

**BEYOND BOLD AND BRAVE™ and
The New York Women's Foundation presents
"Work As Memoir" Black Lesbian Conference 2018
July 27 - 29, 2018 - Barnard College, NYC
EVENT RECAP**

"We Stand With You." - - Bianca Alston of the New York Women's Foundation

"The fact that we sold out speaks volumes to the necessity for such an event." - - Dr. Wilhelmina Perry of the LGBT Faith Leaders of African Descent

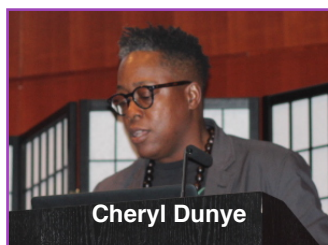
Friday, July 27 - Beyond Bold And Brave/Black Lesbian Conference 2018 Co-founders Alyce Emory and Kim Ford welcomed attendees and presented a slideshow of past Beyond Bold And Brave/Black Lesbian Conference work. Next, Bianca Alston from the New York Women's Foundation, delivered a stirring welcome then Tina Campt, the outgoing Barnard Center for Research on Women Executive Director welcomed attendees to their Barnard "home". After Alyce & Kim acknowledged conference supporters, filmmaker Cheryl Dunye gave a rousing Keynote Presentation that reminded attendees of the importance of Black Lesbian work and legacy. Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer presented special acknowledgements to Alyce Emory & Kim Ford for their work in the NYC LGBTQ community.

Saturday, July 28 - For the day attendees experienced sessions focusing on a variety of topics including: "Faith and Sexuality: Overcoming Harm Hurt And Exclusion", "Bloom and Flourish: A Visual Art Experience", "Archiving Our Memories and Dreams", "The Legacy of POC Queer Elders", "Decolonizing Loneliness", "Butch/Femme Sexervations", and a "Work As Memoir" lunch panel featuring Zakiya Lord, Jewel Cadet and Jewelle Gomez. Attendees also visited exhibit tables to meet conference supporters and receive information on their work and services.

Sunday, July 29 - The final conference day began with a "Q&A with A&K" session for conference attendees to meet BLC founders Alyce & Kim. Cara Page of the Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice closed the conference with her empowering Conference Wrap message before attendees, presenters and supporters did some final networking.

"We must imprint our legacy and our futures because our memory is our own...it cannot be bottled up and sold, it is our only truth". - - Cara Page of the Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice

"I'm looking to incorporate this conference into my organization's work plan to provide funding for others, to attend the next conference." - - Simone Hill of PETAL (Promoting Empowerment Through Awareness for Les/Bi Women) in Belize, South America



Cheryl Dunye



Lunch Panel Discussion



Cara Page © w/Kim Ford
(l) & Alyce Emory (r)

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- Acquired new sponsors and retained past sponsors, some of whom increased their financial support and enthusiastically offered to support future Beyond Bold And Brave/Black Lesbian Conferences.
- Increased the number of conference presentations.
- Achieved sold-out attendance of more than 200 persons. This included an increase in youth attendees.
- Welcomed attendees from international locales including Belize, UK and Canada.
- Increased conference scholarships to 30.
- Received increase in donations from individuals.
- Over 90% approval rate from conference attendees, sponsors & participants with majority of them who would “very likely” recommend future Black Lesbian Conferences to others.

ATTENDEE DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Ages** - 21 to over 80
- **Incomes** - \$15,000 - over \$80,000
- **Education** - High school to post-graduate degrees.
- **Sexual Orientation** - Lesbian, Bisexual, Queer, Same Gender Loving
- **Gender Identities** - Female, Transgender, Gender Non-Conforming, Cisgender, Non-Binary, Genderfluid
- **Cultural Identities** - Black, African-American, African, Afro-Caribbean, Afro Latina/o/ix or Hispanic, African-Canadian
- **Locations** - 60% of attendees came from New York/New Jersey/Connecticut area. Additional attendees came from the South, Midwest, West Coast US regions.
- **Work Histories** - Students, Educators, Social Justice Organizers, Entertainers, Non-Profit Professionals, Business Owners, Politicians, Artists, Authors, Retirees, Health Care

MEDIA COVERAGE

GAY CITIES - <https://newyork.gaycities.com/events/975013-beyond-bold-and-brave-presents-black-lesbian-conf>

GO MAGAZINE - <http://gomag.com/event/work-as-memoir-biannual-black-lesbian-conference-2018/>

OUTTAKE ONLINE <http://blog.outtakeonline.com/2018/07/black-lesbian-conference-event.html>

SAFE WORD SOCIETY - <https://www.safewordsociety.com/post/blc2018>

SHADOW FEATHER - <http://www.shadowfeather.com/440614251>



SUPPORTERS - Thanks to our 2018 Sponsors and Outreach Partners who believe in the importance of our work and gave generously to support that work.

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH PARTNERS

African Ancestral Lesbians United for Societal Change (AALUSC) - bklyn boihood - C-Dubb Show - Circle of Voices, Inc. - Dollhouse Meetup - GO Magazine - Harlem Pride - Harlem YES - In Our Own Voices - Kappa Xi Omega Sorority, Inc. - LGBT Faith Leaders of African Descent - LGBT Kwanzaa Community of NYC - New York Transgender Advocacy Group (NYTAG), NYC Black Pride - Rivers of Living Water - TAGG Magazine - Velvet Park Media - Whitman Walker Health - Women In The Life Association - Women Writers in Bloom Poetry Salon - ZAMI NOBLA: National Organization of Black

Visit our website at beyondboldandbrave.org to see more Photos & other Black Lesbian Conference 2018 information and to sign up for updates.

Thanks for your support in 2018.

We'll See You In 2020.



photos: Lynda Royster, J Scales, Cyrille Phipps