CO-LEADS
COLORADO LEADERSHIP FOR EQUITY, ADVOCACY & DISCOVERING SOCIAL JUSTICE

ELEVATE THE DISCUSSION
STUDENT SUMMIT FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28TH 2011
8:00AM-4:00PM, AURARIA CAMPUS

ILIFF SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY DENVER
The Food Guy
COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF DENVER
University of Colorado Denver
Welcome to the 3rd Annual CO-LEADS Student Summit! This year’s theme is “Elevate the Discussion” — we hope to encourage students to focus on developing awareness, knowledge and skills in the area of social justice through deeper conversations and dialogue. Moving beyond surface level conversations is never easy, but it is critical for us all to engage with privilege, oppression, and activism. We must seek out new knowledge that can lead us to more effective action and social change. We challenge participants to dig deep at this year’s conference and elevate their discussion with others.

The CO-LEADS conference was established in 2009 by a group of individuals on the Auraria and DU campuses as a way to bridge discussions of leadership and social justice in a meaningful way. The Summit invites college students from across Colorado to join in discussions of social justice, activism, advocacy, and social change. Throughout the day you will participate in a number of workshops that challenge, grow, and inspire you to make change in your own lives and communities. The Summit is co-sponsored by Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State College of Denver, University of Colorado Denver, University of Denver, Johnson & Wales University and Iliff School of Theology.

**SCHEDULE**

8:00am – 8:45am (Tivoli Turnhalle) 
Registration and breakfast

8:45am – 9:45am (Tivoli Turnhalle) 
Morning keynote with Dr. Rachel Griffin

10:00am – 11:30am (Check Your Nametag for Plaza Rooms) 
Workshop 1– Privilege Beads

11:30am – 12:30pm (Tivoli Turnhalle) 
Lunch

12:30pm – 2:00pm (See Workshop Descriptions for Plaza Rooms) 
Workshop 2 – Elevating the Discussion

2:15pm – 3:15pm (Tivoli Turnhalle) 
Closing session with Phamaly
Dr. Rachel A. Griffin is an Assistant Professor of Speech Communication at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She received her B.S. from Central Michigan University in Sociology/Criminal Justice and Communication Studies (2002), her M.A. from Central Michigan University in Interpersonal Communication (2004) and her Ph. D., from the University of Denver in Culture and Communication and Diversity in Higher Learning (2008). Her interests include intercultural communication, critical race theory, gender violence, critical pedagogy and black feminist thought.

Dr. Griffin has been recognized for her work on several occasions, including a Top Paper Award in the Intercultural Communication Division of the Eastern Communication Association in 2009, an Outstanding Dissertation Award in the African American Communication and Culture Division and Black Caucus from the National Communication Association in 2008, and Top paper in the African American Communication and Culture Division in the National Communication Association in 2007. Dr. Griffin has several publications including "Faculty of Color in the Academy: Teaching in the Line of Fire" in The National Education Association: Thought and Action Journal and "Control, Discipline, and Punish: Black Masculinity and (In)visible Whiteness in the NBA" in Critical Rhetorics of Race.

All CO-LEADS attendees are participating in the same workshop this round, to further explore some of the concepts covered by Dr Griffin, in more personal terms.

Our goal is to give everyone a little more time with a common language around the step beyond “just” diversity, to social justice. Specifically, we’re going to explore our privilege (one-up status) around various identities.

This is not meant to make anyone feel guilty or ashamed around having or not having particular privileges, but rather to explore how we ALL have SOME privilege, and therefore how to engage that aspect of our part in our societies.

We believe it critical for everyone to “sit in” this understanding in order to work and lead individually and collectively for social justice.
Radical Collaboration
Rachael Boice (Plaza 112)
Discuss the first steps of organizing on a campus. Learn how to meet like minded individuals, hold a consensus based meeting, and reach out to the community. We will also talk about how to find and tap into financial and networking resources to fully utilize your campus.

The Boat
Jessica Harris (Plaza 114)
Students will explore their own and other identities while working together in groups to problem solve. Discussion will allow for participants to critically think about how Issues of privilege and oppression, as they relate to the campus community as well as the global community, played into the activity.

Promoting Critical Consciousness: "Love the Way You Lie" and the Normalization of Violence against Women
Dr. Rachel Griffin (Plaza 130)
This session will explore the representations of women in U.S. American popular culture to decipher how to illuminate the intricate workings of power, privilege, and oppression in popular culture such as music. Participants can anticipate multiple examples but we will focus on "Love the Way You Lie", sung by Eminem and Rihanna, to inspire dialogue and generate critical consciousness.

All That We Are: An Introduction to Advocacy through Intersectionality
Krishna Pattisapu (Plaza 132)
This workshop features activities and discussions through which participants become acquainted with the concept of intersectionality. With this cursory understanding of intersectionality, participants can become aware of themselves as multidimensional individuals who can enact social change by recognizing and speaking out against the interrelated nature of all forms of oppression.

Elevating your Student Organization through Inclusive Leadership
Nicholas Bowlby, Nancy Ross & Hannah Black (Plaza 136)
In this interactive session, we will explore ways you can work to empower members of your organization. We will start by providing opportunities to explore your personal identities. Through specific scenarios, we will develop strategies and takeaways for inclusive leadership, resulting in more engaging and effective student organizations.

Heteronormativity: An Elevated Understanding of Privilege
Leslie Rossman (Plaza 138)
Discussions of heterosexual privilege in the classroom revolve around homophobia. This workshop will flip the dialogue and look at homophobia from the perspective of heteronormative privilege. Through the understanding of hegemonic gender practices, we begin to see our role from a new lens and begin to address personal implications.

The Danger of a Single Story
Steve Ross & Elizabeth Haire (Plaza 146)
This interactive session will challenge participants to explore the perception and stereotypes told by themselves and others about multiple identities we hold. Participants will leave with a stronger awareness of "Single Stories" told about one another and the ongoing impact they have in our daily lives.
**Presenter Biographies**

**Rachel Boice** - Officer of the Collective for Social Change and long time community activist and student leader. Boice’s skills and interests intersect at last in her final years in the Master of Humanities and Social Sciences, Social Justice program. She is currently working with a number of other student groups on campus as well as departments, institutes, community organizers, artists and organizations to host a Social Justice Conference "The Art of Social Justice" this coming April, 2012.

**Jessica Harris** is a doctoral student in the Higher Education Program at the University of Denver. She earned a master’s degree in College Student Affairs from The Pennsylvania State University and a bachelor’s degree in Critical Theory and Social Justice, with an emphasis in Critical Race Theory, from Occidental College. Jessica believes extensively in the transformative power of dialogue and has wide-ranging experience facilitating these conversations.

**Krishna Pattisapu** is a doctoral student and graduate teaching instructor in Culture and Communication in the Department of Communication Studies at the University of Denver. Her research focuses on the experiences of queer people of color in academic contexts, as well as the experiences of drag performers of color. She has taught undergraduate courses in intercultural communication, public speaking, and performance studies.

**Nicholas Bowlby** is a PhD student in the Higher Education program at the University of Denver specializing in leadership and organizational change. Nicholas is a former student affairs administrator and current graduate student president for the University of Denver. His research interests are inclusive excellence and leadership and the influence dominant identities have on leaders within higher education wishing to work in social justice and diversity.

**Nancy Ross** is a second year master’s student at the University of Denver. She is obtaining her degree in Student Affairs Administration with a concentration in College Student Development. She currently works at a Graduate Resident Director in Housing in Residential Education. And Nancy is also the Co-Advisor of the Residents Hall Association (RHA) at DU.

**Hannah Black** is a second year master’s student at the University of Denver. She is obtaining her degree in Student Affairs Administration with a concentration in College Student Development. She currently works at a Graduate Resident Director for Nelson Hall in Housing in Residential Education. And Hannah also advises Nelson’s Leadership Development Team.

**Leslie Rossman** is a Graduate Teaching Instructor and a second year doctoral student in Rhetoric and Communication Ethics. She received a BA in Political Science at Southern Illinois University and an MA in Political Studies at the University of Illinois, Springfield. Her research interests include affective labor and branding, queer identity and same-sex marriage, and gender in popular culture. Rossman is an Inclusive Excellence Fellow through the Center for Multicultural Excellence.

**Steve Ross** recently graduated from California State University, Chico with a B.A. in Psychology. He is currently working toward a masters in higher education with a focus in college student development at the University of Denver where he also has an assistantship as a Graduate Resident Director.

**Elizabeth Haire** is in her fourth year as a Resident Director at the University of Denver. She completed her master’s degree at Minnesota State University, Mankato in the area of Counseling and Student Personnel with a focus in College Student Affairs.
Now in its 23rd season, PHAMALy, the Physically Handicapped Actors & Musical Artists League is a nationally recognized, award winning Colorado Theatre Company that performs across the state, most notable at the Denver Performing Arts Complex.

PHAMALy’s mission is to provide professional theatre opportunities and artistic development for performers with disabilities, and to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in the performing arts community. PHAMALy is the only theatre company in the country to solely utilize performers with disabilities.

Chris Silberman, Executive Director of PHAMALy will speak about the organization, and two actresses, Briana Berthiaume and Amber Marsh, will perform. There will be time reserved at the end to take questions from the audience.

SPECIAL THANKS

2011 CO-LEADS Planning Committee

Steve Willich, Chair
Mary Ann Bergman, Erin Christensen, Alejandro Covarrubias, Jill Creighton, Rena Dulberg, Ed Garton, Crystal Hoffman, Lisa Ingarfield, Bobby Kunstman, Lindsay Lockwood, Gretta Mincer, Reid Palmer, Meloni Rudolph, Joanna Snavder, Jeremy VanHooser, Thomas Walker, Carisa Weaver, and David Worley

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The Phoenix Center at Auraria
Urban Leadership Program at Metropolitan State College of Denver
Women’s Resource Center, University of Colorado Denver
Volunteer Opportunities for Co-Leads Participants

SafeHouse Denver
Contact Ashley at 303-302-6112 for more information, www.safehouse-denver.org
SafeHouse Denver operates the only shelter in the City and County of Denver that exclusively serves victims of domestic violence. Long-term volunteer opportunities are available with SafeHouse including volunteering with the Denver’s Children’s Program and the 4-Hour Crisis and Information Line. Safehouse also offers episodic volunteer opportunities around special events and fundraising activities.

The Rape Assistance and Awareness Program
Contact info@raap.org
24-Hour Crisis Hotline Volunteer
Volunteer as an advocate on the 24-hour Crisis Hotline. A volunteer hotline advocate is often the first point of contact for those affected by sexual assault.
Hospital Advocate Volunteer
Be the safe and comforting person in a sea of confusion as a Volunteer Hospital Advocate. Respond to the hospital and provide advocacy and support to a sex assault victim.
Special Project & Office Volunteer
Volunteer to help with RAAP mailings, website and social media support, outreach events, data entry or other office projects. Office project hours vary and include days, nights and weekends.

The Phoenix Center at Auraria
Contact Lisa at 303-556-6011/pcauraria@gmail.com for more information, www.thepca.org/volunteer
The Phoenix Center at Auraria (PCA) is an on campus victim advocacy program serving the Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State College of Denver, the University of Colorado Denver and the Auraria Higher Education Center. It serves students staff and faculty experiencing sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking. All services are free and confidential.
Helpline Advocate
Helpline Advocates attend a 40 hour training to provide advocacy, crisis intervention, information and referrals to the Auraria campus community, regarding issues of relationship violence, sexual assault and stalking.
Event Volunteers
The Phoenix Center at Auraria has a pool of volunteers who can help with our events around campus and other one-time activities.

Colorado AIDS Project
Contact www.coloradoaidsproject.org or 303.837.0166
The mission of Colorado AIDS Project (CAP) is to prevent HIV infection and improve lives affected by HIV and AIDS. Colorado AIDS Project is a 28 year-old community based organization that helps those living with HIV/AIDS, and those at risk, to make healthy choices for a self sufficient, enhanced quality of life. CAP provides innovative, individualized services to those most in need, educates high risk populations, and advocates for social and health care equity. Multiple volunteer opportunities are available.

Planned Parenthood
Contact http://www.plannedparenthood.org/rocky-mountains/ or 303.321.PLAN
Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains has been helping women, men and teens make responsible choices for 90 years. Since 1916, we have been committed to delivering the highest quality reproductive health care, teaching responsible and age-appropriate sexuality education and have been working diligently to protect a woman’s right to choose. Multiple volunteer opportunities are available.
Gender Identity Center  
Contact http://www.gicofcolo.org/ or 303-202-6466
The Gender Identity Center of Colorado was formed to provide support to anyone gender variant in their gender identity and expression. The Gender Identity Center of Colorado is also an informational and educational resource to the community at large. The Gender Identity Center of Colorado is available to anyone, male / female / other, who can benefit from its services or resources, including spouses, significant others, parents, and siblings. Multiple volunteer opportunities are available.

It Takes A Village  
Contact http://www.ittakesavillagecolorado.org/ or 303.367.4747
It Takes A Village is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization whose mission is to reduce health and social disparities among people of color in the Denver/Aurora, Colorado metropolitan area.

Matthew Shepard Foundation  
Contact http://www.matthewshepard.org/ or 303.830.7400
The Matthew Shepard Foundation was founded by Dennis and Judy Shepard in memory of their 21-year old son, Matthew, who was murdered in an anti-gay hate crime in Wyoming in October 1998. The Foundation seeks to “Replace Hate with Understanding, Compassion & Acceptance” through its varied educational, outreach and advocacy programs and by continuing to tell Matthew’s story. Multiple volunteer opportunities are available.

Project Angel Heart  
Contact http://www.projectangelheart.org/ or 303-830-0202
Project Angel Heart is a non-profit organization that delivers nutritious meals to improve quality of life, at no cost, for those coping with life-threatening illness in the Denver Metro and Colorado Springs areas. Project Angel Heart is unique in that it delivers meals without age or income restriction, at absolutely no charge to our clients. Moreover, our food is freshly prepared and modified based on the dietary needs of our clients. Multiple volunteer opportunities are available.

National Gay & Lesbian Task Force  
Contact http://www.thetaskforce.org/ or 202.393.5177
The mission of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is to build the grassroots power of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. As part of a broader social justice movement, we work to create a nation that respects the diversity of human expression and identity and creates opportunity for all. Multiple volunteer opportunities are available.

Colorado Anti-Violence Program  
Contact http://www.coavp.org/ or 303-839-5204
Since 1986 the Colorado Anti-Violence Program has been dedicated to eliminating violence within and against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) communities in Colorado, and providing the highest quality services to survivors. Volunteer opportunities include the 24/7 crisis hotline and community education.

GLBT Center of Colorado  
Contact http://www.glbtcolorado.org/ or 303-733-7743
The Center at 1301 E Colfax is the only statewide, nonprofit community center dedicated to providing support and advocacy for Colorado’s gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) population. We serve as a catalyst for community organizing, support services, social activities, and cultural events. Multiple volunteer opportunities are available.