

# 10th NIAGARA SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM

## Workshop Schedule

Saturday, February 3, 2018

Marilyn I Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts (MIWSFPA)

<p><b>8:15 - 9:00 AM</b> <b>9:00 - 9:30 AM</b></p>	<p><b>Registration &amp; Coffee</b> <b>Opening &amp; Welcome</b></p>
<p><b>9:45 - 11:00 AM</b></p>	<p><b>SESSION 1</b></p>
<p><b>AccessAbility</b> <i>Presented by: Members of "Next to Lead," Niagara Centre for Independent Living</i></p>	<p>This workshop will educate participants of the Brock University Social Justice Forum about the importance of accessibility for all members of our community. We will challenge attitudes and mindsets of individuals to see beyond a world for able-bodied folk. By challenging the thinking of society, individuals can be more attentive to accessibility needs of other fellow community members. The education we are offering will help people begin to recognize and respond to ableism.</p>
<p><b>Workers' Rights Workshop</b> <i>Presented by Lisa Britton, Niagara Workers Rights Activist Group</i></p>	<p>This workshop will introduce and inform participants about the Fight for \$15 and Fairness and how local activists have been involved in the campaign. It will inform participants about their rights at work, providing an overview of Basic Employment Standards. To Fight for \$15 and Fairness requires group discussion, reflection, and next steps and this workshop will help facilitate that. The main focus of the workshop will be an overview of basic employment standards with an emphasis on improvements to workers rights, especially those concerning non-standard work.</p>
<p><b>What the Fish?: An In-Depth Look Into Our Global Fish Crisis</b> <i>Presented by Kylie Barwise, Guelph University</i></p>	<p>This workshop aims to make participants think twice about their everyday consumption habits regarding fish. Creating a safe and open space for questions, comments and discussion, this talk will look critically at the state of the world's oceans, the declining fish stocks, and how consumers can do their part to help. This presentation will explore the consequences of fish stock depletion as well as the various social, political and economic implications that accompany it. This presentation will provide participants with the necessary tools and resources to take action and to lead more sustainable lives.</p>
<p><b>Activist-ing in Niagara</b> <i>Presented by Kerry Duncan, OPIRG Brock</i></p>	<p>This workshop aims to expand participants' understandings of what they consider activism, and the ways in which folks can learn about different social, economic, and environmental topics and campaigns. The first half of the workshop will introduce a range of activism topics and the second half of the workshop will highlight ways to get involved in activism at Brock University and the Niagara Region. These discussions will include everything from campus clubs to community groups, as well as incorporating activism into academics and supporting local businesses and farmers throughout the region.</p>
<p><b>11:15 - 12:30 PM</b></p>	<p><b>SESSION 2</b></p>
<p><b>Wages and Work - Niagara Poverty Reduction Network</b> <i>Presented by Melenie Neamtz, Niagara Poverty Reduction, and Natalie Chaumont, Poverty &amp; Employment Precarity in Niagara</i></p>	<p>Participants will take part in an interactive workshop introducing the Niagara Poverty Reduction Network with a focus on the efforts of its Work and Wages Task Group. The goal of the presentation is to educate attendees about initiatives taking place in Niagara and across the province as well as outline specific ways attendees can support and engage with individuals, organizations, business etc. to get involved and help lift Niagara's families out of poverty.</p>
<p><b>Humane Jobs: Linking Human &amp; Animal Well-Being in Niagara</b> <i>Presented by Bridget Nicholls &amp; Brittany Campbell, Social Justice and Equity Studies graduate program, Brock University (with support from Dr. Kendra Coulter)</i></p>	<p>Jobs and workplaces are essential to community well-being. However, some jobs can often be harmful to workers. This workshop will get participants thinking about humane jobs and how they can help to create a more humane Niagara. Facilitators, taking an intersectional and interspecies approach to understanding social justice, will examine how labour is linked to both human and animal well-being. Participants will be introduced to language and ideas on humane jobs &amp; interspecies solidarity to build bridges between scholarship &amp; community activism. ** Please note that dogs will be present for a portion of this workshop.</p>

<p><b>Activism Through Silence</b> <i>Presented by Renee Martin &amp; Nona Bader, Niagara Anti-Racists Coalition</i></p>	<p>This workshop will explore power and privilege within social justice. This will be done through activities and discussion. The workshop will help participants better understand how to be mindful about the spaces they work and live in to consider issues of privilege and marginalization with a focus on working toward creating safe spaces.</p>
<p><b>Palestine/Israel: From Zionism to BDS: Challenging the Rhetoric; Dispelling the Myths</b> <i>Presented Ineke Medcalf with Rabbi David Mivasair</i></p>	<p>Ineke Medcalf worked in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) to witness life under occupation, record human rights abuses and provide protective presence. Prior to leaving, Ineke studied the different narratives, UN Resolutions, Geneva Conventions and International Laws as they relate to the situation in Palestine/Israel. In the workshop, Rabbi David Mivasair, a member of Independent Jewish Voices, will join Ineke. They will examine common misconceptions about Israel/Palestine. The workshop will address question such as “what is Zionism?” and “what is the role of Zionism in Israel’s agenda?” We will consider how fear of “the other” and racism thrives when there is government-enforced separation. Lastly, we will touch on the BDS movement, its impact to date, and the narratives surrounding it.</p>
<p><b>12:30 – 1:30 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Lunch, Information Fair, Speakers’ Corner</b></p>
<p><b>1:30 – 2:45 PM</b></p>	<p><b>SESSION 3</b></p>
<p><b>Let's Make Multinationals Work for Everybody</b> <i>Presented by The CATALYSTS: David Jordan, Desmond Sequeira, Linda Babb, Manchari Paranthahan, Rox Carter, Valerie Chalmers</i></p>	<p>The current goals and activities of multi-national corporations (MNC) need to be transformed to work for everybody. A commitment to the environment and to equity for all beings, especially with our future generations at heart, needs to be a key motivator. This three part workshop will unfold as follows: <u>Part One</u>: Information about current MNC goals and activities; <u>Part Two</u>: Breakout groups to identify actions aimed at helping transform current negative MNC goals and activities; <u>Part Three</u>: Plenary session to gather and consolidate “bite-size” action plans to help MNC work for everybody. The intended audience is welcome to all who wish to learn more and/or are looking for solidarity with others in working to accomplish the ultimate goal.</p>
<p><b>Gender Sexuality and Disability Forum</b> <i>Presented by Keely Grossman (Social Justice and Equity Studies graduate program student) &amp; Raquel Welby</i></p>	<p>The goal of this workshop is to generate dialogue around the topic of gender, sexuality and disability. The aim is to raise awareness to break down the problematic perception of what is ‘normal’ within the general community and context of gender and sexuality as it relates to disability. The aim is to increase participation in order to decrease stigma to eliminate a 'disability' from interfering with gender and sexual expression and freedom. This workshop is aimed towards: community event organizers, professionals and peers.</p>
<p><b>Cultural Sensitivity and Inclusion</b> <i>Presented by David McFadden, Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre</i></p>	<p>What does inclusion really mean? This will be an interactive presentation that provides cultural sensitivity training with respect to working with newcomers to Canada. The presentation will include interactive activities that teach participants about the current perceptions of newcomers in society, the barriers newcomers currently face upon entry into our communities and how we can create an accepting work place, community and nation for newcomers to be welcomed into.</p>
<p><b>Applying Social Justice on Campus: A Panel Discussion</b> <i>Presented by Kerry Duncan &amp; Alicia Rubel, OPIRG Brock</i></p>	<p>In this panel discussion, individuals who are involved in a wide range of social justice related activities at Brock will discuss the role of the university in creating social justice. Participants will learn how to take theories of social justice from the classroom and apply them to action in the halls. This panel aims to bring together the voices of professors, student groups, campus unions, and the different equity services to establish a multilayered narrative on the ways we see social justice manifest at Brock University.</p>
<p><b>3:00 - 4:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Closing Plenary</b> “Responding to Challenges in Troubled Times”</p>