



**3rd Annual (1st Digital)
Youth Conversations
on Race & Social Justice**

Conference Program

Conference Schedule

10:00-10:45 Keynote Conversation: Youth Activist Panel/ Q&A

10:45- 11:00 Break (Raffle)

**11:00-11:05 Entertainment: Folklórico performance:
“Las estrellas de Esperanza”**

11:05- 12:00 Breakout Session #1

- Intersection of Racial Justice & Queer Identity Panel
- Youth Justice Reform
- Self-Care Workshop: A Tool to Cope with Racial Stress
- Youth Activism in Action
with the Watsonville Campesino Appreciation Caravan

12:00- 12:30 Lunch Break/DJ Mario Escudero (Raffle)

12:35- 1:30 Breakout Session #2

- Microaggressions
- History: Truth or Lies?
- Writing About Identity
- White Privilege

1:30-2:00 Closing/Raffle/Survey



Art by Kate DeCiccio & Munk One for Amplifier.org

Participation Agreements

- Treat others with respect.
- Be an active participant.
- Please display the name you used to register for the conference.
- Keep your microphone on mute when not speaking.
- Youth participants please keep your camera on when possible.
- Adults (over age 25) should turn their camera and microphone off and refrain from speaking or chatting. You are here to observe.

If you are having any technical difficulties please chat with the host and/or contact us at surjsouthcounty@gmail.com

Zoom sessions will be recorded & shared. Only the presenter's face & screen will be visible. All participants names & faces shall be kept strictly confidential.

MCs

Tara Sreekrishnan MC
Ankush Ganapathy MC

Young Activist Panel

LaToya Fernandez
Tara Sreekrishnan
Ankush Ganapathy
Basil Saleh

Entertainment

Las Estrellas de Esperanza Folklorico
DJ Mario Escudero
Mario.escudero.1.me@gmail.com



Art by Micah Bazant Amplifier.org

Breakout Session #1

Intersection of Racial Justice & Queer Identity Panel

Wilbur Hurley & Eroxai Cisneros

Wilbur will discuss Racial Justice amongst BIPOC, its financial and social impact, and the effect it has on a community (physical and community identity). Eroxai Cisneros will review the access disparities that exist for trans folks and how those disparities are attempting to be addressed by the work of the GHC, and other local groups and organizations.

Youth Justice Reform

Isabel Santos / CARAS

Our workshop is based on the issues youth face today. Some topics we will be talking about are: racial disparity, LGBTQ, youth incarceration, and gender bias.

Self-Care Workshop

A Tool to Cope With Racial Stress

Tenee Brown

The following workshop will provide you with knowledge on how racial stress may be impacting you as well as helping you learn to identify what racial stress/ general stress looks and feels like. The workshop will also provide you with clear self-care strategies to help cope with all forms of stress.

Youth Activism in Action

Watsonville Campesino Appreciation Caravan

Amaranta Rios, Valentina Velasquez

Come learn about the Watsonville Campesino Appreciation Caravan! Join this session to learn about the work a group of individuals has done to bring much-needed and much-deserved supplies, information, food, and appreciation to farmworkers in Watsonville, Las Lomas, and Moss Landing. WCAC is a grassroots nonprofit organization, working to appreciate farmworkers and inform them on health safety regarding COVID19 and resources that are available to them in the Watsonville

Breakout Session #2

Micro-Aggressions

Courtney Mangus, CAIR

Learn how to effectively intervene when you witness a microaggression. Participants in this training will gain the tools to identify a microaggression and will learn how to challenge, confront, and question a microaggression while being a thoughtful and proactive ally to those impacted.

History: Truth or Lies?

Kathy Chavez Napoli

Knowing what we know today, how can we or should we tell history today? Would the story be the same or told differently depending upon who is telling it? Is it too late to change history? Kathy Chavez Napoli will address these questions and more to help us look accurately at our history in a way that helps us to recognize truths and lies. She will also discuss how to preserve culture, heritage, traditions and language in “American” culture.

Writing About Identity

Kulvinder Arora & Anushka Singh

Each one of us has a unique set of identities that we may or may not talk about and which may not be obvious just by looking at us. From our racial and ethnic background, gender expression, to religious or spiritual faiths. You may be an artist, activist, healer, scientist, and so many more facets that make up who you are. Identity is critical to how we feel about ourselves, behave in relationship to others, and interact with the world. This workshop will give youth an opportunity to write about your identity and express those facets of yourself in a guided and supportive way. Participating teens will have the possibility of being published in an anthology produced by Literary Legacies.

White Privilege

SURJ Sacred Heart

Peter Paris, Alex Tuteur, Diana Rendler

This workshop helps white people and others learn about and address the privilege they have been granted by our society and provides ideas about how to use that privilege to help end racism in the United States.

Presenters

(alphabetical by last name)

Kulvinder Arora, known as "Kay " is passionate about helping young people achieve their dreams. While teaching in Women's and Gender Studies departments at universities, she enjoyed mentoring first-generation college students and students of color to overcome barriers to success. She is Vice-President of Literary Legacies, an organization that publishes books written by youth as a process in their healing and overcoming challenges. She also serves on the board of several non-profits.



Tenee Brown MA,LPCC,PPSC was raised on the Eastside of San Jose by a single mother of four. Twenty years ago, Tenee began her work career in the mental health field supporting youth struggling with mental stability concerns within Santa Clara county. Tenee is now a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and currently working for a school district as a Mental Health Therapist. Tenee also owns a private therapeutic practice for all and is committed to support youth that are emotionally impacted by racial trauma.

Kathy Chavez Napoli Knowing what we know today, how can we or should we tell history today? Would the story be the same or told differently depending upon who is telling it? Is it too late to change history? Kathy Chavez Napoli will address these questions and more to help us look accurately at our history in a way that helps us to recognize truths and lies. She will also discuss how to preserve culture, heritage, traditions and language in "American" culture.



Eroxai Cisneros is the Outreach Specialist for the Gender Health Center, a medical clinic of the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. eroxai.cisneros@hhs.sccgov.org



LaToya Fernandez is a community leader and activist. Latoya is the author of "Truth--an Empowerment Guide For Youth and Allies". A book that supports students' journeys with self confidence, social issues and healthy relationships. Latoya founded Youthhype; a community-based organization that inspires youth to be civically engaged and self aware. Latoya works in education supporting schools to create alternatives to suspension and cultivate a climate of restorative practice, accountability and culturally responsiveness. Latoya is an advocate for youth in underserved communities and uses her platform to support and amplify youth voice. LaToya is the President of Afro Upris a newly chartered Black Democratic club where she represents as a Delegate. LaToya facilitates a number of youth subcommittees focused on juvenile justice reform and public safety.

latoyafernandez@queenhype.org

Ankush Ganapathy was born in Kolkata India and raised in the South Bay, Ankush has spent the past 8 years as a labor and tenant organizer with roots in the Bay Area racial justice & anti war movements. Also a big fan of dumplings.



Wilbur Hurley is a Santa Clara University Graduate Student studying Counseling Psychology with an Emphasis in Correctional Counseling and LGBTQ+ Counseling. His goal is to reduce recidivism amongst BIPOC inmates through Mental Health Initiatives and Individual/Group settings.
whurley@scu.edu



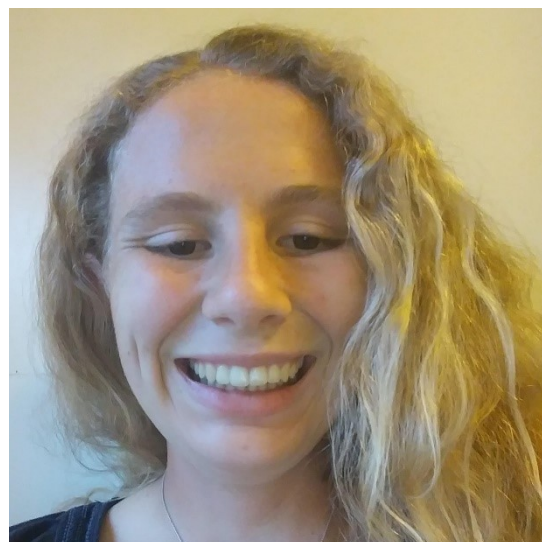
Courtney Mangus is the Programs Manager for the San Francisco Bay Area office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-SFBA). In this position, she leads CAIR-SFBA's signature programs including the Muslim Youth Leadership Program, Muslim Gamechangers Network, Muslim Day at the Capitol, Bystander Intervention Trainings, the internships, clerkships, and volunteer programs, and much more! She is now also studying to earn her J.D. at Santa Clara University School of Law.

cMangus@cair.com



Peter Parris is a middle school history teacher from San Jose. He has worked with SURJ since 2017 and is excited to share his knowledge of white privilege.

Diana Rendler is a long time resident of San Jose who just graduated from SJSU. She has been working with Showing Up for Racial Justice since January 2019, presenting workshops on structural racism and white privilege. She has also worked on SURJ's political campaigns like Police Free Schools.





Amaranta Rios: Amaranta Ríos-León is a Watsonville native, currently a senior at Watsonville High School. She's been a dancer for many years and hopes to pursue a career in Ethnic Studies and/or Psychology.

Isabel Santos graduated from Gilroy High school in June of 2021. She is 18 years old and her pronouns are she, her. [i.santos@carassouthcounty.org](mailto:santos@carassouthcounty.org)

Anushka Singh is a writer and recent graduate from Wesleyan University, where she graduated with Honors in Government. Growing up between India and the US, she is passionate about using diasporic literature, transnational history, and oral tradition as a medium to uplift the voices of WOC. She currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NYC.



Tara Sreekrishnan was recently appointed to the Santa Clara county board of Education with professional public policy and community outreach experience at the city, county, and state government levels. The four core principles of the Santa Clara County Office of Education—diversity, equity, inclusion, and partnership—reflect her own priorities as well. She currently also serves as Deputy Chief of Staff to California Senator Dave Cortese. Sreekrishnan has worked on local political and advocacy campaigns, served on several nonprofit boards, and co-founded the nonprofit Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action (SVYCA) that empowers students across Santa Clara County to combat climate change through impactful education and policy initiatives. She is a graduate of Mills College and a proud product of K-12 public schools from the Cupertino Union School District.

Alex Tuteur is a software developer originally from Massachusetts, now living in the Bay Area. He joined SURJ in June 2020 and has helped present a number of workshops on white privilege and implicit bias. He also volunteers at the Boys & Girls Club as a tutor, helping the underprivileged teenagers of the Bay Area with homework and college prep.



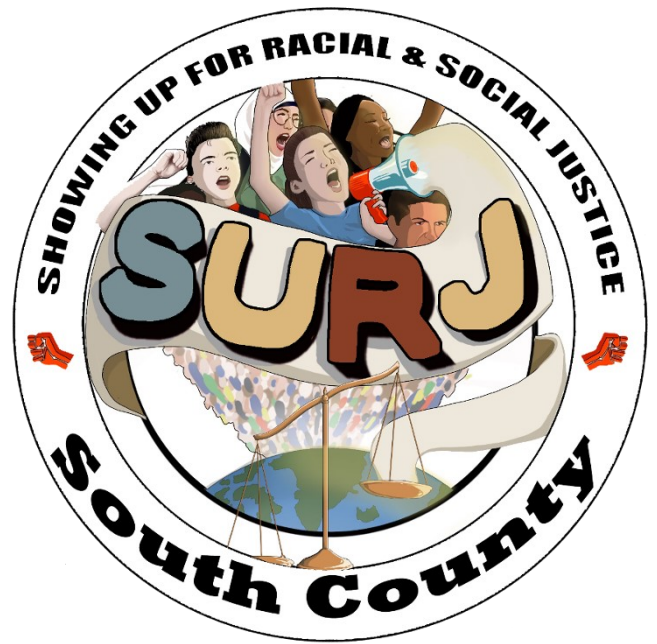
Valentina Velasquez is a [Saint Mary's College of CA](#) alumnae from the Class of 2020. She graduated with a B.A. in Ethnic Studies and Spanish and is currently living in her hometown, Watsonville CA. She is currently an instructor specialist at a local non-profit called the [Digital NEST](#).

JOIN US!

SURJSouthCounty.com

[instagram @surjsouthcounty](https://www.instagram.com/surjsouthcounty)

[facebook.com/groups/
1454459941248297](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1454459941248297)



VISION

We envision a society where we struggle and strive together for equity, love, peace, justice, human dignity, compassion and a sustainable world.

MISSION

SURJ South County is a local group of individuals organizing people for racial justice. Through community organization, mobilization, and education, SURJ promotes all people to act as part of a multiracial society for social justice with passion and accountability. We work with people within the community and across the country to support and collaborate with racial justice organizing efforts. Our group also acknowledges the intersectionality of the ways in which systems of oppression affect marginalized groups (based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, immigration status, ability/disability status, etc..). SURJ provides a space to build relationships, skills and political analysis to act for change.



SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

We are a local chapter of SURJ National. Find out more at:

showingupforracialjustice.org

Conference Partner Organizations

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) is a grassroots civil rights and advocacy group. CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil liberties organization, with regional offices nationwide. CAIR's national headquarters are on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. CAIR's vision is to be a leading advocate for justice and mutual understanding. CAIR's mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, protect civil rights, promote justice, and empower American Muslims.

CAIR.com

[Instagram @cair_sfba](https://www.instagram.com/cair_sfba)



The Community Agency for Resources and Services (CARAS) is a non-profit organization formed to serve incoming youth and families in the community through providing culturally competent and sensitive programming based on the needs and assets present in South Santa Clara County. CARAS was formed by community members concerned with the lack of services available to Latino families. CARAS programs focus on leadership, intervention for at risk youth, education, health and fitness, as well as advocacy and immigrant's rights.

caras-south-county.herokuapp.com

[Instagram @carassouthcounty](https://www.instagram.com/carassouthcounty)

Literary Legacies is a non-profit that teaches youth, grades 3-12, how to write their own fiction or nonfiction book. They tap into the naturally creative abilities of children to bring out the best of their imaginations. They do this for their students to find healing, purpose, agency, and confidence that they can take with them for the rest of their lives.

literarylegacies.org

[Instagram @literarylegaciesll](https://www.instagram.com/literarylegaciesll)



Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ)

Sacred Heart is the San Jose chapter of SURJ. SURJ believes it is white people's responsibility to educate ourselves about systemic, institutional, and interpersonal racism and it is white people's responsibility to excavate our own personal legacies of racism. That includes habits of entitlement that we might bring in to racially mixed spaces. More centrally, SURJ believes that it is white people's responsibility to organize other white people to dismantle white supremacy, because it is white people who historically and still today benefit from white supremacy. surjatsacredheart.org

[Instagram @surj_at_sh](https://www.instagram.com/surj_at_sh)

Watsonville Campesino Appreciation Caravan (WCAC) is composed of an excited group of individuals who are working overtime to bring much-needed and much-deserved supplies, information, food, and appreciation to farmworkers in Watsonville, Las Lomas, and Moss Landing. The group is made up of community members, educators, and students. They are a grassroots nonprofit organization, working to appreciate farmworkers and inform them on health safety regarding COVID19 and resources that are available to them in the Watsonville community.

facebook.com/Watsonville-Campesino-Appreciation-Caravan-104499241242168/



Gemma Abels Scholarship for High Schoolers

In memory of Gemma Abels, a local educator, activist, labor organizer and champion of social justice, the Edward Boss Prado Foundation, in partnership with SURJ South County (Showing Up For Racial Justice), is proud to present two \$2,500 scholarships towards further education for high school students graduating in either 2021 or 2022.

Gemma Abels embodied many values, including but not limited to: striving for equity, amplifying marginalized voices, a love of learning, and commitment to the community.



To apply for the scholarship, choose a medium that speaks to how your education will carry Gemma's values into the world. Create a piece of writing, video, podcast, or ... surprise us!

Apply at <https://tinyurl.com/GemmaAbelsScholarship>

To apply, your family must earn less than \$100,000 annually. Applicants of any immigration / citizenship status are welcome to apply.

Application deadline: October 10, 2021

Thank You Generous Raffle Donors



BookSmart
Books • Cards • Gifts

***Anime 101
and manga too!***

MADE BY MATT

Protect Your Community! Report I.C.E.

(Immigrations & Customs Enforcement)
Activity (suspected & confirmed) by calling the

Rapid Response Network!

Santa Clara County
(408) 290 - 1144

Santa Cruz County
(831) 239 - 4289

Monterey County
(831) 643 - 5225



IF YOU SEE ICE ON THE STREET
IF ICE KNOCKS ON YOUR DOOR
IF ICE DETAINS A LOVED ONE
(NOT general information hotlines)

SIREN Rapid Response Text Platform
(Northern & Central California)

Text SIREN to (201) 468 - 6088

to get text updates from Services Immigrant Rights & Education
Network about potential ICE activities in your area,
& to report ICE activity via text message.