crimes/violence and many other disparities and issues facing the communities that she represents.

Ruby's work has been featured by News Week Magazine 2003, Washington Post, 2003-2014, The Washington Blade, 2003-2014, Metro Weekly Magazine 2007-2014, Washington City Paper 2010/13, Washington Times, 2012, The advocate Magazine 2012, NBC Latino, 2013 and by News Channel 4, 5, 7, 9, Univision DC, CBS Radio, Pacifica Radio, National Public Radio among other media channels.

plenary speaker

Precious Davis

5:30--6:30pm Main Lecture Hall, FPH (Ground Floor)

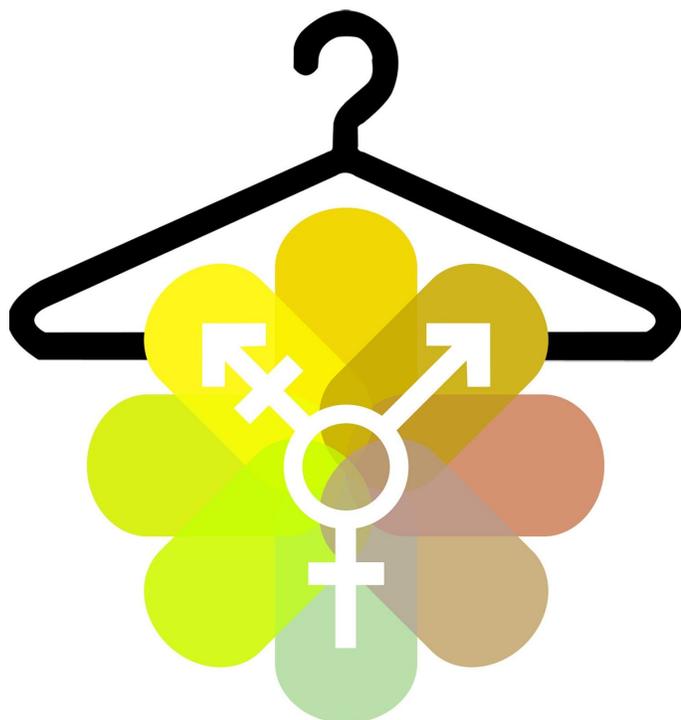
Precious Davis is lauded nationally as an award winning diversity professional, social justice facilitator, and educator. She currently is the Assistant Director of Diversity Recruitment Initiatives at Columbia College Chicago , her alma mater from which she received a BA in Liberal Arts. Precious currently implements and oversees the Campus Wide Diversity Initiative and is the first woman of color to hold this position.



Davis finds deep meaning in engaging individuals in conversations surrounding bias, bigotry, and prejudice in their communities on the basis and belief that humans can coexist with one another positively through the embracing of each other's differences and the celebrating of each others human diversity. She recently was awarded the prestigious "30 under 30" award from The Windy City Times and included in the 2014 Trans 100 list.

clothing swap

FPH room 108 will be dedicated to the Clothing Swap all day on both days. Conceived of and facilitated by Nihils Rev. This clothing swap is primarily intended to benefit folx with marginalized gender identities. This means, anyone is welcome to BRING clothes, but we want to prioritize trans and nonbinary folx being able to TAKE clothes. In general, cis folx have way more access to clothing and so it is our goal at this conference to DISRUPT that and offer a resource to people who need it most. Please bring all kinds & sizes of clothing/accessories to trade or donate! Make



sure everything has been freshly washed and dried for sanitary reasons. (No underwear please, bras ok.) Don't bring anything that has been in a house with bed bugs or clothing moths. No to low scent is ideal. If you do not have scent-free laundry detergent please wash and dry a few days prior to minimize the smell. We will try to have clothes organized by size as best as possible, so please be prepared to hang things up or fold and organize clothes that you bring.

You do not need to bring clothes to take clothes!

Any clothes leftover at the end of the day will go to the GRN closet or be donated locally.

trans chill space

If you need to take a break from the bustle of the conference, the Faculty Lounge on the 2nd floor of FPH will be a dedicated quiet **closed trans space** throughout the conference.

raffle & cake

The closing raffle will take place in the Lobby of Franklin Patterson Hall (L on the elevator) at 6:30pm. By submitting your Trans Symposium feedback form, you will be automatically entered. Hand your feedback form to an organizer in the lobby at the end of the day in exchange for a raffle ticket. All winners will be randomly chosen from the pool of tickets. If you are not present, your prize will be forfeited and another winner will be chosen. Prizes include: a copy of *Trans Bodies Trans Selves*, and various Hampshire College swag! And there will be cake! A sweet way to end the day.

workshop descriptions

1:40-2:40 Workshop Session #1

Trans Parenthood Panel

Perry Cohen, Kait O'Loughlin, Jeanine Ruhsam

Panel members will discuss their perspectives on being a trans parent.

GALLERY Western Mass QTPOC Perspectives on Community Accountability and Transformative Justice: A Mixed-Media Presentation

Shana Bulhan Haydock

This event will draw upon a survey conducted among QTPOC (queer and trans(*) people of colour) in Western Mass as to our perspectives on accountability and transformative justice in the context of interpersonal and community violence. At the

symposium, excerpts of survey responses will be exhibited publicly in the form of art collages. Full transcripts will also be available both online and offline.

When A 45 Year Old Is An Elder: Celebrating Middle Age in the Trans and GNC Communities

Kelli Dunham

In this interactive workshop, Kelli Dunham (a GNC nurse, comic and proponent of #middleagedpride) leads participatory activities designed to help elicit understanding of the privileges, responsibilities and ultimately joys of being a middle-aged person in a community where way too many die way too young.

Merrill Living Room Yoga and Mindfulness as Tools for Trans Communities (Trans Only)

Jacoby Ballard

Yoga and mindfulness practices can strengthen our immune systems, enhance our courage and resilience, ground our nervous systems, and connect us each other in beloved community as trans people facing violence and oppression in our own lives and more broadly in the world. This is a workshop explaining the relevancy and science of these ancient practices to our trans community today and an exploration of the practices themselves. Guided by an experienced and award-winning trans yoga and mindfulness teacher who has faced fear and overwhelm in yoga and meditation studios and retreats, this is a workshop for anyone alienated or intimidated by, or curious or enamored of yoga and meditation.

Trans* Stories Rising: Connection, Resilience, Liberation

Teal Van Dyck, Alina Ortiz Salvatierra, Jordan Bensley

As trans* narratives increasingly enter the mainstream culture, we still encounter a limited selection of stories and histories of trans* lives. In this workshop, we will celebrate and illuminate the nuance, beauty, and variety of trans lives, share stories of resilience and connection, and identify the values and supports that sustain us for the future. We will learn and practice tools and skills to use storytelling for radical personal and collective transformation, starting from the wisdom of our own lived experience. This workshop is a space intended for all kinds of trans* folks and others with gender non-conforming lived experience, and folks moving through questions about their gender identities are also encouraged to attend.

Surgery Feels

Lurene Grenier, Fiona Maeve Geist

Decisions regarding medical transition are extremely vexed, especially for trans women. Part of this is because of the stigma around talking about options ranging from shame about talking about options, uncertainty regarding cost and difficulty obtaining relevant information. The purpose of this panel is a frank discussion of those options. There will be chance to ask panelists about the choices they have made around their medical transitions.

Binding and Packing

Gaines Parker

This workshop is designed to empower participants with safe techniques for binding, or using garments and other technology to make the chest appear more flat. There will also be room for conversation amongst participants about tips, tricks, and local resources for those interested in binding. Additionally, there will be a “make your own packer” component to the workshop.

2:50-3:50 Workshop Session #2

Trans & Navigating the Workforce Panel

Lurene Grenier, Rachel Kaitlin Kruckas, Eli Vitulli, Liv Wyatt

Panel members will discuss navigating the workforce as trans folks.

We've Come a Long Way, Baby!

Jeanine Ruhsam

Playing on the 1970s hit pop song and the ad campaign for a women-only cigarette brand of the same decade, the title of this workshop alludes to the progress made by trans* women in America since that era. This workshop interrogates the history- from post-Stonewall to today's "bathroom bills"- of this minority group and its reflexive relationship to the medical/judicial discourse as a means to better understand and predict its future path. Using the knowledge gleaned from our past as a map that brings us to the present point of departure, we will discuss methods and approaches to negotiating life's current and future challenges as a trans* woman.

Know Thyself: Creating Visual & Written Representations of Attraction

Aubri Drake and Tobias K. Davis

Uncertain how your aesthetic, emotional, romantic, physical, and sexual attraction interact and overlap with each other? Find it difficult to describe your wants, needs,

and boundaries to others? In this session, we'll collaborate and discuss some ideas for visual and written representations of attraction we can use to better understand ourselves, as well as share with others

How to Be Extremely Rare: On Medical and Self-Advocacy + Being Trans, Disabled, & Chronically Ill with Rare &/Complex Disease

Nihils Rev

Advocating for oneself in a medical, social service, & personal level as a rare &/ complex + trans patient is disheartening. What does it mean to self-advocate, explain, and exist when you are said to be so statistically insignificant enough as to not exist? This workshop is an interactive learning, and discussion/vent space on medical and personal self advocacy and experience on being trans with rare and/ or complex medical needs. This workshop is primary for attendees who are chronically ill, physically ill, or developmentally disabled. Neurodivergent people also welcome contingent upon their awareness of their place in this space.

Fertility and Family: Making Sexy the Methodological

Elias Capello

We will go over fertility options for trans people, and family planning for trans parents who have children. It will be open to a variety of identities. We will talk about egg harvesting, sperm banking, in vitro birth, and tips for trans people who plan on carrying a child.

Western Mass QTPOC Perspectives on Community Accountability and Transformative Justice: A Mixed-Media Presentation (QTPOC closed space)

Shana Bulhan Haydock

This event will draw upon a survey conducted among QTPOC (queer and trans(*) people of colour) in Western Mass as to our perspectives on accountability and transformative justice in the context of interpersonal and community violence. At the symposium, excerpts of survey responses will be exhibited publicly in the form of art collages. Full transcripts will also be available both online and offline. During the workshop, there will also be a closed-space (local and other) QTPOC discussion on the subject material.

4:00-5:00 Workshop Session #3

Trans Health Professionals on Trans Healthcare

Gaines Parker, Morgan Aronson, Patrick Walden

Trans healthcare professionals share their perspectives on healthcare for trans folks.

Using Theatre to Dismantle Internalized Oppressions

Finn Lefevre

With a world full of potentially oppressive structures, systems, and individuals, it is difficult not to internalize many of these negative messages. Theater artist Augusto Boal's "Cops in the Head" techniques are a method of identifying and dismantling these internalized oppressions through self-reflection, improv, and community support. By understanding and implementing these techniques within our trans* spaces, we can develop strategies to fight intrusive thoughts, ingrained beliefs, and problematic patterns.

Go Forth and Shame No More

Andrew Amanda Leigh-Bullard

From the voices around us that criticize our bodies and minds to our whispered fears that we are not enough, shame is a destructive force that keeps us from celebrating the vibrant gift of ourselves. This workshop will break down shame-based narratives by creating a space for participants to artistically explore identities that we have been taught are shameful. Together we will name some of the identities, ideas, dreams, and questions that we have been taught to be ashamed of before delving into the ways that these stigmatized realities are necessary for building a healthy future.

Empowering Self-Care for Trans* Folks

Jacoby Ballard

What are the ways that you can care for your mental and physical health as a trans or gender non-conforming person without the oversight of a doctor? Come learn basic ways to take care of yourself and loved ones. This is a workshop by an herbalist with over 10 years of experience treating trans folks with herbs and nutrition. Depending on the interest in the room, we could cover herbs for mental health, herbs for surgery preparation or recovery, and herbs to mitigate the side effects of HRT.

Queering The Outdoors

Perry Cohen

Have you always wanted to go hiking and backpacking but never felt like you had the skills or knowledge to actually hit the trail? In this workshop we will teach you all you need to know to go on your first adventure We'll discuss route planning, backcountry safety, equipment, and many other backpacking essentials. And, of course, we'll share resources that will help you find other queer folks to adventure with.

Time Travel and Shapeshifting Beyond the Binary: Genderqueer Futures

Teal Van Dyck

I think that we will dream a beautiful dream of what's possible for genderqueer embodiment, and give ourselves the gift of dreaming into what we can't even imagine will be possible yet.

Trans Femmes in Electronic Music (moderated by Aurora ____)

Roe, Alexandra, Sam, and Jane

This panel brings together several transfeminine electronic musicians from throughout the northeastern United States to discuss their practices and lives. This informal discussion will be largely guided by the interests of the participants. It is also loosely centered around a theme of everydayness - the everyday practice of making music, the everyday practice of femininity, the everyday practice of survival - in order bring together the politically charged and the mundane in artistic work, organizational work, and the work of embodiment.

Drag Time: Make up and Queer Liberation

Sejeia Freelon

Historically, Black and Brown trans women and femmes have been pioneers in the field of make-up artistry. Make – up can be a medium of liberation for folk looking to express their gender in ways that most align with how they are feeling, be it femme or masc. This is a makeup tutorial exploring conversations of queerness, gender, femme culture, and expression. It will teach techniques that have been historically consistent as well as new age trends.

Document Skillshare for Trans People

Aubri Drake and Tobias K. Davis

Now is the critical time for trans people to legally change names and gender markers on their documents, due to the new anti-trans administration. We will have folks available with experience navigating the various forms (e.g. state court name change; US passports; Social Security; driver's license; birth certificates) although we can't guarantee they'll know every state or federal form. We also have contact information for medical and mental health providers who can help with this process.

about our presenters

Alina Ortiz Salvatierra is an Angelino, born in Oakland, raised in the LA. As a Chicana energy worker, healer, and educator, her work strives to create spaces for pain and grounding through diasporic ritual and relationship/community building. She focused on the integration of critical pedagogy and installation art at Hampshire College, and graduated in Spring 2015. She is now working for Ethics and the Common Good, a program at Hampshire college that provides training and support for students doing Community Engaged work.

An active member of the gender, romantic, and sexual minority community since inviting the world into their journey in 2011, **Andrew Amanda Leigh-Bullard** is a spiritual queer multipotentialite who delights in demolishing expectations and building bridges. As an agender individual with polygendered life experiences, they have presented on trans identities, queer relationships, and spirituality at numerous events including Fantasia Fair, True Colors, MBLGTACC, Transcending Boundaries, and Philadelphia Trans Health Conference. They are currently on a path of spiritual and professional formation while studying theology and social work at Boston University.

Aubri Drake is genderqueer, nonbinary trans, queer, and on the ace spectrum. They are a researcher and social worker. They enjoy learning to navigate systems and passing that information along to others. In their downtime, Aubri enjoys running, hiking, backpacking, circus arts, board games, and reading.

Aurora Madeleine Brainsky-Roth is a DJ, fashion nerd, database animal and Division III student at Hampshire College. Her academic interests include the relationship between temporality and embodiment and the application of feminist disability theory to critiques of teleologically wellness and productivity-oriented narratives of trans womanhood. Her musical interests include hard girly techno. 2017 will see the launch of two new projects with her partner: the DJ duo Garmentist and the fashion design team Expect Night Work.

Elias Capello is a dual Master's and PhD student at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Elias uses anthropological methods to understand the perception of safety and how it relates to qualitative and quantitative measures of stress and depression. The primary communities of focus for their research is trans communities in different pockets of the United States. They also live in a tiny house they built themselves, with their cat Peaches.

Finn Lefevre is a theater artist currently finishing their MFA in Dramaturgy at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Before graduate school, Finn spent three years

developing a small non-profit organization focused on the wellness of trans* individuals through peer support groups, public education, and workshops. This work led them to focus their graduate theater training on applied theater--an area where community members come together using theater techniques to understand collective and individual issues, develop their voices, and promote change or growth within their communities. For the past three years Finn has been working on these techniques with a small group of trans* folks of various performing or non-performing backgrounds. Beyond their trans* applied theater work, they also facilitate an LGBTQIA+ graduate student support group, teach a course on Queer Performance, give various workshops on queer and trans* topics in academia, and hang out with two really cool puppies.

Fiona Maeve Geist is a 4 time speaker and 2 time organizer at Hampshire events, yet somehow does not currently and never has had any formal affiliation with Hampshire College or any of the Five Colleges. She has been described as "biphobic," "entertaining," and "that bitch who wants to make everyone sad." When she isn't trying too hard to be clever, she is working on her PhD, or pestering her GP with requests for experimental hormone treatments and cultivates her neuroses. She is only doing this in a quixotic search for friends

Gaines Blasdel is a Hampshire Alumni currently working at Callen-Lorde Community Health Center, an LGBTQ clinic in New York City. He is a case manager in the teen program, supporting HIV + and/or transgender identified youth accessing healthcare.

Jacoby Ballard has been teaching yoga for 16 years, and now teaches locally in the Pioneer Valley. He has taught Queer and Trans Yoga as a class, workshop, and retreat for the past 10 years, believing these practices to be needed and useful for our queer and trans communities. He is the co-founder of Third Root Community Health Center, a worker-owned cooperative holistic health center in Brooklyn that opened in 2008 where he co-directed the Yoga program, Herbal Education Program, and Buddhist Studies program. He also co-founded Bending Towards Justice, which conducts diversity trainings for yoga teachers around the country facilitated by a pair skilled yoga teachers and social justice facilitators. Jacoby is Faculty with Off the Mat, Into the World and on the Advisory Board of the Yoga Service Council, working within the dynamic interstices of justice and mindfulness. He has taught in colleges, hospitals, schools, corporate and non-profit offices, gyms, homeless shelters, recovery centers, and in a maximum security prison, applying yoga and mindfulness techniques to heal trauma. His teaching style is playful and deep, gentle and challenging.

Jane Louise Fredericks is a bisexual trans woman who has been composing and producing for almost three years. Making music is mostly all she thinks about or likes to do, and she spends most of the day every day making it. She has released twenty-three albums since January 2014, twelve of which can be found at 4lung.bandcamp.com. Her tumblr url is 4lung, and her twitter handle is @4_lung. On these sites, you can see her make dirty jokes and be an all-around embarrassing nuisance. She is also curator to the Transfeminine Recording Artists' Network Supporting Friends & Excellent Music (T.R.A.N.S.F.E.M.) transfem.bandcamp.com

Jeanine Ruhsam is a lecturer in the WGSS department at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where she teaches courses on Transgender Studies, LGBT Studies and Queer Theory. She holds a PhD in American Studies from the Pennsylvania State University where she wrote her dissertation, "The Great Maine Bathroom Case: Contesting Sex-Segregation and Gender Regulation in America." While a graduate student at Penn State she chaired the Transgender Concerns Committee on the President's Commission for LGBT Equity for the past three years; conducted "Safe Space" training for faculty and staff to assure the ongoing inclusion and support of LGBT students; acted as faculty adviser to the "Rainbow Alliance" LGBT student club; and took part in a production of "The Vagina Monologues." Jeanine was awarded the student Diversity Award at Penn State Harrisburg in 2016 and the Kathryn Towns Award for heightening the awareness of issues and concerns having an impact on women there in 2015. Off campus, she was the seven-year President of TransCentralPA, Pennsylvania's largest transgender advocacy and support non-profit organization; founded and co-chairs the annual Keystone Conference, America's second largest transgender conference; served on the State of Pennsylvania's Committee to Develop a Comprehensive Transgender Inmate Policy; campaigned with Equality PA for the passage of a state-wide non-discrimination bill; and currently serves on the Gender Review Committee for the Pennsylvania Department of Correction.

Hailing from the People's Republic of West Collingswood, **Kait O'Loughlin** is a biological parent to one, but mother to many. Equally at home cooking dinner for her varied brood, helping them fix their bikes, or learning and playing in local woods and parks; she strives to bring her anarcho communist theory and praxis to the PTA, the borough bikeshare, and the elementary school library. Her door is usually unlocked and there's always a pot of bone broth simmering on the back of the stove, but put her tools back when you're done with them.

Kelli Dunham is the ex-nun genderqueer nurse storytelling nerd comic so common in

modern Brooklyn. Kelli has appeared on Showtime and the Discovery Channel and nationwide at colleges, prides, fundraisers and even the occasional livestock auction. Kelli was nominated to be a 2105 White House Champion of Change for her work as the co-founder and co-curator of Queer Memoir, NYC's first longest-running and most earnest LGBT storytelling event. Kelli likes to talk about humor, health, storytelling, LGBT life and gender, mostly all at the same time.

Originally from the Tidewater region of Virginia, **Liv Wyatt** has lived and worked in the Pioneer Valley for the last 38 years. She is currently employed as a project manager for a local architectural firm in Amherst. Liv and her partner of 36 years are the parents of three grown children (though as any parent of 20 something year olds will tell you, “grown” is a relative term) and the grandparents of a beautiful four year old girl with bright red hair who is exactly like her mother (i.e. a handful). She currently resides in one of the local hill towns.

Lurene Grenier is an information security professional with a degree from Rennselaer. She has worked for both the private and public sector and been hosted as a featured and keynote speaker on this topic at Microsoft's Bluehat conference, Blackhat, Hack in the Box, and Ekoparty amongst others. Lurene began her transition when she came out to her parents at 14 years old in 1996.

Nihils Rev is a trans scholar, organizer, advocate, and forearm crutch user. When they are not planning conferences, they work with a few online chronic illness support groups such as co-leading the Massachusetts chapter of the Dysautonomia Support Network, and a group for disabled queer femmes. They currently have quite a lot going on including but not limited to working on a quantitative research study on trans discrimination in academia, preparing a slew of papers, and putting together resources for disabled &/ chronically ill trans folks. You can find their work in the forthcoming *Trans Studies Quarterly* 4.1 that comes out in February 2017.

Patrick Walden is a psychotherapist who provides care rooted in a harm reduction model to help clients identify things which are holding them back and are no longer serving them, while offering them a unique lens of self-compassion as well as an increasing understanding of the inner wisdom that already exists in all of us. With some friendly but direct navigation tools along the way. Patrick works with clients through a variety of means, including in-office individual psychotherapy, exciting and transformative group therapy experiences, as well as online distance therapy to folks struggling with issues around gender and sexuality, who are located in remote places or areas where quality, competent care is difficult to find. Patrick is just about to

embark on a move across the country to LA, where he will continue to offer online and distance services for therapy sessions and short term therapy for folks requiring assessment and letters for gender affirming surgery and hormone access. He works with clients on a sliding scale basis, so no insurance is necessary, and is currently accepting new clients.

Perry Cohen is a queer transman and the Founder and Executive Director of The Venture Out Project, a non-profit that leads backpacking and ski trips for the LGBTQ community. In addition to offering trips, The Venture Out Project is committed to helping build a more socially just world through education and training. Perry is the lead facilitator and trainer for Venture Out's gender and diversity training program. He works with colleges, schools and other institutions to develop and deliver a comprehensive and progressive curriculum around gender diversity in and out of the wilderness. Committed to social justice work, Perry holds an MEd from Penn with a focus in learning and leadership. Perry lives in western Mass with his partner and their 6-year old twins.

Rachel Kruckas (She/Her) received her degree in Social Work from Elms College in Chicopee, MA. By day Rachel is a Case Manager for an Elder Services Agency. By night she blossoms into a queer, canadian-loving extrovert ready for some deep conversations.

Ro is a gender non-conforming alien freak-femme who seeks the continual destruction and rebirth of most things, including but not limited to: morals, the social order, queerness, her aesthetic project... She strives to accomplish that project in her critical written work for publications including Pitchfork, Time Out New York, and Rolling Stone by privileging marginalized artistic voices that revolt against cannon, by bringing her community organizing politics into aesthetic analysis, and by amalgamating historicizing analysis with close reading. Her musical endeavors include: an ambient project mothertongue.m3u, which uses processed guitar and poetry rendered through digital voices to explore queer intimacy and loss, feelings of liminality and alienation amidst diaspora, and the threads of technology & mediation sinewing it all together; exploring trauma and reclaiming stolen vulnerability while drumming in pillow punk group MALLRAT; turning up with HIRS and other trans femme hardcore bbs drumming for trans speed-punk band Library; producing for synth pop group smothering; and booking shows with the Silent Barn DIY collective. She can be found taking plethoric mirror selfies in her room while making tunes in her bedroom and screaming like a banshee into the void

Samantha Carter is a musician, writer, artist, cave beast, chasm dweller, and insect eater from Connecticut. Her music is very cheerful and fun, a good time for the whole family, the same of which cannot be said for all the other things she makes, which are weird and often explicit or otherwise vulgar. She does not understand why this is. You can find her on twitter (@a_nice_frog) which is where she is most active. She is trying to form a band with her girlfriend, so look forward to that. You can also hear her on an actual play podcast of Shadowrun called Running Solutions, the first season of which should be uploaded towards the end of 2016. She is not entirely corporeal.

Shana Bulhan Haydock is a South Asian, disabled, queer, and trans* non-binary writer, artist and activist. They grew up mostly in India, and currently reside in Western Massachusetts, USA. They studied Critical Social Thought at Mount Holyoke College, culminating in an independent study project that critically examined the concept of "safe space" in the context of marginalized communities. Previously, they have presented at the Five-College Disability Studies Conference at Smith College, volunteered at the Five-College Queer Gender & Sexuality Conference at Hampshire College, attended the Juniper Institute (a summer writing program) at UMass Amherst, and engaged in radical mental health activism via The Freedom Center, a local organization. Their creative and activist work continues to appear in various literary and social justice publications.

Teal Van Dyck is a white, queer, genderfluid trans femme living on unceded Pocumtuc territory. They are rumored to be an X-File in progress, but the case is still under investigation. They draw on poetry, song, storytelling and femmecraft to celebrate transformative stories of queer spacetime travel and trans survival magic. Teal likes most snacks, all cats, and building the movement for collective liberation and healing. They are the Project Coordinator for Ethics & the Common Good at Hampshire College.

Tobias K. Davis (Toby) is an allosexual queer trans man. He is also an activist, playwright, and young adult novelist. He strives to create works which are entertaining, educational, and accessible. He is an experienced facilitator and has a M.Ed. in social justice education. He runs a writing workshop for trans and nonbinary folks.

TRNSGNDR/VHS is the recording and performing name of **Alexandra Brandon** (b. 1995), who currently resides in Baltimore, Maryland. Alexandra first started playing under the name in late 2014, and quickly became a known name in Baltimore's underground music scene. Within the project's brief lifespan, Alexandra has released

one EP (2015's Condominium); presented a commissioned composition at the Walters Art Museum in 2016; and collaborated with artists such as Moor Mother and Marcelline Mandeng under the TRNSGNDR/VHS moniker.

Alexandra's work as TRNSGNDR/VHS frequently concerns topics of identity, alienation, digital culture, race, and gender; in both historical and contemporary contexts... and with relevance to the artist's Tanzanian heritage and queer, trans identity. The audio nature of the project derives as much from noise music as much as it does dance and R&B. Alexandra's work as TRNSGNDR/VHS has been covered by outlets such as Noisey, Afropunk, Discwoman, and Bandcamp Daily.

organizing team

Alison Lima is a Div I at Hampshire College. Alison plans to study pre-med and Japanese. She is from New Jersey, and new to living in a rural area. Alison works at the Center for Feminisms, and is excited for the Trans Symposium!

Emily Rimmer is the Director of Women's and Queer Services at Hampshire College, where she works with the Queer Community Alliance Center and the Center For Feminisms. Today she is the staff advisor for an incredibly dedicated and talented group of folk who have made this event possible. She is better known on campus at Gin's the boy-princess boarder collie mum who will be very happy when she stops working on this event to play with him.

Fiona Maeve Geist is lacking in executive function and abundant in selfies. Sometimes she ironically calls herself a "grotesque facsimile of true womanhood." She aspires to become exceedingly rich and make an event out of every time she enters a room but she is more likely to read, cry and be a cat mom. Her academic interests are queer insurrection, the colonial imposition of gender and making fun of Lee Edelman.

Jules Petersen studies feminist theory, fat studies, neoliberalism, and affect. They are a queer femme who has a lot of feelings about queer femmes. They love reading, cooking, poetry and planning conferences.

Liam Sanders is interested in community organizing and he studies philosophy, American studies, and queer theory. He reads too much.

Nihils Rev is a jane-of-all-trades occupied with & interested in organizing and research

within trans issues, queer issues, disability, and the issues of rare &/ complex disease patients.

special thanks

This event wouldn't be possible without our generous sponsors & those who have volunteered their time!

Cody Mattes

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We would also like to honor our many volunteers make everything run smoothly during the event! And a very huge thank you to Toby Goodman for designing the conference logo, and to Nihils Rev for painstakingly selecting the color palate, hand-making the tote bags and patches, and for creating the symposium program.