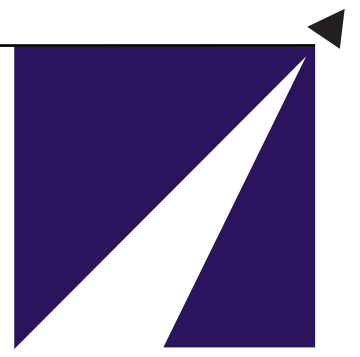


ReVision



P R O J E C T

YES

re (ri) *n.* 1. anew, again vision (vizh 'ə) *n.* 1. the manner in which one sees or conceives of something.

Making our world safe for ALL youth

TEC Teachers Explore Gender at Project YES



Dr. Marilyn Volker.

Project YES hosted the first class of Dr. Marilyn Volker's new Sexuality Educator Certification Program and shared several portions of our Gender Continuum Workshop. We explained how our educational work on behalf of gay and lesbian youth led us to the challenge of unraveling the gender knot.

This intensive two-week program is certified by Florida International University's Professional Career Institute, making Florida one of few states with accreditation for high school sexual health educators. Providing teachers with educational resources on these important topics is a powerful step in addressing the fear and misinformation that fuels violence and discrimination.

Continuing her lifelong commitment to sexuality education, Dr. Volker makes history by implementing this program. We are grateful for her partnership and unwavering focus on the safety of our youth.



Watching Dr. Volker work her magic.



Educators in the Project YES training room.



Dade County Schools Division of Student/Career Services

The newly reorganized Division of Student/Career Services of Dade County Public Schools (DCPS) hosted a meeting on June 4 for community agencies who work with gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth. At this meeting, Phyllis Hallberg, our longtime friend and heroine of all students in need, announced her retirement from DCPS. Phyllis had called the meeting to facilitate the transition to new leadership and to ensure the future growth of student support networks.



Phyllis Hallberg, retiring Student/Career Services Administrator, Dr. Monique Jiminez, Education Specialist, Donna Griffin, Administrative Associate, and Martha Fugate.

Phyllis introduced Dr. Monique Jiminez, Education Specialist, as the new contact person for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth in DCPS. Donna Griffin, another longtime friend, will also remain available within the division as a resource for students.

By leaving her work in the competent hands of Monique and Donna, Phyllis ensures the continuation of her invaluable contributions to young people. Thank you, Phyllis, for your incredible service to our students. You will be deeply missed.

Visit www.projectyes.org to access upcoming speaking engagements and educational workshops.

Project YES Community Meeting
Thursday, October 9, at 3:30 PM
Everyone's invited!

Palmetto High GSA Makes Impact



In their efforts to respond with generosity in the face of hurtful comments from a substitute teacher, students in the Palmetto Gay/Straight Alliance put on an educational dramatic performance for the student population. They wrote, produced, and performed a series of ten

vignettes depicting gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth in real-life scenarios ranging from high school dating to serving in the military. The production received a standing ovation from the entire student body.

Following the performance, Joseph Zolobczuk facilitated an enthusiastic question and answer session. Project YES was happy to be part of this creative effort, and we are proud of the student leaders who are working to make a positive impact in their school.



Palmetto GSA student leaders.

Upward Bound Students

Project YES speakers Chris Prado and Jose Luis Pere spoke to over 80 high school students as part of Upward Bound, a program run by the University of Miami. The program serves students who have reduced access to college preparation, including both financial and social components. The goal of Upward Bound is to have these students enroll in and succeed at institutions of higher education.



Volunteer speakers Jose Luis Pere and Chris Prado.

The limited access these students have to information extends to the topic of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth. Giving them an opportunity to participate in an open dialogue on this topic was an important step in expanding their perspectives and preparing them for college environments.

“I want to thank Chris and Jose for speaking to our students. They were upset when you could not stay longer. In discussion afterwards, many students expressed having a better understanding and less fear. I was happy to hear them ask such open and honest questions.”

- Britney Sanders, Assistant Director, Upward Bound Program

Gender Continuum Workshops



Jan Kirchoff addressing participants.

Our work on gender continues to extend the reach of all our educational efforts. Workshop participants report reactions that persist beyond the conclusion of each course. Their interactions at work and home provide fresh insights and awareness, bringing previously blurred distinctions into a new perspective.

“You and your staff did such a wonderful job in preparing and presenting the materials on gender. Project YES is truly a beacon of clarity, rationality, and compassion for these topics in our community.”

- Dr. Oren Wunderman, Director, Family Resource Center

“One of the best workshops I have attended on any subject— interesting and comprehensive. I was surprised by this information.”

- Workshop participant

Our next series of workshops:

Saturday, August 16, 2003:

9AM – 5PM – Gender Continuum

Saturday, August 23, 2003:

9AM – 1PM – Deciphering the Matrix

Both workshops are open to everyone; however, we recommend taking the *Gender Continuum* prior to the *Matrix* workshop.

University Graduate Presentations

Dr. Carol Clark invited Project YES speakers Debbie Wuhl and Joseph Zolobczuk to speak with her graduate counseling class at Carlos Albizu University. The presentation inspired students to reflect on their future work as counselors.

“Debbie touched me by expressing her hurt and triumph. I see how important this information is for my career.”

- CAU student

Joseph Zolobczuk also shared the work of Project YES with Professor Betsy Smith's graduate counseling students at Florida International University. Nina Topp from Project YES and Professor Glenda Belote answered questions from the students based on their personal experiences.

“I recognize that I had many misconceptions about this topic. This discussion really opened my mind.”

- FIU student



Volunteer speakers Prof. Glenda Belote and Nina Topp.

\$20,000 Matching Fund Challenge



The mid-year review of our budget reflected a dramatic drop in foundation grants, which have historically provided nearly 50% of our operating revenue. Project YES board member Tim Dugan and his partner Meredith Birrittella generously responded to this shortfall by issuing a **\$20,000 Matching Fund Challenge**. When you make a donation to Project YES from now until the fall, your contribution will be matched dollar for dollar. **Double your contribution today.**

Pledges to date now total **\$13,000** in funds. There is still **\$7,000** more to go! Please call **Eva Leivas-Andino at 305-663-7195** or log on to www.projectyes.org/donate to make a contribution.

You Can Make It Happen!

July Course

Participants traveled from Colorado, Orlando, Georgia, and Tampa to spend a weekend exploring our model of communication. They returned home with new tools to use in making their communities safer for all youth and families.

“ I met beautiful, courageous, and outstanding individuals. Sharing ideas and experiences helped me to learn a great deal about myself. I discovered how communicating effectively will allow us to educate and make a difference in our communities, our homes, and our lives.”

- **Rosamaria Franchy, Citibank Key Biscayne**



July Communication Course.

The next Communication Course is Friday & Saturday, September 19 & 20. To reserve your space, please visit www.projectyes.org/register.

Miami Bridge



Youth speaker Allison Tinney with alternative education teacher Susan Castleman.

As a follow-up to our previous presentations, Project YES speaker Allison Tinney spoke to 20 students at Miami Bridge, a homeless shelter for youth.

Participants asked many questions, and several

youth revealed a new level of understanding and awareness by the end of the presentation.

We thank Joan Davis of Miami Bridge for giving us this opportunity to reach her students.

Kiaora Update

Kiaora Society Members donate \$1,000 or more annually to Project YES. Without this vital support, the results you read about in this newsletter would not happen.

This month, we warmly welcome the **Schaeffer Family** to our Kiaora Society at the Mentor Level. **Bruce Christensen** renewed his Kiaora membership as a Mentor, and we thank **Jeff Newton & Robin Wheatley** for increasing their Kiaora contribution. A Matching Fund gift by **Paula Black** propels her to the Leader Level. We welcome and thank our corporate sponsor **Gilead Pharmaceuticals** for their educational grant, and we welcome a grant award from the **Gay & Lesbian Foundation of South Florida**.

Check your calendars and save the date: **Saturday, April 3, 2004**. Project YES is planning a very special evening reminiscent of the casinos of the Caribbean. A silent auction will also be featured. If you have auction items to donate, please call **Eva at 305-663-7195**.

Board Gender Retreat

Eager to see and discuss our latest research on gender, Project YES board members gathered at the home of Dr. Karen Raben & Andrea Pernick to preview our latest workshops.

“ I was skeptical but very curious about seeing the workshop. Afterwards, I was enlightened, elated, and relieved—the new course will open the eyes of many.”

- **Doug DeBoer, Board Chairman**



Project YES board discussing gender.

Kiaora Society

Kiaora Society members donate \$1,000 or more to Project YES annually.

Visionary

\$10,000 or more

Tim Dugan & Meredith Birrittella
Jonathan Lewis
Ed McAmis & Gerson Gonzalez

Champion

\$5,000 or more

Greg Baldwin & Jose Castro
Stephen E. Herbits
Peter Pilotti & Joseph Rodano
Bill Ross
Jacques Soukup
Rev. Marta S. Weeks
Carol & Ed Williamson

Leader

\$2,500 or more

Connie Barden & Martha Fugate
Lang Baumgarten
Paula Black
Douglas DeBoer & Howard Kurzweil
Victor Garcia & Tim Wagoner
Robert Oldakowski & Luis Mendoza
Pink Palm Company
Karen Raben & Andrea Pernick
Dennis Rodrigues
Kevin Veilleux

Mentor

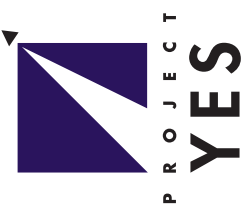
\$1,000 or more

Nancy Allen
Samuel Spencer Blum & Milenko Samardzich
Gary Bremen & Roger Boone
Jorge R. Centurión
Jerry Chasen & Mark Kirby
Bruce A. Christensen
City National Bank of Florida & the Abess Family
Cathy L. Cline
Scott Dansky & John Dawson
Jose Valdés-Fauli & Shed Boren
Cali Garcia-Velez
Randall R. Gluss & Fernando Mendez-Villamil, MD
Walter F. Goodman & Robert A. Flanders
Barbara T. Gray
James C. Hanrahan, Jr.
Marty Harris & Nikki Korval
Jorge Luis Hernandez
Charlton W. Hines
Ken Huff
Lawrence R. Hyer
Jan Kirchoff
Jonathan & Tina Kislak
Joseph M. Kraus
George L. Lindemann, Jr.
Robert Longstreth
Larry Luig & Dario Espinosa
Ralph Lutrin & Alan Lewis
Dr. John J. Martin, Jr., & Forrest McSurdy
Edward McIntyre
Judith Mercier
Kevin Miller & Allan Hunter
Richard Milstein
Glenn L. Minton & Eddie Eskdale
Elsie Miranda & Lourdes Cuervo
Rachelle Monchik
Tony & Katia Prado
Kenneth Rau & Joseph Fitzgerald
Gordon Rhodes
Harry Rimm
Howard Perry Rothberg II & Paul A. Scolieri-Rothberg
Leslie Sadur & Karen von Bergen
The Schaeffer Family
Marty Schildhouse
Janice & Howard Scholl
Lee Brian Schragger
Martin Smith
Hortensia V. Soriano
Mark Steinberg & Dennis Edwards
Andrew Tobias & Charles Nolan
Juan Carlos Urquiola
William Vaughan
Cynthia & Emilio Vazquez
Patricia & Milton Wallace
Lori Weems
Kathleen Wells & Donald Dillport
Robin Wheatley & Jeffrey Newton
Laura White
Trae Williamson & Daniel Carter
Robin Wolff & Kathy Gregory
Joseph M. Zolobczuk
Anonymous Donors

Foundations & Corporations

Citigroup Foundation
Coral Gables Congregational Church
Gay & Lesbian Foundation of South Florida
EuroAtlantic, Inc.
Gilead Pharmaceuticals
James G. Pepper Fund of Stonewall Community Foundation
Joseph H. & Florence A. Roblee Foundation
Matthew Shepard Foundation
North Dade Medical Foundation
P.F. Chang's China Bistro
Rosie O'Donnell For All Kids Foundation
Ruth Anderson Foundation

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Miami, Florida
PERMIT NO 8182



5275 Sunset Drive
Miami, FL 33143
www.projectyes.org



5275 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143
Ph: 305-663-7195 Fax: 305-663-7197
www.projectyes.org

Board of Directors

- Doug DeBoer**, Chair
- Paula Black**, Vice Chair
- Robert Oldakowski**, MBA, Treasurer
- Nancy Allen**, Secretary
- Connie Barden**, RN, MSN, CCRN
- Prof. Tim Dugan**, MBA
- Marty Harris**
- Jan Kirchoff**
- Elsie Miranda**, MPM
- Bill Ross**, MBA
- Karen Raben**, MD

Staff

- Martha Fugate**, Director
martha@projectyes.org
- Carolyn S. Garwood**, PhD
Educational Specialist Liaison,
Miami-Dade County Public Schools
- Eva Leivas-Andino**,
Hispanic Coordinator
eva@projectyes.org
- Joseph Zolobczuk**,
Education Coordinator
joseph@projectyes.org



Community Meetings

The Community Meeting is a great opportunity to collaborate with schools, churches, synagogues, businesses, and other stakeholders concerned with our youth. You are invited to join us at each meeting to hear results, observe programs in action, and assist in fostering partnerships in the community. Upcoming meetings will be held on **Thursday, October 9, and Thursday, December 11**, from 3:30 - 5PM. Office location and directions can be found at: www.projectyes.org.



Students at the June Community Meeting.

REGISTER TODAY!

Deciphering the Matrix
Sat., August 23: 9AM – 1PM
\$50 CEU / \$25 Standard / \$20 Student
3.5 CEU Credits

Essentials of Sexual Orientation
Sat, Sept. 13: 9AM – 1PM
\$50 CEU / \$25 Standard / \$20 Student
3.5 CEU Credits

Communication Solutions Course
Fri. & Sat. Sept. 19 & 20: Noon – 6PM
\$200 CEU / \$100 Standard / \$20 Student
12 CEU Credits

Project YES offers accredited workshops available to students, parents, and professionals. Visit www.projectyes.org for upcoming course dates and times.

Our Vision

A community in which gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and all youth develop as healthy individuals free of suicide, violence, and discrimination.

Our Mission

To prevent suicide and ensure the healthy development of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth by initiating dialogue, providing education, and creating support systems.

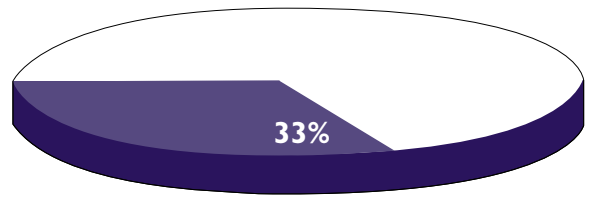


Cathy Cline at Homestead High School.

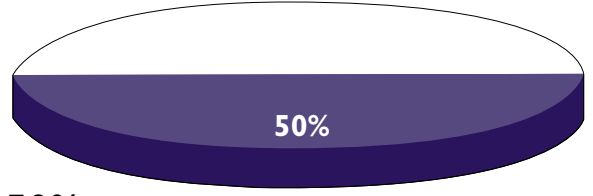
Did You Know?

Every recent publicized school shooting (Columbine, Santee, Moses Lake, and West Padukah High Schools) contains reports of perpetrators being bullied with anti-gay epithets.

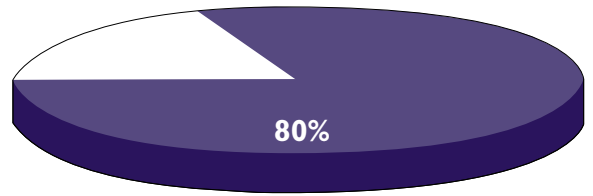
“Violent Reaction” by Anthony Chase
In These Times - Volume 25, Issue 16



33% of all teenage suicides are committed by gay and lesbian youth.



50% of gay youth are rejected by their parents when their orientation is discovered.



80% of all youth harassed in school for being perceived as gay are heterosexual.

For citations and additional statistics:
www.projectyes.org/research



Project YES at the North Miami FACTS Conference in June.