

Transgender Religious Leaders Summit 2009 PRESS RELEASE: 18 February 2009



Are you working on policies related to transgender people in your denomination or community of faith? Does your faith lead you to want greater equality for transgender people in the public realm? Are you interested in the ways we can make our faith concrete through policy advocacy for trans people?

Please join us for the third annual Transgender Religious Leaders Summit, co-sponsored by the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry (CLGS) and the National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE). The 2009 conference will be held from 26 to 28 April 2009 in Washington, DC, in conjunction with Moving Forward Together, NCTE's annual Lobby Day and Policy Conference.

Who should attend?

The conference is open to anyone who is interested. Family, friends and allies as well as transgender people are welcome. Clergy, laity, and students are all encouraged to attend. We'd love to have you there!

What is the program?

This year's Summit includes wonderful speakers and great opportunities for networking and sharing resources, as well as informative workshops and trainings. On Sunday, April 26, we'll be hosted at All Souls Unitarian Church in Washington, where we'll gather for workshops and an address by our keynote speaker, Kate Bornstein. Kate has decades of activism in the trans movement and is always insightful and entertaining. You don't want to miss this!

On Monday, April 27, we'll gather with participants from NCTE's Lobby Day for a Policy Conference where you'll be briefed on the issues most of concern to transgender people—non-discrimination and hate crimes prevention legislation, health care, and much, much more. We'll spend the afternoon in an interactive training on how to effectively speak as people of faith with our members of Congress. Staff members from the Unitarian Universalist Association's Washington Office for Advocacy will be partnering with us to lead that portion of the day.

Monday evening, we'll gather for a reception and awards celebration of those who are allies in our movement for transgender equality.

Then on Tuesday, we'll head together for Capitol Hill, where we will meet with members of Congress. We will make sure you have all of the information you need, whether you are new at this or a veteran activist. We'll also make your appointments for you (unless you'd rather do it yourself) to make it as easy as possible.

All in all, this is a great way to put your faith into action to achieve greater justice and equality for transgender people.

CONTINUED

What does it cost?

There is no required registration fee; we are requesting a free will donation of \$15 to offset our costs. We are seeking donations for our scholarship fund to help cover the costs for those who would not otherwise be able to attend.

How do I register?

Visit us online at <http://trans3.eventbrite.com/> to register. More information is available there and on NCTE's website at http://nctequality.org/lobby_day/summit09.html.

Where to stay?

Our host hotel for 2009 is the very conveniently located Madison A Loews Hotel, located at 1177 Fifteenth Street, NW, in Washington, DC. They are offering discounted rates of \$150/night for a single or a double room. Call 1-800-424-8577 or 1-202-862-1600 to make a reservation. To get this rate, you must mention that you are with NCTE Lobby Day 2009 and make your reservations by March 27, 2009. (To get this rate, you'll need to call, rather than make your reservations online).

We're aware that this rate is expensive for many people; DC hotel rates are very high and you'll find that this is a very competitive rate for Washington.

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact Bernie Schlager at CLGS at bschlager@clgs.org or Justin Tanis at NCTE at jtanis@nctequality.org.

Bernard Schlager

[The Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry \(CLGS\)](#)

Pacific School of Religion

1798 Scenic Avenue

Berkeley, CA 94709

510.849.8278

bschlager@clgs.org

Justin Tanis

[National Center for Transgender Equality](#)

1325 Massachusetts Avenue Suite 700

Washington, DC 20005

202.903.0112

jtanis@nctequality.org