

**JUSTICE FOR WOMEN
CONFERENCE 2022**



AICHA

Abdoulaye

**8:50 PM
26 AUGUST**

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND FORCED MARRIAGES

Aicha Abdoulaye is a survivor, an entrepreneur, a public speaker, and an advocate for survivors of human trafficking and forced marriages. She has been working with the Tahirih Justice Center since 2007. She was honored with the Courageous Voice Award in 2018 and has been a Client Ambassador since 2019, giving speeches, telling her story, and advocating for other survivors.

She has recently completed her Google IT Support Professional Certificate and is in the process of setting up an online business selling African jewelry and accessories.

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AUGUSTO

Lopez-Claros

1:05 PM
27 AUGUST



WHY IS THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN KEY TO A SAFER AND MORE PROSPEROUS WORLD?

Gender discrimination is often seen from a human rights perspective; it is a violation of women's basic human rights, as embedded in the Universal Declaration, the UN Charter, and other such founding documents. Moreover, there is overwhelming evidence that restrictions and various forms of discrimination against women are also bad economics. They undermine the talent pool available to the private sector, distort power relationships within the family, and lead to inefficiencies in the use of resources. They contribute to creating an environment in which women, de facto, are second-class citizens, with fewer options than men, lower quality jobs, and lower pay, who are often the victims of various forms of violence, literally from the cradle to the grave. They are also not fully politically empowered and have a scant presence in the corridors of power, whether as finance ministers, central bank governors, prime ministers, or on the boards of leading corporations.

Why is gender inequality so pervasive? Where does it come from? Does it have cultural and religious roots? And what are the sorts of policies and values that will deliver a world in which being born a boy or a girl is no longer a measure of the likelihood of developing one's human potential? We will look at some of these and other such difficult questions.

TO CONTACT AUGUSTO



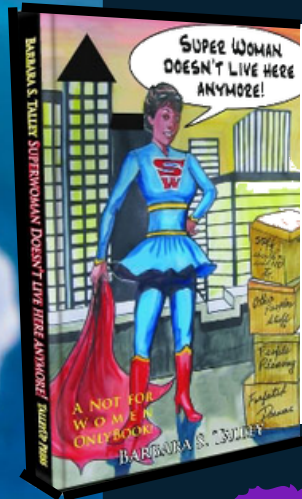
alopezclaros@gmail.com

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BARBARA

Talley



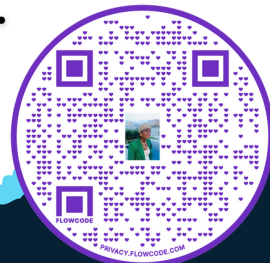
6:15 PM
26 AUGUST
12:20 PM
27 AUGUST
6:15 PM
28 AUGUST

APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY, HEARTMATH, AND A LOOK BACK AT WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND SUFFRAGE AND LOOK FORWARD TOWARDS JUSTICE

Hello everyone. I'm the organizer of this conference. I offer multiple conferences and safe spaces during the year to help people learn about each other, and receive encouragement and nurturing from a community of like-minded folks. Scan my QR code to learn more about the work I do and the courses I offer around fostering interracial relationships, effective communication, Heartmath, Appreciative Inquiry, engagement, social styles, resilience, bias, stereotypes, conflict, and change management.

Heartmath offers a resilience strategy to help us prepare for, stay calm during, and return to coherence after stress.

Appreciative Inquiry is a culture change process based on multiple sciences that focus on the art of collective engagement, focusing on successes, and reflecting on solution-oriented questions. We will also take a look at women's rights over the past few centuries.



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CALVIN

Terrell

10:15 PM
26 AUGUST

THE CONTAINER OF RACE: UNDERSTANDING IDENTITY AND INTERSECTIONALITY – AN EVOLUTIONARY DIALOGUE AND Q&A WITH CALVIN

Calvin challenges the privileged to abandon fragile pedestals of inconsiderate obliviousness, while he encourages the oppressed to remember their power developed from surviving historical unfairness. He invites all to abandon identity superstitions and materialistic traditions, so humanity can meet and collaborate on a healing field of justice waiting for cultivation.

For his dedication to human rights, Calvin has been awarded with honors from faith, educational, civic, and activist organizations, as well as government institutions, including the city of Phoenix year 2000 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Living the Dream" Award.

The demand for his services prompted organizations such as Harpo Inc., Oprah Winfrey's production company to contract Calvin to train executive producers, coach various members of the production team, and assist in their transition to the "O" network. He was also honored to be a contributing consultant in designing the Muhammed Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky. Most recently, the Obama Foundation sought Calvin's collaboration with regard to community empowerment.

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CHUCK

Egerton

2:05 PM
28 AUGUST

CONTESTING PATRIARCHY: NEW UNDERSTANDINGS OF MASCULINITY HONORING WOMEN'S EQUALITY

In a humble posture of collaborative learning, I will ask you to consider these questions: How does the doctrine of male supremacy continue to dominate our processes to build communities of peace and equity? How do sexism and misogyny, in alliance with whiteness and racism thwart this work? How are men harmed by the fallacious doctrine of male superiority? What new understandings of masculinity are required to transform men away from an infatuated embrace of the male dominator culture and to foster a new culture of peace and oneness that honors women as equal partners? How can we use what we've learned combating white domination and anti-Blackness to combat male dominance?

I work to design, direct, and accompany arts-based photographic/dialogue projects seeking authenticity, oneness, and justice in alignment with the teachings of Baha'u'llah. My work designing PhotoSophia* helped address two major barriers to community building and oneness, the false ideologies of patriarchy and whiteness. I am an educator/photographer in the Peace & Conflict Studies (PACS) discipline, trained as a visual artist, in conflict transformation and healing racism. I have a Bachelor of Fine Arts and an MA and Ph.D. in PACS. I lecture at UNC Greensboro.

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CONSTANCE
Lee

6:10, 8:20, & 10 PM
26 AUGUST

**CELEBRATING WOMEN THROUGH
MUSIC AND SPOKEN WORD**



**Constance Lee is an actress,
director, vocalist, author and
retired teacher of theater in
Maryland. She is a graduate of
Howard University and will be our
featured artist on Friday night.**

TO CONTACT CONSTANCE



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DELL

Campbell

1:50 PM
27 AUGUST

WEEDING AND CULTIVATING -GARDENING THE HEART

"Gardening plus Spirituality equals = Transformation!"

OUR PRIMARY GOALS: To provide educational opportunities that increase agricultural literacy for growing healthy food, herbs and medicinal plants within walking distance in the neighborhood. To mitigate food quality and build resilience to climate change by learning about soil quality and how that relates to healthy bodies, mines and spirits. To create a natural, fun and inspirational space for building strong bonds of friendship in the neighborhood connection to each other's hearts to community service. To demonstrate the power of prayer and positive affirmation for the entire organic echo system of soil, plants, animal and human connected systems.

From working at Bosch Baha'i School, the Baha'i House of Worship, and helping start Radio Baha'i in Hemingway, South Carolina, creating the Community Unity Garden at the Charlotte Baha'i Center has been a transformative bright light of inspiration for my soul. I am married with 2 sons. As a communications graduate, I founded Commercial & Residential Solutions IT company in Charlotte, NC. Retiring early, I started the Community Unity Garden, an SED project while living my best life teaching gardening and spiritual principles. **"Just Grow Something!"**

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FATMATA

Williams

**7:30 PM
26 AUGUST**

BLACK WOMEN'S MATERNAL HEALTH: WHY ARE BLACK MOTHERS DYING IN RECORD NUMBERS?

BSN, RN, MPH, C.H.E.S.

Fatmata Williams is an immigrant from Sierra Leone, West Africa, who has lived in the United States for thirty years and has been a registered nurse for twenty-five years. She has extensive clinical experience working in operating rooms, medical-surgical, psychiatric inpatient, geriatric, home care, hospice nursing environments, and health policy. Fatmata's work focuses on serving marginalized and underserved populations. Fatmata had a challenging birthing experience in 2005 and also lost her sister in 2008, thirty days after she gave birth to her daughter.

Fatmata's passion for improving maternal health services delivery and outcomes was borne out of her lived experience. Fatmata is also committed to identifying and addressing disparities, racial inequities, and social injustice for the people she serves. Fatmata is pursuing an advanced nursing degree to practice at the top of her license and develop the necessary skills to effect safe and efficient health care services and delivery policies. Fatmata's talk will highlight the disparities in maternal health outcomes and discuss various initiatives launched to close disparity gaps and improve maternal health outcomes. Fatmata will also inspire people at all levels to play their part and contribute to solving the maternal mortality crisis, especially for Black women disproportionately impacted.

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GERI
Peak

8:45 PM
27 AUGUST

LEVERAGING THE POWER OF WOMEN TO TRANSFORM SOCIETY

Gerri Lynn Peak is the founder of Two Gems Consulting Services, a Spiritual Demographer, the Chief Insight Facilitator, and a Virtues Project(TM) Master Facilitator. She can't remember a time when she didn't love being female or being Black.

Gerri will offer a chat-style conversation about the power of women with examples from history, scripture, literature, and life. Relax and kick back for a conversation that explores the powers of women from the past through our inevitable future. A fun fact: "Black women conjure" is one of her mantras.

TO CONTACT GERI



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GWEN

Etter-Lewis

7:00 PM
26 AUGUST



CORALIE FRANKLIN COOK: A CHAMPION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND SUFFRAGE

Coralie Franklin Cook was a fierce activist and suffragist. She advocated for Black women's right to vote and fought against Jim Crow laws. This talk highlights how the Bahá'í principles inspired Ms. Cooks' life and written works.

Gwen's Bio

Gwen Etter-Lewis is Professor Emerita at Miami University. She is a member of the West Chester, OH LSA and a co-instructor for the Anti Black Racism graduate course for the Wilmette Institute.

TO CONTACT GWEN



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HODA

Hosseini

8:20 PM

27 AUGUST

RACE AND GENDER THROUGH THE EYES OF A PERSIAN WOMAN

Hoda AKA Heather Hosseini is a married mom of two adult kids and two grandkids. She has been a dentist in Weston, Florida for over three decades.

She is an Iranian woman who was raised in the UK and has now been an American immigrant for the past 40 years. She witnessed immediately on arrival that there are two Americas, one white and one Black, that are separate, unequal, and hostile. Ever since, it has been her mission to bridge the racial divide, and she is dedicated to promoting racial justice and unity.

Over two years ago, she started the Iranian Baha'is for Racial Justice Facebook group with Barbara Talley to help educate, invite, and engage more people like herself in this "most vital and challenging" arena of service.

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JESSIE

Lane

**2:50 PM
28 AUGUST**

**GENDER, EQUALITY, AND THE PROCESS OF CREATION:
REIMAGINING GENDER FOR THE NEW ERA**

Our global society is currently grappling with a complete paradigm shift about gender, involving a widespread implosion of traditional gender roles and gendered identity. Some communities are rejecting gender altogether while others are becoming even more rigid and polarizing. In this presentation, we will have the opportunity to look at gender as a spiritual reality and begin to explore what true femininity and masculinity look like when it's not distorted by a materialistic or patriarchal ethos. We will also reflect on how illuminating a true understanding of gender is fundamental to the health and well-being of our relationships, our community life, as well as to our ability to advance as a global civilization.

JESSIE LANE ATTENDED THE ONE SPIRIT LEARNING ALLIANCE AND HAS A CERTIFICATION IN INTERSPIRITUAL COUNSELING. SHE LIVES ON THE SEACOAST OF MAINE AND HAS BEEN EXPLORING THE ISSUE OF GENDER FOR THE PAST 16 YEARS.

TO CONTACT JESSIE



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RN, BSN, MSMPH, (PhD)

JO'AN *Shannon*

2:00 PM
27 AUGUST

TEACHING CHILDREN HOW TO GROW "FROM SEED TO PLATE," WHICH INCLUDES THE PRESERVATION OF FOOD AND THE HARVESTING OF SEEDS

JoAn's life has been devoted to the protection and empowerment of children. For the past 10 years, she has been retired and on sabbatical, pursuing community service projects. Her public health work in the prevention of childhood lead poisoning prevention has protected over 250 million children. She is a medical Intuitive, solving health issues that defy traditional medicine, in partnership with God. She reverses aging and chronic illness with natural, food-based supplements, lifestyle changes, and dietary choices. She is an intuitive coach to people and wants to help 1 million people in her lifetime. She is getting ready to leave her retirement/sabbatical to step into her innate gifted talents and abilities.

Her current focus, under the umbrella of her nonprofit "Worldwide Children's Nonprofit Education Fund", is supporting ZIP code 37208 in Nashville, TN to teach children how to grow "From Seed to Plate," which includes the preservation of food and the harvesting of seeds for the next crops. The long-term goal is crop growth 9 months of the year, with a winter crop, followed by a restoration of the soil with minerals (Zeolite) and respect for Mother Earth. The intention is to get medicinal vegetables into the community gardens that address poor nutrition health issues, which include cancer, diabetes, and hypertension.

(She has studied at Vanderbilt, Tennessee State University, Harvard, Tufts, Tulane, and the University of Alabama in Huntsville.)

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JUDITH

Bakirya


2:10 PM
27 AUGUST

FOOD SECURITY AND PERMACULTURE


Judith Bakirya is a Ugandan permaculture farmer. She was named one of the BBC's 100 Women for 2019. She was also honored as Uganda's 2nd national "Best Farmer" 2014 and holds a Masters degree in Health and development from Birmingham University in the UK. She is also a certified herbalist. She was born in the Bugosa District of Uganda and was raised on a farm, though she did not initially intend to be a farmer. As a child, in addition to working on her family's farm, Bakirya and her sisters attended school, thanks to the assistance of her father, a chief. Her success at her primary school qualified her for a scholarship to the prestigious secondary school, Mt. St. Mary's College Namagunga, something no other student at her school had accomplished. From there, she qualified for a government scholarship to attend university and earned a Master's in health and development from Birmingham University in the UK.


Busaino Fruits & Herbs, is an agro-ecological fruits farm on 1064 acres, of which 1002 acres focus on Avocado and jackfruit growing. Judith promotes the growing of Avocado and Jackfruit Plants for food, herbal medicine, cosmetics, essential oils, fire wood, restoring natural strengths of the soil, learning and tourism. Some positive indigenous knowledge in land conservation, forestry, value addition, water harvesting, integrated farming is being enriched and shared among over 25,000 rural families. Rural women particularly are the sources of the vast knowledge in resilient seeds, herbs, shrubs, help insects & animals. This rich knowledge is in turn shared within school communities.

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STRUGGLING TO LEARN

An Intimate History of School
Desegregation in South Carolina

June Manning Thomas



JUNE

Thomas

4:30 PM

27 AUGUST

THREE WOMEN: HEROINES FOR SCHOOL EQUALITY

Born and raised in South Carolina, June Manning Thomas left SC to attend college at Michigan State University (MSU). She chose urban planning as a field in part because of her memories of finding relief from Jim Crow accommodations in big cities such as Miami and Atlanta. She has taught at MSU, Cleveland State University, and the University of Michigan (UM), and was eventually named the Mary Frances Berry Distinguished University Professor Emerita of Urban Planning, at UM.

Her books and articles have studied spirituality and planning, racial inequities in urban planning, planning history, and the civil rights movement. Titles include *Planning Progress: Lessons from Shoghi Effendi*; the co-edited *Urban Planning and the African American Community; Redevelopment and Race: Planning a Finer City in Postwar Detroit*; and the co-edited *The City after Abandonment* (2013). The latest is *Struggling to Learn: An Intimate History of School Desegregation in South Carolina* (University of South Carolina Press, 2022).

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LAINA

Raveenran Greene

9:30 PM
27 AUGUST

SOLUTIONS TO ENDING POVERTY

Laina is the Founder and CEO of Angels of Impact, a social venture that funds and offers business support to women of color-led community-based enterprises eradicating poverty in their communities. She thinks of herself as a Global Citizen and was born and raised in Singapore to immigrant parents from Kerala, India. Having faced racial and gender discrimination growing up and seeing it through her parents' experience, she is passionate about amplifying and ensuring efforts by other women of color succeed.

As a Baha'i, she also believes that women are the key to ending poverty and bringing about peace in this world. She has been fortunate to have traveled and worked in more than 50 countries and brings unique perspectives on how we can use finance as medicine. She also teaches social entrepreneurship at the NUS Business School in Singapore and before her social impact work, worked in corporate consulting and tech for more than 30 years, including starting and selling a tech startup. Laina has studied Indian classical dance, singing, and violin since age five.

TO CONTACT LAINA



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LAYLI

Maparyan

5:15 PM

27 AUGUST



SELF-CARE AND SERVICE TO THE ONENESS OF HUMANITY

Layli Maparyan, Ph.D., (she/her/hers) is the Katherine Stone Kaufmann '67 Executive Director of the Wellesley Centers for Women and Professor of Africana Studies at Wellesley College. Previously, she held academic posts at Georgia State University in women's studies and the University of Georgia in psychology and African-American studies. She has published three groundbreaking books on womanism: *The Womanist Reader* (Routledge, 2006), *The Womanist Idea* (Routledge, 2012), and *Womanism Rising* (University of Illinois Press, forthcoming).

Her scholarly research has focused on social identities, social movements, and spirituality. She has served as a Fulbright Specialist at the University of Liberia, helping to build a gender studies curriculum, as well as a Contemplative Practice Fellow with the Center for Contemplative Mind in Society focused on womanist spiritual activism.

TO CONTACT LAYLI



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<https://www.wcwonline.org/Active-Researchers/layli-philips-maparyan-phd>