

CSUN

CALIFORNIA
STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHBRIDGE

DIVERSITY DAY



**DISABILITY
JUSTICE**



**STRIVING FOR EQUITY AND ACCESSIBILITY
THROUGH AWARENESS AND ACTION**

PRESENTED BY: THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
FEBRUARY 18, 2017 | 8:30 A.M.-3:45 P.M.

CONFERENCE GUIDE

WELCOME



DIVERSITY DAY IS A STUDENT-LED EVENT THAT BRINGS IN EXPERTS FROM A PARTICULAR AREA TO SUPPLEMENT COURSE AND FIELD WORK IN THE MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE (CSUN).



THIS YEAR OUR THEME IS DISABILITY JUSTICE: STRIVING FOR EQUITY AND ACCESSIBILITY THROUGH AWARENESS AND ACTION. WE WILL EXPLORE THE TOPICS OF ABLEISM, ACCESSIBILITY, AND EQUITY. DISABILITY JUSTICE TARGETS THE OPPRESSION OF DISABILITY. IT CHALLENGES THE WAY SOCIETY FUNCTIONS AROUND DISABILITIES IN ORDER TO DEMAND A WORLD WHERE ACCESSIBILITY OPTIONS ARE NOT ONLY FOR THE PRIVILEGED, BUT ALSO AVAILABLE TO ALL. WE WELCOME YOU TO THE 8TH ANNUAL DIVERSITY DAY CONFERENCE!



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:30 A.M.-9:00 A.M.
Registration

9 A.M.-9:10 A.M.
Welcome

9:10 A.M.-9:25 P.M.
Performer: Jamallad

9:25 A.M.-9:30 A.M.
Introduction to Panel 1

9:30 A.M.-10:15 A.M.
Panel 1 **Microaggressions: Shit People Say & Do**
Shayda Kafai
Laurel Keating
Stephanie Osborn

10:30 A.M.-11:15 A.M.
Panel 2 **Navigating Systems**
Stephanie Bower
Tristán Scremin
Dan Vyllette Maldonado

11:15 A.M.-11:30 A.M.
Transition to Small Groups

11:30 A.M.-12:10 P.M.
Small Group Discussions

12:15 P.M.-1:00 P.M.
Lunch & Resource Fair

1:10 P.M.-1:25 P.M.
Comedian: Steve Lee

1:25 P.M.-1:35 P.M.
Transition/Intro to Panel 3

1:35 P.M.-2:20 P.M.
Panel 3 **Sex and Intimacy**
Eva Sweeney
Erik Sorto
Ellen Stohl

2:20 P.M.-2:30 P.M.
Transition to Small Groups

2:30 P.M.-3:10 P.M.
Small Group Discussions

3:10 P.M.-3:20 P.M.
Break

3:20 P.M.-3:45 P.M.
Raffle/Closing Remarks

SCAN FOR A
DIGITAL COPY OF
THE PROGRAM



PANELISTS

PANEL 1 - MICROAGGRESSIONS: SHIT PEOPLE SAY AND DO



Dr. Shayda Kafai is a lecturer at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona's Ethnic and Women Studies Department. She earned her Ph.D. in Cultural Studies from Claremont Graduate University. Her dissertation titled, *Re-inscribing Disability: The Performance Activism of Sins Invalid* explores the performance art and disability justice work of Sins Invalid, a San Francisco Bay Area based performance project. As a queer, disabled woman of color, she is committed to exploring the numerous ways we can reclaim our bodies from intersecting systems of oppression.



Laurel Keating is a mixed media artist and retired pastry chef. She currently works as a part-time caregiver for children and seniors. While her life has been very much impacted by chronic illnesses, she's determined to make the best of every day in spite of them.

PHOTO NOT PREFERRED

Stephanie Osborn was working as a Customer Service Representative and Team Leader for Pacific Bell SNC when she became disabled in 1999 from a lower back/spinal cord related injury. In spite of many medical intervention efforts she continued to be affected by this injury until 2012, when it was medically determined that she would need a wheelchair for most of her mobility. She presently resides in CSUN Family Housing with her daughter, DoMonique, because of her physical challenges.

PANEL 2 - NAVIGATING SYSTEMS



Stephanie Bower is a second-year Master's of Social Work student attending California State University, Northridge. Stephanie received her undergraduate degree in Psychology with a minor in Sociology from CSU, Channel Islands. In 2003, when Stephanie was eleven years old, she had surgery to remove a brain tumor at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. The tumor crushed a portion of her optic nerve, leaving her legally blind. Since that time, Stephanie has learned what it means to speak up for herself in the most uncomfortable situations and how to speak up for others who cannot articulate their needs. Above all else, Stephanie has learned that navigating life with a "disability" requires a quick wit and a sense of humor.



Tristán Scremin was born in Rosario, Argentina and grew up in Albuquerque, NM. He has lived in Los Angeles since 1991. He is an artist and a writer and has lived with and through the diagnosis of schizophrenia for the majority of his adult life.



Dan Vylette Maldonado is a community organizer, artist and activist who identifies as a queer, genderqueer, sick, disabled, and neurodivergent, Latinx femme. They have been actively organizing around LGBTQIA, disability justice, and feminist

PANELISTS

issues since 2011. They currently serve on the board of the nonprofit organization Equal Action where they help plan Los Angeles' longest running LGBTQIA open mic night, OUTspoken Sessions, and will soon debut Food4Thought, an LGBTQIA quarterly intergenerational community meal and mental health forum. They hold a Bachelor's of Arts in History from Cal State Northridge, and plan on returning to school this fall to pursue a Masters of Science in College Counseling and School Services.



At the age of 21 in the city of Boyle Heights, Erik Sorto was shot due to gang violence. He suffered a spinal cord injury and became a C-3 quadriplegic. After this injury, he pursued his A.A. Degree at Los Angeles Valley College and co-authored his autobiography, *Payback: The Cost of Being a Gangster*. In 2012, he graduated from CSUN with his Bachelors in Criminal Justice. In 2013, he became the first human subject to receive an implant in the posterior parietal cortex. Currently, he is involved in ground-breaking technology called the Brain Computer Interface (B.C.I.). He is a father to an 18-year-old boy named Justin and a 17-year-old daughter named Tiffany.

PANEL THREE - SEX AND INTIMACY



Eva Sweeney is a 33-year-old genderqueer disabled female who works primarily as a freelance writer and sex educator. Her topics include disabilities and sex, gender, and queer culture. She is also the creator of a documentary called *Respect: The Joy of Aides*. She currently lives in Los Angeles with her service dog Coral, and her mischievous cat Romeo.



Ellen Stohl is a woman, university lecturer, writer, wife, and proud mother of a 13-year-old girl, but there was a time in which she didn't think that would be possible. Thirty-three years ago, a wet freeway and dangerous curve taken at breakneck speed shattered her spine, and at the time, her dreams. Initially impacted by negative stereotypes, she quickly discovered her injury did not define her. As a self-actualized woman, her education, experience, and life story have given her unique opportunities and insights into living life fully.

ARTISTS AND PERFORMERS



Jamallad (Lucien Kouassi) was born in the Ivory Coast, West Africa, where he was taught the guitar and sight reading by American folk singer Lisa Sammet, then a Peace Corps volunteer in his country. This set him on a journey of musical education that began in West Africa, trailed across Europe, and finally to the United States where he acquired a degree in Music at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. In his formative years, Jamallad studied classical guitar and folk, then pop, rock, and reggae. However, Cavasha, the West African Music which is the precedent to Soukous and Makossa, is the undertone of Jamallad's music. At the end of the College years Lucien became known as JAMALLAD and has since been writing and performing music that explores the human condition in his own distinctive style. Singing in various languages, his repertoire reflects the global culture he has so fortunately enjoyed.



Steve Lee may be the only Chinese disabled stand-up comedian in America. His comedy is remarkably original, centered around his experiences dealing with racism and living with disabilities in both continents. Rather than being encumbered by stereotypes, he is vitalized by them. He blends stories and punchlines to convey his belief that we are all equal - equally ignorant, fallible, weird, and desiring freedom. For Steve, comedy is a way to get people - including himself - to laugh about our own shortcomings and problems in our daily lives. Steve's Stand-Up Comedy has an expanding fan-base on two continents. He is a staple at comedy clubs in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Kuala Lumpur, and Singapore, and has opened for headliners like Tom Rhodes, Tom Cotter, Brad Williams, and Brent Weinbach.



Bianca Rodriguez is a 25-year-old medical social worker. She graduated with her Masters of Social Work (MSW) from California State University, Northridge in 2016. Her journey with auto-immune diseases started when she was 7 years old, living with hyperthyroidism. When she turned 17 she was diagnosed with her second auto-immune disease, Sjorgrens Syndrome. Finally, after countless doctors and medical tests, she was diagnosed with Lupus at the age of 22. She strives to spread awareness, what is known as "the invisible disease" or "the look good, feel bad disease."

Her Capstone Research Project was dedicated to Lupus patients titled, "Creating Visibility for Chronic Illness: A Photovoice Study on the Experiences of Individuals Living with Lupus," in an effort to add to the literature and educate medical staff on the challenges they face. Her medical journey has inspired her to help patients with various medical conditions. Despite being discouraged to follow her dream because of her diagnosis and the risk of infection in a medical setting, she became a medical social worker at the Lompoc Artificial Kidney Center where she advocates and supports her patients who are on dialysis. Living with Lupus is not easy, but Bianca hopes to continue achieving her dreams and inspire others along the way.



Painted Brain creates lasting community-based solutions to mental health challenges and the impact of social injustice through arts, advocacy, and enterprise.

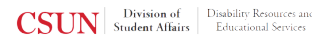
COMMUNITY RESOURCE TABLES



ALPHA RESOURCE CENTER (SB)
alphasb.org



BRAILLE INSTITUTE OF L.A.
brailleinstitute.org



DRES (DISABILITY RESOURCES AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES)
csun.edu/dres



HOMELESS CARE L.A.
www.hhcla.org



NORTH L.A. REGIONAL CENTER
www.nlacrc.org



National Association of Social Workers
CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

CA-NASW, REGION G
socialworkers.org



CSUN DEPARTMENT OF ACADEMIC RESOURCES & PLANNING
csun.edu/academic-resources-planning



CSUN MOSAIC MENTORING PROGRAM
csun.edu/social-behavioral-sciences/sociology/
csun-mosaic-mentoring-program



CSUN PRIDE CENTER
csun.edu/pride



THE NATIONAL MS SOCIETY
nationalmssociety.org



TÍA CHUCHA'S
CENTRO CULTURAL & BOOKSTORE
"Where Art and Minds Meet - For a Change"

TÍA CHUCHA'S
tiachucha.org



TRIUMPH FOUNDATION
triumph-foundation.org

A SPECIAL THANKS

to each of our committee members, panelists, MSW faculty and staff, performers, volunteers, partners, and sponsors for your support in making Diversity Day 2017 possible.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Alberto Corona
Alessandra Rizzotti
Ami Patel
Ana Burgos
Anahi Gonzalez
Brittanie Day
Dafne Aguilar
Deanna Strawn
Elizabeth Orozco
Estefania Gonzalez
Felicia Mallon
Gabriela Burciaga
Jackeline Ramon
Jason Valdez
Jess Cardiel
Jessica Nestelroad
Jessica Rubalcava
José Paez, LCSW
Kristie Scherrer
Lainey Sevillano
Liliana Hernandez
Lindsey Gaudioso
Mark Abelson, MFA, MSW
Marlene Cardozo
Melissa Garcia
Orion Block
Rocío Rincon

SPONSORS/PARTNERS

CSUN Associated Students
CSUN Deaf Studies
CSUN Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES)
CSUN Event Services
CSUN MOSAIC
CSUN Social Work Department
CSUN Social Work Society
CSUN University Student Union
CA-NASW, Region G
Judith DeBonis, LCSW, PhD
Mark Abelson, MFA, MSW
Ray Rivera Design

LUNCH OPTIONS



Urbane Cafe

HAND-CRAFTED • FIRE-BAKED

SO CAL SANDWICH

Roasted Chicken, Avocado, Tomatillo Salsa, Pepper Jack Cheese, Green Leaf Lettuce, Chipotle Aioli

SOUTHWEST CHICKEN

Roasted Cajun Chicken, Avocado, Corn & Black Bean Salsa, Pepper Jack Cheese, Chipotle Aioli

THE CALIFORNIAN (VEGETARIAN)

Artichoke Hearts, Avocado, Sundried Tomatoes, Mushrooms, Jack Cheese, Green Leaf Lettuce, Herb Aioli

TURKEY CRANBERRY BRIE

Roasted Turkey, Cranberry Chutney, Brie, Arugula, Herb Aioli

TUSCAN (VEGAN)

Roasted Eggplant, Zucchini, Portobello Mushroom & Red Pepper, Sundried Tomatoes, Arugula

URBANECAFE.COM



TWITTER.COM/URBANECAFE



FACEBOOK.COM/URBANECAFE2003

CAMPUS MAP

Restrooms can be found on each floor of the Northridge Center Complex and East Conference Caenter, as well as on the first floor of the Southwest Addition/Grand Salon.

Gender Inclusive restrooms are located left of the stage, down the hall, on the first floor of the Northridge Center Complex.

Space Type

Type

- M Meeting/Event
- SR Study Rooms
- L Lounges
- S Services
- R Recreation
- F Food
- A Administration

Key

- ? Information
- R Stairs
- E Elevators
- GR General Restrooms
- DF Drinking Fountain
- WR Wash Room
- GIR Gender Inclusive Restrooms
- LR Lactation Room
- WA Wheelchair Access

Northridge Center Complex

FIRST FLOOR

- M Granada Hills
- M Lake Balboa
- M North Valley
- M Northridge Center
- M Reseda
- M South Valley
- M West Valley

SECOND FLOOR

- M Plaza del Sol Performance Hall
- M USU Theatre (Entrance is on First Floor)

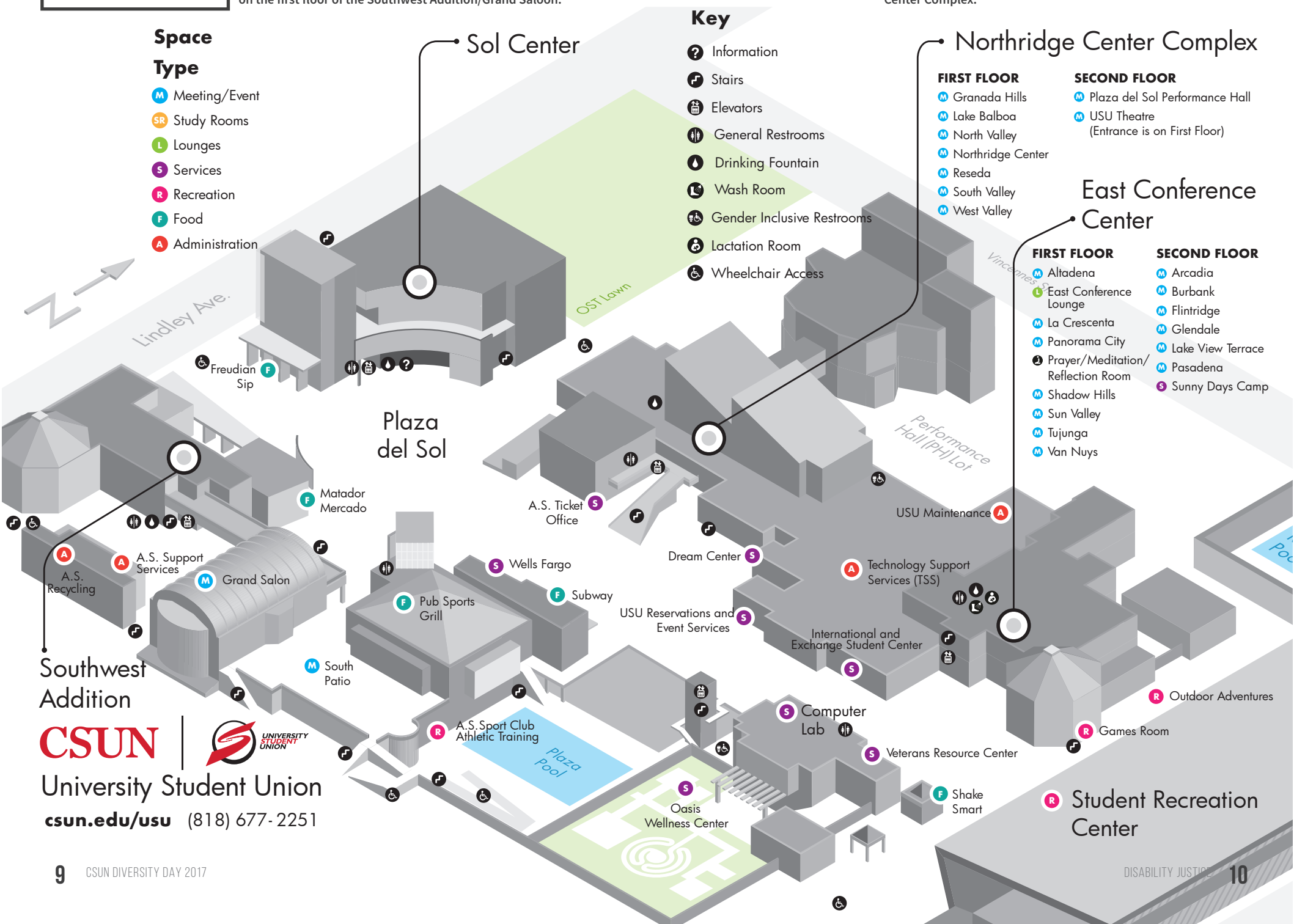
East Conference Center

FIRST FLOOR

- M Altadena
- L East Conference Lounge
- M La Crescenta
- M Panorama City
- P Prayer/Meditation/Reflection Room
- M Shadow Hills
- M Sun Valley
- M Tujunga
- M Van Nuys

SECOND FLOOR

- M Arcadia
- M Burbank
- M Flintridge
- M Glendale
- M Lake View Terrace
- M Pasadena
- S Sunny Days Camp



Southwest Addition

CSUN | **UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION**
 University Student Union
csun.edu/usu (818) 677-2251

