

## Working Our Way Home Conference Registration Form

Name (*please print*): \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Area ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

College/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference registration fee is \$20 and is on a sliding scale based on financial need. If you are unable to pay the total amount, please give what you can. Admission to the conference is not based on ability to pay the registration fee. Please make checks/money orders payable to Oberlin College and mail along with registration form to Kate Eubank, Oberlin College Multicultural Resource Center, Wilder 105, 135 W. Lorain St., Oberlin, OH 44074.

- Check or Money Order enclosed                      amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Cash enclosed                      amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- No payment
- Will send payment under separate cover
- Will pay upon arrival

### Housing/Meal Plan Information and Placement

If you are having difficulty obtaining housing for the conference, we are able to house you. Limited space is available, however, so a prompt return of this form is imperative. There is no additional cost for housing. Meal plans are also very limited and will be given on a first come first serve basis. It is our goal to be able to house and feed those who need it. If you are able to pay for your own housing and dining, please do so.

#### Housing

Will you be in need of housing for the conference?  Yes  No

Would you prefer to stay with someone of similar age or class year?

Yes       Don't Care

Would you be willing to stay in a student's dorm?  Yes    No, I would prefer a town house

Do you smoke?  Yes    No

Do you mind staying with someone who does? (Smoking is not permitted inside of dorm rooms/halls)  Yes    No

Do you have allergies?  Yes    No

If yes, to what are you allergic? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you mind sleeping on the floor?  No       Would prefer a bed if available  
(Please remember to bring your own sleeping bag or bedding)

Would you need to stay in a dorm that is wheelchair accessible?  Yes       No

Would you prefer a Substance-Free Hall or Quiet Floor?  Yes       Don't Care

### Dining

Will you be in need of meals during your stay?  Yes       No

How many meals per day would you require? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special dietary needs? (i.e. vegetarian, vegan, wheat-free)

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No

### Other Needs

It is our wish to make certain that the needs of all participants are met and that the conference is accessible to all people.

Will you be in need of any other accommodations? (i.e. language interpreter [specify which language], sign language interpreter, wheelchair access to buildings, guide pet accommodations, etc.) Note that although we are trying to meet all individual needs, certain accommodations such as language interpreter are subject to availability.

Yes (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

No

Will you also need to house/dine dependents or have need of child care at any time during the conference?  Yes       No

If yes, how old is the dependent and will he/she/ze need any special accommodations? \_\_\_\_\_



## **General Information**

Upon arrival to campus, conference participants will need to go to **Wilder Student Union** at **135 W. Lorain Street** in Oberlin. Conference check in will be in the main lobby of the Student Union. Room assignments, dining information, and conference program/schedule will be given at that time.

For driving directions, if you have any further questions/concerns, or for more info please visit our website at [workingourwayhome@tripod.com](mailto:workingourwayhome@tripod.com), or you can call the Edmonia Lewis Center for Women and Transgender People at 440-775-6466 or email us at [working\\_our\\_way\\_home@yahoo.com](mailto:working_our_way_home@yahoo.com)

We look forward to meeting you in person and hope that you arrive in Oberlin safely!!

## **Important: Please Read!!!**

Working Our Way Home is a four day conference that will take place from Thursday April 21<sup>st</sup> to Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup>.

The conference is focused on the lives, needs and struggles of people—primarily students in northeastern Ohio—in the African Diaspora who would welcome a conversation of their sexualities and genders that are more complex than mainstream categories. While recognizing language limitations and the difficulties of defining identity, we will explore (1) how our racial and ethnic identities relate to our sexuality and gender, (2) how we self-identify and exist between and outside conventional/traditional labels, and (3) how we form homes- supportive communities and families.

Who are the people we've been waiting for?

-People of African descent throughout the Diaspora of any/multiple national, racial, ethnic, regional, cultural, spiritual or class backgrounds or identifications.

-People who work consciously to build healthy and varied relationships, including but not limited to platonic, fuck buddies, physically and/or emotionally intimate friends, open relationships and non-monogamous couples and groups. These relationships may be with people of any gender or sexuality.

-People regardless of how we identify, who work to heal from and transform oppressive and violent relationships and situations into empowering, honest, conscientious, healthy ones, from our (inter)personal relationships to our whole society.

We borrow these words from poet and activist June Jordan, "We are the people we've been waiting for," to gather and celebrate our common goals and express our myriad selves.

While participants and speakers will affect the focus of the conference, some of the conference organizers' goals include: expanding our notions of queer identities and queer

activism in Africana communities; fostering community within our region, pooling resources and offering support particularly to those who feel isolated; creating space to explore different aspects of sexuality and gender identity.

Allies and members of the public are welcome to participate; at the same time, the purpose and mission of the conference will not be compromised to accommodate people whose power is threatened by a conference not specifically centered around them. To promote a supportive environment, disrespect and backlash have no place at Working Our Way Home.