

# CATALYST

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES REGARDING RACIAL AND ETHNIC CONCERNS



Photos by Nancy Pierce

## Bringing Justice General Assembly Home:

This year's Justice General Assembly in Phoenix has been heralded by many as an intense, transformative, crucially important experience—both for our UU movement and for us as individuals. We wish to congratulate the many organizations and individuals whose intentional planning, relationship-building, and hard work made Justice GA possible. We also want to lift up the thousands of UUs who showed up in Phoenix willing to be fully present, to cross borders and work in solidarity for social justice in multicultural community.

Many of us have spent months or years preparing for our shared journey in Phoenix; there are many ways for us to continue to engage in the vital, life-affirming work of racial justice and multiculturalism that will continue to move our communities, and our Association, forward. Here are a few of the resources available from our staff group and other UUA staff groups; for more information, contact [multicultural@uua.org](mailto:multicultural@uua.org).

### Multicultural Welcome: A Resource for Greeters

A free online training resource for greeters that builds awareness around full and true welcome and offers strategies for developing competencies of inclusion and practicing your welcome.

A companion workshop is forthcoming.

### “Immigration as a Moral Issue” Study Guide

A free online guide created to help UUs engage with the 2010–2014 Congregational Study/Action Issue; includes a six week introductory curriculum, and lists additional resources to help with further study and action.

[uua.org/immigration/re/moral/guide](http://uua.org/immigration/re/moral/guide)

### Mosaic Makers Facebook Group

A diverse learning community for congregations engaged in intentional multi-racial, multicultural ministry.

Join the conversation at [facebook.com/groups/mosaicmakers/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mosaicmakers/)



Photo by Nancy Pierce

### Introductory Building the World We Dream About Workshop

Half-day introductory workshops offered by Multicultural Ministries to help congregations kick-start a powerful program.

### Building the World We Dream About for Young Adults

A brand new self-administered program that will be featured at this summer's Multicultural Leadership School for Youth & Young Adults of Color.

[uua.org/re/tapestry/adults/index.shtml](http://uua.org/re/tapestry/adults/index.shtml)

### Keep Talking, Start Doing

An online resource from Multicultural Ministries lifting up ten ways to deepen congregations' multiculturalism journeys.

### UUA Common Read

A yearly association-wide common read program with companion study materials for individuals and groups. [uua.org/re/multigenerational/read](http://uua.org/re/multigenerational/read)

## New Developments in Multicultural Growth & Witness Staff Group



### Staff Transition

As of July 1, **Alicia Forde**, our former Multicultural Congregations Coordinator, became the **Professional Development Director** in Ministries & Faith Development! We wish Alicia the very best and look forward to collaborating with her in her new role.

Over the past several months, the Multicultural Growth Team of the Multicultural Growth & Witness staff group has been engaged in an analysis of the team's composition with the aim of more effectively fulfilling its mission. The team identified two critical goals: clarifying the intersections between Unitarian Universalist LGBT Ministries and Unitarian Universalist Racial and Ethnic Ministries; and forging stronger links between congregational transformation and social justice transformation in the wider world. As a result of this analysis, the team implemented the following changes on July 1, 2012:

1. The Multicultural Growth Team of MG&W became the **Multicultural Ministries Team**.
2. The Multicultural Growth Director became the **Multicultural Ministries and Leadership Director**. The Multicultural Ministries and Leadership Director will guide the strategic planning and implementation of the **Multicultural Leadership Institute**, a leadership development initiative designed to inspire, equip, and nurture professional and lay religious leaders who are committed to creating intentionally diverse, welcoming, inclusive, justice-centered multicultural and multigenerational ministries.
3. A new position called **LGBTQ and Multicultural Ministries Program Manager** has been created. This position brings together aspects of the LGBTQ Ministries portfolio and the Multicultural Congregations portfolio. Please visit the UUA's "Careers and Callings" page to view the job description, and share it widely! <http://www.uua.org/careers/openings/index.shtml>
4. The word "**queer**" will be added to the language MG&W uses to describe marginalized sexual orientations and gender identities/gender expressions. "Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT)" will become "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ)." The LGBT Ministries portfolio will become the LGBTQ Ministries portfolio.

### Multicultural Ministries Team

Our team's transition from the Multicultural Growth Team to the Multicultural Ministries Team reflects our commitment to support UU congregations and communities in growing their capacity to welcome, include, minister to, and act in solidarity with people of various identities as individuals and communities in a multicultural world.

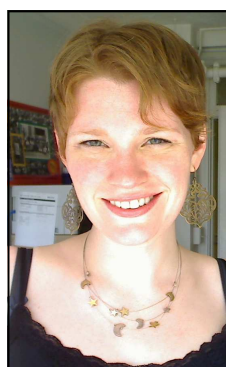
Read the full text of our announcement at: [www.uua.org/multiculturalism/200203.shtml](http://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/200203.shtml)

*Dream with us. Strategize with us. Build community with us. Support us...Join us in this holy work.*



**Janice Marie Johnson**

Multicultural Ministries and  
Leadership Director



**Tracy Ahlquist**

Multicultural Communications  
Coordinator



**Alex Kapitan**

LGBTQ and Multicultural  
Programs Administrator

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