

CATALYST

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES REGARDING RACIAL AND ETHNIC CONCERNS



Attendees and trainers at the Multicultural Leadership School for Youth and Young Adults of Color in Boston, August, 2012

Multicultural Leadership Institute

One of the facets of the Multicultural Leadership Institute is the leadership development trainings and consultations that our staff are able to bring to district gatherings—and now, seminaries. In late August, **Janice Marie Johnson**, Multicultural Ministries and Leadership Director, conducted an intensive one-day multiculturalism and anti-racism training for new staff of the **Meadville Lombard Theological School** in Chicago. We look forward to offering similar programs in the future.

For more information on the Multicultural Leadership Institute, visit bit.ly/RJWUc7.

Diversity of Ministry Initiative

Daniel Gregoire, a UU Ministerial Candidate from New York City, is the new Intern Minister at the **Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis**—a Diversity of Ministry Team (DOMT) congregation—where he will work closely with **Rev. Dr. Frederic Muir** and **Rev. John Crestwell**. Daniel is a recent graduate of Union Theological Seminary; his M.Div. thesis laid the UU theological framework for developing a liturgy of healing and reintegration for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and civilians.

Daniel, a long-time member of All Souls Unitarian NY, recently served Community Church NY as ministerial intern; he has also served as board trustee of the Metro New York District, and co-chair of its Young Adult Steering Committee. His ministry in Annapolis is sure to be inspiring!



Update from Our Office



We are excited to announce that **Annette Marquis** has been selected to serve as the **LGBTQ and Multicultural Ministries Program Manager**.

Annette's commitment to creating vibrant, healthy, inclusive, multicultural faith communities is unshakeable, and she brings stellar qualifications and achievements to this position. For the past six years, Annette has been serving with distinction as District Executive to the (recently renamed) Southeast District.

As LGBTQ and Multicultural Ministries Program Manager, Annette will work alongside each member of the Multicultural Ministries staff team to further Unitarian Universalism's engagement in racial justice and LGBTQ advocacy and witness. She will be supporting the work we do to help congregations, districts, and regions nurture welcome, inclusion, and effective ministry in our multicultural world.

Annette notes, "By creating a position that brings LGBTQ and multicultural ministries together, the UUA is sending a clear message to our congregations that inclusion is not selective—it must be broad enough to embrace all people and deep enough to transform even the most inflexible among us. [It] offers an incredible opportunity to expand and enrich the conversation with our congregations and to look beyond our congregations for our ministry in the larger community." Annette is the author of the newly published eBook "Resistance: A Memoir of Civil Disobedience in Maricopa County," available at: bit.ly/RJ2POy. She joins the Multicultural Growth and Witness staff group on October 1. Welcome, Annette!

Bringing Justice GA Home

As we move into the new congregational year, we are mindful of the lessons we learned at Justice General Assembly. One of these is the power of connection and inclusion through language. In the lead-up to GA, Spanish-language learning groups came into being, and many—such as Almorzando Juntos/Lunching Together at the UUA, and Café Mallette at the **UU Congregation of Central Nassau**—have continued to meet. Regardless of geographical location, each of us has the opportunity to nurture cross-cultural experiences by sharing the languages of our neighbors—or our families! We invite you to consider the rich possibility of starting a language-based group in your own community.

For more ideas on how to engage with multicultural ministries in your own community, visit bit.ly/P6tJAu.

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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