Welcome

Save the date for our social change event: "Reimagining Black Mothers' Health" on October 10th at Liberty Hall, 311 N. Ivy. All events are being held at Liberty Hall from 6pm to 8pm. We're showing the movie Born in Flames on Thursday, 6/24. Join us for a night of activism and community conversation.

Timothy Key

Youth involvement in political process

Timothy Key: Youth involvement in political process is a necessary component of healthy community. By involving young people in the political process, we can ensure that their voices are heard and that they have a say in the decisions that affect their future.

Theresa Pearson

Formerly a woman in prison

Theresa Pearson: My journey from prison to freedom is a testament to the power of resilience and determination. I am now an advocate for criminal justice reform and work to ensure that others have the same opportunities that I have.

Valentine

Deep dive into your own soul

Valentine: Through soulful reflection and self-discovery, we can uncover our true selves and find our purpose in life.

Shaking the Mind

A fresh look at mental health

This workshop will explore the latest research on mental health and provide tools for personal growth and healing.

Sunday, 6/26

Drunk Thinker: Jami St. Helen's Friday, 6/25

Saturday, 6/25

Spoken word by Francese and Morris

Bursaries by Double Trouble

T-Boxx

Born in Flames

We're showing the movie Born in Flames on Thursday, 6/24.

Crowd was excited to see the film, and it was a powerful reminder of the systemic issues that continue to impact our communities. The film highlighted the importance of community organizing and the need for collective action.

Thank you all.

Born in Flames

XOXO

Samia Ahmad

The Portland State University Resource Center

The Portland State University Resource Center will be hosting a screening of Born in Flames on Thursday, 6/24. This event is open to the public and will feature a discussion with the filmmakers after the screening.

Possible...

Looking forward to seeing you all there!
Kim Christoffel
Kim Christoffel hails from Minneapolis. In addition to working with the Icarus project, she helped found the Bat Annex free school, and has done organizing around body image and eating disorders. She is part of the Northland Poster Collective, a 26-year-old union print shop that creates art and other tools for organizing.

Lauren Hartley
Lauren Hartley is a 25-year-old anarchist living in Portland. She has spent the past two and a half years immersed in community organizing around sexual assault and sexism within punk/activist circles. She’s immensely proud to have been part of this conference and to work with the rock star organizers in Portland.

Lee Hunter
Lee Hunter is a Portland-based wage slave who wants to destroy the world of wage labor. In between swilling beer, riding bikes, and listening to heavy metal Hunter, spends much of her spare time developing public workshops and writing. Recently, Hunter has focused on ways to challenge gender norms, as well as to explore liberated relationships and sexuality.

Dendron
Dendron has had a couple years experience fighting the evils of patriarchy in diverse activist communities, has had part in writing anti-oppression policies and efforts at putting them into place in those communities to attempt to create safer spaces for people trying to fight those same evils directed at our earth. She is extremely passionate about learning how to create healthy relationships, healthy communities, and healthier communicative practices and believes in radical action against the scour who seep through the walls of our tight nit communities and infect our bodies, minds and hearts with violence...

Safer Space Policy
Born in Flames Conference organizers have chosen to employ our Safer Space Policy (SSP) for a number of reasons:

We firmly believe that safer space policies are a step in providing a community that is more supportive to survivors and their allies. We must also recognize that there is no such thing as a completely safe space and that one person’s safety needs can jeopardize another’s.

Violent legacies of oppression are invested in virtually every aspect of our environments and socializations. We are all capable of internalizing and perpetuating these oppressions no matter who we are. It is necessary to outline steps toward a safer space where conference participants intentionally strive to create a sense of mutual aid and peace to support to process these painful, personal topics.

The goal of the Born in Flames Conference is to provide a space for productive and inspiring dialogue centered on issues of sexual assault and to enable our selves to work against sexual assault and its causes in our lives. We, the organizers, believe that in order to accomplish this goal it is vital to create an accessible safer space where participants identify and halt oppressive statements, behaviors, and actions.

As our statement of purpose shows, there has been a recent movement in Portland of organizing around issues of sexual assault in our communities for more than two years. Through direct actions, community consciousness raising and processes of accountability, we have witnessed healing and undergone learning experiences. We want to examine processes that perpetrators could go through in order to empower the survivor while holding the perpetrator accountable and facilitate re-entry into the community for all involved. We believe that the needs of survivors should be at the center of creating these processes, and in order for that to happen, safer spaces that exclude perpetrators are essential in allowing that dialogue to occur.

In the future we hope our safer space policies can evolve along with us and incorporate perpetrators where appropriate.

We desire more discourse surrounding healthier, consensual sex practices, and proactive measures of sexual assault prevention. We wish to build solidarity in our communities with survivors of sexual assault and their allies by providing a space for education, networks of support that include accountability and survivor empowerment. Based on our experiences, as well as what we have heard from survivors in our communities and elsewhere, we have come to understand that the presence of known sexual assault perpetrators will be triggering and disruptive to the healing process. Known sexual assault perpetrators will be asked to leave.

We wish to acknowledge survivors of all kinds and pay respects to our predecessors—living, imprisoned, or dead—that lived to survive and dismantle the violent, lethal forces of imperialism, colonialism, white supremacy, capitalism, and patriarchy.

Empowerment to persons that are not normally in a place of power and privilege
It is time. We need to confront these issues head-on and work towards a more inclusive and equitable society. Let’s work together towards meaningful change, and remember that everyone has a role to play in creating a better future.}

Collen Cork

Alex Lundberg

Facilitator Bios

Accessibility
Discussions

The rooms and times for discussions is TBA, please check in with the welcome desk for finalized room numbers and times.

These are the discussions topics that were sent to us in advance, but if you want to hold a discussion about a topic that’s important to you, please come to the sign-in room. There are sign-ups for ad-hoc discussions. The more the better. This weekend is raising a number of complicated issues that won’t ever completely be covered in three days of workshops. Make the space you need! This is a chance for all the participants coming to the conference to create the conference they want - to add topics we have overlooked or simply didn’t have anyone to facilitate the workshop. We encourage everyone to become part of the conference by contributing your voice and knowledge.

Saturday, June 25th

10:30-12:30/ RM 328

Survivor Centered Support and Community Safety

This discussion will explore the interactions between survivor centered support and community safety around sexual perpetrators. Some questions to consider for the discussion: how can a survivor centered approach include secondary victims? if a survivor’s wishes are to not address the presence of the perpetrator, how can communities deal with their own issues of safety?

Facilitated by Alex Lundberg & Kim Christoffel

Saturday, June 25th

1:30-3:30/ RM 327

Support & Accountability:

An informal discussion centered on questions like - what does support and community accountability look like for someone who is both a survivor and a perpetrator? We will discuss different processes in support and accountability networks/communities... what has worked? what is good? who are we to judge?

Facilitated by moe & five

Sunday, June 26th

10:30-12:30/ RM 327

Alcohol and Consent:

This will be a facilitated discussion on how drug and alcohol use sometimes leads to bad decisions, particularly when it comes to sex. What can be done to keep these sometimes traumatic experiences from occurring? When is someone too intoxicated to give consent? How can we set up a support network to look out for each other? The path the discussion will take will depend on its participants. This issue needs to be addressed!

Facilitated by Rogue
Day Three
Sunday, June 26th

10:30-12:30 ~ RM 329

Accountability through mentoring perpetrators

Dealing With Our Shit/Sexism (DWOS) members Alex and Tom will give a brief history of their group in Minneapolis, and how they began working with perpetrators of sexual assault in their community. There will be an overview of the accountability process they use - called “mentoring”, followed by time for questions and discussion.

Facilitated by Alex Lundberg & Tom Pierson

10:30-12:30 ~ RM 328

circles
Researchers and Directed by Shanti Thakur

A film about justice and community healing, CIRCLES is an inside look at sentencing circles - an alternative approach to sentencing offenders in the Yukon. By bringing together the perpetrator of crime, his or her victims, peers and elders, sentencing circles focus on finding ways to heal the offender, the victim and the community, instead of simply punishment. For many Aboriginal men in the North, going to jail was a natural extension of attending residential schools run by missionaries. For some circle sentencing is a way to re-connect with their spiritual traditions and to break away from the cycle of crime, court, prison.

1997 Documentary

Lunch 12:30-1:30

1:30-3:30 ~ RM 327

The Rhetorical Politics of Safety

Safety is our fundamental human right, but the rhetoric of safety could be used to undermine others’ safety. For example, creating a women-only space may feel safe to many survivors, but how does it feel to trans people who are survivors, or people who have been hurt by women? Or, how the emphasis on egalitarian relationship among women feel “safe” to white women and “unsafe” toward women of color? When people are being unjustly detained, imprisoned, deported, excluded, refused or killed by our government in the name of defending our “security,” we need to critically rethink uses and abuses of the rhetoric of safety within our movements as well as in the society. Come join us for discussion.

Facilitated by Emi Koyama

1:30-3:30 ~ RM 329

Creating an effective response to sexual violence in activist communities

The history of anti-oppression policies in several activist communities using stories and previous experience to look at what has worked and what hasn’t, the obstacles to actualizing a policy in patriarchal campaigns, the effectiveness of them due to each situation being so unique, and how to motivate people to take part in creating a safe space to work in and not just abstractly supporting them from afar.

Ways to create a response as situations surface that is both healthy, for survivors and inclusive of community support along with good for the campaigns goals and energy levels.

Accountability processes; their place in activist communities, effectiveness in the past, and new ideas to bypass the extreme energy drained from entire communities implementing them.

Facilitated by Brian & Kendron

Break 3:30-4pm

4-6 pm ~ RM 328

P.M.S. Media Presents: A Video-Vigil and Media-Watch Strategy Session

The workshop will include, screenings of 3 short documentaries by P.M.S. Media, facilitated discussion on issues of violence against women brought up in the short documentaries, a short presentation of core issues and experiences P.M.S. Media has encountered within the alt media scene, and discussion of strategy for holding ring-masters and mistresses in the three-ring media-circus accountable for representation on issues of violence against women and gender outlaws. We can use media as a tool to tell our own stories and generate culture. We can organize to hold indy-media accountable for representation of issues of sexualized-violence against women, children, and gender deviants.

Facilitated by Crystal K. Uchino &
Situnkrising A. Midnight

* T.B.A. *

To sign up for TBA slots, please go to the welcome desk.