

REDI, Set, Go!



Centre for
Human Rights
Centre des droits
de la personne

JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER - INCLUSION DAY CONFERENCE EDITION!



JANUARY 28th, 2015

Inclusion Day Conference

Past Histories & Present Stories:
Finding Meaning in Human Rights

YORK UNIVERSITY, KEELE CAMPUS, YORK LANES

HAPPY NEW YEARS!

The Centre for Human Rights would like to
wish the entire York Community a safe and
prosperous 2015!

FOR A SNAPSHOT OF THE INCLUSION
DAY PROGRAM...TURN THE PAGE OVER!



YORK
UNIVERSITÉ
UNIVERSITY



LUNCH KEYNOTE

Lynn Keane

“Mental Illness & Stigma:
Continuing Conversations”

11:30AM - 12:45PM
Underground Restaurant



Lynn Keane is an author and former broadcast journalist. Since the sudden passing of her son Daniel in 2009, she has dedicated her life to sharing her family’s story, educating about the underlying causes of depression and the importance of treating mental illness. At the heart of Lynn’s work is a belief that talking about mental illness can reduce stigma and save lives - especially our youth. She argues educating the public about mental illness experienced by thousands of students throughout the country can decrease casualties from this disease and create better outcomes for future generations.

Lynn is creator and producer of the popular anti-bullying videos, Good Sports Don’t Hurt: Harassment Does, shared with schools across Canada. Lynn’s work has also been featured in The National Post, The Globe & Mail, and Moods Magazine, CBC, CTV and TVO’s The Agenda with Steve Paikin. By sharing such a painful story, she hopes to increase understanding of the universal relevance of mental health awareness, and provide support to families who have experienced suicide.

Lynn’s recently published memoir, Give Sorrow Words, has been widely praised by psychologists, parents and the mental health community alike. Interweaving memories of the last months of her son’s life with lyrical explorations of the grieving process, the book unflinchingly documents warning signs in depression and asks pressing questions about how our society treats mental illness. What support is provided to young people living with mental illness? Why is there still such stigma attached to the disease of depression, despite it being so prevalent? Lynn makes a compelling argument for additional support and treatment for those impacted by an often life-threatening illness.

Through advocacy, an open approach, and working with mental health professionals and organizations, Keane has become a passionate, highly respected voice on depression and suicide prevention in Canada. She lives with her family in Oakville, Ontario.



RECEPTION PERFORMER

Emmanuel Jal

Artist, actor, former child soldier

5:30PM - 6:30PM
Underground Restaurant



Emmanuel Jal has won worldwide acclaim for his unique style of hip hop with its message of peace and reconciliation born out of his experiences as a child soldier in Sudan.

Emmanuel Jal was born in war-torn Sudan, and while he doesn't know exactly when, he believes it was in the early 1980s. He was taken from his family home in 1987 when he was six or seven years old, and sent to fight with the rebel army in Sudan's bloody civil war. For nearly five years, he was a "child warrior," put into battle carrying an AK-47 that was taller than he was.

By the time he was 13, he was a veteran of two civil wars and had seen hundreds of his fellow child soldiers reduced to taking unspeakable measures as they struggled to survive on the killing fields of Southern Sudan. After a series of harrowing events, he was rescued by a British aid worker (Emma McCune) who smuggled him into Nairobi to raise him as her own.

To help ease the pain of what he had experienced, Emmanuel started singing. In 2005, he released his first album, *Gua* ("peace" in his native Nuer tongue), with the title track broadcast across Africa over the BBC and becoming a number one hit in Kenya.

He has since performed with top entertainers from all over the world and in front of world leaders, including Nelson Mandela. His music can be heard on the soundtrack to feature film *Blood Diamond*, episodes of TV drama *ER*, and in the documentary *God Grew Tired of Us* about the plight of child soldiers. Jal's life and story has been featured in the documentary film "WAR CHILD" which is also the title of Jal's latest album. He most recently acted in a starring role in the 2014 movie, *The Good Lie*.



CONFERENCE BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Here is a snapshot of some of the sessions that will be offered!

SESSIONS A - 10:00AM - 11:15AM

Title: Tangles, Gestures, and Textures - on thinking (differently) through the arts

Abstract: Re-thinking disability also means re-thinking our approaches to research involving the body. This workshop invites participants to take part in four, interactive arts-based methods as starting points for new research: being unruly with buttons, papers, wool, glue, thread, blogging, colouring, and writing.

SESSIONS B - 1:00PM - 2:15PM

Panel Presentation - Fashion, Beauty & Human Rights

Presentation Titles:

- o Fashion Sustainability - A Diverse Perspective. Are the safety measures taken by retailers enough?
- o Women Human Rights Development in Bangladesh-A decolonizing alternative approach
- o Beyond Bleach: Problematizing Notions of Beauty among South Sudanese

SESSIONS C - 2:30PM - 3:45PM

Title: "Taxpayers are Fed-up" The Othering of Aboriginal Peoples on CBC.ca comments

Abstract: In 2008 cbc.ca allowed readers to comment on news stories. This study of over 3600 of those comments from 300 resident school stories will examine the presence of "Othering" contained on the website of Canada's "National Voice".

SESSIONS D - 4:00PM - 5:15PM

Title: Queer of Gender Presents "Blackness(*): Our Stories"

Abstract: This is a journey into the plurality of Black identity. With Queer and Trans* panelists, all coming to Blackness in various ways, this panel discusses the ways Blackness is negotiated by multi-issue individuals and the how the myth of "The Monolithic Black Experience" further dehumanizes and isolates Black Queer and Trans* people.

**For a full listing of the conference sessions and to register for Inclusion Day
visit the CHR's website - <http://rights.info.yorku.ca/>**

**If you have any questions or wish to register a group to attend please contact:
Josephine Tcheng, jtcheng@yorku.ca**



SEE YOU THERE!



This newsletter
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