

Welcome to

**The 11th Annual
PrideWorks Conference**

Tuesday, November 17, 2009
8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Westchester County Center
White Plains, NY



PRIDEWORKS
for **LGBT** Youth

SPONSORS

**The PrideWorks Conference Committee
gratefully acknowledges our generous donors:**

Rainbow Circle (\$1,000+)

Assemblymember Adam Bradley

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Westchester County Youth Bureau

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Mental Health Association of Westchester County, Inc.

Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester

The LOFT: The LGBT Community Services Center

ENDORSEMENTS

**This 11th Annual PrideWorks Conference has been endorsed
by the following organizations:**

The Hudson River Teacher Center

National Association of Social Workers, Westchester Division

New York Association of School Psychologists

New York State School Social Workers Association

Putnam-Northern Westchester Guidance Center

School Social Workers Association of America

Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association

VOLUNTEERS

The Conference Planning Committee would like to thank
the many volunteers who keep PrideWorks working.
This Conference would not be possible without your support.



CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS



GLSEN Hudson Valley
Gay, Lesbian and Straight
Education Network
www.glsen.org/hudsonvalley



PFLAG Westchester
Parents, Families and Friends of
Lesbians and Gays
www.pflagwestchester.org



**Center Lane Community Center for
GLBTQ Youth**
Part of Westchester Jewish Community Services
www.centerlaneny.org



Westchester County Executive's Office
www.westchestergov.com/lgbt

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

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PFLAG Westchester

Carol Fessler
PFLAG Westchester

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WJCS/Center Lane

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GLSEN Hudson Valley

Mathew Thoennes
PFLAG Westchester

David Diamond
Lakeland Central School
District

Emilio Salvati
PFLAG Westchester

Bev Weiner
GLSEN Hudson Valley



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:00 a.m.	Registration and Breakfast
8:45 a.m.	Opening and Welcome
9:30 – 10:15 a.m.	Keynote
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Session 1 – Educational Workshops
11:40 a.m.	Lunch
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Session 2 – Educational Workshops
1:40 – 2:40 p.m.	Session 3 – Educational Workshops
2:45 – 3:00 p.m.	Complete Evaluation
	<i>Submit evaluations and receive a special gift!</i>

WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE

FLOOR	ROOM	SESSION 1 10:30 – 11:30	SESSION 2 12:30 – 1:30	SESSION 3 1:40 – 2:40
Second Floor	Little Theatre	Four Decades of Coming Out Stories	Putting the “B” in LGBT	Four Decades of Coming Out Stories
First Floor	ROOM A	Counseling LGBTQ Youth	Cyberbullying (Double Session) Begins in Session 2, Room A and continues in Session 3, Room A	
First Floor	ROOM B	LGBT 101	LGBT Pride - When Did It All Start?	LGBT 101
First Floor	ROOM C	Latino Families Discover the Rainbow	African-American Community’s Acceptance of Its LGBTQ Youth	Debunking Anti-Gay Myths in the Bible
First Floor	ROOM D	How to Start a GSA	GSA Roundtable	GSA Advisor Roundtable
Second Floor	ROOM E	Gender, Race and Sexual Orientation Connections	Bullying Prevention	Starting OUT
Second Floor	ROOM F	Think B4 You Out	Safe Space in the Workplace	Transgender – A Family Perspective
Second Floor	ROOM G	Transgender – A Family Perspective	Healthy Teen Relationships	Healthy Teen Relationships
Second Floor	ROOM H	Political Action 101	How To Be an Effective Straight Ally	Wrapping Up



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

SESSION 1 – EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

10:30 – 11:30 am

<p>SESSION 1 Little Theatre Second Floor</p>	<p>Four Decades of Coming Out Stories Presenters: Peggy Borgstede, Steven Welch, Michael Tuner, Brentin Brown, Heather Dickson & Austin Saiz</p> <p>“Coming Out” has always been an intimate process of engagement in society. Panel members ranging in age from adolescents to seniors will share their experience and reflect on what has changed and what challenges remain in today's world. <i>(Repeated in Session 3, Little Theatre)</i></p>
<p>SESSION 1 ROOM A First Floor</p>	<p>Counseling LGBTQ Youth Presenter: Jason Kane</p> <p>This workshop for adults only will answer questions such as: Should I initiate a conversation about sexual orientation or gender identity? How can I create a safe environment for discussion? What resources are available in the community? These topics and other questions will be addressed.</p>
<p>SESSION 1 ROOM B First Floor</p>	<p>LGBT 101 Presenter: Nic Calabro</p> <p>This introductory session is designed to help people enhance their knowledge and correct any misconceptions that might exist by presenting an overview of LGBT people. Once you are prepared with the facts, you can speak out with confidence! <i>(Repeated in Session 3, Room B)</i></p>
<p>SESSION 1 ROOM C First Floor</p>	<p>Latino Families Discover the Rainbow Presenters: Nila Marrone & Wilma Ruiz, Patricia Alvarado</p> <p>Latino youth and their parents share their touching personal stories of coming out. As they share their experiences, they will offer ideas about what to say, when to say it, and what can help.</p>
<p>SESSION 1 ROOM D First Floor</p>	<p>How to Start a GSA Presenters: Scott Perlman & Hendrick Hudson HS students</p> <p>Do you want to change attitudes and perceptions in your school? Learn how to start your own GSA. What are your rights? What resources are out there? How can you plan a dynamic meeting?</p>
<p>SESSION 1 ROOM E Second Floor</p>	<p>Gender, Race and Sexual Orientation Connections Presenters: Diane Gonzalez & Diane Schneider</p> <p>This workshop for adults only seeks to make people aware of how gender, race, and sexual orientation vary in each person's sense of their own identity. In addition the multiple combinations make us each unique, even within the larger general groups. This workshop has both self-reflective and “What can I do to support others in schools?” components.</p>



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS continued

SESSION 1 ROOM F Second Floor	<p>Think B4 You Out Presenter: Sara Braun</p> <p>Coming out is a different personal journey for everyone. When someone comes out to you, he or she is entrusting you with very intimate information. Is it ever OK to out someone? What can you do to make sure you don't out someone who doesn't want to be outed? We will be using examples from real life – both successful and disastrous.</p>
SESSION 1 ROOM G Second Floor	<p>Transgender – A Family Perspective Presenters: Rex and Karen Butt and their daughter, Cadence Case</p> <p>A transgender youth and her parents will share the story of their dramatic personal journey to understanding and acceptance, while providing factual information. <i>(Repeated in Session 3, Room F)</i></p>
SESSION 1 ROOM H Second Floor	<p>Political Action 101 Presenter: Matthew Brunner, Empire State Pride Agenda staffer</p> <p>With a number of very important pieces of legislation on the NYS political agenda, community and individual involvement is the only way to keep our schools safe and to help LGBT New Yorkers attain full equality. Find out what options are available for students to become involved in political activism. Learn practical ways of becoming advocates and activists.</p>

SESSION 2 – EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS 12:30 – 1:30 pm

SESSION 2 Little Theatre Second Floor	<p>Putting the “B” in LGBT Presenter: Chagmion Antoine</p> <p>Bisexuality is rife with myths and stereotypes. This workshop will address these myths and stereotypes and counter them with realities. Come prepared to ask all the questions you've always wanted to ask!</p>
SESSION 2 ROOM A First Floor	<p>Cyberbullying Presenter: Scott Hirschfeld, Anti-Defamation League</p> <p>This two-session workshop for adults only will focus on the nature and impact of cyberbullying, strategies for responding effectively when it occurs, and ways to foster a youth culture of e-safety and respect for differences. <i>(Double Session starts in Session 2, Room A and continues in Session 3, Room A)</i></p>



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS continued

<p>SESSION 2 ROOM B First Floor</p>	<p>LGBT Pride - When Did It All Start? Presenter: Dr. Jim Stenerson</p> <p>This interactive workshop will develop an historical timeline highlighting important events in LGBTQ history, with special attention to the story of “Stonewall.”</p>
<p>SESSION 2 ROOM C First Floor</p>	<p>African-American Community’s Acceptance of Its LGBTQ Youth Presenters: Steven Welch, Margaret Lewis & Brentin Brown</p> <p>This panel will explore the unique challenges of being LGBTQ in the African-American community. Learn how culture, faith/spiritual beliefs and family systems impact the lives of black LGBTQ youth.</p>
<p>SESSION 2 ROOM D First Floor</p>	<p>GSA Roundtable Presenters: Rob Conlon, Marissa Allis & Aly Fernandez</p> <p>Get together with members of GSAs from other schools to share great ideas for exciting meetings, fun activities, and effective advocacy. For students only.</p>
<p>SESSION 2 ROOM E Second Floor</p>	<p>Bullying Prevention Presenters: Diane Schneider & Diane Gonzalez</p> <p>This workshop will center on the effect that bullying has on the victim. A short video about bullying and a participant activity will illuminate the roles of bystanders, bullies, victims and allies.</p>
<p>SESSION 2 ROOM F Second Floor</p>	<p>Safe Space in the Workplace Presenter: Sara Braun</p> <p>How can you make your school or work environment a welcoming place for LGBT people? This workshop will go beyond a philosophical discussion to provide specific tips and strategies. Topics include designing appropriate intake/registration forms, correct ways to ask about significant others, displaying welcoming materials, “water-cooler conversation” and more.</p>
<p>SESSION 2 ROOM G Second Floor</p>	<p>Healthy Teen Relationships Presenter: Anthony Marmo</p> <p>What makes a healthy relationship? Knowing yourself and feeling secure are the first steps on this path. Explore, share and learn about dating, communication and “the closet” in youth relationships. <i>(Repeated in Session 3, Room G)</i></p>
<p>SESSION 2 ROOM H Second Floor</p>	<p>How To Be an Effective Straight Ally Presenter: Rev. Joe Agne</p> <p>It is important that the LGBT movement for justice be led by LGBT persons. To succeed, however, it also needs skilled allies such as parents, siblings, colleagues, relatives, teachers, and friends of LGBT people. This workshop will teach you how to evaluate your own homophobia and heterosexism, as well as teach you advocacy skills to support those about whom you care.</p>



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS continued

SESSION 3 – EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

1:40 – 2:40 pm

<p>SESSION 3 Little Theatre Second Floor</p>	<p>Four Decades of Coming Out Stories Presenters: Peggy Borgstede, Steven Welch, Michael Tuner, Brentin Brown, Heather Dickson & Austin Saiz “Coming Out” has always been an intimate process of engagement in society. Panel members ranging in age from adolescents to seniors will share their experience and reflect on what has changed and what challenges remain in today's world. <i>(Also in Session 1, Little Theatre)</i></p>
<p>SESSION 3 ROOM A First Floor</p>	<p>Cyberbullying Presenter: Scott Hirschfeld, Anti-Defamation League This two-session workshop for adults only will focus on the nature and impact of cyberbullying, strategies for responding effectively when it occurs, and ways to foster a youth culture of e-safety and respect for differences. <i>(Started in Session 2, Room A and continues in Session 3, Room A.)</i></p>
<p>SESSION 3 ROOM B First Floor</p>	<p>LGBT 101 Presenter: Nic Calabro This introductory session is designed to help people enhance their knowledge and correct any misconceptions that might exist by presenting an overview of LGBT people. Once you are prepared with the facts, you can speak out with confidence! <i>(Also in Session 1, Room B)</i></p>
<p>SESSION 3 ROOM C First Floor</p>	<p>Debunking Anti-Gay Myths in the Bible Presenters: Rev. Joe Agne, Rev. Deb Morra & Rabbi Scott Weiner Although the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures are amazingly free from anti-gay references, it does not keep some people from propagating untruths. This workshop will examine specific passages and interpretations that have been invented to support the anti-gay movement.</p>
<p>SESSION 3 ROOM D First Floor</p>	<p>GSA Advisor Roundtable Presenter: Rob Conlon This roundtable for adults only is specifically for school personnel who advise GSAs or Diversity Clubs, or who plan to do so. Bring your ideas, issues and questions and learn about the struggles and successes of other groups.</p>



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS continued

SESSION 3 ROOM E Second Floor	Starting OUT Presenter: Chagmion Antoine Build your career without sacrificing your identity. Former reporter and CBS staffer, Chagmion Antoine talks about making your own personal uniqueness work for you.
SESSION 3 ROOM F Second Floor	Transgender – A Family Perspective Presenters: Rex and Karen Butt and their daughter, Cadence Case A transgender youth and her parents will share the story of their dramatic personal journey to understanding and acceptance, while providing factual information. <i>(Also in Session 1, Room G)</i>
SESSION 3 ROOM G Second Floor	Healthy Teen Relationships Presenter: Anthony Marmo What makes a healthy relationship? Knowing yourself and feeling secure are the first steps on this path. Explore, share and learn about dating, communication and “the closet” in youth relationships. <i>(Also in Session 2, Room G)</i>
SESSION 3 ROOM H Second Floor	Wrapping Up Presenter: Chip James What touched, interested, provoked, encouraged, humored, angered, inspired or empowered YOU today? Come share your experiences at PrideWorks in a facilitated discussion that honors the gifts, lessons, and challenges of the day.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PRESENTER BIOS & RESOURCES FOR LGBT YOUTH

The PrideWorks Conference has prepared presenter bios and many resources for LGBT youth and their allies.

The bios and resources have been published on the Westchester County Official Web Site.

For access, log on to <http://www.westchestergov.com/lgbt>



PrideWorks is a conference for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth and their allies.

PrideWorks' mission is to **inform** our communities about the realities of growing up LGBT, to **inspire** them to respect and support LGBT people, and to **advocate** for positive change.