

PRIDE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CLASS OF 2018 YEARBOOK



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Lisa Ball is a Staff Attorney for Legal Assistance of Western New York. Her areas of interest are aging, AIDS, homelessness, community development, art, children/youth, the physically handicapped, legal assistance, mental health, women's issues, and education. Lisa has expertise in government, training, health, and legalities. By participating in PRIDE, she hopes to translate her skills in social justice, organizing, educating, and improvement into a leadership position. Lisa would love to help the Greater Rochester area become a place where all are welcome and where unique viewpoints are taken into consideration. She would also like to assist in helping grow new leaders within the community. Lisa can be contacted at lisapan9285@gmail.com.



Aj Blythe is a Graduate student in business with a specialty in “competitive and organizational strategy”. He is looking to utilize his skills to help promote Gay and Lesbian causes throughout our Community. His areas of interest are art, legal assistance, community development and planning, crime and antisocial behavior, as well as employment training. He has talents in administration, computer programming, computer systems, and training opportunities. Aj hopes to use the skills he gained in PRIDE Leadership Development to help enrich the lives of those in the Greater Rochester Area and surrounding communities. He can be contacted at ajblythe@gmail.com.

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Chloe Corcoran is the Associate Director of Alumni Relations at The University of Rochester. Her areas of interested include AIDS, fundraising, community development, women's issues, education, and the physically handicapped. Chloe has talents in administration, community relations, fundraising, sales, education, and program development. PRIDE was an opportunity for her to enhance her leadership skills, better understand the intersectionality of her community. She plans to continue her efforts, while becoming a stronger voice fro the rights of all marginalized communities. Chloe can be contacted at chloe.s.corcoran@gmail.com.



Jim Dukette is a Paralegal at the Empire Justice Center. He has interests in AIDS, homelessness, hospice/terminally ill, substance abuse, mental health/counseling, and legal assistance. The areas of expertise that Jim possesses are sales, legal, and counseling. Jim has had varying levels of involvement in his community ranging from ACT UP protests to a social media presence. He feels that the LQBTQ community, like many others, are more at risk now than ever and it has urged him to stand up, take action, and pay it forward. It is Jim's hope to be able to use the skills, personal relationships, and life experiences he has to serve the community. Jim can be contacted at jimdukette123@gmail.com.

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Samuel Jett is a Prep Navigator for Trillium Health. He has interests in AIDS, education, health, and advocacy for social justice. His areas of expertise include health, health insurance, and HIV prevention. Sam participated in the year's PLDP for the opportunity to cultivate his skills as a leader and to foster connections to those who are working to achieve diversity and excellence in the Rochester community. Sam hopes to serve his community by implementing the skills learned through the PLDP in the context of a board or committee that is committed to improving the quality of life for LGBTQ people within the Rochester Community, or is interested in learning how they can do more. He can be contacted at sjett@gmail.com.



Matt Juda is a Science Teacher at the Rochester City School District. He has many areas of interest including AIDS, community development/planning, employment job training, children/youth, mental health/counseling, education, and health. Matt's talents are composed of government, education, counseling, training, and program development. It is his belief that in our current national climate it is the upmost important that the voice of the LGBTQ community has a place in the leadership of organizations. As a graduate of the PRIDE program, Matt will continue to be active as a leader for our community where he can engage more people to reflect diversity in the community. Matt can be contacted at mattjuda@gmail.com.

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Gregory Palatas is a marketing communications manager for Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. The areas that interest Greg most are community development, domestic violence, children, youth, family abuse, mental health and counseling. Greg has expertise in community relations, sales, public relations, marketing, and business development. Greg's reason for participating in PLDP is to gain a better understanding of the community in which he lives, to increase his influence in the areas and disciplines that are important to himself and his peers. He plans to use his skillset combined with his training for the good of the Rochester community. He hopes to grow as an individual and help make a difference. Greg can be reached at gmpalatas@gmail.com



Eric Phamdo is self-employed as a freelance consultant and yoga instructor. His areas of interest are fundraising, community development, employment job training, children/youth, education, and health. Eric has a number of areas of expertise which include administration, community relations, computer systems, consulting, investments, government, education, training, program development, and marketing. Eric is passionate about bettering his community and growing his leadership skills. He believes that the intersection of business and nonprofits has an incredible role in community success. He hopes to use his my literacy in economics, finance, and business strategy as powerful tools for local nonprofits - helping them to navigate political and economic environments. Eric can be reached at ericphamdo@gmail.com.

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Necole Vitale is a Q A & Compliance Specialist at HCR Care Management, LLC. Her interests include community development, art, children/youth, literacy, mental health, women's issues, and education. Necole has talents in government, education, and training. She would love to give voice and perspective in the larger community from a subset whose voice is often not heard or overlooked. Returning to her roots and becoming an active member of the community, Necole hopes to serve at a larger level. She can be contacted at necole.vitale@yahoo.com.



Samuel Waters is a System Administrator at the Rochester Institute of Technology. He has several areas interest which include community development/planning, crime, antisocial behavior, and education. His areas of expertise are administration, computer programming, computer science, government, training, and program development. Samuel has stepped up his activism over the last few years, particularly around racial justice. He wants to bring more intersectional perspectives to the Rochester Non-Profit Community. Along with his own perspectives, he hopes to bring these voices to help make an impact on the city and surrounding region. Samuel can be contacted at srwaters42@gmail.com.

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Cara Wood is a LGBTQ Community Health Specialist at Trillium Health. Her areas of interest include homelessness/housing, community development/planning, mental health, art, women's issues, education, and health. The areas of expertise that Cara inhabits are community relations, health, training, and program development. Cara hopes to provide better leadership within her role at Trillium Health, creating programs that meet the needs of as many community members as possible. She also hopes to expand her role in the community by participating in groups and boards, highlighting the voices of those who are not always represented at the table. She can be reached at caramiawood@gmail.com.



Victor Sanchez is a Construction Field Technician at Wegmans. His interests include AIDS, homelessness, community development, employment, job training, art, LGBTQ community, and education. Some of his talents include administration, community relations, fundraising, sales, public relations, and program development. Victor hopes to develop leadership skills and the knowledge to participate in non for profits and community organizations. He wants to connect with like-minded people to help him engage more with the LGBT+ community. He wants to attract and engage young professionals to become involved in the Rochester Community. Victor can be contacted at sanchez.h.victor@gmail.com.

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Victor Santiago is the Assistant Director of Reunions and Affinity Groups at Rochester Institute of Technology. His areas of interest include AIDS, fundraising, homeless/housing, art, children/youth, substance abuse, the physically handicapped, and mental health/counseling. By participating in PRIDE, Victor aimed to develop more education about his community. He plans to serve where needed and looks forward to finding an organization that is willing to use his time, talent, and treasure. Victor can be reached at v.santiago.gd@gmail.com.

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**IF YOU FEEL THAT ONE OF THESE
GRADUATES WOULD BE A GREAT MATCH
FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION, PLEASE CONTACT
WYNNDY TURNER AT 242-6419 OR
WYNNDY.TURNER@UWROCHESTER.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

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