

The Role of Labor Unions in the Struggle for LGBT Equality

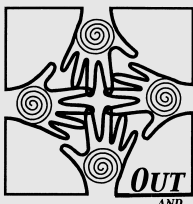
Special Sessions of the
Creating Change
Conference



November 10-12
Oakland Marriot City Center
1001 Broadway @ 11th Street
Oakland

AUSPICES

Pride at Work,
AFL-CIO



ORGANIZING

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL
& TRANSGENDER LABOR

Western Region
Lavender Caucus



Thursday, November 10
Pre-Conference Institute 9:00-6:30 PM
Room 207

Organize Out: Working with Labor Unions

Hear from organizers who have brought the Labor and LGBT communities together, forging lasting bonds that cross intersections of class, race, sexual orientation and gender identity/expression. Learn how to decipher and speak the language of labor. Attendees can discover powerful new strategies in their work.

■ **Presenters:** **Howard Wallace**, Vice-Pres., San Francisco Labor Council, *Pride at Work (PAW)*; **Pearl Smith**, AFSCME, *PAW*; **Jeremy Bishop**, *Natl. Program Dir., PAW*; **Joe Darby**, *OPEIU, PAW*; **Sian Lewis**, *Membership Coordinator, PAW*; **Jo Kenny**, *Development Dir., PAW*

Friday, November 11 Plenary Session

10:45 AM West Hall

■ **Mary Kay Henry** is Exec. Vice-President of Service Employees International Union (SEIU). In 25 years with the nation's largest healthcare union, she has helped more than half a million workers negotiate better working and patient care conditions as well as shape health care policy. Mary Kay is a founding member of SEIU's Lavender Caucus.

Friday, November 11
Workshop 6:00-7:30 PM Calvin Simmons
Ballroom 4

Coalition Building – An Urgent Imperative

New opportunities have opened up for the LGBT movement despite, and partly, because- we are favored targets of the ultra-right. Examples will be provided of how to find common ground with activists from labor, people of color, tenant groups, senior, etc. without compromising any goals of the LGBT movement. The aim is to learn how to build progressive coalitions.

■ **Presenters:** **Howard Wallace**, a founder of *Pride at Work, AFL-CIO* with a 50-year history of leadership in anti-war, human rights, labor and social

justice movements.; **Andy Wong**, *Coalition Mgr., Asian Equality and Dir. of Development and Communications at Community United Against Violence (CUAV)*. A graduate of Swarthmore College currently focused on support for marriage equality within the nation's Asian Pacific Islander communities; **Robert Haaland**, veteran tenant and progressive activist, former Pres., *Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club* and current union organizer for *SEIU 790* and first transgender candidate to win public election in local history when he was elected to the *Democratic County Central Committee* in 2002. Both *Haaland* and *Wallace* have been named "Local Heroes" by the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*.

Friday, November 11 Labor Solidarity Reception

8:00-10:00 PM Room 207

Please join *Pride at Work*, the *National Latina(o) Coalition for Justice* and *SEIU* as we honor the *United Farm Workers* union for their courageous support for the *Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Protection Act*, which would have ended marriage discrimination in California. Help us celebrate our mutual support.

Saturday, November 12 What Does the Labor Split Mean for Us?

Workshop 6:00-7:30 PM Room 204

In recent years organized labor has emerged as an increasingly important ally in support of LGBT equality in the workplace and beyond. What does the split between the *AFL-CIO*, on the one hand and the *SEIU*, *Teamsters* and others mean for the LGBT movement, progressives/liberals and electoral politics in the U.S.? Activists working for LGBT rights and labor rights at the local and state level will describe the impact of the split on their work.

■ **Moderator:** **Sean Cahill**, *Director, Task Force Policy Institute, New York*
■ **Presenters:** **Sandra Telep**, *Pride at Work, Washington, DC*; **Brian Polejes**, *SEIU Local 535, California*; **Christine Chavez Delgado**, *Equality California*

For more information
call 415-861-0318