

The University of Houston FRIENDS OF WOMEN'S, **GENDER & SEXUALITY STUDIES**

invite you to

The 28th ANNUAL TABLE TALK

Tuesday, March 25, 2025



CONVERSE. SHARE. LEARN.



Table Talk is a fascinating combination of conversations, led by dynamic women of various cultures, professions and experience at each table.

Table Talk benefits the Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program at the University of Houston. The WGSS Program combines theoretical and empirical studies, to give students the tools to analyze the gender dynamics of the past and present and to build a fair future.

Buy Tables/Tickets: giving.uh.edu/tabletalk



CO-CHAIRS

Sallie Alcorn & Lisa Helfman

Theme: Besties!

HILTON AMERICAS, 1600 LAMAR, HOUSTON 77010

Ballroom of the Americas 11 am Reception | 12 pm-1:30 pm Conversations over Lunch

Self-parking in the garage by the Hilton Americas entrance on Dallas, and valet parking also available.

Business Attire.



TRANSFORMER

H-E-B

TREND SETTER

Melanie Gray

ARCHIVISTS

MD Anderson Hospital
CenterPoint Energy
Caroline Fant, Jane Jones & Sue Payne
MaryScott Hagle & Geordie
Hrdlicka/Verde Wealth
Houston Chronicle

Chinhui Juhn Amanda McMillian Memorial Hermann Beverly Robinson Carey C. Shuart



SCHOLARS

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Danielle Bartz & Julia Ossemi-Seied

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Amber Burton Alfred

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Camillo Companies

Ruth Dreessen

Cristina Garcia Gamboa, Amber

Rangel & Angela Shippy, MD

Houston Public Media

Brigitte Kalai

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MaryRoss Taylor
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HOST COMMITTEE

Rhonda Arnold, Michelle Avalos, Kafah Bachari, Annette Bracey,
Shannon Buggs, Libby Cheney, Cheryl Creuzot, June Deadrick, Ruth
Dreessen, Melissa Edwards, Caroline Fant, Samina Farid, Jessica Farrar,
Andrea Georgsson, Eleanor Gilbane, Shelley Gottschalk, Melanie Gray,
MaryScott Hagle, Chinhui Juhn, Mandy Kao, Sippi Khurana, MD, Brenda
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Merfish, Terry Morales, Leisa Holland Nelson, Sharon Michael Owens,
Sue Payne, Leila Perrin, Priscilla Picasso, Beverly Robinson, Sally Russ,
Yava Scott, Angela Shippy, MD, Carey C. Shuart, Sannam Warrender









CONVERSATIONALISTS

Nada Ahmed Founding Partner Energy Tech Nexus

Dr. Deborah Banerjee Bureau Chief City of Houston Health Department

Aris Kian Brown Poet Laureate City of Houston
Celeste Bedford Walker Playwright

Avery Belyeu CEO & President Montrose Center Elizabeth Bille Co-Owner Belly of the Beast

Frances Castañeda President Houston East End Chamber

Dyess

Victoria Chen Co-Founder & Bridge Year

Executive Director

Maya Durnovo Associate Vice Houston Community College

Chancellor

Dr. Esperanza (Hope) Director, Diabetes Service Line Harris Health System

Galvan and Patient Education

 Jennifer Hadaiya
 Executive Director
 Air Alliance Houston

 Denise Hamilton
 CEO & Founder
 Watch Her Work

 Terri-Ann Hamm
 Owner
 Kindred Stories



CONVERSATIONALISTS (CONT'D)

Paula Harris Executive Director & Senior Houston Astros Foundation

Vice President of Community Affairs

Lharissa JacobsFounder & Executive DirectorFit HoustonLaura JaramilloExecutive DirectorLISC HoustonSantrice JonesDirector, Early ChildhoodHarris County

Initiatives

Brigitte Kalai Philanthropist

Jennifer Kapral Senior Director of Education Asia Society Texas

& Outreach

Susi Knight Founder & Chairperson 50/50 Women on Boards Houston

Devika Kornbacher Managing Partner, Houston Clifford Chance

Cara Lambright President & CEO Hermann Park Conservancy
Dr. Neema Langa Asst Professor, AAS & Sociology University of Houston

Anastasia Lindo Conservator HISD

Anderson

Sarah Luna Table Talk 2025 Artist

Rosalinda Martinez Director of Community Strategy AARP Texas



CONVERSATIONALISTS (CONT'D)

Marly Maskill Executive Director Houston Community Tool Bank

Ivette Mayo CEO Connecting the Dots

Ayse McCracken Founder & Board Chair Ignite Healthcare Network

Katie Mehnert CEO Ally Energy

Jasminne Mendez Actress/Author Aniana del Mar Jumps In

Mia Mends CEO C&W Services
Nancy Meyer Publisher Houston Chronicle

Asma Mirza CEO Steradian Technologies

Quianta Moore, MD, JD Executive Director Hackett Center for Mental Health

Swati Narayan Director, AAPI Community DAYA

Safety

Carla Ortique, MD OB/Gyn Texas Children's Hospital Dr. Zelma Oyarvide Asst Professor WGSS University of Houston

Tuthill & Sociology

Hon. Annise Parker Former Mayor Houston

Tejal Patel Associate Professor, MD Anderson Hospital

Department of General Oncology

Q. Olivia Rivers CEO The Bridge over Troubled Waters









CONVERSATIONALISTS (CONT'D)

Shavonnah Schreiber Founder & CEO SNR Creative & Culture Club HTX

Sarah Smith Co-Founder & CEO Speakerbox Media Christa Stoneham CEO & President Houston Land Bank Kim Topps Sr. Engineer, Event Designer, Radial Solutions

Coach, Author

Jennifer Touchet VP, Personal & Family Greater Houston Community Foundation

Philanthropy

Carlisle Vandervoort Producer Film, "Raise Hell: The Life and

Times of Molly Ivins"

Christi Vasquez Manager, Digital Marketing Space Center Houston

Martin

Jacinta Williams Sr. Project Manager ExxonMobil









PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. Elizabeth Gregory-Director

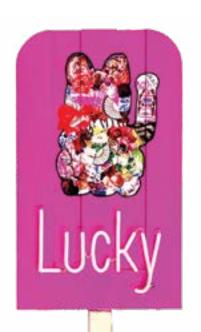
Dr. Guillermo De Los Reyes-Associate Director LGBT Studies

Dr. Rachel Afi Quinn-Associate Professor

Dr. Zelma Oyarvide Tuthill-Assistant Professor

Anneliese Bustillo-Program Director

Leanne Prendergast, M.Sc., Graduate Assistant



SPECIAL THANKS TO



Dina Alsowayel Laura Hill Mandy Kao Sarah Luna



WOMEN'S, GENDER & SEXUALITY STUDIES

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FEATURED ARTIST: SARAH LUNA



Topo Floral 5, 2024 (acrylic, resin, paper on canvas)



Spicy Pop, 2024
(collaged paper, gold foil, spray paint, acrylic on wood)



Bright Purple, 2024
(clay, resin, foil)



Tiger in the Flower Garden, 2024 (acrylic, paper on wood canvas, acylic shadowbox)



Lucky Cat, 2024 (acrylic, aerosol, paper, resin on wood)



Navy and Black Double Pop Collage, 2024

(paper, acrylic on wood)



No Looking Back, 2023
(acrylic, resin on wood)