

AFP 2017:



SHARING STORIES CONNECTING COMMUNITIES



9TH ANNUAL SOCIAL JUSTICE FESTIVAL AT SUNY BUFFALO STATE

OCTOBER 3RD & 4TH

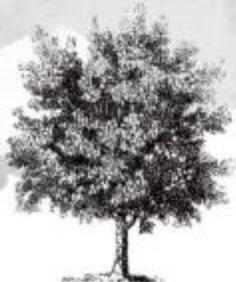
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the anne frank project



AFP 2017: Sharing Stories/Connecting Communities

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About the Anne Frank Project

The Anne Frank Project is a social justice initiative of SUNY Buffalo State. What began as a theater department production in 2006 has evolved into a distinctive reflection of the college's diversity, community and global missions articulated throughout the year with local, national and international programming. Using story-building as its primary vehicle, AFP provides tools and vocabulary for conflict resolution, community building and identity exploration. AFP strives to honor and continue the stories of Anne Frank and the countless victims of oppression whose stories were unjustly cut short. AFP welcomes you to *Sharing Stories/Connecting Communities* in the spirit of the project's namesake: With open eyes, open ears and open hearts.

*“How wonderful it is that we need not wait a single moment
before starting to improve the world.” – Anne Frank*

Interested in bringing your story to AFP? Please contact our office:
theannefrankproject@buffalostate.edu | 716-878-5559

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A Welcome from President Katherine Conway-Turner

Welcome to Buffalo State's 2017 Anne Frank Project's 9th annual festival. This year as we celebrate, we encourage all participants to embrace the power of connecting to others by sharing your story. Each of us have our own personal story. Like a snowflake our stories are uniquely our own. We each are situated within a context of family, friends, neighbors, and acquaintances that shape who we are. Some of us have deep roots within Buffalo and western New York, others of us have called other states, regions, and countries our home. We have all faced personal, familial, or societal conflicts. We bring our ethnic, racial, religious, gendered, and economic background as fertile soil from which our story springs. Please join us to share your story. Through story telling we will see the connections and disjunctions of our lives. Together we will understand that we are stronger together and from our sharing we will develop a firmer appreciation of who we are as people and the strength our unity brings. Our collective stories reinforce our humanity and our knowledge that from diversity of all kinds springs our true strength, our love for all individuals, and our compassion for our world. I look forward to hearing your stories at the AFP festival this year and sharing my story with you.



ANNE FRANK PROJECT

BUFFALO STATE • The State University of New York

Daily Schedule

Tuesday, October 3

Time	Sessions
9:30-10:00 AM	President's Welcome and AFP Warm Up - <i>President Katherine Conway-Turner and Professor Drew Kahn</i> (Social Hall)
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	The True Cost (Social Hall) <i>Professor Lynn Boorady</i> My Story Matters Podcast <i>Eve Everette & Heather Gring</i> (Assembly Hall)
12:15 PM - 1:40 PM	Crossing the Line of Power and Privilege, <i>Jack Mack</i> (Social Hall) Featured Artist Talk, <i>Fotini Galanes</i> (Czurles-Nelson Gallery)
1:45 PM - 3:30 PM	Practicing Reconciliation Rwandan Style, <i>Frida Umuhoza, Aimable Twagilimana, Drew Kahn</i> (Social Hall)
3:45 PM - 5:30 PM	Hustle and Flow Yoga: Community Building through Movement, Breath, and Music <i>Megan Townsend and Mweu Jamo</i> (Social Hall)
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Artist Reception, <i>Fotinti Galanes & Julia Bottoms-Douglas</i> (Upton Hall Foyer)
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	MUTHALAND, <i>Minita Gandhi</i> (Performing Arts Center, Rockwell Hall)

Wednesday, October 4

Time	Sessions
9:00-10:45 AM	Embodying your Story: A Mindful Approach to Movement <i>Marissa Biondolillo</i> (Social Hall) Memory and Hope: Practicing Poetry to Recall and Respond, <i>Dr. Gunilla Kester</i> (Assembly Hall)
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Human Library, <i>Leah Galka & Katie Bertel</i> (Social Hall) Turning a Cycle of Violence into a Healing Spiral, <i>Vicki Ross</i> (Assembly Hall)
1:15 PM - 2:30 PM	Using Your Art as Activism, <i>Minita Gandhi</i> (Social Hall)
2:45 PM - 4:30 PM	Share the Stories of the Holocaust - How These Stories Connect Us in Our Divisive World. <i>Sophia Veffler & Drew Kahn</i> (Social Hall)
4:45 PM - 6:30 PM	Life Stories: Restoring Justice, <i>Karima Amin</i> (Social Hall)
6:45 - 8:00 PM	SPEAK, <i>Michele Costa</i> (Social Hall)

Thursday, October 5

Time	Session
12:15-1:40 PM	Featured Artist Talk: <i>Julia Bottoms-Douglas</i> (Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Gallery)



Social Hall and Assembly Halls - Campbell Student Union
 Czurles-Nelson and Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Gallery - Upton Hall
 Performing Arts Center - Rockwell Hall
 Parking - G LOTS (Grant Street lots)

Featured Performers

Michele Costa

theatreFiguren has been creating and performing original productions since 1990. Puppetry, mask and mime, moving painted imagery, poetry and music combine to create stories that are original, inspiring and thought-provoking. theatreFiguren has performed in schools, museums, galleries and libraries throughout Western New York and beyond. Some favorite gigs have been at The Chautauqua Institute, The Joseph Campbell Festival in New Hampshire, The Lancaster Opera House and for the Anne Frank Project. Michele Costa is also a professional scenic artist, costume designer and "maker of unusual things". She has designed and built puppets and masks for Studio Arena Theatre, Shakespeare in Delaware Park, Jewish Repertory Theatre, The New Phoenix Theatre and The Neglia Ballet.



Minita Gandhi

Minita is an actress/playwright/writer who was born in Mumbai, India. Raised in the Bay Area, she is proud to call Chicago her artistic home for over 8 years.

MUTHALAND is her first full length play. It has played at Oregon Shakespeare Festival as a participant of the CAATA Festival, and The Statera Foundation for Women in the Arts Conference at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts in 2016. It was workshopped at Silk Road Rising for their Solo Festival, selected for the Ignition Festival of new plays at Victory Gardens Theater, and for a special performance sponsored by the Indo-American Heritage Museum. Muthaland will celebrate its World Premiere this September 2017. Some of her regional theatre credits include Lookingglass Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Arena Stage and Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. Minita can be seen in the recurring role of Dr. Prospero on NBC's Chicago Fire, as Musarrat in Brown Girls, and has appeared on Fox's hit show Empire, NBC's Crisis, ABC's Betrayal, Fox's The Chicago Code, and was The Onion News Network's anchor, Nina Shankar. She is a Master Instructor for Pinnacle Performance Company, where she spent 2016 developing a Women's Leadership Program, and the co-creator of the Women and Femme in the Arts Mentorship Program.



Featured Artists

Fotini Galanes

Fotini Galanes is an artist and muralist from Buffalo, NY. Galanes is perhaps best known for her drawings made directly onto ground porcelain clayboard, devouring space with a mechanical pencil motivated by her fascination with emotional human interaction and response to the grotesque and the exquisite. The most recent development in her work is large installations where she draws directly on the wall with charcoal and pastel. Intuitively, every drawing begins with a very fast and aggressive gesture line and often with a reference to a specific experience, an expression or the piece could be completely void of direction. With both approaches she allows the composition to develop. Preferring to draw in coffee shops, where she builds connections and collects responses to the work, Galanes also maintains a studio as a resident artist at Buffalo Arts Studio and looks for unoccupied walls. Her images have appeared in various publications, signage and over twenty-five mural installations in pediatric health care and learning facilities. Recent exhibitions include Allegheny College Gallery (2016), AMID/IN WNY (Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center, 2016), Fotini Galanes: Subcutaneous (Buffalo Arts Studio, 2014), Vascular Modes (Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center, 2013), Fotini Galanes: Drawing Surfaces (Burchfield Penney Art Center, 2012) and Over Abundance of Detail (Burchfield Penny Art Center 2011). Her work is included in the permanent collection of the Burchfield Penney Art Center, Luciano Benetton and numerous private collections. She teaches art, gives workshops and lessons in values and the importance of the individual mark. Galanes studied Graphic Illustration and Graphic Design at Pratt Institute School of Art, Brooklyn, NY.



Julia Bottoms-Douglas

Julia Bottoms-Douglas (American, born 1988) is a Buffalo-based artist focused on realistic and recognizable representations, using portraiture to give a glimpse of people of color as sensitive, sincere, and multi-faceted; images that the artist feels are often missing in mainstream portrayals. Bottoms-Douglas has previously focused on depictions of men in part because she feels a “certain level of expressive privilege often denied to men by our culture,” giving her the freedom to explore and deviate from notions of accepted but deeply flawed racial stereotypes and distorted gender roles. Recently her work has slightly broadened, focusing less on gender specifics as it turns toward aspects of character in general.



Bottoms-Douglas feels that in a culture that so often markets reductive representations of the beauty, grace, and intellect of people of color that it is necessary to produce and promote nuanced and constructive images that actively break that cycle.

Bottoms-Douglas proudly asserts, “People of color have been trapped in someone else’s narrative for too long, and when we have tried to write our own, we have often been erased from the mainstream’s history books. I believe it is time for us to use the talents we possess to speak our truth. Our lives are worthy of dialogue.” Bottoms-Douglas has exhibited regionally, including a recent exhibition of her work at the Buffalo Arts Studio, *Tinted: A Visual Statement on Color, Identity, and Representation* (April 28–June 2, 2017). Bottoms-Douglas is the inaugural artist for the Open Buffalo Emerging Artist Series. She is also a contributing writer for AFROPUNK.

Session Descriptions

Art Exhibits

You and Me

Installation by My Mark Matters

October 2nd – 19th, 2017

Monday-Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Czurlles-Nelson Gallery, Upton Hall

Which block personifies you? What is your story? Western New York artist, Fotini Galanes, has established My Mark Matters, a global multi-faceted story-telling project by way of personifying and documenting surfaces. First without words. Then with them. No one is without marks or the stories from which they came. Thus far, materials have been collected from participants in 196 countries! You are invited to participate by choosing a block that most personifies you or someone you know, and document what you see. Then, on the bottom of the sheet, share your story or tell their story. Your image and writing will become part of this major installation!

Going Beyond: An Artist’s “Hello”

Works by Julia Bottoms-Douglas

October 2nd – 13th, 2017

Monday – Friday 9:00am to 4:00 pm

Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Student Gallery, Upton Hall

Artist Julia Bottoms-Douglas uses portraiture as the means to combat the media’s stereotypical images of young black men. We are asked to consider a more accurate depiction of their beauty, grace and intellect through contemplation of her compelling portraits. You are invited to participate by filling out a sheet with five first impressions and then, the five realities of either yourself or someone you meet in this exhibition’s space!

Session Descriptions

Workshops and Performances

Tuesday, October 3

9:30-10:00 AM

President's Welcome & AFP Warm-Up!

Social Hall

Greetings from President Conway-Turner and Director of the Anne Frank Project, Drew Kahn.

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

The True Cost - Professor Lynn Boorady

Social Hall

The True Cost focuses on the current model of fast fashion and how this model is reducing the living standard for workers in apparel factories worldwide. As the price of clothing goes down, the human and environmental costs go up. This movie, filmed around the world, focuses on a behind the scenes look at the people who make our clothing and the communities they live in. Far from being accusatory or pointing finger, the movie encourages the idea that everyone can help by being more aware of their consumption and use of clothing. After the film, there will be a discussion with faculty from the Fashion and Textile technology department, along with invited guests. The discussion will encourage the audience to ask questions and get honest answers about human rights and environmental concerns in the fashion industry.

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

My Story Matters Podcast - Eve Everette & Heather Gring

Assembly Hall

Learn how to conduct good oral history interviews, and examine the strengths and weaknesses of oral history interviews given the ever shifting remembrances of history. Spend time recording your stories about identity and social justice, which can be archived as a part of the *My Story Matters* podcast at Buffalo State. The Anne Frank Project started the *My Story Matters* podcast to connect students through shared stories about identity and social justice. The podcast will go live in October 2017. AFP is proud to partner with the Burchfield Penny Art Center and the Buffalo State Equity and Campus Diversity Office on this project.

12:15 AM - 1:40 PM

*Crossing the Line of Power and Privilege - Dr. Jack Mack
Social Hall*

This interactive activity is as simple as checkers and as profound as chess. Participants will be asked a simple series of prompts that move them around in space, allowing them to see the surprising connections and differences between us. Following the activity we will discuss what happened in our group and individually. This will provide a practical method for expressing our strengths and challenges, responding to assumptions and privilege, and strengthening the invisible connections that make up our community.

12:15 - 1:40 PM

*Featured Artist Talk: Fotini Galanes
Czurlles-Nelson Gallery*

Listen to Fotini Galanes describe her recent international project, My Mark Matters, and participate in the hands-on workshop to add your story to the exhibit!

1:45-3:30 PM

*Practicing Reconciliation Rwandan Style - Frida Umuhoza, Aimable
Twagilimana, Drew Kahn
Social Hall*

Unconscious and believed to be dead with the rest of her family after a blow to her head, Frida Umuhoza was literally buried in a pit. Her miraculous survival was followed by a life of bitterness and loneliness until she discovered the power of faith, forgiveness, giving to others, and relationships. Listen to Frida's survival story and learn about her peace and reconciliation process to prepare for the next part of the session. After the 1994 Rwanda Genocide against the Tutsi, there were too many perpetrators to bring to justice through the western court system--it would have taken 250 years! Wisely, the Rwandan leadership resurfaced a pre-colonial judicial process called 'Gacaca.' Literally translated 'Gacaca' means 'Justice on the Grass,' and involves a community approach to resolving conflicts, defining punishments and reaching reconciliation. Inspired by the emotional survivor story of Frida Gashumba, attendees will play their role's in the Buffalo State village and become part of our own 'Gacaca.' Facilitated by Buffalo State professors Aimable Twagilimana and Drew Kahn, this session will offer a reconciliation experience with many benefits for our western society.

3:45-5:30 PM

*Hustle & Flow Yoga: Community Building through Movement, Breath, and
Music - Megan Townsend & Mweu Jamo
Social Hall*

Join Jamo and Megan for a fun, sweaty, heart opening playful yoga practice! No yoga mats required, but bring one if you have one. They will share their love and journey into the practice of yoga. There will be an opportunity for self inquiry and meditation. Q & A to follow. Jamo is from Nairobi, Kenya

and is currently a resident teacher in New Orleans at "The Church of Yoga." Jamo was introduced to yoga through the [Africa Yoga Project](#). As an alumna of the Buffalo State Theater Department and former contributor of the Anne Frank Project, Megan will recount her time at Buffalo State College. She will share her journey out of familial dysfunction, drug addiction and physical limitation. Participants will be encouraged to discover parts of themselves in her story - dissolving the illusion of separation and difference. This session defines community in theory and practice.

5:00-7:00 PM
Artist Reception
Upton Hall Foyer

Celebrate AFP's Featured Artist, Fotini Galanes and Julia Bottoms-Douglas. Enjoy stories and light refreshments.

7:00-9:00 PM
MUTHALAND by Minita Gandhi
Performing Arts Center, Rockwell Hall

The Life of a young woman is forever changed on a trip to India where she unearths family secrets, encounters a prophet, and ultimately discovers her voice within a culture of silence. The familiar and the foreign swap roles in this dark comedy about culture, identity, spirituality, and sexuality.

Wednesday, October 4

9:00-10:45 AM
Embodying your Story: A Mindful Approach to Movement
Marissa Biondolillo
Social Hall

What does loss feel like in your body? Where do you feel it and how can you describe it? What about love? Excitement? Anxiety? Now, how would you show somebody what that feels like to you? This workshop takes the well-known meditation practice of mindful body awareness and uses it as the starting point for creation and communication. Participants will be introduced to basic mindfulness concepts and a short body-scan meditation. They will then be asked to think of a strong emotional experience they have had and bring awareness to how their body feels as they think of that. Each of us will use those feelings to create an original movement story. Participants will work individually to create, and then in small groups to share their creations and discuss their process. This workshop aims to empower participants in creating something wholly original and personal. The message is: You are worth listening to, you are worth creating for, and your experience matters. This workshop also builds skills for mindful awareness which can help decrease stress and improve an individual's self awareness.

9:00-10:45 AM

Memory and Hope: Practicing Poetry to Recall and Respond

Dr. Gunilla Kester

Assembly Hall

Venus Khoury- Ghana, an uprooted Lebanese poet, Mahmoud Darwish, an exiled Palestinian, and Yehuda Amichai, a Jew who came to Israel from Germany as a child after the Holocaust all use language and poetic strategies to realize a sense of the future. In this workshop, we will learn from them and then continue their realization. All participants will write a response to a conflict they face, using some of the strategies we have discussed, and then share their writing with each other. Should anyone rather share with me privately or by email, that's fine too. Three bi-lingual poets from three diverse backgrounds practice poetry as a method to resist marginalization and erasure, to sustain and rescue memory, and to build hope for the future. How do they do it?

11:00-1:00 PM

Human Library - Leah Galka and Katie Bertel

Social Hall

A Human Library (<http://humanlibrary.org>) is an event designed to bring together people from different background and situations to engage in meaningful interactions. The “books” are real-live humans with diverse, marginalized, or underrepresented backgrounds, such as those who identify as homeless, LGBTQIA, or refugees. “Readers” are community members who “borrow” these books for a brief conversation during the event. This event allows attendees to speak honestly and openly with a person they might not otherwise come into contact with. These one-on-one interactions can increase understanding and empathy – two qualities that are becoming increasingly important in today’s partisan political and social climate. The primary goal is that attendees will engage in real, meaningful conversation with someone from a different walk of life. The primary intended outcome is that students and community members would walk away from the event with a broader worldview and a more full and complete understanding of another human being. It is also hoped that the “books” will, themselves, feel more heard and understood as a result of this event.

11:00-1:00 PM

Turning the Cycle of Violence into a Healing Spiral - Victoria Ross

Assembly Hall

Trauma affects us deeply; yet healing comes to many of us too. This interactive workshop will explore stories of trauma and the healing that people eventually found or achieved. Different paths to healing will be included, as will different types of traumas and settings. After establishing a safe space, we’ll explore stories presented to and by the group. The role of the community and the person’s role in the community will be considered. Hear about a German Jew in Nazi Germany; or an individual incarcerated in the US; or a Palestinian in Gaza; or a Syrian civilian; or an abused child; or one who suffered in a natural disasters What about shame, the subtle trauma – so common in our shame-based societ(es)? All can be traumatic, and yet can ultimately lead to healing and growth. We’ll

examine the role of our broken alert systems, learn and share coping mechanisms and ways of making meaning; and create community in our very session. We'll study sanctuary; faith; process; and more. We are sure to be inspired by the strength of the human spirit as we explore routes to healing and forgiveness.

1:15-2:30 PM

Using Your Art As Activism - Minita Gandhi
Social Hall

This workshop is designed to allow participants to uncover the true definition of activism and identify the causes they are truly passionate about. Minita then works with the participants to build the story of their connection to one of their causes in a concise and effective storytelling formula. The workshop concludes with identifying how the story can be brought into their community in a way to foster the necessary conversations or actions needed to support positive growth towards supporting their cause.

2:45-4:30 PM

Share the Stories of the Holocaust - How These Stories Connect Us in Our
Divisive World - Sophia Veffer & Drew Kahn
Social Hall

Witness the amazing, personal stories of Sophia Veffer, Holocaust survivor and AFP board member. Sophia went to school with Anne Frank in Amsterdam, and will share her emotional journey as a young Jewish Dutch girl who miraculously survived Hitler's concentration camps. Sophia will remind attendees how the power of traumatic stories can connect us in an increasingly divisive world. A question/answer session will follow her story and feed a physical story-building workshop led by AFP Director, Professor Drew Kahn.

4:45-6:30

Life Stories: Restoring Justice - Karima Amin
Social Hall

"Life Stories: Restoring Justice," provides an opportunity for the community to hear stories from three women who turned to restorative thinking and restorative behaviors after losing loved ones to gun violence. Their stories, enhanced by their musical choices, bolstered by a poem that links all three, gives the audience a better understanding of Restorative Justice, which is a mighty vehicle for healing. In a "talk-back," the audience will be invited to comment on what they have seen and heard and ask questions. The storytellers and the "talk-back host" will provide answers and information about Restorative Justice, a practice that consistently turns a negative into a positive.

6:45-8:00 PM

SPEAK - Michele Costa
Social Hall

Mask, music, moving paintings and three compelling speeches weave themselves into a dream from which the waking is truly an awakening. The relevance of Charlie Chaplin's final speech from "The

Great Dictator" (1939) and Carl Sagan's "Pale Blue Dot" (1994) to today is chilling. Annie Dillard's prose on identity and imperfection brings this story even closer to the heart -- an inspiring exploration of Self and our place in the world. A question/answer session will follow SPEAK and feed a physical story-building workshop led by AFP Teaching Artists.

Thursday, October 5

12:15-1:40 PM

Artist Talk: Julia Bottoms-Douglas
Upton Hall Foyer

Julia Bottoms-Douglas tells the story behind her art work, and invites you to participate in an activity about first impressions.

Biographies

Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner

Katherine S. Conway-Turner, Ph.D., was confirmed as the ninth president of Buffalo State College by the SUNY Board of Trustees on June 16, 2014. She is a lifelong learner, educator, scholar, author, and humanitarian. During her 31-year career, she has served in a variety of leadership and administrative positions as well as held the rank of professor of psychology at five universities.

Most recently, Dr. Conway-Turner was provost and vice president for academic affairs at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, from July 2010 until July 2014. From 2004 to 2009, she was provost and vice president for academic affairs at SUNY Geneseo. Dr. Conway-Turner was the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Georgia Southern University and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Delaware, where she also served as director of the women's studies program and graduate program coordinator.

She was an American Council on Education (ACE) fellow at the College of New Jersey and she has held teaching positions at Santa Clara University and California State University, Long Beach.

In addition to her administrative responsibilities, teaching, and research, Dr. Conway-Turner regularly travels to Haiti to perform humanitarian work as a member of H.O.P.E., a nonprofit, volunteer organization based in Rochester, New York. Through this organization, she and her colleagues assist the people of Borgne, Haiti, in achieving equitable, just, and sustainable living conditions. Dr. Conway-Turner received her Ph.D. and M.A. in psychology and her B.A. in microbiology, all from the University of Kansas. As a first-generation college student, she embraces the transformative power of education. She has experienced firsthand the potential of schools like Buffalo State, and she views the college as a special place that does incredible work to move its students forward. In short, Buffalo State transforms lives.

Dr. Conway-Turner is married to Dr. Alvin L. Turner, a psychologist licensed in New York and Delaware engaged in the independent practice of psychotherapy, supervision, training, and forensic psychological services. They have three daughters, Shana, Anya, and Jameela.

Karima Amin

Karima Amin is a storyteller, educator, and author from Buffalo, NY who shares tales in her repertoire throughout the US and Canada with story lovers of all ages. With 24 years in public school education to her credit, and more than three decades of storytelling, she provides performances, workshops, keynotes and author visits to promote literacy, increase cultural awareness, enliven staff development, and improve human relations. She is known for creating programs that are tailor-made to suit the needs of her audiences. Her voice is very familiar in a community where she has shared fables on local radio (WBLK-FM) for a decade. Karima is a co-founder of "Spin-A-Story Tellers of WNY" and "Tradition Keepers: Black Storytellers of WNY." She is also a member of the "National Storytelling Network" and the "National Association of Black Storytellers." She has earned a "Parents Choice

Foundation Gold Award" and "Storytelling World" honors. In 2012, Karima received the Zora Neale Hurston Legacy Award from the National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc., for striving to preserve and perpetuate the art of storytelling.

Katie Bertel

Katie Bertel is an Outreach & Engagement Librarian here at Buffalo State, and she works to connect the library to the campus through teaching, research help, and events. Outside the library, Katie can be found skating for the Queen City Roller Girls, where she is known as Librawlian.

Marissa Biondolillo

I come to the Anne Frank Project with a diverse background in academia, the performing arts, and mindfulness practice. Since earning dual degrees in Sociology and Women's Studies at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, I have focused most of my energies in the worlds of theater and dance, specifically seeking out opportunities to bring social justice and performance together. Recent projects include the collaborative dance piece "Why Be A Woman?", performed at the Elmwood Avenue Arts Festival in 2016, and Free Fred Brown, a devised theater piece produced by Ujima Company that is running in schools and community centers now. I took two years of the Sanford Meisner acting technique at the Actor's Workshop of Ithaca. This was my first crash course in learning how to listen to my emotions and stay radically in the moment. I also began a mindfulness practice about two years ago under the guidance of Daniel Kaiya Shedd, a reiki practitioner in Ithaca, NY. It wasn't long before my developing mindful awareness spread into my dance-life and I began using it as a starting point for movement creation. That connection is what I hope to share with Anne Frank Project participants this year.

Lynn Boorady

As the chair of the Fashion and Textile Technology department, I am committed to introducing my students to slow fashion and sustainability. Being in fashion education for the past 25 years, I have seen an incredible increase in the consumption of apparel and the cost of the apparel reduced to previously unimaginable levels. As a patternmaker, I have researched in the area of no-waste patternmaking and using upcycled textile to create my designs. I was one of the ideators and participants of the award winning Connect project (2015) which focused on sustainability issues worldwide and linked four universities in four continents to discuss these issues on a global scale. I have conducted research in sustainability issues and have won excellence in teaching awards for my ability to bring current topics into the classroom in a way that engages students.

Eve Everette

Eve Everette is the Assistant Director for the Anne Frank Project at SUNY Buffalo State where she curates the annual Social Justice Festival, co-directs devised theatre, and teaches drama-based education. Eve earned an MA in Classical and Contemporary Text for Acting from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, and two BA's in Theatre and Art History with honors from SUNY Buffalo State. Eve trained at Canada's National Voice Intensive and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, and studied art history in Italy. Eve recently acted in *The Big Friendly Giant* at the Theatre of Youth, and will be in *The Nether* at Road Less Traveled Productions (February 2018). Eve is a board

member of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo, and a CommUnity Build Facilitator for the National Federation for Just Communities of WNY, and was recently accepted to the *Global Mental Health: Trauma and Recovery Certificate Program* through the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma.

Leah Galka

Leah Galka is an Outreach and Engagement Librarian at Buffalo State's Butler Library where she teaches information literacy, coordinates the library's OER (open educational resources) program, and plans library programming. Libraries have historically played an important role in building relationships across communities, and at Butler Library, faculty and staff build relationships through programming and providing innovative support to diverse communities both on and off campus. Leah has been at SUNY Buffalo State since 2013, and received her MSLIS from Syracuse University. Prior to coming to Buffalo State, Leah worked in a variety of library settings, including community college and public libraries.

Heather Gring

Heather Gring is the Archivist at the Burchfield Penney Art Center in Buffalo, New York. In 2008, she received a B.A. with honors in art history from the State University of New York College at Buffalo. In 2013, she earned a dual M.A. from the University of British Columbia in library and information science and archival studies. Since returning to Buffalo, she has been active in preserving and making accessible the rich artistic history of western New York as well as facilitating the creation of new works of art and cultural experiences as one of the lead organizers of the Buffalo Infringement Festival.

Drew Kahn

Drew Kahn is Professor of Theater at SUNY Buffalo State where he teaches acting and devised theater (President's Award for Excellence in Teaching/SUNY) and directs productions (Kennedy Center Award). He is the Founding Director of The Anne Frank Project, a multi-layered social justice initiative at SUNY Buffalo State that utilizes the wisdom of Anne Frank as a springboard for the examination of genocide and intolerance through the lens of storytelling and performance. He presents and teaches internationally on the universal language of theater and the intersection of storytelling, conflict resolution and community building—most recently in Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burma, Viet Nam, Morocco, New Zealand, Greece, Croatia and Turkey (Toby Tickin Back Award for Holocaust Education, Community Leader Award, National Federation for Just Communities). Professor Kahn has extensive acting experience in professional theater (Andre' DeShields' original cast of *Saint Tous*), feature film (Paramount Pictures' *Necessary Roughness*) as well as several television and commercial credits. In Buffalo, New York, he was the host of WKBW-TV's (ABC) *AM Buffalo* for six years, hosted the WNED (PBS) documentary *Saving a Landmark: The Darwin Martin House* (National Telly Award), is a regular narrator with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and has numerous local stage credits including *In a Dark, Dark House*, *Lobby Hero*, *A Cat On A Hot Tin Roof* and *Baltimore Waltz* (ArtVoice Artie Award). He received an MFA from Southern

Methodist University and a BA from San Diego State University. His favorite roles are husband to his wife Maria and dad to his children Sam and Nate.

Gunilla Kester

Gunilla Theander Kester, Ph.D., is a native of Sweden and the author of *IF I WERE MORE LIKE MYSELF: POEMS FROM AMERICA, SWEDEN, AND GHANA*, two chapbooks *TIME OF SAND AND TEETH* and *MYSTERIES I-XXIII*. She is the co-editor/author with Gary Earl Ross of *THE EMPTY CHAIR* and *THE STILL EMPTY CHAIR*, memories of the victims of Flight 3407. Recently, she was short and long-listed three times in the Fish Poetry Prize and in the New Millennium Writing Awards. Nominated for two Pushcart Prizes, she has been a finalist and winner of many national poetry competitions and published widely in magazines and collections. An accomplished guitarist she often performs and also teaches classical guitar at The Amherst School of Music. In Ghana, she teaches at the Shoerke Foundation supported Heritage Academy. A Fulbright scholar, she has published a scholarly study (2nd ed) and produced a CD with Cantor Susan Wehle. She serves as Vice President of The Buffalo Guitar Society.

Jack Mack

After working in community arts education, Dr. Jack Mack received his Ph.D. in Counseling and School Psychology from the University at Buffalo, SUNY. He has worked providing individual and group psychotherapy in various settings including medical hospitals, the Buffalo VA, and counseling centers at UB, the University of Pittsburgh, and now SUNY Buffalo State. Dr. Mack is the Training Coordinator at the Buffalo State Counseling Center, helping prepare the next generation of psychologists to work with college communities. His professional interests are intersecting cultural identities, group psychotherapy, veteran-student adjustment, and coping with trauma. He sees arts education such as the Anne Frank Project as a key path to strengthening and healing individuals and communities.

Victoria Ross

Victoria Ross is a social worker and peace activist. She is the Executive Director of the WNY Peace Center, a comprehensive Peace and Justice organization (in its 50th year), working on Racial, Economic, Environmental, Gender, Prison, and Immigrant and Refugee Justice; Resisting Militarism; and Latin American Solidarity. She is also a Consultant for the Interfaith Peace Network. Through it all she works with individuals, groups, and systems to build community, inspire nonviolence, and create a culture of peace. Vicki works with the community, including children and youth, coordinating a variety of events and programs. Workshops include Peaceful Conflict Resolution (Communication, Cooperation, how to deal with feelings); Nonviolent Direct Action; Trauma and Shame; Stress Reduction; Alert System Disorders (aka Mental Health Issues); De-escalation Techniques; Anger Management; Meditation/Mindfulness Movement; PeaceJam; and Camp Peaceprints. A Qualified Clinical Social Worker and Licensed Master Social Worker (MSW from Boston University), Victoria has also worked with children and families, providing therapy; and community education. She has a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy with a concentration in International Economic Development

from Tufts University's Fletcher School, as well as a Diplôme from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland.

Megan Townsend

Megan Townsend is a Buffalo State Theater Department Alumna. While here, Megan discovered a talent and passion for stage management. After graduation, she fed that passion working in local theaters as a stage/production manager and became a journeyman stagehand with IATSE Local 10. After several years of "some living and mistakes," Megan became a Registered Nurse and currently holds a supervisory position in pediatric home care. Megan found a home at Power Yoga Buffalo after snubbing it as "not yoga, they play music," for 2 years. After finally going to a class, she was instantly hooked. After a serious injury a few years earlier, Megan was left feeling isolated by the belief that her injury, as well as a colorful past, defined her and limited her. Through the practice of yoga these thoughts were proven wrong. She is now part of a nurturing community and living a life filled with possibility. "It is a humble honor to have the opportunity to share this practice that has given me so much. If I can give back even a fraction of the gifts that I have received that would be in great measure. Namaste."

Aimable Twagilimana

Aimable Twagilimana is Professor of English at SUNY Buffalo State. This will be a joint workshop with Frida Umuhoza (formerly Frida Umuhoza Gashumba), a survivor of the Genocide against the Tutsi of Rwanda. Frida Umuhoza holds a bachelor's degree in Communication from Bowling Green State University and works as a social worker in the Cleveland (Ohio) area. After the publication of her book FRIDA: CHOSEN TO DIE, DESTINED TO LIVE, Frida told her story to audiences in the United Kingdom, Germany, the United States (including at the United Nations), and other places. The second edition of the book is set to appear this summer. Some of her talks are posted on youtube under the names of "Frida Gashumba" and "Frida Umuhoza."

Sophia Veffer

Sophia Veffer, lived in Amsterdam, Holland during the Holocaust. She came to the United States in 1954 and settled in Buffalo. Now a retired Special Education teacher, Sophia is a past President of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo and is presently on the Executive Board of the Holocaust Resource Center. She was the President of the Women of Studio Arena Theatre. Currently, Sophia is on the Advisory Committee of the Jewish Repertory Theatre of Western New York.

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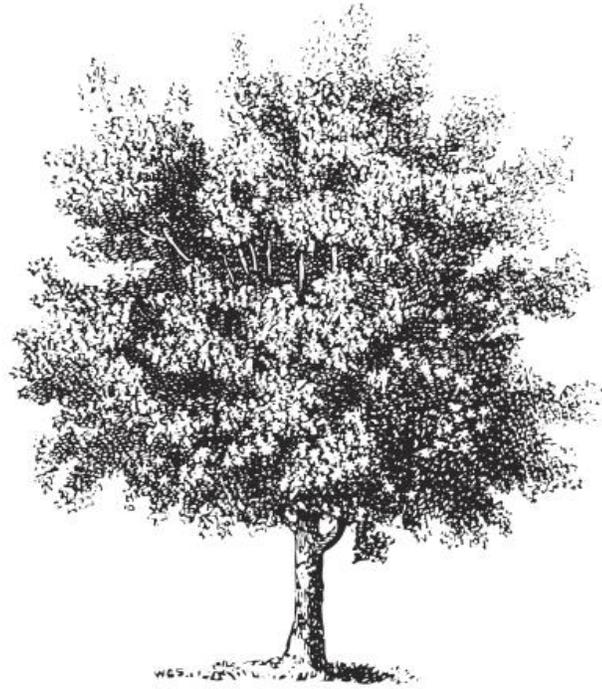
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