

# Stratford FESTIVAL

28 February 2024

## EDI NEWSLETTER

EDI Department – Normal School Room # 307



### WELCOME TO THE EDI NEWSLETTER

It is the pleasure of the EDI Department to distribute the first edition of the EDI Newsletter!

It is our plan to release these in bi-monthly editions for the primary purpose of updating staff and artists of the Stratford Festival on EDI initiatives happening across the Festival and throughout the city of Stratford. This newsletter will be designed as a resource for you.

We always welcome your feedback



### CCDI RESOURCES

The EDI Department is in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion (CCDI) for the 2024 season. As a benefit of this partnership **ALL** staff members of the Festival have full access to the EDI based resources located through CCDI's website

To access these resources all you have to do is go to the CCDI main page through the following link: [CCDI](#)

From this link you can register for a login and password

After completion you will have full access to webinars, articles and tools of support through CCDI. Feel free to explore and reach out to EDI with any questions

### EDI WORKSHOPS

The EDI Department is currently working with several departments across the Festival providing workshops that address specific areas of need or development in which they are wishing to progress.

Please reach out to us to chat about a workshop that would be right for your team as we continue to build EDI education across the Festival.



# Affinity Spaces

We are extremely fortunate to have several affinity groups whose purpose is to provide a greater space of inclusion for the staff members and artists who work at this theatre.

As will often be restated, these affinity spaces are open to all those who identify with these respective groups. Come hang out, meet others across the Festival and get to know each other outside of the work we do.

## ASIAN AFFINITY SPACE

- **Group Leads: Kerri Lee**  
[klee@stratfordfestival.ca](mailto:klee@stratfordfestival.ca)
- **Meineka Kulasinghe**  
[mkulasinghe@stratfordfestival.ca](mailto:mkulasinghe@stratfordfestival.ca)

## BLACK & AFRICAN DIASPORA AFFINITY SPACE:

- **Group lead: Daviorr Snipes**  
[dsnipes@stratfordfestival.ca](mailto:dsnipes@stratfordfestival.ca)

## FIRST NATIONS, INUIT & METIS CIRCLE

- **Group Elder – Elizabeth Stevens (Kettle & Stony Point Chippewa First Nation)**
- **Circle Support Team – Daviorr Snipes & Meineka Kulasinghe**

## QUEER STRAIGHT ALLIANCE

- **Stratford Festival-Stratford and Area Pride Community Liaison: Éric Charbonneau**
- **Communications Person: Josue Laboucane**
- **Off Campus Coordinator: Ari Weinberg**
  - **Contact: [qsa@stratfordfestival.ca](mailto:qsa@stratfordfestival.ca)**

# Upcoming Dates of Recognition

- **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - MARCH 8**
- **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION - MARCH 21**
- **TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY - MARCH 31**



## AVERY JEAN BRENNAN THEY/SHE

Is a trans feminine producer, actor, director, musical director, writer, and transgender advocate raised in Kijipuktuk, and now based in Tkaronto.

On February 12th Avery Jean led part 1 of their trans identity workshop for nearly 100 wigs, make up, and production team members.

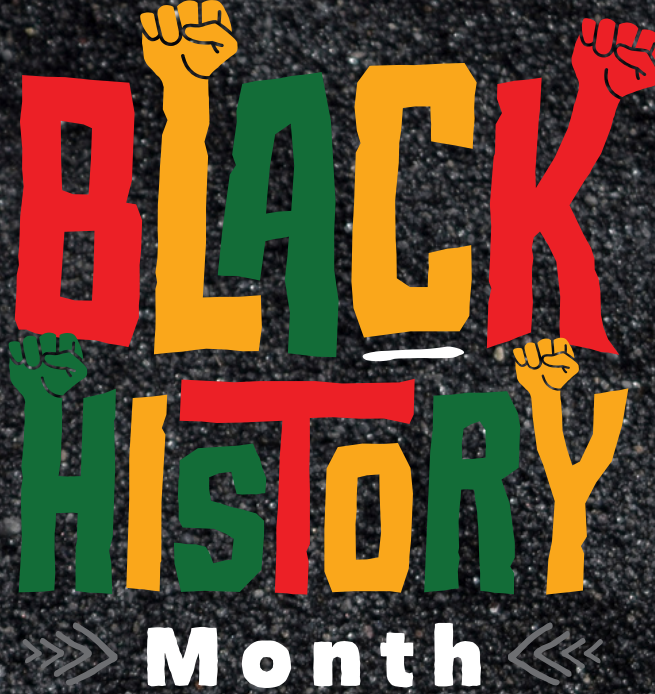
Avery Jean will return to the Festival this week for part 2 of their workshop for a smaller size production group.

Trans Identity Inclusion  
Part 2

Thursday, February 29th  
1pm - 4pm

Thank you to Avery Jean for their  
amazing work!





**As February comes to an end here are resources to continue your ongoing engagement with Black History**

- **WEBINAR: CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH THROUGH STORY**
- **WEBINAR: UNLEARNING ANTI-BLACK RACISM**
- **WEBINAR: BUSTING THE MYTH - REVERSE RACISM**
- **COMMEMORATION GUIDE: BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**\*\* As a reminder, these webinars can be accessed through the website of the Canadian Centre for Diversity & Inclusion. all access is complimentary as a result of the EDI department's partnership.**

**Please contact the EDI department for more details!**