

# Beyond Diversity 101™

Re-member, Resist, Renew

Mon. August 15 - Thur. 18, 2022  
Guest House Retreat Center in Chester, CT

This 4-Day/3-Night workshop is for social justice practitioners, healers, leaders, community activists and transformational artists who intend wholeness and justice for all. For those who know that these times require dipping deep into the well of the sensuous "yes" and the fierce "no" - this workshop invites you to rest and reflect in warm silence, to remember knowing and allow not knowing - TO BE! Claim the personal rejuvenation that will

strengthen your community activism and ignite the fire-dance that burns away lies of separation (within and without). Come to rest in the arms of community, committed to fierce loving. Come to be emboldened through rigorous truth-telling. Join arms in uncompromising heart-work, leaving with renewed energy to abolish systems of oppression and open pathways to the fullest expression of interconnection for the well-being of all. ~ Aśe



## LEADERS

**Niyonu Spann** is the founder of Beyond Diversity 101™. She is an Organization Development/Organization Transformation practitioner of 30 years, a singer songwriter and a community activator. In addition to leading BD101 and her music production company, NUYONI™, Niyonu leads a Connecticut based project that she co-founded called *Co-Creating Effective & Inclusive Organizations* (CEIO).

**Zhenevere Sophia Dao** is a poet, novelist, playwright, and philosopher. She is the founder of the philosophy of Post-Daoism which explores the inherited patterns of Daoism in terms of the soul. She is also the creator of Mythosomatic Practice, hieratic choreographies of human capacity. She is the founder and Director of SACRa Immanence Theater, and an actor in the company. And she is the founder of The Transgender Necessity, a platform for dignifying the transgender experience and establishing the cultural necessity of the same.

**BODY SUPPORT - Baba Kevin Greene:** Hands on Massage & Energy Work & **Carly Frintner:** Shiatsu practitioner

**COST** Included are tuition, materials, lodging & meals:  
\$990 - Shared Room | \$1,172 - Single Room  
Scholarship aid available, please request early.

Beyond Diversity 101™ in-person workshops will follow the CDC Guidelines recommended at the time of the event. We will also abide by Covid guidelines required by the hosting retreat conference center. We will provide this specific information as it becomes available.

Register **HERE** or at [www.BD101.org](http://www.BD101.org) | Scholarship requests email: [susan@4circlesbeyond.org](mailto:susan@4circlesbeyond.org)

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Facilitation is our art ~ Our art is the facilitation

From the Niyonu™ Website, current home of Niyonu's musical offerings

## NIYONU RISING

Niyonu is a child of the 60's.

She is an accomplished, rooted visionary

Her understanding of music is both technical  
and spiritual

She walks and often flies between polarities

This gives her remarkable prowess, dexterity,  
wisdom, insight and power

She is born of the Sagittarius Sun ~ A leader of many  
and a mother to 4 sons

Niyonu is free and healing her wounds

She is dripping molten gold in-between the spaces  
of where she has been cracked open

She is stronger now more than ever

Niyonu is earthy, fluid and joyous.  
She is tender. She is healing

She is Grandmother

She is medicine woman

She is love, daughter, sister

Niyonu is rising/She is rising to join the highest  
table, to make more seats there, more tables,

More justice. More peace. She is rising.

From Zhenevere Sophia Dao's Book, THE SHEPHERDESS:

## ON THE MYTHOPOETICS OF GENDER EMERGENCE

“It is possible, nay, in fact irrefutable in my experience, that what might be called my “identity” comes to me in inalienable images, in visitations of longing, in sensations that are not mere dreams but the very spirits of my birth, imploring me, in my person, for their embodiment. They will not be denied, for I cease to exist when my identity becomes an idea of my time and place—my culture and society—rather than the unique ways of experiencing this brief, precious life in a vessel of sensation, movement, and consideration that expresses every contour of my soul...and, I pray, less and less contours of anything that is not the shape of my soul. If I have emerged female, it is because the shape of my soul refuses to die before I am what I was born to be.”