

Keynote Presenter & Location	Presentation Title	Keynote Description
Kevin Jennings WPC 8 ~ Colorado Springs, CO April, 2007	<i>"American Dreams"</i>	The son of a Southern Baptist evangelist, the nephew of a Klan leader, and the first of over 40 first cousins to graduate from college, GLSEN founder Kevin Jennings has traveled an unusual road from a North Carolina trailer park to the halls of Harvard to his current position as the head of the nation's leading education organization working to end anti-LGBT prejudice in schools. In <i>American Dreams</i> , he shares the story of his family's journey from the segregated South to a brave new world of inclusion and acceptance.
John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas WPC 8 ~ Colorado Springs, CO April, 2007	<i>"Reclaiming Our Roots in Humanity"</i>	Through a lens of power and privilege, the presenter will examine and challenge some of the major narratives regarding (im)migration as promoted in mass-media and the current (im)migration debate. John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas will then explore how those narratives must be contextualized, reviewed and rewritten into a wider transnational, transracial, transcultural, and transmovement narrative that supports human rights, human dignity, and social justice.
Jamie Washington WPC 8 ~ Colorado Springs, CO April, 2007	<i>"Is There a Hierarchy of Oppression?"</i>	Racism, Sexism, Anti-Semitism, Classism, Heterosexism, Ableism, Ageism, etc.. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King stated, none of us are free until we are all free. Audre Lorde stated there is no hierarchy of oppression. This keynote will consider this question and how important it is for us as social justice educators to get clear about our answer.
Paula Rothenberg WPC 8 ~ Colorado Springs, CO April, 2007	<i>"The Role of Schools in Reifying & Disrupting White Privilege"</i>	What is at stake in the struggle over who can claim victim status as we carry out a conversation about white privilege? In this talk Paula Rothenburg will consider questions of responsibility, culpability, and agency, and examine the responses of both people of color and white people to the shift from talking about "racism" to talking about "white privilege."
Rhea Almeida WPC 9 ~ Springfield, MA April, 2008	<i>"Enacting Liberatory Practices: From Critical Consciousness to Action"</i>	Social injustices – including poverty, racism, colonialism, sexism, homophobia and physical ableism – permeate our personal lives. This presentation lays out the Cultural Context Model that challenges this matrix of power, privilege and oppression, bringing change and liberation to families and communities.
John Palmer WPC 9 ~ Springfield, MA April, 2008	<i>"Karate Chops, Geishas, Nerds, and the Asian Invasion: Reflections of a Korean Adopted American"</i>	Palmer will examine stereotypical portrayals of Asians and Asian Americans in the mainstream U.S. media, and the impact they have had upon his life, as a Korean Adopted American growing up in a predominantly white and culturally white environment. He will examine the role these play in limiting identity and perpetuating the belief that Asian Americans are second-class citizens. This presentation will provide a self-empowering "model" to challenge these stereotypes and their role in maintaining oppression.
Joe Feagin WPC 9 ~ Springfield, MA April, 2008	<i>"The Two - Faced Racism"</i>	Professor Joe Feagin will analyze disturbing data on extensive racist commentaries and performances recorded in recent diaries by 626 white college students at 28 colleges and universities. Keeping diaries for 6-8 weeks on average, these "educated" young whites recorded 9,000 accounts of racial events they had observed, about 7,500 of which involved blatantly racist commentaries and actions by whites, many of them friends and relatives. Feagin concludes with a critical assessment of the implications of these data for anti-racist education and interventions.
Dorothy Roberts WPC 10 - Memphis, TN April, 2009	<i>"White Privilege and the New Biopolitics of Race"</i>	Genomics has resurrected scientific interest in biological concepts of race by attempting to identify race at the molecular level. In that last decade, there has been an explosion of biotechnologies that use race as a biological category, such as race-specific pharmaceuticals, commercial genetic testing for determining racial identity and genealogy, egg donation and embryo selection involving race, and racial profiling with DNA forensics. These technological innovations are part of a new biopolitics of race that helps to maintain white privilege in the 21 st century, post-civil rights era. We must contest both the persistent myth that race is natural and persistent injustices based on race.
Juan Battle WPC 10 - Memphis, TN April, 2009	<i>"Race, Sexuality and Social Justice: A View of the Future Through the Lens of a Public Sociologist"</i>	From leadership in Black America to Proposition 8 in California and Hate Crimes in Brooklyn, this keynote will address a number of domestic topics facing the United States.
Paul Kivel WPC 10 - Memphis, TN April, 2009	<i>"Understanding White Supremacy, Challenging White Privilege and Working for Social Justice"</i>	How does white supremacy look in 2009? What are the challenges and what are the opportunities we face in a time when some people are saying that if a Black man can be elected president we have become a postracial society? How do we encourage white people to take responsibility for challenging specific forms of white privilege built around issues of land, labor, education, housing, and self-identity? Let's move beyond generalities about racism and white privilege and move into responsibility for addressing concrete issues of racial justice.
Frances Kendall WPC 10 - Memphis, TN April, 2009	<i>"Passing the Mantle: Calling Forth and Mentoring the Next Generation of Change Agents"</i>	Organizational change for social justice is life-long work that demands deep personal commitment and the determination to persevere when the path is lonely and hard. It requires faith that change is possible and a community of people who push us, challenge us, and hold us as we grow and learn. Having been given the gifts of guidance and the trust that we would use what we were taught, it is our responsibility as elders to pass on what we know.
Tim Wise WPC 10 - Memphis, TN April, 2009	<i>"Between Barack and a Hard Place: Racism and White Denial in the Age of Obama"</i>	This presentation will address what the election of Barack Obama says (and doesn't say) about the state of racism and white privilege in the United States. Far from being in a "post-racial" period, as many commentators suggest, Wise explains that Obama's election actually confirms the salience of racism (what he calls Racism 2.0) and white privilege, in that Obama was forced to downplay the issue of racism, distance himself from people of color in the civil rights and anti-racism community, and generally be seen as having "transcended" his race, in order to win. The dangers of Obama's victory, on these terms, is that whites may come to "need" persons of color to evince a style and manner like Obama's in order to be accepted. Were this to happen, the barriers and obstacles to non-Obama-like persons of color might be intensified, rather than ameliorated by the election of Obama.

Spero Manson
WPC 11- La Crosse
April, 2010

"Redressing Health Inequalities in Native America: The Roles of Indian Self-Determination"

The health inequalities that plague American Indians and Alaska Natives are deeply rooted in a wide range of social, political, and economic circumstances. Historically, these forces disrupted the cultural context which shaped their health and welfare. Specifically, modernization led to large scale change that undermined individual responsibility for financing of services. Dr. Manson briefly charts the parallels between colonization of Native communities and their increasingly adverse health status. He then turns to the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975 (P.L. 93-638) which marked a radical change in federal policies toward American Indians and Alaska Natives. Highlights include several recent examples in which tribal organizations have capitalized on these new opportunities to mount innovative interventions that have substantially improved the health status of Native participants. Dr. Manson concludes by exploring the broader implications of self-determination for altering the Indian health care system and the tensions that remain as these communities struggle to strike a balance between sovereignty and federal treaty obligations.

Shakti Butler
WPC 11- La Crosse
April, 2010

"Growing our Souls" Transformative Love and Radical Healing as Political Acts for Justice."

We do have the potential to transform our world. In order to develop a blueprint that can guide our work as racial justice activists in the 12st century, we must do more that develop skills and strategies that can foment and support change. In addition to being able to understand and analyze that system of racial oppression – and any other form of oppression for that matter – we have to grow our souls. What does that mean? Why would it be important? And how do we do that? How is healing a radical political act? What would it mean to infuse love and healing as elements of a sacred activism? How will the monumental task of developing equality consciousness break down political distance and hierarchy? We must come to recognize the importance of including unconditional love and healing as pathways for confronting entrenched powers that are often recalcitrant to change.

Vernellia Randall
WPC 11 – La Crosse
April, 2010

"Dying White Black: Why Liberal Colorblind Policies Won't Eliminate Racial Health Disparities"

90,000 preventable Black deaths occur every year. These deaths are directly traceable to slavery, apartheid, and racism. Liberal colorblind policies, designed to help all Americans without focusing on the specific needs of communities of color, won't eliminate racial inequalities in the social determinants of health, particularly the chronic stress of living in a racialized society. Only a sustainable, universal, comprehensive, targeted approach will eliminate racial health disparities.

Michelle Alexander
WPC 12 – Minneapolis
April, 2011

"The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness"

As the U.S. celebrates the nation's "triumph over race" with the election of Barack Obama, the majority of young black men in major American cities are locked behind bars or labeled felons for life. Jim Crow laws were wiped off the books decades ago, but today an astounding percentage of the African American community is warehoused in prisons or trapped in a permanent, second-class status – much like their grandparents before them. We have not ended racial caste in America, we have merely redesigned it. By targeting African Americans through the War on Drugs and decimating communities of color, the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control. The old forms of discrimination are suddenly legal once you're labeled a felon. Alexander challenges the civil rights community to place mass incarceration at the forefront of a new movement for racial justice in America.

Jorge Zeballos
WPC 12- Minneapolis
April, 2011

"Mi American: Thievery, White Supremacy and the American Continent"

This address blends historical and contemporary stories, including personal anecdotes, to highlight the impact of white supremacy in the American continent while challenging the current claims to this land. The speaker will share family stories and images, as well as historical and contemporary documents, statements, and images to question the white supremacist notion that the American continent belongs to those that invaded and exploited this land.

Antony Stately
WPC 12 – Minneapolis
April, 2011

"Legacy of Colonization"

This presentation provides a discussion of the processes of colonization and their cumulative impact on Indigenous communities in contemporary society, in particular issues related to historical trauma, micro-aggressions, and cultural oppression. It will also discuss a framework for decolonization for Indigenous people, and give recommendations to non-Indigenous allies who are interested in advancing liberation and social justice in their work with such communities.

Steve Martinot
WPC 12 – Minneapolis
April, 2011

"Colonial Commodification of the Land and the Corporate Structure"

Martinot briefly examines the specific colonial relations in the 17th century Virginia between the corporate structure, the seizure of indigenous land, and the forced labor imposed on indigenous American and African people as essential factors in the development of the modern concept of whiteness, race, and white supremacy, and consider how it then appears and expressed itself in the present. Today we find our socio-economic environment to be one of total commodification, a general corporativization of our society, embedded in a concept of whiteness and a supremacist sense of white racialized identity as its organizing principle. The confluence of white supremacy and corporate control of socio-political processes signify an ongoing contemporary coloniality, in which all questions of "land" and social belonging are enmeshed. Our liberation from this coloniality will entail a decommodification of the land.

Dialogue Panel with Rose Brewer, Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz and Waziyatawin
WPC 12 – Minneapolis
April, 2011

"Intersecting Visions: Immigrant and Indigenous Movements Today"

This scholar-activist dialogue focuses on two of the most vibrant social movements today. Working for racial justice is at the heart of both the Immigrant Rights and Indigenous Rights movements. We need more dialogue today that attempt to link immigrant and indigenous struggles. Our panelists address a number of key questions. How are immigrant and indigenous rights linked in struggle? How do these movements address white supremacy and white privilege? What must we know about immigration history and Native sovereignty so that we better understand current debates? What challenges do we face? What activist strategies are most effective in linking these movements?