



Task Force appoints host committee co-chairs for 2009 National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change in Denver, Colo.

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Skilled and seasoned community leaders to co-chair Denver-based host committee for premier LGBT organizing conference

Host committee convenes April 29

WASHINGTON, April 21 - The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force announces the appointment of four seasoned community leaders to serve as co-chairs of the Denver-based host committee for the 21st National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change. The conference, produced by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, will take place in Denver, Colo., Jan. 28–Feb. 1, 2009.

Meet the co-chair leadership team:

Anthony Aragon is currently the director of Boards and Commissions for Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper. He is a veteran of candidate campaigns, a former staff member at the Gill Foundation and has been deeply involved in metro Denver/Colorado lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities and community-building projects.

Aragon is the current president of the board of directors of Equal Rights Colorado.

Hope Wisneski is the deputy executive director of The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center of Colorado. For four years, Wisneski was director of youth services there and managed the programs of Rainbow Alley, the organization's drop-in center for LGBTQ youth. She is a licensed clinical social worker, having worked in juvenile justice agencies and youth service-provider agencies for many years before joining The Center. Wisneski delivers LGBT cultural competency trainings to private and governmental agencies.

Gus Spheeris, a cultural organizer, has served for five years as the director of Bent Lens Cinema, Boulder's GLBT film society. A lifelong activist, Spheeris has worked with queer youth for the past 12 years as a volunteer facilitator. Formerly of Washington, D.C., and London, he is a media attorney and business adviser specializing in intellectual property and business development.

Spheeris has worked in government in both legislative and executive branches and looks forward to creating change in Colorado. He lives in Boulder, Colo.

Morris Price is a member of the Gill Foundation's Movement Building Center and a program officer working with the Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado. For many years, he worked in higher education, followed by a stint at the Daniels Fund.

A true community bridge-builder, Price chairs the Gay and Lesbian Commission of the City and

County of Denver and serves on the boards of directors of the Denver Black Arts Festival, Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, and Johnson and Wales GLBT Alumni Alliance.

"We are thrilled with our co-chair team of four skilled and seasoned community leaders," said Russell Roybal, director of the Task Force's Movement Building department. "This is the first time that our annual movement gathering has been held in the Mountain State region. The 2009 Creating Change attendees will be treated to 'mile high' hospitality as our host committee volunteers roll out the rainbow carpet for our friends and colleagues. Go West with Creating Change!"

Host committee convenes April 29: The co-chairs will convene the 2009 Creating Change host committee on Tuesday, April 29, at 7 p.m. in the Gill Community Room at the Gill Foundation offices, 2215 Market St. in Denver. Interested parties are encouraged to attend. For directions, call 303.292.4455.

The National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change is the premier national grassroots organizing and skills-building LGBT conference. The 2008 conference was held in Detroit, Mich., and attracted more than 2,000 LGBT rights advocates. The conference is well known for providing a unique environment where activists and leaders come together from diverse places and backgrounds to create a community that is both strengthening and inspiring to the participants.

For more information about The National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change, visit www.CreatingChange.org. To get details about the Denver-based host committee, e-mail CreatingChange@theTaskForce.org.