Project Humanities Event Report

Event: Aridity & the Desert: Intersectionality within LGBTQIA+ Community

Event Details:
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2018
Time: 6:00pm - 8:30pm
Venue: Woody’s Macayo, 3815 N. Central Ave., Phoenix 85012
Co-facilitated by: Dr. Adero Allison, Asst. Director of Disability Resource Center at ASU; Cammy Bellis, Program Manager of Transgender Education Program at ASU and founder of Mothers in Transition
Total Attendees: 30
Feedback cards: 21

What are three words that describe your experience from this event?

Top 3: enlightening, empowering, educational

- Informative, inspirational, connectional
- Love, passion, growing
- Triggered, empowered, at-ease
- Reflective, validated, community
- Empowering, informational, educational
- Comfortable, frank, optimistic
- Grateful, excited, happy
- Interesting, revealing, challenging
- Wow this great
- Enjoyable, insightful, cool
- Better connected, hopeful, motivated
- Enlightening, educational powerful
- Open, accepting, deep with character, wisdom
- Motivational, inspiring, think
- Positive, empowering, powerful
- Deep, awakening, encouraging
- Eye-opening, important, intriguing
- Communicative, empathy for others, understanding
- Enlightening, incredible, wonderful
- Storytelling, perspective, listening
- Enlightening, constructive, educational
- Enlightening, empowering, diverse

What new awareness did you gain or what is your takeaway from this experience?
- Level of complexity involved and reminder to be super sensitive to it
- I learned that I need to be more understanding about my cross-intersectionality
- LGBT support for our elder community/retirement
- Connect with folks who are a little older
- That I need to be more involved in what I desire to see
- I don't really have a new awareness because I have been doing this work for many years
- There are a lot of groups who feel left out
- A better understanding of the complexity of intersectionality. The axes are really helpful.
- New networks to build
- Listening to LGBTQIA persons can be fun!
- I apparently did not know enough about trans and homeless issues but I need to learn more
- A better understanding of senior/baby boomer concerns and realities
- I have to embrace my new identity of being.
- Awareness of everything around me beyond what I see
- My takeaway is that we are moving in the right direction but we need more allies involved in these conversations.
- Allies do exists and are interested in issues important to me.
- My takeaway is that I need to do a better job as an ally. I need to be an intersectional ally. I need to be an ally to every oppressed person. I will be an ally.
- To be able to talk openly to all about their lives.
- I learned a lot about how intersections impact people and their histories.
- There is little to no support for the aging LGBTQ community.
- So much help is needed to get the communities to work together and learn what others feel and need.
- I got more insight into intersectionality in the LGBTQ+ community. I did not have the opportunity to have these types of discussions prior to this and I am proud of being part of this.

How might this event impact your life and work?
- Better service, connection at work and personal
- Teach others about myself
- Making more queer/trans people connections
- Focus on dismantling toxic masculinity
- It makes me feel like I need to do more
- Potentially I will be able to move this type of activity to my youth group.
- Be more open about my sexuality
- I’m not sure. I do think that we need to engage in a robust civic life.
- Let others be who they are
- Not sure, still processing
- I want to be more intersectional with my professional life
- By creating a better awareness of intersectionality
- Greater ability to educate others
- It made me think more on issues that are important but are overlooked or ignored.
- It made me reflect on how I have not made enough effort to be involved in the LGBTQ community as a Latina. This event encouraged me to discuss these issues with my family and friends.
- Greater sensitivity to intersectionality
- I will do as I stated earlier. I will be an ally to all. An intersectional ally.
- To be able to be more open and live a little more out loud.
- It makes me want to bring up conversations and see what I can do to impact intersectional communities.
- Hearing stories, especially from our elders, is helpful to guide us in the progress we are working toward.
- Be more aware of ALL others and their needs
- This event will give me more acceptance of myself and understanding of the LGBTQ+ community

**Did the content of this event inspire you to change a behavior or to take action toward change? If yes, please clarify.**

- Yes - speak up more, read more to stay current - practice TLC (talking, listening, connecting)
- Teach myself what I should do next.
- To continue to challenge my own masculine behaviors.
- Yes! Talk to people of all identities.
- Yes, it made me not want to hide behind my truth and encourage people to speak out.
- No but it did give me hope that more are doing this work.
- Yes, create a safe place for seniors.
- I’m not sure. I am, however, a political junkie and will be involved in the 2018 elections. We need a robust democracy.
- Yes, network more in trans and sisterhood issues.
- Yes, never correct spouse.
- Yes, educate myself. Be a better ally for marginalized communities that I do not share an identity with.
• Yes, intersectionality can easily fit into diversity. Diversity has become this word we throw around to sound inclusive. Diversity also includes intersectionality.
• Offer more groups and conversations at work and be an ally more to myself.
• Yes, I am looking at things with a different view and a open mind to all aspects even if it may not affect me personally. I will change my whole way of learning and teaching.
• Yes, I will continue getting involved in my community as a Latina.
• Develop a greater sensitivity to intersectionality variability.
• It inspired me to be more vocal. To support and fight for all groups oppressed.
• Yes, try to help younger generation to be better and live a better life.
• Yes, I want to take actions to bring intersectional communities together, even the disabled communities.
• Not change, but it affirmed the importance of taking the time to hear stories and explore our shared humanity.
• Yes, I hope to bring an intersectional/masculinity conversation at my college.

Other comments about this event:
• Outstanding!
• Perf!
• Loved it. Let’s do this again.
• Amazing, authentic
• This event needs to happen more
• Please follow up on this discussion
• Keep the education and add/are more interesting subjects coming?
• Fun
• Prompting once in a while for introverts to speak up, and maybe gently reminding the 3-5 people who dominate a space to step back and allow others to speak.
• If you want to hold an event at MCC, let me know!
• Thank you for inviting me - I felt special
• I was very honored to be apart of this event as someone who is shy to talk, this helped me step outside the box.
• I thought some of the guided questions could have gone deeper or sparked better discussion at our tables. More time together. And an outlet to continue these conversations.
• Loved it

ASU Student: 1
ASU Staff: 2
Community: 16
Student - Other: 2
Unanswered: 1