

RUSTIN LORDE BREAKFAST 2017

OUR WORDS **AND** DEEDS
MUST CONTRIBUTE
TO THE STRUGGLE **FOR OUR** OWN
LIBERATION



RELEVANCE

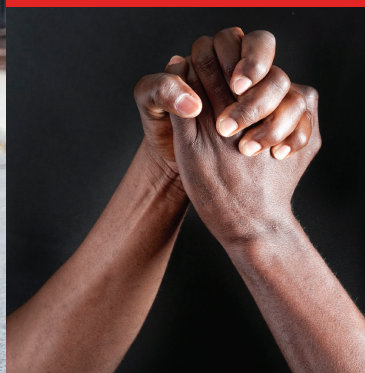
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Monday, January 16, 2017

The Loudermilk Conference Center



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Georgia

The Breakfast

2017



The planning team welcomes you to the 2017 Bayard Rustin/Audre Lorde Breakfast! This year marks our 16th annual event. *The theme for the 2017 Rustin Lorde Breakfast is Relevance.* We challenge ourselves to assess the relevance of our work, our words and actions to the needs of our community. You will witness artists who inspire positive change and illuminate paths toward liberation. Select works from the exhibit *Living With*, “a collection of multi-sensory, interactive installations” about the impact of AIDS are on display today. Several organizations doing meaningful work in Atlanta will be talking about their goals and how you can become involved. Our Young People’s Space provides a suitable space and creative activities for children and teens here today.

Following the breakfast, we will assemble at the corner of Peachtree St. and Ellis St. at 1:15PM. The March will start at 1:45PM. Immediately following the March, the annual rally will be held in front of the *Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change* at Auburn Ave. and Jackson Ave. The Rally will present several distinguished speakers including honorary marshals. This year, Ramon Johnson, President of Safe Space, the LGBTQI student collective at Morehouse College, will serve as the honorary LGBTQI marshal. We invite all Breakfast attendees to participate in the March, attend the rally and support honorary marshal Ramon Johnson, who is one of the scheduled rally speakers.

We are proud to announce the 2016 incorporation of the **Southern Unity Movement, Inc. (SUM)** as the official host organization for the Breakfast. The mission of SUM is to build a more unified Black LGBTQI community through educational and advocacy work that fosters multi-gender, intergenerational participation.

This morning, we invite you to enjoy yourself and spend time reconnecting with old friends and making new connections! For more information about the Breakfast, please visit our Facebook page [RustinLordeAtl](#) or our website www.rustinlordeatl.com.

Love,
The Rustin Lorde Breakfast Committee

Darlene Hudson

CO-CHAIRS MEETCOME

Craig Washington

“ HOW DO OUR WORDS AND DEEDS CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRUGGLE FOR OUR OWN LIBERATION? ”

For we who believe in freedom, and will not rest until it comes, today's sociopolitical climate troubles the soul. The last few years have been marked with upfront targeting of people who are black, latino, women, transgender, gay lesbian, poor, undocumented, Muslim. Through the power of social media, state sanctioned killings of Black people of all genders are being recorded and exposed more widely than ever. Long smoldering banks of racial hatred were stoked into a white supremacist torrent through which a masterful monger emerged as our next President. There are forces now as always polishing boots, forging chains and locks to “X away our right to life”* and stomp our bodies into the ground.

In the face of such daunting threats, which are neither new nor surprising to those who are awake, we are called to purposeful reflection and mindful action. We cannot idly wait for what sister Audre named “the luxury of fearlessness” to carry out our duty. As much progress as the beloved community has made, there is far more that must be gained. We have never needed each other more than on this day. This morning calls us to recognize our interdependence and our differences not as weakness or division but rather as our nature. This requires that we value cooperation over competition, unity over uniformity. For far too long Black LGBTQI communities in Atlanta and elsewhere have splintered across lines of age and gender. We need to move beyond identity bonding to uphold the values that will sustain real community. Without shared goals, our narrowing sameness will not save us any more than our silence.

How do our words and deeds contribute to the struggle for our own liberation? What will you do, where will you focus? Are you now ready to do the work we would have to do regardless of any single electoral outcome? Each year the planners of the Rustin Lorde Breakfast consider what this event means for those who come. We have presented themes that bear witness to the triumphs and pitfalls our community has borne. We touted our **Resilience** and beckoned ourselves to **Re-Imagine The Dream** as a possibility we cannot afford to disbelieve. Last year, we declared **Art is Movement**, showcasing art as an essential medium of movement building. On this morning, we turn to **Relevance**. We invite you to consider what will you do in the days leading up to the Breakfast and the time following that is relevant to your needs, your growth and the survival of your tribe? How will you make the months, weeks, hours, minutes between this Breakfast and the next relevant to those who depend on you to raise your voice, or silence it so that they might be heard? What is your Relevance? “Where will you BE?”* Welcome to the 2017 Bayard Rustin/Audre Lorde Breakfast!!!

**from the poem “Where Will You Be” by Pat Parker (1978)*

MARY ANNE ADAMS

We are overjoyed to pay homage to our Sister Outsider Mary Anne Adams. Adams is Founder of ZAMI NOBLA: National Organization of Black Lesbians on Aging, a service, advocacy and research organization for black lesbians 40 years old and older. She is past board chair and former executive director of ZAMI, Inc., “Atlanta’s premiere organization for lesbians of African descent.” Adams also founded and developed the Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund, an international fund that has awarded over \$250,000 in scholarship monies and expenses to out LGBT scholars of color.

She has served on the boards of Charis Circle, YouthPride, and the Feminist Women’s Health Center. She was an inaugural member of the LGBT Advisory Council to the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta and was one of the founding members of the Atlanta Black LGBT Coalition, a social justice organization committed to advancing the human rights of all marginalized communities. Adams was the first out black lesbian to win an award as an unsung heroine from the metro Atlanta Coalition of 100 black women. She has been honored by the National Center for Human Rights Education as a guardian angel of human rights and has been honored by Women Healing Women, and Unity Fellowship Church of Atlanta since 2003 with an annual community award in her name. A nine year breast cancer survivor, she served as an inaugural member of the LGBT National Advisory Council for Susan G. Komen for the Cure. She also recently served as a member of the city of East Point Ethics Board for three years. Adams received a B.A. in Sociology and Social Work from the University of Mississippi and a Master in Social Work from Georgia State University. She works at Georgia State University in the School of Public Health directing the Community Engagement Core and teaches in the Graduate School of Social Work.

2017



2017 Rustin Lorde Breakfast Planning Committee

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Craig Washington &
R. Darlene Hudson

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Anneliese Singh
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“WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL IS PROTESTING
SOCIETY’S REFUSAL TO ACKNOWLEDGE
HIS DIGNITY AS A HUMAN BEING,
HIS VERY ACT OF PROTEST CONFERS
DIGNITY ON HIM.”

Bayard Rustin



PRIDE@WORK

AFL-CIO



The newly formed chapter, ATL Pride @ Work, proudly stands with The Southern Unity Movement to support human and civil rights on Martin Luther King Jr. Day at The Rustin Lorde Breakfast!

We seek full equality for LGBTQ Workers in our workplaces and unions. Union and non-union members are welcome!



Email Tracy Duncan at tvduncan@bellsouth.net



Like us on facebook @ATLprideatwork

CHERYL COURTNEY EVANS

2017



The Rustin Lorde Breakfast salutes our Sister Outsider Cheryl C. Courtney Evans. Cheryl C. Courtney Evans was the founder and Executive Director of Transgender Individuals Living Their Truth (TILTT), a support organization that hosted meetings at the Phillip Rush Center. Year after year, she was a regular participant at the Rustin Lorde Breakfast

Cheryl dedicated her life to advocacy for transgender equality issues at the local, state, and national levels. She was a regular participant in such events as the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance, the International Day against Homophobia; and Trans Liberation Tuesday. In 2016, she was recognized as Grand Marshall of Atlanta Gay Pride. She was known for challenging the exclusion of transgender populations by healthcare professionals and community organizers alike. Responding to an HIV surveillance pie chart that omitted transgender people, she publicly questioned, “where is my slice of the pie?” She is largely credited for the inclusion of transgender populations in Atlanta and Georgia HIV reports.

Her website, a [Bitch for Justice](#), chronicled her opinions regarding current events, especially those affecting the transgender community. Shortly before her passing, Cheryl responded to the resignation of a former Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia (Maya Dillard-Smith) who was not fully supportive of transgender rights, in an interview with APN. The story became a national sensation, fueled by right-wing media.

Cheryl C. Courtney-Evans grew up in Kansas City, Kansas. She is survived by three people she called her children: Kelcy Luckey Calhoun, Officer Eric King of the Atlanta Police Department; and Simaya Charlize-Theresa Turner. In addition, she is survived by a sister, niece, grand-niece in Atlanta; and two sisters in Kansas City.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Bayard Rustin

Audre Lorde

“IF I DIDN'T DEFINE MYSELF FOR MYSELF, I WOULD BE CRUNCHED INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S FANTASIES FOR ME AND EATEN ALIVE”

Audre Lorde

2017



Relevance

Registration

Serving Breakfast

Invocation/Welcome

Video Presentation: Bill Lazor. Gilead

Opening: Special Guest Artist Larry Walker

Welcome: Co-Founders, Craig Washington & R. Darlene Hudson

Living With (Exhibit)

Angelic Troublemakers

SONG

GA Equality

Unity Fellowship Greater Atlanta

THRIVE SS

Evolution

Dare To Be Powerful Honors

Cheryl C. Courtney Evans

Tracee McDaniel

Duncan E. Teague

Mary Anne Adams

Edith Biggers

Gina Breedlove

Closing Remarks

Ramon W. Johnson

HONORARY LGBTQI
MEMBERSHIP

“RAMON’S DEDICATION TO DISMANTLING HOMOPHOBIA ON HIS CAMPUS AND AFFIRMING BLACK QUEER IDENTITIES IS TRULY COMMENDABLE.”

2017



Ramon W. Johnson is a junior Sociology major at Morehouse College. As the president of Morehouse College Safe Space, Morehouse's LGBTQIA student collective, Mr. Johnson enjoys facilitating an inclusive campus environment for students. His advocacy efforts and the work of progressive students and faculty have helped to push Morehouse to install an LGBTQI Resource Center. As the founding student coordinator of the LGBTQI Resource Center, Mr. Johnson desires to help plan and institutionalize safe zone trainings, educational programming, and continue building community among the LGBTQI A students of Morehouse College. Mr. Johnson was recently named a Periclean Scholar for his efforts in making HBCU's more inclusive for LGBTQI students through advocacy. His efforts have allowed him to present his research and spread his advocacy at The New School, the University of Houston, and Emory University. Ramon's dedication to dismantling homophobia on his campus and affirming black queer identities is truly commendable. As a member of the 2016 Grad Prep Academy cohort at the University of Pennsylvania, he desires to continue addressing issues disproportionately affecting black queer men of color in higher education while amplifying their voices through his scholarship and activism.

We are extremely proud to have Ramon represent our communities as Honorary LGBTQI marshal for the Martin Luther King Jr. March and Rally.

2017 Donations



Thanks for your participation in the 16th Annual Bayard Rustin/Audre Lorde Breakfast. Donations to continue the work of the Beloved Community are welcomed and greatly appreciated!

Please make checks payable to:
Southern Unity Movement, Inc.
PO Box 7282
Atlanta, GA 30357
Memo line: Rustin/Lorde Breakfast 2017.



"Let Freedom Ring..."
for every shade.
Enough of us have
died in silence.

In the End, we will remember not the
words of our enemies, but the silence
of our friends.

- Martin Luther King Jr.
#ColorsOfKing



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AIDS IS A CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE



2017



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AID Atlanta salutes
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Breakfast

www.aidatlanta.org

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RUSTIN, LORDE

SOUTHOAST STREET MOVEMENT



RESILIENCE



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OCT. 13-15, 2017 | PIEDMONT PARK

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and community outreach at ATLANTAPRIDE.ORG.

AFTER BREAKFAST

2017



JOIN US AT THE MARCH!

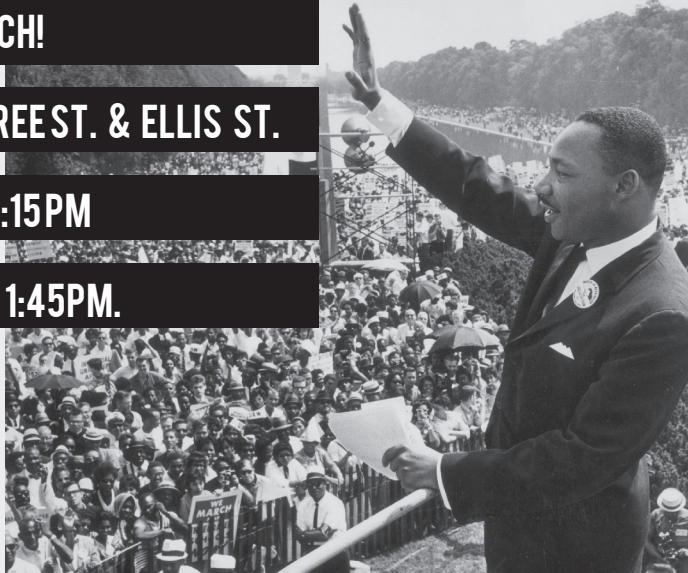
CORNER OF PEACHTREE ST. & ELLIS ST.

MARCH ASSEMBLY: 1:15 PM

MARCH STEP OFF AT 1:45 PM.



RUSTIN. LORDE.



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HIV/AIDS

TRANS ADVOCACY

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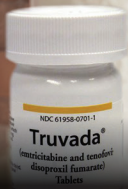
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