



PROGRAM AND GUIDE
SEPTEMBER 24TH-30TH
OAKLAND, CA

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WELCOME TO THE ANIMAL LIBERATION CONFERENCE!

We're racing against time to save animals, the planet, and ourselves. The pandemic and climate emergency have shown us how destructive animal exploitation is for all animals, including humans. This is our chance to create a new future where all beings and our planet are treated with respect. And we're going to bring that vision to life this Fall at the Animal Liberation Conference.

Get ready to learn from experts, take part in groundbreaking actions, network with activists from around the world, and empower yourself to be the best activist you can be. This guide will give you the info you need to make the most of your week and keep up with all the happenings of this event.

COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

In order to maintain a safe and empowering space for everyone, all conference attendees are required to uphold DxE's code of conduct. Failure to do so can lead to consequences, including removal from the conference.

If you experience or witness incidents of harassment or other violations of the code of conduct, please let a member of our Response Team know. They will be introduced at the start of the event and can also be reached by phone.

- Jon Frohnmayer: (541)-556-4323
- Susana Soto: (510)-695-6757





COVID-19 GUIDELINES

In order to make the Animal Liberation Conference as safe as possible, we will require that everyone wears a mask indoors unless they are eating or drinking. We will also require proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test result taken within the previous 72 hours. Read our full policy in the ALC app or at dx.e.io/covid.

KEY CONTACTS

All conference organizers can be identified by a pink lanyard. Feel free to ask anyone any questions you may have - they'll be able to point you in the right direction. We will also be using an app that will provide minute-by-minute updates on the conference.

You can reach Tania Campos Suarez, one of the conference organizers at tania@dx.e.io or (510)-306-5958.





ALC MOBILE APP

Download the ALC app to receive exclusive real-time updates and announcements. It also is a convenient way to access all of the information contained within this program, including viewing the schedule and getting directions to event locations. All conference attendees are strongly encouraged to download the app at [DxE.io/app](https://dx.e.io/app).

dx.e.io/app



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: FRIDAY

5:00-6:00pm: Check-in and Registration (Unity Park Community Plaza)

Doors open! Check-in, grab your t-shirt, make a name tag and meet everyone!

5:00pm-8:00pm: Plant-based Pop Up (Unity Park Community Plaza)

Support local vendors, make new friends and have fun!

6:00pm-6:20pm: Creating the New Normal (Unity Park Community Plaza)

Presenter: Cassie King

We are living through chaotic times. But all this chaos, as stressful as it is, can be an opportunity if we are able to adapt. Instead of waiting for things to "get better" before we take action, we need to find ways to work within this difficult moment. We can't do nothing. The animals and the planet cannot wait. That's why we're here together this week. In these opening remarks, Cassie King, DxE's communication director, will launch this year's Animal Liberation Conference and prepare us to learn, connect, and take bold action for animals.





SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: SATURDAY (WEAR YOUR CONFERENCE SHIRT, PLEASE)

9:00-9:40am: Check-in, Registration and Morning Snacks (California Ballroom)

If you haven't already, get checked-in, grab your t-shirt and make a name tag. Snacks will also be available.

9:40-10:00am: Ice Breaker and Community Agreements (California Ballroom)

Get to know everyone in a fun ice-breaker.

10:00-10:20am: Oakland Council Member: Carroll Fife (California Ballroom)

Carroll Fife is the Councilmember for Oakland's District 3, an Executive Director, a community leader, a mother and a fearless freedom fighter. As director of ACCE Oakland, she helped found Moms for Housing and passed legislation at the state and local level to build collective power for tenants.

10:20-11:45am: So you want to be strategic? (California Ballroom)

Presenters: Almira Tanner and Wayne Hsiung

Without good strategy, the animal rights movement is unlikely to succeed. But have you ever felt like you don't know how to "be strategic" or even what that exactly means? You are not alone. Join DxE co-founder and former Lead Organizer Wayne Hsiung and current DxE Lead Organizer Almira Tanner for an interactive training on the key strategic principles underlying successful social justice movements and how you can apply them to your activism.

12:00-1:00pm: Chelsea Manning: Keynote Speaker (California Ballroom)

Chelsea Manning is the US Army whistleblower who released shocking, classified information about US war crimes. She served 7 years in prison and inspired millions with her bravery. She is one of the most famous whistleblowers in US history. During her talk we will learn about the sacrifice it takes to expose injustice. She will be joining us virtually.

1:00-1:30pm: Catered Lunch (California Ballroom)

A quick lunch will be provided to everyone after our keynote speaker.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: SATURDAY (WEAR YOUR CONFERENCE SHIRT, PLEASE)

1:00-1:30pm: Meet and Depart for Animal Liberation March (California Ballroom)

We'll review the plan and then head to San Francisco together for the Animal Liberation March.

2:30-5:30pm Animal Liberation March (Dolores Park, San Francisco)

United for animals! Wear your conference shirt and join hundreds of activists in this loud and empowering march.

Accessibility note: This event will include a three mile march and loud drumming.

6:30-8:00pm Grassroots Leaders Around the World (Proxy)

Panelists: Raven Deerbrook, Eun-yeong Jung, Amy Soranno

From locking down at slaughterhouses to taking on some of the world's largest corporations, grassroots activists from around the world are pushing the boundaries of animal rights activists.

Hear from four incredible activists across three different continents and get inspired to take action. Following the discussion, we will have a short film-screening showcasing footage from some of the actions highlighted during the panel.

8:00-10:00pm The ALC Party! (Proxy)

End the day with a fun outdoor party in San Francisco!





SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: SUNDAY

9:00am: Check-in, Registration and Morning Snacks (California Ballroom)

If you haven't already, get checked-in, grab your t-shirt and make a name tag. Snacks will be available.

9:30-10:00am: Ice Breaker and Community Agreements (California Ballroom)

Get to know everyone in a fun ice-breaker.

10:00am-11:15am: Total Liberation Panel (California Ballroom)

Panelists: Susana Soto, Gwenna Hunter, Andres Cediell, Brian Liu, Ahlad Reddy

We want to achieve a just world for everyone. In order to do that, we must fight all forms of inequality and oppression. We must respect one another, protect the planet and fight for the rights of nonhuman animals. During this panel we will explore the interconnections between labor rights, racial justice, women's rights, disability rights, climate justice and animal liberation.

11:30-12:30pm: Breakout Sessions #1 (Various Locations)

Choose from a variety of different sessions designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills you need to be the best activist you can be!

12:30-2:00pm: Catered Lunch (Snowpark)

Take a break from the breakout sessions to enjoy a catered lunch.

2:00-3:00pm: Breakout Sessions #2 (Various Locations)

Choose from a variety of different sessions designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills you need to be the best activist you can be!

3:15-4:15pm: Breakout Sessions #3 (Various Locations)

Choose from a variety of different sessions designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills you need to be the best activist you can be!

5:00pm-8:00pm: Camp ALC (Lake Merritt)

Spend the evening enjoying a plant-based BBQ and playing games at Lake Merritt.

SUNDAY BREAKOUT SESSION PROGRAM

Session #1 11:30-12:30pm

- What You Need to Know About Open Rescue & Investigations - Part One (Telegraph room)
- Why Starting a DxE Chapter Will Change Your Life (Studio 17/Soul Space)
- Lobbying for Change: Making a difference at the local and state level (California Ballroom)
- Empathetic Communication: Conflict skills for movement resilience (Broadway Gallery)
- Civil Disobedience: Strategies and tactics to change the world - Part One (Snow Park)
- Intro to Pressure Campaigning (International Gallery)

Session #2 2:00pm-3:00pm

- What You Need to Know About Open Rescue & Investigations - Part Two (Telegraph room)
- Dialogue Facilitation 101: Practical tools for better dialogue in your community (Broadway Gallery)
- Getting Press: Navigating the modern media climate to win over the masses (California Ballroom)
- Civil Disobedience: Strategies and tactics to change the world - Part Two (Snow Park)
- The Importance of Microsanctuaries: Normalizing adopting “farmed” animals (Meet outside California Ballroom)

Session #3 3:15-4:15pm

- What You Need to Know About Open Rescue & Investigations - Part Three (Telegraph room)
- Maintaining Your Self Care In Animal Activism (California Ballroom)
- Leadership Training (Studio 17/Soul Space)
- Disgust, Futility, and Togetherness: Uncovering a new story for the Animal Freedom Movement (Broadway Gallery)
- Civil Disobedience: Strategies and tactics to change the world - Part Three (Snow Park)
- The Importance of Microsanctuaries: Normalizing adopting “farmed” animals (Meet outside California Ballroom)





SUNDAY BREAKOUTS: DETAILED INFORMATION

What you Need to Know About Open Rescue & Investigations - Celeste Yamada and Alexandra Paul

Bring your activism to a new level by learning how to find a facility perpetuating animal abuse, put together a team, prep and scout for an investigation, and participate in an open rescue.

Audience: For solid activists who are disciplined, discreet and reliable team players willing to take more risks for the animals.

Why Starting a DxE Chapter Will Change Your Life - Michelle Del Cueto, Brittany Drake, Seom Nari

In this breakout we will focus on the struggles and achievements that international and non-local DxE organizers go through. This is a way to provide better guidance, key tips and tools for activists that are new to DxE and are interested in starting their own DxE chapter. Also we will focus on the particularities that DxE offers to the animal rights movement.

Audience: Newer activists who want to start a DxE chapter





SUNDAY BREAKOUTS: DETAILED INFORMATION

Lobbying for Change: Making a difference at the local and state level - Samantha Faye and Nick Sackett

We will be discussing tactics on building working relationships with elected officials and how to use the legislative systems to your advantage while working towards revolutionary change. Will will be discussing how to maximize the avenues available to constituents, like public comment and in person meetings. This work is integral to passing bold legislation to protect animals and the environment. Learning to work with legislative professionals is a life skill that translates into many different aspects of the personal development every activist should be undertaking.

Audience: This breakout session is suitable for both experienced and newer activists. This session is intended for California state residents but is easily applicable to activists from other areas.

Empathetic Communication: Conflict skills for movement resilience - Eva Hamer

By learning to communicate honestly in a way that is easier for others to hear, activists can prevent unnecessary conflict and forge greater connection in teams and other relationships. This session will cover basics of nonviolent communication and suggest practices to develop communication skills going forward.

Audience: Everyone





SUNDAY BREAKOUTS: DETAILED INFORMATION

Civil Disobedience: Strategies and tactics to change the world - Rachel Ziegler

Civil disobedience is a powerful tool we can use to put pressure on corrupt systems to make meaningful change. Join us as we discuss effective tactics and how groups from around the world have put them to use.

Audience: This training is intended for activists who want to learn hands-on actions skills and techniques.

Intro to Pressure Campaigning - Matthew Braun

PETA has a long tradition of organizing (and winning!) pressure campaigns. In this breakout session you will learn how to plan a S.M.A.R.T. campaign. We will use successful as well as active campaigns as a model to discuss strategies, tactics, framing, and most importantly, how to get started planning your own campaign for animal rights!

Audience: If you want to make your protests more effective this session is for you. Newer activists interested in the theory of effective activism are welcome, but organizers with at least some experience planning or attending actions will get the most out of this training.





SUNDAY BREAKOUTS: DETAILED INFORMATION

Dialogue Facilitation 101: Practical tools for better dialogue in your community - Aaron Yarmel

Good dialogue facilitation skills can transform an uninspired, hostile, conflict-prone, or unproductive group of activists into one that effectively and joyfully pursues meaningful goals in a welcoming and safe environment. In this 1-hour session, you will learn practical techniques for gently guiding others to engage in four key types of thinking: supportive thinking, focused thinking, creative thinking, and critical thinking. This will be an accessible, hands-on session where participants will learn about and experiment with dialogue facilitation techniques.

Audience: This presentation will be especially useful for activists who occupy or are pursuing leadership roles, but the content will be widely accessible and all are welcome to participate.

Getting Press: Navigating the modern media climate to win over the masses - Matt Johnson and Leighton Woodhouse

In 2021, when media is often more beholden to what's trending on Twitter than what's actually affecting ordinary people, the plight of animals is generally a pretty low priority. For animal rights activists, getting media attention can feel like an unwinnable game; you can get lots of attention, or you can get positive attention, but not both. Matt and Leighton will discuss how they've been able to break through, and how you can too.

Audience: Activists with strong communication skills and an interest in doing press work



SUNDAY BREAKOUTS: DETAILED INFORMATION

The importance of Microsanctuaries: Normalizing adopting “farmed” animals - Andrew Sharo, Alona Duhan Arima, Carla Cabral

Join us as we travel to a local microsanctuary to get hands-on experience caring for rescued hens. Learn about the wide variety of ways people live with animals rescued from farms, including hens, rabbits, and pigs. Become inspired to adopt animals rescued from farms and normalize compassion for animals in your local community. We will discuss harnessing the power of social media to share your rescued animals with the world. We believe that almost everyone has the resources right now to provide sanctuary to animals in need, no matter their living situation.

Audience: Suitable for anyone interested in animal care or for anyone who wants to learn what it takes to start a microsanctuary

Maintaining Your Self Care In Animal Activism - Christopher “Soul” Eubanks

This presentation will focus on dealing with the emotional impact of doing animal activism, how to make your activism sustainable and how to avoid activism burnout.

Audience: This session will provide a safe space for both new and seasoned activists to learn and share from each other's insights and experiences. New activists are often unprepared for the emotional impact of doing activism and seasoned activists often avoid dealing with the heavy toll activism has on them.



SUNDAY BREAKOUTS: DETAILED INFORMATION

Leadership Training

Tania Patricia Campos Suarez

As animal rights activists we have a bold vision: a world where every animal, regardless of species, lives happy, safe, and free. To achieve this world, we'll need to work together and have effective leadership. The main goal of this training is to learn the basic skills that make up a great leader. We will cover vision and strategy, team management and accountability, charisma, grit and much more!

Audience: This training is ideal for organizers who have some experience.

Disgust, Futility, and Togetherness: Uncovering a new story for the Animal Freedom Movement - Ramona Grace, Eva Hamer and Aidan Kankyoku

Pax Fauna aims to energize the animal movement by conducting first-of-its-kind sociological research to uncover frames and beliefs underpinning support of and opposition to animal rights in the American public. Learn preliminary findings with promise to harness the public narrative for the good of all.

Audience: Those with an interest in high-level movement strategy.





SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: MONDAY

9:00-9:30am: Check-in, Registration and Morning Snacks (California Ballroom)

If you haven't already, get checked-in, grab your t-shirt and make a name tag. Snacks and coffee will be available.

9:30-10:45am: Animals in the Courtroom: Panel (California Ballroom)

Panelists: Justin Marceau, Hadar Aviram, Erica Wilson, Wayne Hsiung

DxE activists are facing felony charges for exposing animal cruelty, rescuing animals and holding corporate animal abusers accountable. During this panel DxE's co-founder and felony defendant, and two law professors, will discuss the impact legal cases have in the animal rights movement and how they could bring down Big Ag.

11:00am-11:45am: Team Building Activity (California Ballroom)

The ALC is just one week out of the year. What do we do for the other 51? We need to build strong teams and communities in our home cities so that we can take effective action for animals all year long. In this team-building activity, you'll work through a strategy exercise alongside attendees who live in the same region as you do, in order to start brainstorming actions you can take once you're back home.

11:45am-1:30pm: Catered Lunch (Snow Park)

Enjoy a catered lunch!

1:30pm-2:45pm: Evan Wolfson (California Ballroom)

Despite the general public's ridicule, Evan Wolfson wrote his 1983 Harvard Law School thesis on his vision of marriage equality. Thirty years later, after fighting for decades, his vision came true. From community organizing to strategic messaging, Evan Wolfson will share his key lessons for social change and inspire us to transform our social and political systems for animals.

16 2:45-5:00pm: Nonviolent Direct Action Training

Matt Johnson, Rachel Ziegler, Tania Campos Suarez, Matthew Mckeefry

Learn the skills you need to take action for animals as safely and effectively as possible!



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: TUESDAY-THURSDAY

Tuesday-Thursday: Actions (Snow Park)

Take action with fellow activists!

Thursday: Grief Cafe (Snow Park)

Presenter: Sarah JS

Many of the actions we engage in as frontline activists, though absolutely necessary, cause us to experience intense grief and trauma. Join Good Grief Network for a Grief Cafe, where we will gather in a nonjudgmental space to share about our experiences, collectively voice and process heavy emotions, and practice a variety of emotional regulation techniques that will help us build resilience and sustain our activism for the long fight ahead.

Thursday: Where We Go From Here! (Snow Park)

Presenters: Michelle del Cueto and Kitty Jones

During this talk, we will discuss how to maintain our motivation, put to use the tools and knowledge we gained during the conference, the obstacles we may face in organizing, and how to create a good culture in our movements and communities.



LOCATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION

ALC 2021 will take place in various venues. Below are addresses and map for the key locations.

1. Unity Park Community Plaza, Richmond
2. California Ballroom: 1736 Franklin St, Oakland
3. Oakstop: 1721 Broadway Suite 201, Oakland
4. Proxy: 432 Octavia St, San Francisco
5. Lake Merrett Oakland

One of the best methods of transportation in the Bay Area is BART. Download the BART app before the conference starts. It is available on both iOS App Store and Google Play Store.





SPEAKER BIOS

Cassie King: Cassie King is a UC Berkeley graduate and the Communications Director for Direct Action Everywhere. She lives in Berkeley with fellow activists and her two bunnies, Jonah and Mabel, who both escaped slaughter through open rescue.



Carroll Fife: Oakland City Councilmember Carroll Fife represents the residents of District 3, in Downtown and West Oakland and serves as the chair of the Public Safety Committee. Her priorities include providing low-income housing for Oakland residents and finding permanent solutions to address the homeless crisis, reallocating police resources to invest in community services, supporting essential workers and preserving Oakland's historical and cultural spaces for Black and Brown communities.



Almira Tanner: Almira Tanner is the lead organizer of Direct Action Everywhere, a grassroots network of animal rights activists working to achieve revolutionary social and political change for animals in one generation. She is currently facing seven felony charges for rescuing animals and investigating factory farms in Sonoma County, California.





Chelsea Manning: Whistleblower and former political prisoner



Wayne Hsiung: Wayne Hsiung is a lawyer, former faculty member at Northwestern School of Law, and co-founder of the global animal rights network Direct Action Everywhere (DxE). He has led teams that have rescued dozens of animals from factory farms and is co-author of 2 reports on pandemics and animal agriculture. His work as an open rescue activist has been reported on in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and ABC's Nightline.



Raven Deerbrook: Raven began outreaching hunters when she was 16. She uses her experience as a photographer to help whistleblowers expose violent crimes against non-humans, and created the short documentary "Unseen" last year. During the 2020 Rose's Law action, she was assaulted by guards while sitting in the chute leading to the gas chambers at Smithfield's "Farmer John" slaughterhouse.





Amy Soranno: Amy Soranno is a Canadian activist who has dedicated her life to fighting for animal liberation. She has been featured in many news publications, including *The Intercept* and *The Howard Stern Show*. She focuses on investigating animal agriculture, creating strategic campaigns, as well as engaging in mass civil disobedience events. Amy organized the “Meat the Victims” action in Canada, which was a precedent-setting event that was the first of its kind in the country. As a result of her work, she is facing serious charges and potentially decades in prison for unlawfully exposing the realities that farmed animals face.



Eun-Yeong Jung: Eun-Yeong co-founded DxE Korea and has fully ignited the animal rights movement in South Korea. She organized Korea's first open rescue and numerous disruptions, including as lead organizer the 2019 Rose's Law lockdown of a chicken slaughterhouse and its subsequent trial. Eun-yeong is currently a defendant in a trial for disruptive action at a family restaurant on Christmas 2019. For the first time in Korea, the reality of farm animals began to be talked about in court through DxE Korea's trials!



Susana Soto: Susana is an animal rights and human rights activist. As a former slaughterhouse worker in the past, she found motivation to take action for animals. She started volunteering with DxE in 2017 and she has collaborated with other organizations such as Animal Save and Anonymous for the Voiceless. She made a short film about her life as an activist, attending vigils at midnight, to offer water to animals on their way to the slaughterhouse. Since becoming an organizer she has provided courage and motivation while attending protests, vigils, rescues and disruptions. She has worked with other social justice organizations to fight for human rights. Being a single mother hasn't stopped her from taking action and making sure her kids know what is happening to animals in the animal agriculture industry.



Andrés Cedié: Andrés Cedié is a documentary filmmaker and Professor of Visual Journalism. He produced “Rape in the Fields” and was a writer and producer of “Rape on the Night Shift” which brought to light rampant sexual assault of immigrant women in the agricultural and janitorial industries. The two films, which aired in both English and Spanish, were produced at the Investigative Reporting Program (IRP) and were part of a multi-media collaboration with FRONTLINE, Univision, the Center for Investigative Reporting and KQED. The films combined to win a duPont-Columbia Journalism Award, the RFK Grand Prize for Journalism, and were nominated for four national Emmys.



Gwenna Hunter: Vegan activist Gwenna Hunter is the founder of Vegans of LA, Los Angeles’ largest community of vegans and plant-based eaters, and founder of Vegans for Black Lives Matter, which she created to show solidarity. Vegans for Black Lives Matter aims to show that vegans care deeply for the plight of humans just as we do animals. She is also the Los Angeles Vegan Food Aid Coordinator for Vegan Outreach, and manages Los Angeles Health Save, a local chapter of the worldwide Save Movement that promotes a healthy vegan diet as a powerful tool for individual and systemic change.



Ahlah Reddy: Ahlah Reddy has been an organizer with Sunrise Movement Bay Area since February 2020. Some of his notable contributions has been hosting a panel on a Green New Deal for Public Health for Earth Day 2020, organizing the Paradise to Pac Heights march across the Golden Gate Bridge this past June, and starting the podcast Sunrise Bay Radio. He currently works as a teacher for Oakland Unified School District.



Brian Liu: Brian is an Autistic animal advocate, pre-service math teacher, and (very) recent UC Berkeley graduate who writes spoken-word poetry for animal liberation, Autistic empowerment, and more.



Erica Wilson: Erica Wilson is the Legal Coordinator for the DxE SF Bay Area Chapter. She graduated from UC Berkeley with a BA in Political Science in Spring 2021 and plans to apply to law school next year to start Fall 2023. Erica was born in San Francisco and has spent most of her life in the Bay Area. She plans to be an activist attorney post-law school so that she can continue to support activists in taking bold action for animals!



Justin Marceau: Justin Marceau is the Brooks Institute Scholar and professor of law at the University of Denver, Sturm College of law. He is the director of the law school's animal law program, and also an expert in criminal law and constitutional law. He is the author of *Beyond Cages* (Cambridge 2019) and also the soon to be published *Carceral Logics* (Cambridge 2022) co-edited with Lori Gruen. Justin's work focuses on how to improve the status of animals in law, and he is actively researching and writing about questions such as the role of victims' advocacy for animals, the relationship between the so-called "link" and superpredator discourse, and alternatives to policing and convictions when it comes to animal crimes. He was one of the original lawyers who brought challenges to Ag-Gag lawyers across the country.





Hadar Aviram: Professor Hadar Aviram (Ph.D., LL.B., M.A.) specializes in criminal justice, civil rights, law and politics, and social movements, and her research employs socio-legal perspectives and methodologies. She is the author of three books, the latest of which is *Yesterday's Monsters: The Manson Family Cases and the Illusion of Parole* (UC Press, 2020.) Prof. Aviram publishes, teaches, and speaks on domestic violence, behavioral perspectives on prosecutorial and defense behavior, unconventional family units, animal rights, elder abuse, public trust in the police, correctional policy and budgeting, violence reduction, theoretical trends in crime and punishment, and the history of female crime and punishment. A former research fellow of the Harvard Animal Law & Policy Program (ALPP), she has written about the criminalization and repression of direct action on behalf of factory farmed nonhuman animals as well as about strategies employed by open rescue activists to use their own criminal prosecution to promote animal liberation.



Evan Wolfson: Evan Wolfson founded and led Freedom to Marry, the campaign that won marriage in the United States, and is widely considered the architect of the movement that led to nationwide victory in 2015. In 1983, Wolfson wrote his Harvard Law School thesis on gay people and the freedom to marry.



Matt Johnson: Matt Johnson has been an organizer with DxE since 2015, serving as the network's Press Coordinator since 2017. He's been involved in dozens of factory farm investigations, and currently faces a felony prosecution in Iowa as a result, with trial expected this November.



Rachel Ziegler: Rachel has been involved with DxE for the past 7 years, including starting a chapter, organizing protests, doing investigatory work, leading trainings, taking part in civil disobedience, and much more. As a result of her involvement in exposing animal agriculture, she is facing 8 felony charges and up to 9 years in prison. In addition to being an activist, Rachel is also a professional photographer, a manager at a vegan restaurant, and a guardian of two rescued birds.



Matthew McKeefry: Matthew is a DxE organizer. He lead actions in multiple cities and managed the DxE international network for three years. He lives with other activists in Berkeley and he loves to hike and workout.



Tania Patricia Campos Suarez: Tania is an organizer and an elected member of Direct Action Everywhere's leadership team. Over the years she has successfully led protests, conferences and teams that taught her the importance of effective leadership. At ALC, she will be leading a breakout session where she will discuss her personal experience in a leadership position, as well as what it takes to be a great leader.





Sarah JS: Sarah JS (she/her) is a facilitator, lawyer, radical thinker, and deep feeler. Since childhood, Sarah has observed the grace and suffering in the world and wondered, 'what is mine to do?' She's spent her life trying to answer that question by focusing her attention on environmental and human rights law, climate justice activism, therapeutic healing practices, and community resilience-building. Sarah spends her days balancing rest, play, and her work as the Executive Director of Good Grief Network, where she helps individuals process their painful feelings about the state of the world and reorient their lives toward meaningful action.



Michelle Del Cueto: Michelle Del Cueto is the international coordinator for DxE. She was born and raised in Mexico City and moved to Berkeley recently. She graduated from UAM Xochimilco in Social Communication, where she produced and edited a documentary about Diana Velásquez, a victim of femicide in Mexico State. She dedicates her life to speaking out and defending women's rights as well as animal rights. Her passions are filming, photography, video editing, feminism and taking care of her dog Takami.



Kitty Jones: Kitty is a dedicated activist for both humans and animals. She organizes with the community working group to host events like meetups and popups and works hard to strengthen the community and the movement so we can make the world better together! When she's not organizing with DxE she can be found in Richmond, rescuing animals in the streets, raising money for refugee families, or protesting against white supremacy



Celeste Yamada: DxE Chapter Organizer and Investigator from Phoenix, Arizona. Alongside her peers, she assisted in establishing a DxE chapter and investigation network in her area, and participated in several mass open rescues. In her pursuit to become a veterinarian, she is committed to aiding the animal victims of intensive farming practices, including co-founding the Animal Liberation Temple sanctuary.



Rasa Petrauskaite: Rasa works in the financial services industry and has been volunteering with DxE since 2015. She also volunteers with Compassionate Bay. The organization is working on getting new laws passed at the state and local levels that will significantly help animals.



Alexandra Paul: Alexandra Paul lives in Los Angeles. She was the lead investigator in DxE's investigation into Land O Lakes and has participated in several open rescues and investigations. She is proud to say she has been arrested with other DxE activists at least once a year since 2017, including at ALC.





Seom Nari: Seom Nari co-founded DxE Korea and has fully ignited the animal rights movement in South Korea. Nari participated in Korea's first open rescue and numerous disruptions, including the 2019 Rose's Law lockdown of a chicken slaughterhouse. Nari is currently a defendant in a trial with Eun-yeong for disruptive action at a family restaurant on Christmas 2019, and has been running a series of columns introducing DxE Korea's activities to Korea's largest progressive media outlets. Recently, Nari organized a research team to set up DxE Korea's long-term strategy!



Brittany Drake: Brittany is the lead organizer for the Los Angeles chapter of Direct Action Everywhere. She was born and raised in California and graduated from the University of Southern California with a bachelor's degree in comparative literature with an emphasis in film. She has been organizing with DxE for five years and this is her fifth ALC if you count the years when it was called the DxE Forum, sixth if you count 2020 ALOA. She has rescued several hens from factory farms and slaughterhouses all over California and was arrested two years ago for civil disobedience locking down at Reichardt duck farm. She's also a home chef, feminist, cinephile, writer, introvert, singer, actor, and lit nerd with a penchant for pushing boundaries



Samantha Faye: Samantha is an organizer with Direct Action Everywhere and Compassionate Bay, a grassroots group of volunteers dedicated to seeing political change in the Bay Area in favor of animal rights and environmental protection. She has worked on the California Fur Ban and Berkeley's Plant Based Purchasing Resolution.



Nick Sackett: Nick Sackett is the Director of Legislative Affairs for Social Compassion in Legislation. Nick is instrumental in SCIL's continued success in collaborating with lawmakers to pass groundbreaking legislation. As a graduate of Tulane Law School and after working in corporate law for over a decade, Nick joined the SCIL team in 2017. With background in international trade of endangered species of wild flora and fauna, Nick heads SCIL's ground game in the halls of the Capitol, interfacing with legislators, staff, committees, and supporters to help save animals.



Eva Hamer: A DxE alumna and movement music leader, Eva has been organizing in the animal freedom movement since 2015. She is a dedicated student of Nonviolent Communication committed to bringing NVC's repertoire of creative problem-solving tools to the work of building a better culture in the animal movement. Working for years as a music therapist in hospice taught Eva how to apply metrics to aspects of life that are difficult to measure- and how to judge when metrics aren't working to tell the whole story.



Aidan Kankyoku: Since getting their start as a community organizer with DxE in Colorado in 2015, Aidan has been immersed in studying the craft of disruptive mass movements. Besides spending years organizing in the animal freedom movement, he has gained a broad perspective on mass movement building through hands-on experience at the Standing Rock #NoDAPL protests in South Dakota, Extinction Rebellion in London, Line 3, and elsewhere. In his current work with Pax Fauna to design a new grand strategy for the grassroots, Aidan's perspective on movement building weaves together diverse threads: as a certified Kingian Nonviolence trainer, dedicated student of Nonviolent Communication, and lay ordinee in a Rinzai Zen lineage committed to a broad view of social change work.



Ramona Grace: In 2017, Ramona followed a flier to a potluck hosted by Direct Action Everywhere and attended her first protest the following day. Inspired by the power of DxE's disruptive approach, she worked voraciously in the Chicago animal movement over the following years, attending local and regional advocacy and protests. After an undercover investigation of Fair Oaks Farms surfaced abusive treatment, she co-organized a series of actions targeting their Chicago headquarters. Ramona helped jump start the Slaughter Free Chicago campaign, which has succeeded in shutting down slaughterhouses in the city and ignited similar campaigns across the country.



Matthew Braun: Matthew Braun has been involved in some of PETA's victories over some of the most recognizable companies including Canada Goose, ExxonMobil, Jack Daniel's, and Ringling Brothers. Matthew also has years of outreach experience and is a former undercover investigator of farms and slaughterhouses. He lives in West Hollywood, CA with his partner, DxE - Los Angeles organizer, Brittany Drake.



Aaron Yarmel: Good dialogue facilitation skills can transform an uninspired, hostile, conflict-prone, or unproductive group of activists into one that effectively and joyfully pursues meaningful goals in a welcoming and safe environment. In this 1-hour session, you will learn practical techniques for gently guiding others to engage in four key types of thinking: supportive thinking, focused thinking, creative thinking, and critical thinking. This will be an accessible, hands-on session.



Leighton Woodhouse: Leighton Woodhouse is a journalist and documentary filmmaker. He writes and podcasts at leightonwoodhouse.substack.com. Leighton has covered factory farming and animal rights activism for The Intercept and, most recently, at Glenn Greenwald's Substack. He's an SF Bay chapter member of DxE.



Andrew Sharo: Andrew is a PhD candidate in biophysics at UC Berkeley. For several years he cared for three hens that were rescued during ALC 2018. As a SF Bay Animal Care team member, he is working towards normalizing living with rescued farmed animals.



Alona Duhan Arima: Alona is co-founder of Hens of the Hills Microsanctuary in the Berkeley Hills. With her background in parenting, epidemiology and gardening, Alona brings a diverse set of experiences to sanctuary management. She believes that everyone can find a place for microsanctuaries in their life.





Carla Cabral: Carla was an ER Veterinary Technician for over 11 years. After several years as a research scientist, she made the connecting and now devotes her life to changing all systems of oppression and exploitation. Working on an animal sanctuary helped her understand how everyone can care for farm animals and she is eager to share her knowledge.



Christopher Eubanks:

Christopher is a climate, human and animal rights activist that was raised in Atlanta, Ga that has dedicated himself to doing advocacy work that combats all forms of injustice. After learning the horrors of animal exploitation Christopher became vegan, began doing community organizing and has helped co-organize Atlanta's first ever animal rights march. Christopher plans to use education, public speaking and creativity as tools to advocate for the climate, a vegan lifestyle and the end of all forms of injustice.



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