



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT WITH PRIDE CONFERENCE



PROGRAM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Kimiya Factory
(she/her/hers)
9:30 am - 9:50 am

Kimiya Factory is the Executive Director of Black Freedom Factory, an organization that encourages data-driven

activism, redefines professionalism for BIPOC LGBTQIA+ communities and youth, and dismantles racial inequity across the state of Texas. She also leads and is the co-founder of the #ChangeRapeCulture movement, which challenges Title IX policies regarding structural violence and sexual misconduct at institutions across San Antonio, and she is the Central Texas Regional Organizer for Black Voters Matter. Kimiya is actively engaged in many nationwide grassroots efforts that support vulnerable populations and has been a recurring political commentator for CNN, MSNBC, ABC News, The Grio and been featured in The New York Times, as well as local Texas news media.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Jalen
McKee-Rodriguez**
(he/him/his)
12:00 pm -12:25 pm

Jalen is an educator who has committed to serving and empowering the community through representative policy-making. As the son of two veterans, and the oldest of three children, he

was raised to value service to others, empathy, and integrity. Two years after graduating from the University of Texas at San Antonio with a BA in Communication, Jalen decided to continue living by family principles by working at Sam Houston High School as a high school math teacher. Through working closely with students and families in District 2, it became clear how heavily the environment impacts a child's future -- how their housing, access to transportation, and access to recreational activities plays a huge role in these critical years of their lives. These observations are what inspired Jalen to run, and to make a difference for students and their families outside of the classroom. The Councilmember knows good representation is key for good policy - and listening is what is necessary for good representation, which will be done on the dais and in the city for District 2.

Councilmember Jalen McKee-Rodriguez was elected to serve District 2 on June 5, 2021 and began his term on June 15, 2021. He currently holds a MA degree in Education Leadership and Policy Studies.

PRESENTER



Rematriation & Queer Indigenous Frameworks for Mobilizing People Power
10 am - 11:15 am

Presented by: Laura Yohualtlahuiz Rios-Ramirez (she/her/hers/they/them/theirs)

Bio: Laura is a Mexican-born Xicana scholar-practitioner of Tepehuan, Guachichil Chichimeca, French and Spanish descent trained in educational pedagogy, circle keeping, performance art, and community organizing.

Currently residing in occupied Somi Se'k Territory of Yanaguana, (San Antonio, TX) she's recognized for her canon of healing-informed praxis intersecting performance art, ancestral knowledge systems and restorative/transformational justice practices as tools for personal and collective transformation. She is a full spectrum doula, circle keeper, professor, folklorist & most importantly a mami passionate about healing intergenerational/colonial trauma through matriarchal leadership, cultural resilience and folklife preservation. They are a visionary co-founders alongside community with De Corazón Circles, Kalpulli Ayolopaktzin, Circles in the Hood & Toltekalli and serve with Texas Tribal Buffalo Project, Xinachtli National Comadres Network, and UTSA's Mexican American Studies Dual Language/Dual Credit Program.

Session Description: Matriarchal & queer leadership are fundamentally embedded into Indigenous lifeways and teachings. This session explores how frontline Indigenous community groups, Kalpulli Ayolopaktzin, De Corazon Circles & Circles in da Hood have bolstered Indigenous frameworks to protect & uplift femme & queer led base building through Participatory Action Research and folklife. Laura Yohualtlahuiz Rios-Ramirez will share how their communities engaged youth and families in grassroots led initiatives that are making the case for policy change and civic engagement through intertribal & intersectional kinship building.

PRESENTER



**Inclusive Sex Ed,
Consent and
Healthy
Relationships
10 am - 11:15 am**

Presented by: Debbie Jennings (she/her/hers)

Bio: Debbie Jennings has been a nurse for over 20 years working in various areas of the healthcare field. She has a passion for teaching youth about navigating the healthcare system, finding their voice, and how to establish safe boundaries. She teaches Health Economics and Policy at UT Health Science Center where she advocates for change in healthcare policies and encourages everyone to find their voice and vote. On weekends she enjoys hiking with her dog Dublin, having coffee at The Pearl, and hosting dinner parties.

Session Description: This session will focus on inclusive sex education, consent and building the foundations of healthy relationships. Participants will also learn about local groups, initiatives, and organizations in South Texas communities providing LGBTQ+ health services aimed at addressing the local HIV epidemic.

PRESENTER



Mental Health Tech Campfire Chat

1:00 pm - 2:15 pm

Presented by:

Monica Ann
Arrambide (She/He
Mix it up)

Bio: Monica has over 18 years of queer youth work in the LGBT nonprofit sector and founded Texas GSA Network in 2007. She was a 2012 Fellow for CompassPoint Next Generation Leaders of Color and is currently the CEO and Founder of Maven.

Session Description: Tech has an impact in our daily lives, not only physically, but mentally. In this campfire chat, we'll be talking about just how our mental health has been affected personally by technology. What are the tools we can implement to have a healthy sense of well being.

PRESENTER



**Religion &
Spirituality in the
LGBTQ+ Community**
1:00 pm - 2:15 pm

Presented by: Reb Mari
(she/they)

Bio: Reb Mari is a Yanaguana-based, Native Two-Spirit Tejana with a passion for ancestral healing through food, art, and activism. Reb possesses an invigorating spirit of initiative that is deeply interwoven in cultura and indigenous roots. They are the chef and owner of the highly acclaimed and nationally recognized La Botanica, Texas' first vegan restaurant, bar and venue. In addition, they are a co-founder of SanArte, community-led cultural healing collective. Reb is a changemaker and trendsetter, always centering healing in their work.

Session Description: This session will guide youth through their connection to faith and how they cultivate individual and communal healing through means of spirituality, faith and prayer.

PRESENTER

Financial Literacy
3:15 pm - 4:30 pm

Presented by River City Federal Credit Union's
Cynthia Gutierrez and Sonia Imperial

Session Description: We will be presenting an overview of basic financial products, concepts, and education, and the importance of properly managing and understanding basic deposit and loan products.



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PRESENTER



**Building Better
Routines of
Self-Care and
Self-Love**
3:15 pm - 4:30 pm

Presented by: Cyber
Alvarez (He/Him/Xe)

Bio: Cyber is a licensed esthetician in training to become an Art Therapist. This session will focus on the art of building routines. Cyber will also share his expertise as a trans person working with Trans Skincare in relation to hormones, laser hair removal, and other common LGBTQ+ skincare needs.

Session Description: This program will focus on building routines into rituals with an artistic and skincare specific lens.

PRESENTER FOR PARENTS



Parent Group Session with Dr. Lulu 10 am - 11 am via Zoom

Bio: Dr. Lulu aka the Momatrician is a Nigerian-born, pediatrician and mom of a transgender daughter, TEDx speaker, bestselling author, and award-winning LGBTQ* advocate.

She is a disabled United Air

Force veteran working as a life coach families struggling with affirmation and support of their LGBTQ+ kids.

Dr. Lulu speaks publicly on parenting, childhood trauma, LGBTQ* issues, and youth suicide prevention. She has been featured on media outlets like The Diaspora Show on Nigerian Television, and CBS This Morning with Gayle King.

Her next book "Invited In: How to Become the Parent Your LGBTQ* Child Needs", is due out Summer of 2022.

The host of 2 podcasts and The Parent Hour radio show on Tejano KLMO 98.9 FM, Dr. Lulu is also an indie actress and "sur-thrivor" of childhood sexual trauma and intimate partner violence. She is on all social media platforms @drlulutalkradio, the web @Dr-Lulu.com and (802)768-1180.

Session Description: Q & A for Parents, Guardians and Caregivers of LGBTQ+ Youth

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**“We deserve to experience love fully,
equally, without shame, and without
compromise.”**

– Elliot Page

**“If I wait for someone else to validate my
existence, it will mean that I’m
shortchanging myself.”**

– Zanele Muholi

**“To love oneself is the beginning of a
lifelong romance.”**

– Oscar Wilde

