no justice
no peace

YWCA Racial Justice Summit
October 5-7, 2011
at the Madison Concourse Hotel

get involved
YOU have the power to make a difference!

register online at
www.ywcamadison.org/summitregister

The Summit is presented in partnership with the Department of Civil Rights and STAJOH

The YWCA is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.
Cracking the Codes: Race and Relationships in the 21st Century

Dr. Shakti Butler delivers riveting content that inspires new ways of thinking, stimulates hope, and encourages trust. Using film to elicit dialogue and deep learning, Cracking the Codes: Race & Relationships in the 21st Century provokes:

1) understanding the system of structural racism informed by multiple levels of insightful analysis across race, gender, age, class, and culture;
2) consciousness, communication, and healing as part of a new vision of building racial equity, and
3) change through movement building. The film itself features a critical mass of moving personal stories from leaders in the racial justice movement such as anti-racism activist Tim Wise, spoken word artist Ise Lyfe, and scholar Joy Leary. Stories are intertwined with theater, dance, and other art forms to link the personal impact of racism to larger, institutional manifestations in health, education, and the judicial system.

Join others in actively digging deeper into the dynamics of systemic inequity while reconnecting to the passion that inspires your work. Through film and dialogue, you will learn to recognize, talk about, and analyze the subtle, racialized patterns in policies and practices that generate inequity, and build your ability to effect strategic, sustainable change.

10th Annual YWCA Racial Justice Summit

The Madison Concourse Hotel • 1 West Dayton Street

Thursday, October 6
8:30–9:00 a.m. Registration
9:00–9:15 a.m. Welcome
9:15–10:15 a.m. Keynote
  Angela Davis: Institutional Racism in the Criminal Justice System
  10:30–11:30 a.m. Keynote
  Fania Davis: Restorative Justice: What’s Race Got to Do With It?
  11:30–Noon Discussion
  Response round with both keynote speakers
  Noon–1:00 p.m. Lunch
  1:15–2:30 p.m. Breakout A
  2:45–4:00 p.m. Breakout B
  4:15–5:00 p.m. Closing Keynote

Oscar Reed: The Restorative Way: My Path to Restorative Justice

Friday, October 7
8:30–9:00 a.m. Registration
9:00–10:45 a.m. Keynote
  Joy DeGruy: Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome
  11:00–12:45 p.m. Discussion Circles and Lunch
  1:00–2:15 p.m. Breakout C
  2:30–3:30 p.m. Closing Plenary

Harley Eagle: Teachings from an Indigenous Worldview: Recognizing and Breaking Patterns of Oppression in Restorative Justice Practices

Dr. Angela Davis
Institutional Racism in the Penal and Criminal Justice System

Through her activism and scholarship over the last decades, Dr. Davis has been deeply involved in our nation’s quest for social justice. Davis is the author of eight books and has lectured throughout the world. In recent years a persistent theme of her work has been the range of social problems associated with incarceration and the generalized criminalization of those communities that are most affected by poverty and racial discrimination.

Dr. Fania Davis
Restorative Justice: What’s Race Got to Do With It?

Dr. Davis, Civil Rights Attorney and Director of Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth, will focus on the contemporary U.S. restorative justice movement and race. Does this new but ancient paradigm of justice that privileges healing over punitive responses to wrongdoing have the potential to push back the “New Jim Crow” and render mass incarceration (particularly of African American males) obsolete? If not, why not? If so, how so, and what are the challenges and potential pitfalls?

Dr. Joy DeGruy
Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome

Author, speaker, and professor, Dr. DeGruy has been lauded as the most dynamic and inspirational presenter on the topics of culture, race relations, education, and contemporary social issues today. Her theory of Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome suggests that centuries of slavery toxified by systemic racism and oppression have resulted in multi-generational adaptive behaviors, some of which have been positive and reflective of resilience, and others that are detrimental and destructive.

Harley Eagle
Teachings from an Indigenous Worldview: Recognizing and Breaking Patterns of Oppression in Restorative Justice Practices

Harley Eagle is of Dakota and Anishinabe descent. He is the co-coordinator of indigenous work for the Micmac Centre Committee Canada, a Restorative Justice practitioner, and dismantling racism oppression trainer. Harley will look to his Dakota traditions and experience in working with Indigenous and diverse communities in both Restorative Justice and dismantling oppression to explore what it might mean to address racial harms using Restorative concepts that embrace a fuller Indigenous worldview.

Oscar Reed
The Restorative Way: My Path to Restorative Justice

Oscar Reed has experienced the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat in his professional and personal life. He grew up in the South and overcame many hardships as the son of sharecropper parents on a Mississippi plantation. He went on to become a standout professional running back for the NFL Minnesota Vikings for nine years, seven of which were championship seasons. After his football career, he dedicated the past 25 years of his life to Restorative Justice work with youth, primarily with low-income, challenged inner-city youth and families. He is co-founder of The Restorative Way and he is a trainer for the Center for Restorative Justice and Peacemaking.
A1 & C1: Restorative Justice and Hate Crimes (City of Madison Department of Community Rights)

This workshop will provide a basic understanding of hate crimes and their impact on individuals and communities; national and local information; general information and symbolism used by hate groups; and how we as individuals can make a difference through both Restorative Practices and other strategies.

A2 & C2: Circles of Support: Today’s Prisoners, Tomorrow’s Neighbors (Madison-area Urban Ministry)

Madison-area Urban Ministry will screen its 35-minute film entitled “Today’s Prisoners, Tomorrow’s Neighbors” which follows the re-entry of a formerly incarcerated young man who returns to Dane County. The presenters will discuss how Restorative Justice Circles of Support can be used to ease re-entry for newly-released, formerly incarcerated individuals as they negotiate returning to life in the community. Circle members listen without judgment and assist with problem solving, reducing isolation, and increasing accountability while learning about poverty, racism, and the criminal justice system.

A3: Restorative Justice in Schools and Building Community Collaborations (Dr. Fania Davis)

Dr. Davis will discuss her experience at Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (RJOY), which has successfully implemented Restorative Justice programs in schools while creating community collaboration and support around Restorative Justice initiatives. RJOY’s program in West Oakland’s Cole Middle School eliminated violence and expulsions and reduced the rate of suspensions by more than 75 percent.

A4: Irresistible Justice: Cultivating Joy as a Radical Act for Social Change (Dr. Shakti Butler)

Disparities disproportionately impact people of color and are encoded in a system of race and racism that is historically, politically and structurally arranged. Yet conversations about dismantling and transforming these structures are stuck in considerations that are too simplistic. The system of racialization is present throughout a holistic framework where the internal, external, and structural components of racial inequality are self-perpetuating. This session uniquely frames an analysis that promotes dialogue and union between the head and heart and applies it to social change. It is the belief that we can collectively create a world that obliterates fear and connects with others. It is through this union that we can infuse our actions with those of our deepest held values. Then, it is joy, rather than fear, in conjunction with deep analysis that informs radical acts towards promoting justice.

A5: Restorative Justice-Based Court Diversion Programs (Panel discussion moderated by Judge Koval)

Join Lorre Hurlbut, Director of CourtWayBank, Melvin Johnson of the Dane County Public Defender Unit, Shon Gatts from Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin, and Mario Garcia Sierra from Centro Hispánico for a Panel Discussion moderated by Judge Daniel Koval. This panel will discuss the ways in which Restorative Approaches can be used as a preventative approach to divert people from the criminal justice system, with a specific focus on Call-In Circles and Meat-Eating among the criminal justice system.

A6: A Tale of Two Cities (Mikhail Lyubansky)

Two cities. Two recent tragic events. Two innocent non-white people shot to death by white police officers. Two communities torn apart across racial lines. One city reacts conventionally with hearings and court proceedings. The other decides to respond restoratively. This breakout will tell you about the two cases, including the specific circumstances of the shootings, the details of how justice was (or wasn't) served, and the subsequent community responses.

B1: Political Advocacy, Restorative Justice, and Racial Disparities (Celia Jackson & Rev. Jerry Hancock)

In this session, participants will learn how to be engaged in advocacy efforts that reduce racial disparities in the criminal justice system and how to use Restorative Justice as a strategy for: political action, to reduce racially disparate treatment, and to strengthen community across racial lines. We will also discuss the impact of the work happening in Dane County and how to get involved either as program volunteers and/or as political advocates.


In this workshop Harley Eagle, Dakota/Anishinabe Restorative Justice practitioner, will engage with participants and speak about traditional Dakota relationship concepts and why restorative justice processes flowed naturally in Indigenous communities for dealing with conflict. These discussions will lead to further exploration of present day colonial contexts and issues facing Native American people, their resistance, and the healing process from systemic injustice.

B3: Transformative Justice in a School, a Neighborhood, and Citywide: Project NIA in Chicago's Rogers Park (Project NIA staff)

Project NIA is a transformative justice project with multiple branches aiming to reshape the relationship of the criminal legal system to young residents of Rogers Park, Chicago, to interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline, and to educate Chicagoland communities about the prison industrial complex and its consequences. The program includes the implementation of a local public safety alternative to detention in a public school; the organization of support and accountability circles for neighborhood residents in Rogers Park, trainings with community members and professionals on issues in the juvenile justice system, a Prison Industrial Complex teaching collective, and a Wellness Space that provides support groups, counseling, and coordinates delivery of free services such as acupuncture and massage to facilitate healing from trauma. This presentation will provide an overview of Project NIA and its impact.

B4: Restorative Approaches to Interpersonal Racial Conflict (Mikhail Lyubansky)

In this reality of racial inequality—a reality of which many White Americans are not aware—interpersonal (as opposed to structural) racialized conflicts are typically either avoided altogether or addressed in ways that are painful and unsatisfying to all parties. Restorative practices may offer an alternative. A particular restorative approach will be discussed and time permitting demonstrated. This breakout will be led by the person and the primary focus on creating the content, published in the February 2011 issue of Peace Review.

B5: Working for Racial Justice: The American Bar Association Criminal Justice Section’s Racial Justice Improvement Project (Salma Safiedine)

Through a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the ABA Criminal Justice Section has established the Racial Justice Improvement Project and has selected four diverse jurisdictions from across the country—New Orleans, LA; Brooklyn, NY; the State of Delaware; and St. Louis County, MN—to each create a task force comprised of members of the top officials from the local police, judiciary, prosecution and defense. Each jurisdiction is tasked with identifying a specific racial disparity in their criminal justice system and then instituting a specific policy reform to reduce or eliminate the disparity. This panel will discuss this innovative approach to combating racial disparity in the justice system, provide a roadmap for other jurisdictions to follow in instituting similar collaborations, and discuss ways to promote bias-free decision-making in the criminal justice system.

B6 & C3: Using Circles to Facilitate Intercultural and Interracial Understanding (YWCA Madison)

This is a participatory workshop that explores how Restorative Justice Circles can be a part of process to heal harms caused by racism. guided by our Mission: Eliminating Racism, Empowering Women, the YWCA offers Restorative Justice dialogue circles as an opportunity for meaningful intercultural and interracial dialogue about racism.

C4: “And How Are the Children?” and “African American Male Adolescent Violence” (Dr. Joy DeGruy)

This session explores the relationship between multi-generational trauma and oppression experienced by African Americans, and contemporary issues of educational achievement, juvenile justice, interpersonal relationships, and sexuality facing African-American children and youth. This workshop also examines the relationship between current and historical structures that economically disadvantage African American male youth by investigating issues of violence, vicimization, violence witnessing, urban hassles, racial socialization, issues of respect, and the presence of violence among these youth.

C5: A Community-based Movement to Overturn the Culture of Mass Incarceration (WISDOM)

This workshop focuses on how racial justice and over-incarceration harm the whole community and how the whole community can demand a change. Using tools such as the Health Impact Assessment, the goal of this session is to engage a broad group of people in the effort to change the criminal justice system by acknowledging that the health of the entire community suffers as a result of our current policies. 

Racial Justice Summit Afternoon Breakout Schedule

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<th>Breakout A</th>
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<td>Thurs. 10/6 1:15-2:30</td>
<td>Thurs. 10/6 2:45-4:00</td>
<td>Fri. 10/7 1:00-2:15</td>
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- **A1 & C1. Restorative Justice and Hate Crimes**
- **A2 & B1. Political Advocacy, Restorative Justice, and Racial Disparities**
- **A2. Exploring Indigenous Concepts that Support Restorative Justice**
- **A3. Restorative Justice in Schools and Building Community Collaborations**
- **A4. Irresistible Justice: Cultivating Joy as a Radical Act for Social Change**
- **A5. Restorative Justice-Based Court Diversion Programs**
- **A6. A Tale of Two Cities**
- **B1. Political Advocacy, Restorative Justice, and Racial Disparities**
- **B3. Project NIA in Chicago’s Rogers Park**
- **B4. A Restorative Approach to Interpersonal Racial Conflict**
- **B5. Working for Racial Justice**
- **B6 & C3. Using Circles to Facilitate Intercultural and Interracial Understanding**
- **C4. “And How Are the Children?” and “African American Male Adolescent Violence”**
- **C5. A Community-based Movement to Overturn the Culture of Mass Incarceration**
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