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September 23, 2021 | La Sala Ballroom
Arizona State University West Campus
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THANK YOU
WHAT IS TEDx

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TED has created a program called TEDx. TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. Our event is called TEDxASUWest, where x = independently organized TED event. At our TEDxASUWest event, TED Talks video and live speakers will combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events, including ours, are self-organized.

TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment, and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues — in more than 100 languages. Meanwhile, independently run TEDx events help share ideas in communities around the world.

TED is a global community, welcoming people from every discipline and culture who seek a deeper understanding of the world. We believe passionately in the power of ideas to change attitudes, lives and, ultimately, the world. On TED.com, we’re building a clearinghouse of free knowledge from the world’s most inspired thinkers — and a community of curious souls to engage with ideas and each other, both online and at TED and TEDx events around the world, all year long.

OUR TEAM

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Speaker Liaison & Social Media Coordinator

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ANE LOVELESS
Operations & Design Coordinator
Vincent Gomez is currently a senior at Arizona State, majoring in Political Science with a double minor in Justice Studies and Sociology. He firmly believes that a society’s success can’t be reached if each of its members isn’t progressing. He enjoys spreading positivity to every individual he meets and believes that positive interactions can shape new, better realities. Through this mindset, he’s come to the conclusion that the current systems placed in our society are no longer effective for every individual. Due to the prioritization of profits and power, we’ve lost sight of humanity and lack the care and selflessness that we should have for each other. As a host for this event, Vincent hopes to weave a positive storyline through the speakers and inspire others to regenerate new priorities that would advance society for the better.

TEDxASUWest is coming back to Arizona State University’s West Campus to highlight some of our community’s most brilliant minds in Regeneration. Regeneration often refers to the process whereby parts or aspects of one entity are transformed to create something new. It represents a moment in time when we must look outside of our current selves, or environments, and our perceptions in order to spark growth and change.

TEDxASUWest 2021 seeks to explore the theme of regeneration across contexts: how it is possible to create something new out of what already exists, and the ways in which the transformative process of regeneration leads to vital renewal and restoration.

Speakers include researchers, students, community members, and performers. The audience is encouraged to examine their own beliefs and experience, and proactively seek out additional methods of engagement.
Thursday, September 23rd

Violet & Tony Duncan:
Healing through Hoop Dance

Introduction

Session I

Jessica Potter:
Illustrating Nature: Creating Connections with Ecosystems Through Art

Akua Duku Anokye:
Black Woman Rising: Leadership, Activism, and the Community Mother Archetype

Nicky Cristobal:
Like Flower Like Human: Rejuvenation in PTSD

TED Video: Shake Up Your Story

Session II

Kenro Kusumi:
The Promise of Future Regenerative Therapies: Insights From Genomic Analysis of Regeneration in Reptiles

Liza Hita:
How Parenting Skills Can Help Communities

Zuzana Skvarkova:
Psychiatrically Silenced: The Power of a Prescription Pad

Haunani Kane:
Science in Sacred Spaces: Reimagining Native Science in Academia

Intermission

Closing Remarks
Healing Through Hoop Dance

Combining traditional dance styles and storytelling, the Duncan family uses hoop dancing to tell stories passed down from Generation to Generation. Tony Duncan has performed for audiences worldwide including performances at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Smithsonian Museum, The Billboard Music Awards, The Tonight Show, and The White House. As a flute player, he is currently signed to the largest Native American music label, Canyon Records. And, Violet Duncan, from the Kehewin Cree Nation, is a former Miss Indian World representing all Indigenous people of North America. Currently, Violet is the Indigenous Cultural Advisor at the Tempe Center for the Arts, where she aims to create space for a permanent program of Indigenous performance and practice.

Illustrating Nature: Creating Connections with Ecosystems Through Art

Jessica Potter is a recent graduate of the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University, with a Bachelor of Science in Conservation Biology and Ecology. She is passionate about developing new and creative ways to form closer relationships between people and the natural world. While completing her undergraduate thesis with Barrett, the Honors College, Jessica discovered how she could use her illustrations as a tool to teach the public about ecosystems and promote their conservation. With her artwork, she hopes to capture not only the unique qualities of species and their habitat, but also to celebrate the meaningful interactions between humanity and nature.
Black Woman Rising: Leadership, Activism, and the Community Mother Archetype

Akua Duku Anokye is Associate Professor of Africana Language, Literature, and Culture, Associate Director of the School of Humanity Arts and Cultural Studies, and Director of New College International Initiatives, office of Interdisciplinary Global Learning and Engagement at Arizona State University. She earned her PhD in Linguistics from City University of New York Graduate School and University Center. A sociolinguist, Dr. Anokye’s research focuses on African Diaspora orality and literacy practices, folklore, discourse analysis, and oral history with a specialization in Ghanaian culture, religion, storytelling, and dance. Her most recent research focuses on African Diasporic women activists as community mothers based on a Ghanaian Ancestress/deity, Nana Esi, who serves as an archetype in African Diaspora women’s literature and for community mothers.

Like Flower Like Human: Rejuvenation in PTSD

Nicky Cristobal is a graduate student studying Interdisciplinary Studies with a focus in Psychology and Criminology/Criminal Justice. Originally from Chicago, Nicky has big aspirations and dreams of becoming a Criminal Profiler for the Federal Bureau of Investigation or Central Intelligence Agency. Their hope is to be able to prevent real security threats before they occur or to help the individuals in the Special Victims Unit feel safer or at the very least, more at ease. As they continue to study their interests, prepare to apply to the FBI, and add to their bucket list, after this segment they will be able to cross off their lifelong dream of giving a TEDx Talk. Their goal is to inspire the audience to reinvent themselves and do the necessary work in healing to be a regenerated version of themselves, constantly evolving, changing, growing.
The Promise of Future Regenerative Therapies: Insights From Genomic Analysis of Regeneration in Reptiles

Kenro Kusumi is a professor in the School of Life Sciences and Dean of Natural Sciences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Arizona State University. He received his BA from Harvard College and his PhD from MIT. He carried out postdoctoral training at the National Institute for Medical Research in London. Dr. Kusumi was previously on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, and University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix. His lab uses the power of genome biology to help conserve and study the functional adaptations of reptiles. His study of the anole lizards have led to the first genome-scale analysis of their functional adaptations resulting in their description as the “Darwin’s finches” of reptiles. His lab has also uncovered sets of genes that are critical in the ability of anole lizards to adapt and regenerate parts of their bodies.

How Parenting Skills Can Help Communities Heal from Collective Grief and Loss

Liza Hita, PhD is a Clinical Associate Professor of psychology and the Director of Digital Immersion for the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Arizona State University. Her work focuses on the intersections of justice, transformation, and belonging, rooted in decolonial praxis. In her roles, she creates digitally-immersed learning tools and envisions technology as a means of empowerment and community-building. She is a community-based participatory researcher focusing on preventive interventions for families experiencing major life transitions, including high conflict families, never married and divorcing parents, bereaved families, and families impacted by incarceration. She is currently working on the online administration of parenting interventions and creating sustainable community-embedded supervision models.
Psychiatrically Silenced: The Power of a Prescription Pad

Zuzana Skvarkova is an undergraduate pre-medical student interested in the intersection between medicine and how the future of technology can be used to minimize health care disparities. She’s currently part of the College of Global Futures in which she is gaining a B.S. in Innovation in Society. Zuzana is currently the President of the Women in STEM organization at Arizona State University, the Director of Service for the Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, and the President/Founder of ASU’s first Disabled Pre-Medical Student Association. She has a passion for advocacy in mental health and strives to bring light and emphasis to how disabilities are stigmatized within health-care systems. Zuzana also identifies as a writer, a researcher, and an avid learner. She has hopes one day to become a physician and use her own neurodivergent experiences to help advocate for patients.

I Come From Hawaii: An Islander’s Perspective of Climate Change

Haunani Hi’ilani Kane was raised at the foot of Olomana mountain in the coastal community of Kailua, O‘ahu, Hawai‘i. Haunani’s research combines coastal geomorphology, paleo environmental reconstructions, spatial analysis, and the perspectives of a native islander to investigate how islands, reefs, and island people are impacted by changes in climate. Haunani has been mentored since her youth in traditional Hawaiian wayfinding and navigation, and has spent nearly 200 days at sea aboard both traditional sailing and modern research vessels. As a Hawaiian voyager, and a climate scientist Haunani’s research and teaching rely upon reestablishing ancestral relationships to place. She hopes that through this process she may provide a more inclusive understanding of the impacts of environmental stressors and ensure that the best available climate science data is reflective of all stories of place and their people.