

Speaker Biographies & Presentation Information

MONDAY FEBRUARY 3rd

Lori DiPrete Brown

1st block 8:30-9:05

Human Rights, Women & Children

<https://4w.wisc.edu/>

Lori DiPrete Brown began her career as a Peace Corps volunteer in Honduras and has worked in 15 countries to address needs and realize rights for and with women, children, and all people in highly vulnerable situations. She has worked with UW campus leaders to spearhead inter-disciplinary programs related to global health, micro-enterprise, human trafficking, and the health and rights of children. DiPrete Brown teaches in the School of Human Ecology and holds degrees from Yale College, the Harvard School of Public Health, and the Harvard Divinity School. Lori blogs about her global work at Global Health Reflections, and has also written a novel about her work in Honduras entitled “Caminata.” Lori is proud to be the director of the UW-Madison Women and Wellbeing Initiative. Through a variety of local to global efforts grounded in human rights principles, 4W is making life better for women, and the world better for all.

Christopher Jimenez

1st block 9:15-9:50

Clean Water Access & [Strides for Africa](#)

Strides for Africa is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is 100% staffed by volunteers. They are focused on clean water and education projects in rural Africa. Their Mission: Exposed to the water crisis in rural Africa during the adoption of a child, we initiate action through educational outreach and events that fund sustainable clean water sources or projects providing educational benefit for African communities.

Their vision: Our clean water and educational projects provide donors a unique opportunity to see outcomes within impoverished African communities for better health, empowered youth, and ultimately transformed communities.

Dr. Gina M. Bryan

2nd block 10:05-11:25 *Presentation is for the full block

Opioid Epidemic

Dr. Bryan is a clinical associate professor in the School of Nursing. She teaches in the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs. Dr. Bryan maintains an active clinical practice at Journey Medical Health Center, where she serves people who live with severe and persistent mental illness. She is on the Steering Committees for a SAMSHA SBIRT training grant and a Buprenorphine Prescribers Study to help alleviate the national opiate epidemic.

Tara Drozdenko

3rd block 12:45-2:05

***Nuclear Weapons and Humans* <https://outrider.org/>**

Tara Drozdenko is the Managing Director for Nuclear Policy at the Outrider Foundation. Tara oversees the nuclear mission-area for the foundation and manages the program that produces accessible and engaging digital content about nuclear weapons for a non-expert audience. Her offline responsibilities include public outreach events, interviews, and speaking engagements—usually to student audiences. Prior to entering the nonprofit world, Tara spent more than a decade managing complex government programs and supervising teams of talented researchers at both the U.S. State and Treasury departments. She earned a Ph.D. in physics from UCLA and worked for the U.S. Navy on issues related to Weapons of Mass Destruction and for the U. S. State Department on Nonproliferation and Arms Control issues.

Tegan Swanson ([Domestic Abuse Intervention Services](#)) & Bri Breunig ([Rape Crisis Center](#))

4th block 2:20-3:40 *Presentation is for the full block

Sexual Harassment

Tegan Swanson is the Prevention Initiatives Coordinator at Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS). DAIS provides community-based, collaborative primary prevention programming that seeks to eradicate domestic and sexual violence through social change and community building. Working within educational and community-based settings, the overarching focus is identifying and eliminating the root causes that support the abuse of power and control in intimate relationships.

Bri Breunig is the Outreach & Education Specialist at the Rape Crisis Center. She spends her days in high schools and middle schools throughout the county, giving presentations to students and conducts outreach and education with other community groups. She also helps facilitate our GameChangers Youth Advisory Board.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4TH

Csanad Siklos

5th block 8:30-9:05

Democracy, Populism & the Enigma of Hungary

Csanád Siklós is Assistant Director for Students and Curriculum at the Institute for Regional and International Studies at UW-Madison. Prior to that, he was Assistant Director and Outreach Specialist for UW-Madison's European Studies Centers. He was born in London, England, to Hungarian parents who had fled to the West after the Hungarian Uprising. Csanád received his doctorate in Scandinavian Studies from the University of Washington (2002). He speaks native Hungarian, fluent Norwegian, and British English. His presentation "Democracy, Populism, and the Enigma of Hungary" will focus on the role of Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, recent policy changes, and the country's increasingly tense relationship with the European Union.

Chundou Her

5th block 9:15-9:50

"Don't Generaliz-Asian Me" -

Chundou needs no introduction as an esteemed member of the amazing English department at MHS

Amber Thompson & Dominique Q. Christian

6th block 10:05-10:40 *Presentation in the LMC

Homelessness in Dane County

The Road Home

Amber works with families through the Rapid Rehousing program, providing holistic client centered case management to assist families in reaching their goals and maintaining housing. Amber received her bachelor's degree in elementary education and psychology. She worked for several years as a shelter case manager before joining The Road Home in 2017. Amber is also a certified yoga teacher with an emphasis on trauma-informed practices. She uses her background to help families build resiliency around trauma responses and to manage stress triggers.

Amber loves building relationships with the families she works with. She believes wholeheartedly in the housing first model, an approach that quickly connects families to permanent housing without creating any preconditions. She believes that housing is a human right and enjoys working with families to steer their own journey and achieve goals they set out.

Dominique works in collaboration with The Salvation Army as a housing advocate for the RISE program, a one-year Rapid Rehousing Program designed to assist with temporary financial burdens while empowering people to become self-reliant through personal recovery plans, strength-based strategies, and encouragement. Dominique began her position at The Road Home in 2018 while earning her bachelor's degree in social work with a minor in political science. With her background as a Certified Peer Support Specialist, Dominique has experience supporting people with mental health struggles, psychological trauma and substance use.

Dominique chose to enter this field because she believes that while there are many people passionate about this work, there aren't enough people of color who share commonalities and similar experiences with the many of the clients being served. She believes her lived experience helps her be effective in supporting and advocating for others in their recovery process.

Demond Hill Jr.

6th block 10:50-11:25 *Presentation in the LMC

Demond Hill Jr, graduate student at UW-Madison in Educational Policy Studies. In addition, Demond created a federally funded mentoring program that provided space that affirms Black love, joy, and belonging through the creative medium of hip-hop culture. We provide educational workshops on topics such as identity, Black love, trauma, healing and well-being, and explorational trips to culinary art facilitates, universities and museums. Demond, is a relentless educator that is dedicated to dismantling sexual, racial, social, educational and political oppression that various Black folks face.

Finn Enke

7th block 12:45-2:05 *Note this presentation is for the full block

LGBTQ+ History in the U.S.

Professor Enke is the Director of the LGBT Studies Certificate Program at UW Madison and specializes in history of sexuality and gender, primarily 20th century United States. Professor Enke's research and teaching focuses on feminist, queer, and transgender social movements and theory.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 5TH

Paul Ohlrogge

1st block 8:30-9:05 & 9:15-9:50 (same presentation both halves)

Global Experiences-Peace Corps and beyond

Presentation in the LMC

Paul Ohlrogge has been involved in community development and international work for 35 years. He is the County Director for UW-Extension in Iowa County and an Associate Professor of Community Resource Development. Prior to coming to UWEX Paul was in the Peace Corps for 4 years and then followed with 6 more years in the Philippines working with the United Nations High Commission on Refugees – working with the resettlement of Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian and Hmong refugees. Paul has also worked on short term assignments in Rwanda, Cambodia, Uganda and Haiti. Paul graduated from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa with a degree in Communications and Theology and has a Master's in Public Administration from Southern Illinois University.

Attorney Richard L. Jones Sr.

2nd block 10:05-11:25 *Presentation is for the full block

Pursuit of Justice

Attorney Richard L. Jones, Sr. is a native of Racine, WI, where he graduated from Washington Park High School in June of 1981. At Park, Attorney Jones was a letter earner in both Basketball and Track. Upon graduating from Park, Attorney Jones continued his education earning a B.A. in Economics and Management from Beloit College in May of 1986, a Juris Doctorate from the Marquette University Law School in May of 1989, and Masters of Divinity from Northern Baptist Seminary in June of 2013. While at Beloit College, Attorney Jones was a multiple letter earner in both track and basketball, and while at Marquette, he earned the Janz and Thomas More Scholarships and the BLSA Award for Academic Excellence in addition to serving as the BLSA treasurer for 2 yrs.

After graduating from law school, Attorney Jones served as the Director of Minority Affairs at the Marquette University Law School where he was tasked with the recruitment, retention, and career planning of minority students. In January, 1991, Attorney Jones accepted a position with the Milwaukee Trial Office of the State Public Defender, and for the most part has worked as a Public Defender his entire legal career handling every case type from disorderly conduct to homicide and everything in between. Attorney Jones has held numerous leadership positions at the State Public Defender including First Assistant State Public Defender (Regional Manager) for the Racine Region. Attorney Jones is currently serves in the Madison Trial Office of the State Public Defender's Office where he is assigned to the Chapter 980 Team wherein his focus is

primarily on the civil commitment of sexually violent persons, though he also handles homicides and other serious cases.

Throughout his career, Attorney Jones has taught at various colleges and universities including Stratton College, Beloit College, Globe University, UW-Parkside and Marquette University.

Courses he has taught include Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Applied Ethics and Business Law.

Attorney Jones believes that it is his mission to pursue justice for each of his clients and he is firmly committed to that pursuit.

His presentation is titled Pursuit of Justice. The criminal and juvenile justice systems were originally created for a multitude of purposes, the most important of which were rehabilitation and the reduction of recidivism. But time has transformed our systems into racially biased centers of unequal justice that must be changed. This presentation will explore our current systems and open our minds to how they can be changed.

Wayne Strong

3rd block 1:30-2:05

Know your Rights

Wayne Strong is currently a Program Associate for the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Prior to joining NCCSD, Wayne worked as the Director of Workforce Development for the Urban League of Greater Madison. He retired from the Madison Police Department in 2013 after serving for 24 years. As a Madison police officer, Wayne earned a Medal

of Valor for acts of bravery and courage and a Life Saving Award, the departments two highest awards. For the past 24 years, he has been as a volunteer for the Southside Raiders Youth Football and Cheerleading Program and has also been involved in numerous boards and committees working to combat racial disparities in the criminal justice and education. Wayne has a passion for education and social justice related issues. Wayne is married to his wife Terri of 33 years and has two adult children and two grandchildren.

Kruthika Kamath

4th block 2:20-2:55

Sexual Harassment & the MeToo Movement in India

Kruthika Kamath is a doctoral student in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, who is interested in analyzing the relationship between traditional media and social media coverage of social justice movements in India, particularly the current #MeToo movement. One of her key areas of analysis is looking at the representational qualities of sources used by news reports and online discourse.

Kruthika holds an M.Sc. and M.A. in Global Media and Communication from the London School of Economics and University of Southern California, respectively. And she received her B.A. in Mass Communications from Mount Carmel College in Bangalore, India. Currently, she is the Project Assistant for the International Projects Office at UW–Madison and her previous work experiences include working as a senior copywriter, a social media manager, and a UI/UX content writer.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6TH

Erika Rosales

5th block 8:30-9:50 *Presentation is for the full block

Immigration and the U.S.

Erika Rosales is an undocumented immigrant and a DACA recipient. She has been living undocumented in the U.S for 25 years since she was 12 years old when she entered the country undocumented. Erika is an immigration activist and has helped organize immigration events and rallies locally and nationally (at the U.S Capitol). She has been interviewed by CNN money, Telemundo Milwaukee, Channel 3000, Wisconsin Eye, and other local news. Erika has also written and published two OpEds for the Capitol times about DACA and a piece for Our Lives Magazine. She currently works at the Wisconsin Center for Education Research and is as a Human Rights Curriculum Coordinator at the Global Health Institute. She is also a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the Cultural Foundations of Community Engagement and Education program.

Sara Sillars & Dr. Renata Laxova

6th block 10:05-11:25 *Presentation is for the full block

Holocaust Survivor

Milwaukee Holocaust Resource Center <http://holocaustcentermilwaukee.org/>

Dr. Renata Laxova is an American pediatric geneticist and Emeritus Professor of Genetics at the Departments of Pediatrics and Medical Genetics, Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison. She was born in Brno, Czechoslovakia and survived the Holocaust by inclusion in the Kindertransport.

Sara Sillars is the Madison area Educator for the Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center in Milwaukee where she has worked since 2014. She has studied the Holocaust at Yad Vashem and co-wrote Edie Shafer's memoir, Shanghai Deliverance, with Mary Munson Murphy.

Percy Brown

7th block 12:45-2:05 *Presentation is for the full block

Percy is currently the Director of Equity and Student Achievement for the Middleton Cross Plains Area School District, Senior Outreach Specialist for the Wisconsin Center for Education Research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an adjunct instructor for Edgewood College in the school of education.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7TH

UW Madison Engineers without Borders

1st block 8:30-9:05

[Projects & Purpose of Engineers without Borders](#)

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Chapter of *Engineers Without Borders* builds a better world by educating internationally-responsible engineers and students. We embody the Wisconsin Idea - that education should influence people's lives beyond the classroom - by providing engineering and social services in Wisconsin and in under-served communities around the globe.

Our belief is that a true partnership with our host communities, and community participation is crucial to the success of our projects.

Chris Keenan

1st block 9:15-9:50

[Mental Health in Schools](https://www.nami.org/) <https://www.nami.org/>

Chris Keenan currently works as a full-time data analyst and program evaluation specialist for Wisconsin's public mental healthcare system and has been active with NAMI Wisconsin and his local affiliate, NAMI Dane, since 2014. Chris holds a perspective of both a person living with mental health condition and family member of persons living with mental health conditions and has experience navigating the mental health and forensic mental health systems across multiple states. Being a participant in advocacy and the peer movement has provided him with many opportunities to advocate for the best care possible for people living with brain disorders, and tell his family's story so that others may feel empowered by their own. When he's not in the office or volunteering, he enjoys rock climbing and downhill skiing.

Cat Jacoby

2nd block 10:05-11:25 *Presentation is for the full block

[Human Trafficking in Wisconsin](#)

[Fierce Freedom](#)

Cat Jacoby is the Public Relations and Program Coordinator for Fierce Freedom, which has been educating and equipping the Chippewa Valley about the realities of domestic human trafficking for over 12 years. During her time there she has worked to train thousands including: law enforcement, medical professionals, the academic community, schools, civic groups and more! Cat coordinates FF programming which includes victim identification and support through local jails and detention centers, identifying and working with over 50 local victims ranging in age from 4-60 years old since January 2018. She loves being a part of a team of passionate individuals who believe that every life is valuable and precious, and that every person has a role to play in the fight against modern-day slavery.

Presentation overview:

In this presentation we'll de-bunk some common myths surrounding human trafficking, including what human trafficking looks in Western Wisconsin and the Midwest. We will talk about risk factors that influence victimization, a trafficker's "grooming process," and the role social media plays. We will also discuss ways to recognize trafficking, and what to do about it. Finally, we'll talk about Fierce Freedom's programming and how to protect yourself from exploitation.

Advisory 11th/12th 11:30-12:00 & 9th/10th 12:05-12:35 Fair Trade Sale in PAC Lobby

No Sign Up Necessary

JD Stier *Keynote Speaker

3rd block 12:45-2:05 *Presentation is for the full block

[Human Rights Activism](#)

[Stier Forward](#)

[Mighty Peace Coffee](#)

JD Stier, a west Madison native, UW-Madison philosophy grad, and eventual Obama White House Official, has a story to share of human rights struggles, mass incarceration, and slumber parties at Aaron Rodger's house. JD was sentenced to 42 months in prison at the age of 19 for possessing marijuana in downtown Madison. After serving his time, JD made the

first-ever journey from the jailhouse to the White House, becoming the first convicted felon to serve inside the White House. JD went on to launch Stier Forward, a social movement engine addressing human rights, U.S. mass incarceration, and played a leading role in ending the global Ebola outbreak. JD has led activism with Super Bowl MVP Aaron Rodgers, House of Cards Robin Wright, and is a frequent front page contributor for Politico, Huffington Post, and a recurring guest on MSNBC.

JD will weave together stories and lessons learned from inside the White House, human rights activism with today's most influential leaders, and how Middleton students and local residents can join and lead efforts that strengthen human rights from the heart of Africa to Wisconsin's very own prison system.

JD is also Founding Chairman and Partner of Mighty Peace Coffee. Their mission is to "provide connoisseurs and ethical businesses with the highest quality coffee, while sharing stories of Congolese partners to inspire, educate, and end poverty and conflict through economic transformation and international advocacy."

Robert Fischer & Susanna Fischer

4th block 2:20-2:55

Wisconsin Microfinance

The mission of Wisconsin Microfinance is to create a more equitable and sustainable world by empowering the very poor through microfinance. We provide the infrastructure and funding to create an opportunity for the very poor who lack access to acceptable financial opportunity to escape from poverty with dignity. Rooted in the Wisconsin Idea and the University of Wisconsin, our impact extends to Haiti, the Philippines and points beyond.

Susanna works as an auditor for the US Department of Veteran's Affairs Office of Inspector General where she conducts performance audits of health care programs out of the Washington D.C. office. She also has experience in nonprofit service delivery in New York City as well as local fund development in Dane County. Susanna brings a passion for program evaluation and reporting to the Wisconsin Microfinance team. She has degrees in English and Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master's degree in Public Affairs from the La Follette Institute.

Robert is the president of GTiMA and a technology and policy advisor to Mandli Communications. Both Mandli and GTiMA work with national, international, and regional authorities to advance smart city standards, policies, and best practices. Robert spent eight years of his childhood growing up in Port-au-Prince, Haiti and he speaks French and Haitian Creole. He brings over ten years of experience in national and international program implementation and his passion for the people and culture of Haiti to the WI Microfinance Board. Robert holds a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master's degree in software engineering from Cal State Fullerton.

Maryam Ladoni

4th block 3:05-3:40 *Presentation in the LMC

Iranian photo artist-website

Maryam Ladoni is a photo-based artist living in the USA. She received an MA degree in photography from University of Art in Iran. Currently, she is an MFA candidate (2020) in photography at the University of Wisconsin- Madison. She also works as a Persian Language lecturer in the language department and as photographer in Division of the Art at UW-Madison. Her art practice was started in 2015 with the collection Abandoned: Photos from Iran after the War. In this project, she travelled to her hometown in order to visualize places and people which reminded the memories of her war effected childhood. Her art work has been exhibited nationally including International Center of Photography Mousam in New York and Overture Gallery in Madison.

***Friday Feb. 7th Fair Trade Sale in PAC Lobby from 10:00-3:00 (no sign up necessary)**

Participating Groups:

Fair Trade Sale Vendors:

SERRV (www.serrv.org)-multiple countries

DOERS Wisconsin-Afghanistan

Mighty Peace Coffee (<https://www.mightypeacecoffee.com/>)-Democratic Republic of Congo

Ubuntu Trade (<https://ubuntutrade.com>)-Uganda

Madison-Rafah Sister City Project (<http://madisonrafah.org/>)

Heart of the Sky Fair Trade (<http://www.heartoftheskyfairtrade.com/>)-Guatemala

Bali and Soul-can access page via Facebook

Just Coffee (<https://justcoffee.coop/>)

Wisconsin Without Borders: <http://www.wwbmarketplace.org/>

