

YOUTH CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

New Mexico Diversity Conference 2021 Workshop Options

An #ActuallyAutistic Tour of the Spectrum

Kierstin Miller, Youth Celebrate Diversity

This workshop is a crash course on autism, the autistic community, and the neurodiversity movement. Led by an autistic self-advocate, this workshop will break down stereotypes and misconceptions about autism in order to help clarify who we are, what we think about ourselves, and how we perceive and interact with the world. It will also provide participants with the tools to support autistic friends and family and the language to advocate alongside us.

Cultural Appropriation and The Zia Symbol

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center

In this workshop dive into the world of symbols, meaning, and context from a Pueblo perspective. Start by learning about the history of Native American design appropriation through the case study of the Zia Sun symbol on the New Mexico State flag. Then explore your own understanding and use of symbols in a hands-on activity and group discussion.

Dispelling Stereotypes of Modern Native Americans in 2021

Presenter TBD

This workshop will help young people meet modern Native American youth, to learn about the diversity within the Native community and dispel stereotypes about Native Americans. We'll have an open and frank discussion on how these stereotypes have been formed, but more importantly how we can end them.

Empowering You to Prevent Suicide

Agora Crisis Center

In this session, participants will gain insight and information into the risk factors students face when it comes to suicide. We'll debunk some myths and face some hard truths. The goal? To feel empowered to support ourselves and one another, working toward prevention of suicide in our community.

The Epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW)

Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women (CSVANW)

What is the epidemic of missing and murdered indigenous women (MMIW)? Why are indigenous women going missing or being murdered at higher rates than other groups in the U.S.? What contributes to this problem? Most importantly, what can we do to stop it?

Feminism in 2021

Presenter TBD

What does it mean to be a feminist today? What does feminism look like for women and girls from different racial backgrounds? Join women of all ages for a multi-generational conversation about how to combat and eradicate sexism and misogyny.

From Ally to Accomplice: A Love Language

Nikki Archuleta

In this presentation we will discuss the importance of our individual and collective power when we decide to move from the space of stationary ally to a fully active accomplice. As well as what these roles look like and how they are different. We will also discuss how when we enter that space we have the opportunity to change the world. It is not enough to just listen it is our moral obligation to act. To be an accomplice is an act of revolutionary love.

Gender Fluid: Fluctuating between 'Male' and 'Female'

Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico

The first half of the workshop will provide an overview of the differences among biological sex or sex assigned at birth, gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation as well as some common gender-related terminology. Opportunities to engage and consider your own gender development and gender non-conforming experiences will be encouraged. The second half of the workshop will focus more specifically on the gender identity of 'gender fluid.' This will include a description of gender fluid, video clip examples of gender-fluid experiences, discussing common areas of difficulty/discrimination, brainstorming ways to make spaces safer for gender-fluid individuals, and practicing using gender affirming language.

George Floyd Protests & Policing Reform

ACLU of New Mexico

This workshop seeks an opportunity for youth to engage with local law enforcement through intentional dialogue. The workshop will discuss the impact of the death of George Floyd, the subsequent protests in 2020, and what youth expect for policing reform.

A Holocaust Survivor Speaks

Eric Cahn

A survivor of the Holocaust will share stories about living through a period of time where diversity and respect for others was at its lowest point in human history. Most importantly, participants will understand why we must never forget what happened in the Holocaust.

Human Trafficking of Youth in New Mexico

The Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking

Youth and young adults hold specific vulnerabilities directly tied to their identity. These vulnerabilities connect to age, adult authority relationships, access to economics, sexual and gender identity, race, color, education, etc. Because of the specific vulnerabilities that youth hold, it is imperative that engagement on issues such as exploitation and interpersonal violence are had in order to create a space for prevention and protection through intentional partnership. This training will explore the root causes of the crime of trafficking and the myriad of intersecting identities, vulnerabilities, and social and systemic inequalities that can lead to trafficking. Understanding root causes and complex trauma is key to recognizing the crime in its many forms. Youth will be guided through a trauma-informed framework to connect personal and community aspects to at-risk experiences.

Intersectionality 101

Giovianna Burrell

"Intersectionality," coined by Dr. Kimberlé Crenshaw, has been a term and concept that is trending and also misused/misunderstood. This workshop is an introductory interactive conversation about what intersectionality is and means. Learners will engage in dialogue and activities to come away with a better understanding of what intersectionality means, the history of the term, and its importance in racial and social justice work.

LGBTQ+ Youth Voices

Teen M'Power

This session will be an informal discussion which will support LGBTQ+ youth and address the challenges they face in New Mexico today. Allies are welcome to attend, to support, and learn with their LGBTQ peers.

Preventing Sexual Violence and Supporting Survivors: How Youth are Leading the Movement to Create Change

Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico

This session will explore the power youth have to create spaces where sexually inappropriate or violent behaviors are recognized, and intervention occurs to support survivors. We will use small group activities and discussion to expand recognition of a range of sexually violent behaviors and the impacts of these behaviors, the systems in place to address these behaviors, and identify how youth have opportunities to intervene at all points as positive bystanders. Youth will practice bystander intervention using real life scenarios commonly described by high school students. Youth presenters will encourage participants to think creatively and develop a broad variety of intervention techniques, honoring personalities, identity, and safety. Presenters will create a safe space to facilitate honest, non-judgmental conversations throughout the session.

Student Activism 101

Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP)

Our democracy is broken, and young people are leading the fight to transform it. If we want to achieve equity in our lifetime, youth must know how to change the systems that we operate in. In this workshop we'll be learning what it takes to create long lasting change in unjust systems and organizations.

A Student's Guide to Handling Depression, Anxiety and Stress

Patrick Ficke, Healthy Families of Albuquerque

Students will learn about the neuro-biological basis of emotion, and participate in a positive discussion about depression, anxiety, and stress. Special emphasis will be placed on psychological tools to cope with difficult thoughts and emotions—something that everyone has! Local psychologists will provide you with some useful strategies on how to boost your happiness quotient!

Understanding Immigration and Immigrants

New Mexico Dream Team

We hear a lot of talk about immigration and immigrants from politicians and in the media. But how many immigrants have you met directly? Join us for this workshop where a panel of guest speakers will share their immigration stories and help us challenge our stereotypes on this politically hot topic.

Undoing the Manbox and Gender Binaries: Healthy Masculinities and Healthy Relationships

Together 4 Brothers

Youth and adults will share and learn in a creative format about how gender binaries and the manbox hurt all of us. Youth facilitators will also share and provide tools for healthy relationships and masculinities including learning about assets, boundaries, communication, consent, expectations, gender spectrum and storytelling.

Using Personal Narrative to Decolonize Our Hearts and Minds

Generation Justice

Participants will share and breakdown the personal narratives that we all hold, starting with our names (where it comes from, what it means) and moving outward to how we talk about ourselves. Finally, we look at how institutions like media, schools, politics, etc. create narratives about young people. This workshop is an exercise in how to identify, deconstruct, and rebuild narratives for truth, power, and decolonization.

Youth Decarceration

The ACLU

Today, the United States incarcerates more young people than any other country in the world. Spending on youth incarceration continues to stretch local and state budgets and divert resources from other critical public needs, including education. The ACLU believes in tackling youth incarceration by redirecting resources to community-based alternatives to jail and prison. In this workshop, the ACLU will share information on its work to end the use of youth solitary confinement and physical abuse, end glaring racial disparities in the "school-to-prison pipeline," and how students can advocate for juvenile decarceration during the 2021 legislative session.