

msuwildconference.com

we are not alone



validate • rejuvenate • liberate

WILD 2023
conference
WOMEN'S INITIATIVE FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

sunday
november 12
msu union



WILD
WEBSITE

welcome! to the wild conference

Dear WILD Participant,

Welcome to the fifth annual Women*s Initiative for Leadership Development Conference, since its revival in 2019. We are so happy you're here! With each WILD conference, our goal is to: encourage leadership development; empower students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members; and promote social change within the MSU and Greater Lansing communities. We are privileged and excited to share this experience with all of you, and we hope that you enjoy your time at the WILD conference.

Last semester, a tragedy occurred on Michigan State's campus. As a community, we are still trying to heal. We have decided to gather in the Union today to work toward reclaiming this space and to further strengthen our Spartan community. This year's theme, **We Are Not Alone: Validate, Rejuvenate, Liberate** was developed and influenced by our personal ways of processing, as well as the book, Emotionally Intelligent Leadership. We hope you find that our keynote speakers and workshop presenters exemplify this theme, and we encourage you to connect with them because now, more than ever, we aim to create a community of support. If at any time during the conference, you need to step away for your own mental health, there is a relaxation room located in the MSU Room on the third floor. We want everyone to know that it's okay to rely on one another through tough times.

Please take advantage of all the opportunities offered to you today. Embrace our community through networking and meaningful conversations with fellow conference attendees. And following the conference, take what you have learned from our presenters, keynotes, and each other to enhance your leadership skills, perspectives, and social awareness.



Conference Co-Chair
ASHLEIGH LOWE
(she/they)



Conference Co-Chair
TAYLOR MURDICK
(she/they)



Graduate Advisor
**HANNAH LARRABEE-
WALCUTT**
(she/her)



Dear WILD participant,

On behalf of Student Life and Engagement, I welcome you to the Women*s Initiative for the Leadership Development Conference. Alice Walker was once quoted saying, "The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any." Today is when we remind ourselves of who we truly are and what we possess as women, scholars, and leaders. The WILD Conference exemplifies the power of coming together in community to celebrate, elevate, and empower women in leadership and highlights much of what we have accomplished. Today is a day to restore, renew, and rejoice as we remind each other of the power we hold.

This year's theme, We Are Not Alone: Validate, Rejuvenate, Liberate, is about healing and reclaiming our community support. So today, I hope you invest your time in your own personal and professional development. I hope you find your passion and power and that you are reminded to rest. That you create or maintain a community that will support you on your journey here at MSU and beyond. May you be inspired and return to your daily activities all the better for being here today.

This day would not be possible without the tremendous work of the WILD Planning Committee. I know from experience that developing and implementing an event like this is no small task. And for all your effort, I thank each and every one of you for your time, commitment, and presence, making today a wonderful day for us all. Thank you for creating this space for our campus community.

Thank you all for being here today: this space and this community matter. May we all be the better for our time together today.



Stay safe and be well.

DR. GENYNE L. ROYAL
(she/her)

Assistant Vice President of Student Life & Engagement for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging and Assistant Dean for Student Success Initiatives, Undergraduate Education

we are not alone



validate • *rejuvenate* • *liberate*

conference theme

We are a part of a larger community who we can turn to for support and comfort. After experiencing traumatic events or pain, we might feel isolated—believing we have to experience these things alone.

In reality, *we are not alone*, we have a whole community who we can lean on and go to for support. We have learned we are surrounded by people who want to connect and support through presence even as we are struggling.

Our feelings and emotions are valid—no matter what form they come in.

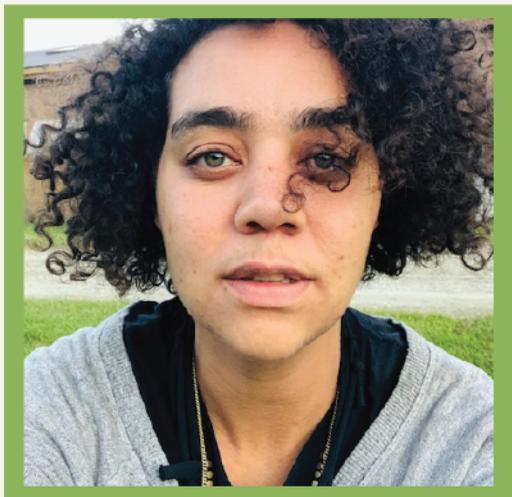
Communities of support and belonging will *validate* these feelings.

Through our community, we gain new energy and confidence. As we *rejuvenate* our collective, we move forward with the strength of knowing

we are in this together. We have gained the tools to heal and take care of ourselves in the future. We need to foster critical hope that we can *liberate*

ourselves and our community. Our liberation can motivate us and others to push forward social change—ultimately creating the world that we seek.

Autumn Brown **conference keynote speaker**



Autumn Brown (she/her) is a mother, artist, and movement facilitator. A student of Black feminism, freedom movements, and the solidarity economy, she is a worker-owner of AORTA, the Anti-Oppression Resource & Training Alliance, and co-host of the podcast *How to Survive the End of the World*. Autumn writes speculative fiction and creative non-fiction, and her work has been published in *Parenting for Social Justice*, *Lightspeed Magazine*, *Pleasure Activism*, *Octavia's Brood*, the *Procyon Science Fiction Anthology*, and *Revolutionary Mothering*. Autumn lives in South Minneapolis with her three brilliant children.

Diana Talamantes-Valles **student keynote speaker**

Diana Talamantes-Valles (she/her) is a first-generation Latina born and raised in Southwest Detroit, a predominantly Hispanic community within the city of Detroit, Michigan. She is currently a senior studying Hospitality Business with a minor in Entrepreneurship and Innovation. This year, she serves as the Executive President for the Native American Hispanic Business Community, Vice-President for the National Society of Minorities in Hospitality and DEI Student Coordinator for the Residential Business Community. Diana wanted to participate in the WILD conference because she is passionate about building community and advocacy for all.



block 1 *workshop descriptions*

12:50 pm – 1:35 pm

V **Not Just Book-Learning: Bringing non-academic work experience to academia**

LAKE HURON

Presenters: Marissa Knaak (she/her/hers) & Sam Smith (she/they)

This workshop focuses on how experience in jobs outside of academia can inform and support academic labor on all levels--not just for graduate research projects, but also for undergraduate students learning in a variety of ways and for educators looking to collaborate in new ways. The presenters will also consider how work looks different in various spaces, to different people, and then highlight how broader understandings of experience and work have positive outcomes. Through conversation with attendees, the speakers aim to expand the ways people think about work inside and outside of academia and provoke thought about how those experiences shape how people understand their past, present, and future.

V **The Power Within: What is it Like to be a Woman in Emergency Medicine?**

LAKE MICHIGAN

Presenter: Dr. Brittany Ladson (she/her/hers)

What's it like being a woman in emergency medicine? It means you can work hard, sometimes even harder than your male counterparts, to receive the same recognition. It can often mean making less than your counterparts. It means a lot of sacrifice. Being a woman in medicine is a tough job, but it may be more tough in emergency medicine. As a collective of hard working physicians and professionals, it's important to validate our experiences and form a support network.

V **Ending Salary Inequality for Social Workers**

LAKE ERIE

L Presenter: Bella Martinek (she/her/hers)

The social work profession is commonly thought to be a female controlled career. Why then are we still seeing unequal levels of pay that cater to a patriarchal society? In this workshop Bella will discuss the magnitude of the gender pay gap in the field of social work and many ways to work towards the diminishment of said pay gap.

L Casual Sexism and its Contribution to the Patriarchy

LAKE ONTARIO

Presenter: Ian Mihm (he/him/his)

This workshop is focused on sexism that intercedes itself into college culture (or young adult culture) without being noticed/being widely accepted as the norm. Ian will describe what he means by casual sexism, present common examples of microaggressions, define the patriarchy, and then make connections about how this casual sexism contributes to sustaining a patriarchal society.

V L Gender and Clothing; Style, Costuming, and Drag

LAKE SUPERIOR

Presenter: Tristian Laney (he/him/his)

In this workshop, Tristian Laney shares his experience with gender and dressing through a lighthearted deep dive into what it means to express oneself through clothing. From drag performance to business clothing to punky streetwear, this workshop hopes to bring out the style icon in everyone.

WILD Relaxation Room

MSU ROOM

This space is here for you if you need a break or pause from the content of the day. It is dedicated to quiet reflection and mental rejuvenation. CAPS is providing resources on coping, we'll have coloring sheets, and fidgets for you to enjoy.



L Fortified and Fugitive: A Multiracial Movement for the Win

LAKE HURON

Presenter: Autumn Brown (she/her/her) [Keynote Speaker]

What if a vibrant, multiracial movement for justice is within our grasp? What practices make it possible for us to not only build this movement, but to be its courageous membership? In this session, participants will explore how to cultivate mutual resilience so that we can more effectively resist the ideology of racial capitalism and racial practice, and Autumn will offer a set of practices for moving in formation and sustaining human connection as we navigate a time of rapid change.

V Supporting Survivors

LAKE MICHIGAN

Presenters: Sarah Ghazal (she/her/hers) & Avvan Sanjana

This workshop will focus on how to support survivors of sexual violence. The presenters will define different forms of sexual violence that occur, then aim to teach people how to respond to disclosures in an affirming way. Sarah and Avvan will also discuss the scope of services from Center for Survivors (who is eligible) and ways to get involved with the Center for Survivors office. **CW**

V Reclaiming Self-Care: An Act of Self-Preservation

LAKE ONTARIO

R Presenter: Lamia Bagasrawala (she/her/hers)

L This workshop will focus on care as a value-driven, community practice and encourage participants to (a) deconstruct the idea of self-care, (b) engage with community-based ideas of accessible self-care, and (c) reflect on personal practices for self-care. The process will be rooted in tenets of narrative practices, and rights-based, non-oppressive practices. Through reflections, discussions, and visual arts-based activities, the group will engage with the idea of self-care and communities of care guided by principles of decoloniality and social justice.

V Supporting the First-Generation Students of Today

LAKE ERIE

R Presenters: Shaina Jansen (she/her/hers) & Marlene Villa (she/her/hers)

In this session, the presenters will discuss the importance of knowing and supporting first-generation students on a large college campus. Shaina and Marlene will discuss the idea that "we have a whole community who we can lean on and go to for support" only feels true for first-generation students when support is in place to build that community. First-generation students hold multiple identities, so we will touch on the concept of intersectionality. Identities have a huge impact on everyone, as individuals, and how they perceive others as well. Lastly the workshop will address how MSU has been and will continue building support for these students.

V Building Healthy Relationships

LAKE SUPERIOR

L Presenters: Lara Hayden (they/them) and Casey Miles (she/they)

This workshop aims to teach skills used to build and maintain all types of healthy relationships that people may experience (romantic, platonic, professional, sexual, roommate, etc). Lara will highlight what an abusive relationship looks like, and how to support those impacted by relationship violence. Lastly, this workshop will share information about campus and community resources that are available to community members impacted by relationship violence. **CW**

WILD Relaxation Room

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block 3

workshop descriptions

2:30 pm – 3:15 pm

V The Power of We

LAKE MICHIGAN

Presenter: Rick Shafer (he/him/his)

Restorative Practices (RP) borrow heavily from indigenous communities (namely Odawa and Maori) and the ancient African concept of Ubuntu ("I am because we are"). As social beings, humans are hardwired with a deep need for connection and to be in relationship with others. This workshop will expose participants to a specific Restorative Practice called circles as a way to build community and capacity for both individuals and groups. **This session has a max of 15 attendees.**

V Women Leadership vs Leadership

LAKE HURON

Presenter: Anjam Chaudhary (She/Elle)

When discussing men in leadership positions, people often omit gender descriptors to emphasize their leadership roles. However, when addressing women/womxn in leadership positions, acknowledging gender becomes crucial. This workshop will delve into the biases present when examining leadership through a gendered lens. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences and explore tools for challenging and changing the existing norms.

V Advocacy for Emergency Contraceptives

LAKE ERIE

R Presenters: Harsna Chahal, Mackenzie Lovell, Julia Walters

L Emergency Contraceptives, also known as Plan B or "the morning after pill", is known to be expensive and inaccessible. There is a lot of stigma around the topic of emergency contraceptives. We will be discussing how to become an advocate for accessible and affordable emergency contraceptives for college students as well as resources available at MSU. The workshop will also include a craft!

LAKE ONTARIO

L Patriarchy: It's More Than Horses

Presenter: Garrett McAlister (he/him/his)

The Barbie Movie was one of this summer's biggest blockbusters, but critics have wrongly claimed it to be anti-men. However, this film simply and purposefully pointed out how inequities around gender show up in the media and the real world. In this session we will explore how this film utilized narratives around patriarchy, challenged restrictive masculinity, championed gender liberation for all, and how in a world full of Kens, we can try to be an Alan.

LAKE SUPERIOR

L Intro to StartSmart: Salary Negotiation for Students

Presenters: Ashley Bustamante (she/they) & Heather Shea (she/her/hers)

Empower yourself with skills to negotiate your way to success! Join our Intro to StartSmart Salary Negotiation Workshop and pave the way for a brighter financial future. AAUW Start Smart is an in-person workshop designed for students who are about to enter the job market. It teaches students how to negotiate for their first job and create a personal budget.

Room: Lake Superior

WILD Relaxation Room

MSU ROOM

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planning committee

We would like to extend an enormous thank you to our WILD planning committee. The WILD Conference would not be possible without the dedicated involvement of the students and staff who spent the last two semesters growing in their leadership, collaborating, planning, coordinating, and executing this year's conference. Thank you all for your time, sustained involvement, and innovation!

Hanna Abd Fatah

Tazkira Amin

Ameena Babatunde

Jordyn Bradley

Harsna Chahal

Hannah Larrabee-Walcutt

Ashleigh Lowe

Bella Martinek

Taylor Murdick

Maren Nicolaysen

Jack Philllips

Sharron Reed-Davis

Heather Shea

Hannah Wright

thank you!

Vennie Gore

Dr. Genyne Royal

Amy Williams & MSU Union Staff

Janet Caprario, Donald Kwak

Nicole Gonzales

Jill Dokey

Division of Student Life & Engagement

Women*s Student Services Staff

Workshop Session Presenters

Jodi Roberto Hancock & Lydia Weiss

**... AND ALL OF THE PAST MEMBERS OF WILD
WHO LAID THE GROUNDWORK FOR THIS
YEAR'S CONFERENCE!**

Want to help plan the
NEXT WILD Conference in 2024?

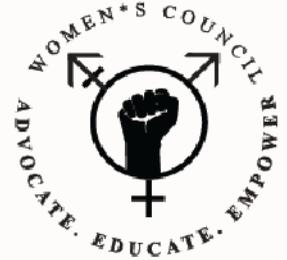
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the application at this link: <http://msuwildconference.com>

WILD2024
conference
WOMEN'S INITIATIVE FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

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STUDENT LIFE & ENGAGEMENT



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Student Veterans
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Office for Institutional
Diversity and Inclusion
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU College of Law
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Michigan State University Extension
AgBioResearch

College of Education
International Studies & Programs Dean's Office
Office of the Provost

conference schedule

at-a-glance

- 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM **Check-In & Registration**
MSU Union Ballroom Foyer - 2nd Floor
- 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM **Plated Lunch Is Served** (please be seated)
- 12:00 PM – 12:45 PM **WILD Opening Session & Co-Chairs Welcome Student Keynote Address: Diana Talamantes-Valles**
Read more about our student keynote on pg. 5
MSU Union Ballroom - 2nd Floor
- 12:50 PM – 1:35 PM **BLOCK 1: Workshops / Breakout Sessions**
See descriptions on pgs. 6–7
MSU Union Meeting Rooms - 3rd Floor
- 1:40 PM – 2:25 PM **BLOCK 2: Workshops / Breakout Sessions**
See descriptions on pgs. 8–9
MSU Union Meeting Rooms - 3rd Floor
- 2:30 PM – 3:15 PM **BLOCK 3: Workshops / Breakout Sessions**
See descriptions on pgs. 10–11
MSU Union Meeting Rooms - 3rd Floor
- 3:20 PM – 4:20 PM **Conference Keynote and Q&A: Autumn Brown**
Read more about our conference keynote on pg. 5
MSU Union Ballroom - 2nd Floor
- 4:20 PM – 4:30 PM **WILD Conference Closing & Evaluation**
MSU Union Ballroom - 2nd Floor