

## Iris House continues to be grateful for the generous support of

**Corey Johnson, Speaker** 

and

**The Entire New York City Council** 

for their ongoing leadership and support of our Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit.





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May 7, 2018

I am so very pleased to welcome you to the Thirteenth Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit!

Last year, we spoke about the need to be Fierce, Resilient and Wise, and that proved prescient: since our 2017 Summit, the Office of National AIDS Policy has remained vacant, many members resigned from the Presidential Commission on HIV and AIDS, and those that didn't were fired in December with no sign of replacements being named. Internal memos at the federal level suggest that those seeking funding should find



ways to use words other than "diversity," "transgender," "evidence-based," "science-based," and "vulnerable," among others. Insurance companies have tried denying life-saving HIV medications based on risk status; others continue to deny transpeople their prescribed medications. We are constantly on guard against further attacks on the work we do and the people we serve, and in that spirit, we look back over the last fifty years of civil rights work for this year's theme: Nothing Without Us: HIV and Social Justice.

People are taking to the streets to protest policy, inaction and social justice issues in ways we saw among women suffragettes in the 1910's and among People of Color in the 1960's. Today, we hope that our speakers and breakout sessions will help you find ways not only to keep improving your health and the care of the people you serve, but also to activate your voice and help us recognize that the war on HIV isn't just a battle to rid ourselves of an epidemic, but a battle in an ongoing war on us: on women's bodies, on people of color, on LGBTQ people, on the elderly, on the poor and on those with chronic health conditions.

We are exceptionally excited to hear from Dr. Joy DeGruy, whose work "Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome" has begun awakening people to the concept that the legacy of slavery continues to impact the economic, education and health disparities faced by African-Americans today. We are honored to be joined by Dr. Pernessa Seele, founder of Balm in Gilead, who will be leading a breakout session on Stigma, and an all-star panel from the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS including NYC Icon C. Virginia Fields. These three amazing women will also be honored for their contributions to the national conversation about race and HIV.

More than ever, we can't be afraid to ask questions, we can't be afraid to raise our voices and call out injustice, and we can't be afraid to fight for what we know is right and good. We are living in uncharted territory right now, where we are at turns surprised and unsurprised by shifts in priorities, in funding and in respect for all of us as equals. We hope that today's sessions excite and inspire you to keep your passions enflamed and your feet on the road as we march (again) past Seneca Falls, past Selma and past Stonewall and onward to a world where we are all equal, and HIV Equal too.

I hope that you find today's Summit rewarding both professionally and personally and are able to use today's sessions and leave knowing that only with you...with us...that we will carry on together.

Thank you for continuing down this road with us,

Ingrid N. Floyd
Executive Director

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#### PHOTOGRAPHY NOTICE

Please be advised that portions of the Summit will be recorded and may be posted on the Iris House website by viewing for others after today's event. The morning plenary sessions will be broadcast live on Facebook.

Photos will be taken during this event for use online and in printed materials. By entering and participating, you irrevocably grant permission, acknowledge and consent to the use of your image/likeness, voice and comments for broadcast in any and all media by Iris House and the Licensed Parties. You also release, discharge and agree to hold harmless the Licensed Parties and each of them from and against all actions, damages, costs, liabilities and claims to which the Licensed Parties of any of them may be subject to as a result of or in any way related to use of the materials by any of the Licensed Parties.

The Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit is made possible by the generous support of government, corporate and non-profit sponsors who join with Iris House every year in presenting this two day event! We deeply appreciate their dedication to our program and our work.

#### **Summit Title Sponsors**

New York City Council, The Honorable Corey Johnson, Speaker

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(as of April 20, 2018)

## The 13th Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit Program

#### 7:45 AM Continental Breakfast

#### 8:30 AM Opening Remarks

Ingrid Floyd, Executive Director, Iris House

#### 8:45 AM Update on Women, Girls and HIV

**Oni Blackstock, MD, MHS**, Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

#### 9:30 AM History, Trauma and Health in the African-American Community

Joy DeGruy, PhD, researcher and educator, author of "Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome"

#### 11:15 AM Breakout Sessions

#### Advocacy is Life: Amplifying Peer Voices in the HIV/AIDS Community, Berean Room

Ray Lowe, Peer Expert, Yonce Jones, Peer Expert, Krupa Hart, Doctoral Candidate, MBA, and Elizabeth Furth, Program Evaluator, Harlem United

#### From Patient to Professional: The Challenges and Advantages of Hiring from Within to End the Epidemic, Room 238

April Watkins-Griffin, Senior Director of Workforce Development, GMHC

#### From Stigma to Empowerment: HIV Disclosure in 2018, Room 242

**Terri L. Wilder, MSW**, Director, HIV/AIDS Education and Training and **Serina Yancey**, Supportive Peer, Mt Sinai Institute for Advanced Medicine

#### It's a Woman's World. Room 243

**Shirley Bejarano MPH, MS** Director of Education and Prevention, AIDS Center of Queens County and **Lori Mizuno MPA**, Senior Director of Global Advocacy Operations at AIDS Healthcare Foundation

#### Leave No Woman Behind: Addressing Disparities in HIV-related Health Outcomes among Women of Color, Room 239

Ashley Azor, MPH, Project Coordinator, Kristecia Estem, MPH, Buprenorphine Technical Assistance Consultant, Sahani Chandraratna, MPH, MSW, Quality Management Specialist, Bisrat Abraham, MD,MPH, Director of Clin OPs and Provider Communications, and Jennifer Carmona, MPH, Director of Quality Management, HIV/AIDS Care & Treatment Program, The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

#### Risk, Relevance and Role – Connecting the Dots to Support Cis and Trans Women Living with HIV, Praise Chapel

**Tiommi Luckett**, Positive Women's Network; **Vanessa Johnson**, J.D., Red Ribbon Consulting; and **Diana Lemos**, AIDS Foundation of Chicago; moderated by **Amelia Korangy**, ViiV Healthcare

#### 12:30 PM Luncheon Celebration Honoring Women in the Fight Against HIV (Pre-Registration or Ticket Required)

Honoring **Joy DeGruy, PhD**, author and researcher, **C. Virginia Fields**, President and CEO of NBLCA, and **Pernessa C. Seele, PhD**, founder, Balm in Gilead

#### 1:45 PM Breakout Sessions

#### Now and Then: An Intergenerational Conversation about HIV, Berean Room

Rev. Antionettea Etienne, Health Educator and Activist, Veronica Karp, Health Educator, Stephanie Vasquez, Activist, Iris House; and Nancy Duncan. HIV Activist

#### Building Your HIV Tool Box for Women Living With HIV, Room 242

Krista Martel, Executive Director and Tiommi Luckett, Communications Coordinator, The Well Project

#### Organizing for Justice Through Storytelling, Room 238

Kaleb Oliver Dornheim, Advocacy Specialist and Cecilia Gentili, Policy Director at GMHC

#### Project SUCCEED: HIV Undetectable, Hep C Cured!, Room 239

Kizzi Belfone, MPH, HIV/HCV Surveillance and Evaluation Analyst, Alexis Brenes, Health Care Access Specialist, MaNtsetse Kgama, MPH, Project Manager, Natalie Octave, MPH, CHES, Project Coordinator, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

#### Standing Up to Stigma: Taking Action to Drive Change, Praise Chapel

Pernessa C. Seele, PhD, Founder and CEO Balm in Gilead, Inc.

#### Women and PrEP, Room 243

Johanna Acosta, MPH, PrEP Specialist and Maria Cardenas-Hernandez, PrEP Specialist, Westchester Medical Center

#### 3:00 PM Breakout Sessions

#### Black Girls Matter, Berean Room

Keturah Clark, Community Health Specialist and Mechell Williams, Peer Navigator, Trillium Health

#### Sexual Risk Behaviors and Partnership Characteristics Among Women who Exchange Sex in NYC, Room 239

**Sarah L. Braunstein, PhD MPH**, Director, HIV Epidemiology and Field Services Program, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

#### Retelling the Story: HIV in Black America, Praise Chapel

C. Virginia Fields, MSW, President and CEO, National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc., Rev. Dr. Calvin Butts III, Senior Pastor, Abyssinian Baptist Church, Debra Fraser-Howze, MPA, Senior VP of Government & External Affairs, OraSure Technologies, Terrance Gardet, MS, MPH, Director, Community Partnerships Group, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control, Roscoe Boyd II, MST, Spokesperson, National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc

#### Undetectable Equals Untransmittable: Building Hope and Ending HIV Stigma, Room 242

**Krista Martel**, Executive Director, **Tiommi Luckett**, The Well Project, and **Bruce Richman**, Founding Executive Director, Prevention Access Campaign

## Women's Voices Raised: How the Regional Resource Network Program is Supporting Women in HIV prevention and Education Across the Nation, Room 238

Moderator: **Deidre Wallace-Hines, LCSW-R**, AIDS Healthcare Foundation. **Shante Miller MA,** HIV/AIDS Consultant Regional Resource Network Program, Region IV, **Lissette Marrero, MSW**, HIV/AIDS Consultant Regional Resource Network Program, Region VI, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



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## 4:00 pm NETWORKING SESSIONS AND DESSERT Fellowship Hall (Ground Floor)

Organizational Tabling, Coffee and Dessert and a chance to finish up conversations begun earlier in the day!

## THROUGHOUT THE DAY

## Room 250: "What's On Your Mind" A Room for Conversation and Impromptu Group Discussions

Need a space for a conversation? Have an impromptu topic you'd like to discuss? Room 250 is open from 9:30 AM—3:45 PM for your use! (No food on the second floor please!)

Room 252: "Quiet Room"

Need a break from the hustle and bustle of the day? Take a break and catch your breath!

#### PLENARY SPEAKERS

**Oni Blackstock, MD, MHS**, is Assistant Commissioner for the Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control for the NYC Health Department. As Assistant Commissioner, she oversees and supervises all programmatic and administrative activities for the Bureau of HIV/AIDS. She is also a primary care physician, HIV specialist and researcher.

Dr. Blackstock's prior research has included developing and testing interventions to improve engagement in HIV treatment and prevention services. She has an interest in community-engaged research and advocacy and has been funded by the NIH, NYS Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and prevention.

Dr. Blackstock received her undergraduate and her medical degrees from Harvard. She completed her primary care Internal Medicine residency and ambulatory chief residency here at Montefiore/Einstein, as well as an HIV clinical fellowship at Harlem Hospital. She received a Masters of Health Sciences Research from Yale School of Medicine's Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program.



Joy DeGruy, PhD, is a nationally and internationally renowned researcher, educator, author and presenter. She is an ambassador for healing and a voice for those who've struggled in search of the past, and continue to struggle through the present. Dr. Joy is the acclaimed author of <a href="Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome">Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome</a> — America's Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing, <a href="Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome">Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome</a>: The Study Guide, with a second book in the works, <a href="Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome">Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome</a> Part 2: Be The Healing.

Dr. DeGruy holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications; two master degrees in Social Work and Clinical Psychology; and a PhD in Social Work Research. With over twenty years of practical experience as a professional in the field of social work, she gives a practical insight into various cultural and ethnic groups that form the basis of contemporary American society.



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13th Annual Iris House Women as the Face of AIDS **Summit** 

**Ending the Epidemic** is a social justice issue.

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## **Iris House: New Jersey**

**Did you know Iris House** was also in New Jersey?

For information on our programs, including HIV 101 workshops, small group interventions, free and confidential HIV and STI testing and counseling programs, visit our office at 630 East Front Street in Plainfield, NJ call us at (908) 561-5057,

email Audria at arussell@irishouse.org or Charla at ccousar@irishouse.org.

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#### **OUR HONOREES**

Joy DeGruy, PhD, Bio appears on page 8.



**C. Virginia Fields** is President and CEO of the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc., (NBLCA). Appointed by the Board of Directors, in 2008, she brings to the position over eighteen years of experience as an elected official in New York City, where she won widespread praise as a consensus builder around important city, state and national policy issues. As the NBLCA's President and CEO, Ms. Fields is responsible for the planning, implementation and evaluation of the organization's programs, services, special projects, and personnel. In 2008, she was appointed to the New York State AIDS Advisory Council by Governor David A. Paterson. Ms. Fields was appointed to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Regional Health Equity Council for Region II, one of ten such advisory councils established to address racial and ethnic health disparities. Under Ms. Fields leadership, The NBLCA has

grown to include affiliate chapters in 12 cities, nationwide and established partnerships with over 140 organizations. Her expertise in government and politics has led to the successful implementation of noteworthy public policy achievements in health promotion and disease prevention, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care.

Ms. Fields is the former President of the Borough of Manhattan, chief executive of 1.5 million residents, to which she was elected in 1997 and reelected in 2001. She served as a member of the New York City Council from 1989-1997. In 2005, she was a Democratic candidate for Mayor of New York City, becoming the first African-American woman to seek that office. As an elected official, among her major priorities were Ms. Fields were establishing programs which included the allocation of millions of dollars to community-based organizations for support to serve populations infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. Ms. Fields has been a featured speaker on leadership issues, civil rights, health, government and politics at numerous governmental, organizations, and private industry events. In 2004, she addressed the International Business Conference in Beijing, China and was a speaker at the Democratic National Convention in Boston.

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, Ms. Fields received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Knoxville College in Tennessee where she served as President of the National Alumni Association, 2008 -2012. She received a Master's Degree in Social Work from Indiana University. Ms. Fields has served as an adjunct lecturer at New York University's Silver School of Social Work and Columbia University Graduate School of Social Work. The recipient of numerous commendations and honors of distinction for her leadership on education, health, community and economic issues; Ms. Fields has travelled to Africa, China, South Korea, Cuba, Europe and the Middle East. She resides in New York City, is a member of Abyssinian Baptist Church. As well as member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and The Links.



**Pernessa C. Seele** is the founder and CEO of The Balm In Gilead, Inc., a not-for-profit organization, celebrating three decades of providing technical training and services that strengthen the capacity of faith institutions in the USA and Africa to promote health education, disease management and services which contributes to the elimination of human suffering. She was named by **TIME Magazine** as One of the Most Influential Persons in the World. **Essence Magazine** in its 35 Anniversary, selected her one of 35 Most Beautiful and Remarkable Women In The World. **Ebony Magazine** named her one of its Power 150. She was selected by **Women's E-News** as one of its 21 Leaders for the 21st Century. In October 2017, His Eminence, Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York, bestowed the Pierre Toussaint Medallion upon Dr. Seele. Pernessa is an Honorary Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. **She is a native of Lincolnville, SC.** 

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13th Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit

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Joy DeGruy, PhD, author and activist
C. Virginia Fields, NBLCA
Pernessa C. Seele, PhD, The Balm in Gilead



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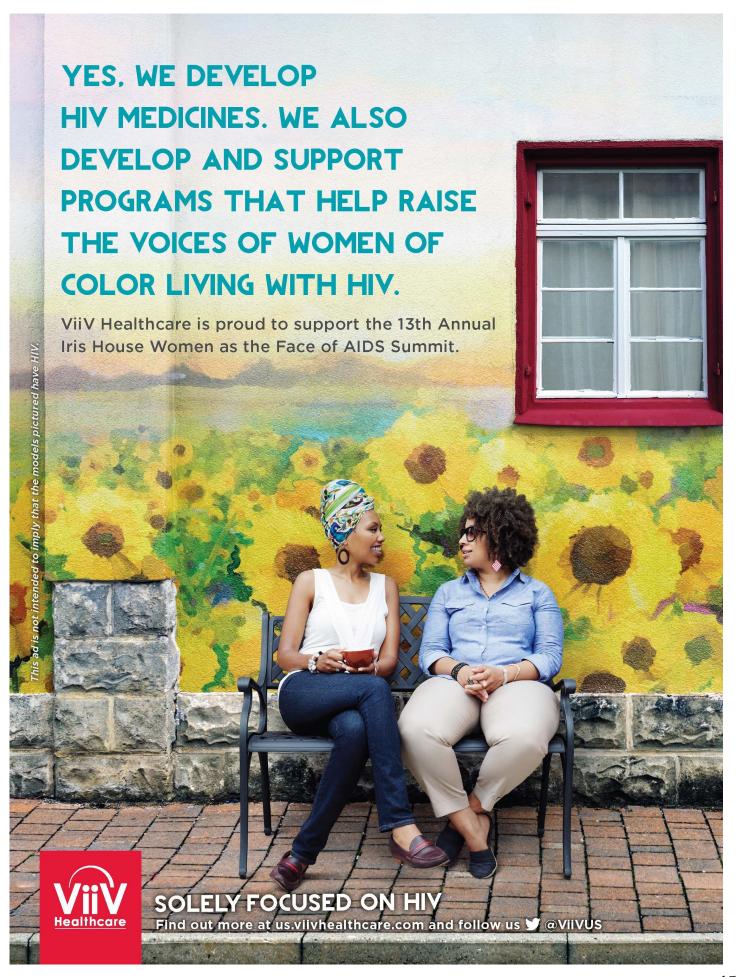






We are excited to continue this work with our national partners: Voces Latinas (Queens, NY), The Minority AIDS Council of Orangeburg, Bamburg and Calhoun Counties (Orangeburg, SC), The Afiya Center (Dallas, TX) and WORLD (Oakland, CA).

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HEAT provides comprehensive reproductive and sexual health care and prevention services targeting young women of color and LGBT youth.

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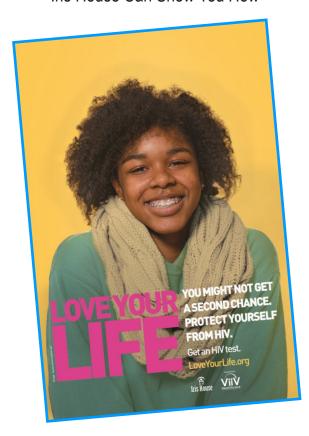
#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

contact Ofelia Barrios, Senior Director of Community Health Initiatives at Iris House at 212-423-9049 or via email at obarrios@irishouse.org

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#### We are proud to celebrate

## Iris House

& the Women as the Face of AIDS Summit



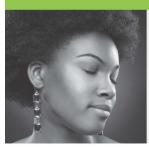
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For their amazing, ongoing support of our programs, including Food and Nutrition and for the third year in a row, the Women as the Face of AIDS Summit!



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www.broadwaycares.org

# There's something everyone can do to help stop HIV.



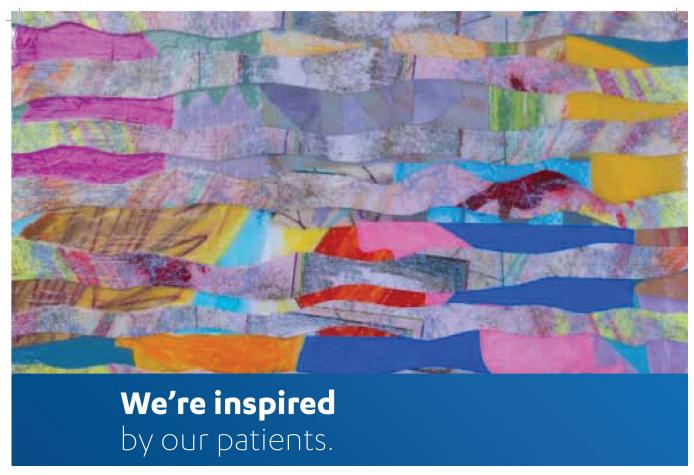
## TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP THE VIRUS.

Gilead proudly supports Iris House.

**LET'S GET STARTED.**HelpStopTheVirus.com



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Martin Freeman, Untitled
An active artist and California native, Martin Freeman was kind enough to donate his extraordinary artwork to Janssen. Martin was diagnosed with AIDS in 1990.

At Janssen, we are dedicated to addressing and solving some of the most important unmet medical needs of our time in HIV and other infectious diseases. Driven by our commitment to patients, we develop innovative products, services and healthcare solutions to help people throughout the world. Headquartered in Titusville, New Jersey, Janssen Therapeutics, Division of Janssen Products, LP, is one of the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies.



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On behalf of the 13th Annual Iris House Summit Planning Committee, we want to thank you:

Our Speakers and Presenters.
Our Sponsors.
Our Hosts at Bethel Gospel Assembly.
The Staff at Iris House

And you, our Attendees.

The Summit depends on all of us, and we are grateful for your participation.

Thank you.

The Iris House Health Fair, advertised for May 11th has been postponed.

A new date will be announced shortly.



Get Your Tickets Now at www.tinyurl.com/IH25Celebration