

ETHICS & CULTURAL COMPETENCY: A FRAMEWORK FOR DECISION MAKING

PRESENTER BIOS

Keynote Speaker

Jeff Levy, LCSW, Live Oak, Inc.



Jeff is Co-Founder and CEO of Live Oak, Inc. in Chicago, an organization providing mental health services to individuals, couples, and families. Live Oak also provides consultation, supervision, and training to social service professionals and organizations. He holds dual master's degrees in social work and recreation therapy. Jeff has held clinical, supervisory, and administrative positions in a variety of mental health and child welfare agencies. In addition to his work at Live Oak, Jeff has been adjunct faculty at the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration for the past 16 years. In this role he created and teaches a course on trauma informed practice, and developed and taught a course on groups and group work. For seven years, he was also adjunct faculty at UIC's Jane Addams College of Social Work teaching a course on child and adolescent mental health. Jeff has presented workshops and seminars locally, regionally, and nationally. His training efforts were twice recognized nationally by the Family Therapy Networker's Innovations in Training Awards. He was one of the founding faculty of the Chicago Training Collaborative, which offered this country's very first postgraduate certificate program in Affirmative Practice with LGBTQ Individuals and Their Families. Along with Live Oak's other Co-Founder, he is the recipient of the 2016 American Family Therapy Association's Distinguished Contribution to Social Justice Award, and in 2016 he also received the Jane Addams College of Social Work Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award. The blog he writes for Live Oak was one of three blogs nominated nationally for a National Association of Social Workers Media Award in 2015. He has written numerous articles - the most recent of which has been published in *The Psychotherapy Networker*. Prior to founding Live Oak full time, Jeff was the Clinical Director at Teen Living Programs in Chicago and the Director of Program Development at The Center for Contextual Change in Skokie.

Closing

Ali Hoefnagel, About Face Theater



Ali Hoefnagel is a performer, arts administrator and teaching artist based in Chicago. As an artist and educator, they embrace the complexity of the queer identity to create new and engaging ways to explore LGBTQIA life within Chicago communities. Ali currently serves as the Education & Outreach Director at About Face Theatre Company where they have devised and directed *Checking Boxes*, *15 Breaths*, and co-directed the world premiere of *Ad Hoc [Home]* for About Face Youth Theatre. Ali was a 2014 Chicago Artist Month Featured Artist, recently received a 30 under 30 award from the Windy Times for contributions to the queer community in Chicago, and has been a lead teaching artist with Steppenwolf For Young Adults for several years. Ali is an active board member for The Pride Youth Theatre Alliance, a cohort of activists representing Queer Youth Theater programs from across the U.S. and Canada. Their weird solo work has been seen in several places around Chicago, most recently being seen working with their friends, The Dilettantes, as a part of Steppenwolf's multi-genre performance series *Lookout*. They have taught theatre activism classes and workshops with numerous organizations and universities in Illinois, including Illinois State University, Columbia College, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Lake Forest College, where they hold a B.A in Theater and Women's & Gender Studies.

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Breakout Session Track A

Dr. Ana Nunez, Chicago Children's Advocacy Center



Dr. Ana Nuñez has been with the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center since 2006, providing individual, family and group psychotherapy to sexually abused Spanish speaking children and their families. She has provided training to staff, students, clinicians, parents and community members on child abuse. Dr. Nuñez was previously Co-Director of La Esperanza Del Futuro Program for Latino foster parents and has over 17 years of clinical experience with children and families. She holds a Doctorate of Psychology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology and is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist.

Breakout Session Track A

Xavier Danae MaatRa, Chicago Freedom School



Xavier is a community organizer and activist from Southern New Jersey. For over a decade he has traveled the country as an organizer in the labor movement, social justice workshop facilitator and youth advocate. Most recently, he's appreciated his time working with LGBT youth through the Drop in Program at the Broadway Youth Center and helping to build a coalition of youth agencies to strengthen youth programs on Chicago's Southwest side. In his free time, Xavier is a self-proclaimed music fiend, budding poet, and student of Pan African Studies. He's passionate about creating workshops that showcase the connection between popular education, people's history and the rhythms of Funk, Hip Hop and Jazz as tools of resistance, transformation, and political change. When he's not advocating for youth you can find him working in the garden and kitchen at Fresh82 Cafe or organizing with his neighbors to develop the South Shore neighborhood.

Breakout Session Track A

Nacole Milbrook, PsyD., UCAN



Dr. Milbrook is the Senior-Vice President of Counseling and Youth and Family Development at UCAN. She has expertise in the areas of *Clinical Psychology, Teen Parenting, Community Behavioral Health, Professional Development, Leadership, and Clinical Training*. Dr. Milbrook has more than 19 years of clinical experience with adults, families and youth in various settings. She is responsible for developing, managing and evaluating multiple service departments at UCAN, including the Teen Parenting Service Network, Counseling and Youth Development Services, Violence Intervention Services, and Workplace Learning. Dr. Milbrook is a published author of the book *Subsequent Pregnancies in Teen Parents Involved in Child Welfare*.

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Breakout Session Track B

Dionna Griffin-Irons



Dionna is a writer, facilitator and current Director of Diversity and Inclusion for The Second City U.S. and Canada. In 2002, Griffin-Irons expanded Second City's Outreach program to a yearly program spearheading an aggressive and inclusive approach in attracting diverse talent and communities to Second City. A Second City Detroit alumnus with 18+ years of experience as a performer, producer and facilitator, Dionna has taught 200+ workshops at colleges, women's shelters, corporate boardrooms and worked with the United States Embassy in Norway and Latvia introducing improv as a tool for social change. Griffin-Irons' diversity and inclusion work has appeared in Diversity Journal publication, on NPR, ABC, NBC, and numerous academic posts including a 2015 TEDx Talk at University of Chicago. Her 2014 published work can be found in Rowan/ Littlefield's anthology, Women, Writing and Prison. Dionna is currently writing a memoir on the intersection of comedy, diversity and women. @dionnagirons

Breakout Session Track B

AJ Jennings, Illinois Safe Schools



AJ Jennings' work is centered on the belief that all students, teachers, and staff must be able to bring their whole self to school in order to be available to learn. A fierce advocate for supporting gender expansiveness and LGBTQ students, AJ comes to the Alliance with eleven years of teaching experience. They have a BA in Women's and Gender Studies from DePaul University and a M.Ed. in Instructional Leadership from University of Illinois at Chicago. AJ has worked with organizations like About Face Youth Theatre, Lurie's Children's Hospital Gender and Sex Development Program, Teachers for Social Justice, Chicago Dyke March Collective, and developed the Queer Teacher Mixer, which supported and connected queer educators in Chicago. AJ is a rural being at heart and will frolic in nature and make jam any chance they get.

Breakout Session Track B

Dr. Mark Courtney, University of Chicago, SSA



Dr. Mark Courtney is a Professor in the School of Social Service Administration. His fields of special interest are child welfare policy and services, the connection between child welfare services and other institutions serving marginalized populations, and the professionalization of social work. His current work includes studies of the adult functioning of former foster children, experimental evaluation of independent living services for foster youth, and the influence of juvenile courts on the operation of the child welfare system.

Professor Courtney received his Ph.D. and M.S.W. from the School of Social Welfare, University of California, Berkeley. He also received an M.A. in clinical psychology from the John F. Kennedy University and a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley.