

## **2024 Global Intercultural Circle Retreat Sunday, July 28- Sunday, August 4th**

**Theme: Working towards Mutual Understanding, Social Justice and Equity in the Intercultural Relations of the Southern Tier of New York State**

**Location: Binghamton/Vestal - Owego - Finger Lakes**

- **Pumpelly Estate, 44 Front Street, Owego, NY 13827 (607) 687- 0510**
- **Katharine Krebs Home:**

**We will stay at the Pumpelly Estate from the evening of Sunday, July 28th until the morning of Friday, August 2nd. We will travel to Ithaca, NY on Friday, August 2nd and stay in Country Inn and Suites by Radisson for the final two nights of our retreat. With Ithaca as a base we will explore Finger Lakes wine country and cultural sites near Auburn, NY.**

**Global Intercultural Dynamics.** Every region of the U.S has historical cultural influences and more recent cultural influences that contribute to the intercultural dynamics in that region. We will explore some of the unique historical and contemporary forces which shape the cultural undercurrents of the Southern Tier of New York State. This region is characterized by rolling hills surrounding the valleys of the Susquehanna and Chenango Rivers. The area was the location of the Sullivan Campaign during the American Revolution destroying villages of the Cayuga and the Seneca native Americans. It is also the location of many stops on the Underground Railroad, factory industrialization in the 19th century which attracted waves of European immigrants, the original home of IBM, and Binghamton University, one of four research centers in the SUNY System. In particular Binghamton University is committed to building a diverse workforce and a welcoming and equitable campus climate for a highly diverse student body and staff.

We hope with this retreat to help ground us in this place and become further acquainted with some of the peoples who have come to call this space their home. Among the places, spaces and cultural traditions which we hope to learn about are:

- Harriet Tubman Center for Freedom and Equity at Binghamton University
- Several stops on the Freedom Trail in Binghamton (commemorating the Underground Railroad and African American contributions to US history and culture in Binghamton)
- U Diversity Educational Institute with whom we will collaborate for a UNESCO story circles workshop
- Vines Community Headquarters and Urban Farm
- Driving tour to view historical landmarks and neighborhoods of immigration and industrialization
- Owego's groundbreaking women in history and women entrepreneurs today

- Play reading of *The Fertile River* by African American and Binghamton born Vincent Terrell Durham with James Michalec, Director of the Face It! Theater Company. The play's topic is the African American experience of the Eugenics Movement
- Knapp Winery (Cayuga Lake):
- Harriet Tubman Home in Auburn
- Women's Rights National Historic Park, Seneca Falls

A unifying theme that transcends the retreat sessions is the intersectionality between gender and race and the positionality among white people and people of color. This theme is notably present in the lives of the many African American women we will be meeting during the week.

**Readings:** Selection of readings connected to the cultural explorations we anticipate:

- *The 1619 Project*  
[https://pulitzercenter.org/sites/default/files/full\\_issue\\_of\\_the\\_1619\\_project.pdf](https://pulitzercenter.org/sites/default/files/full_issue_of_the_1619_project.pdf) There is also a book version of this text available through Amazon.
- The Harriet Tubman Center For Freedom and Equity website  
<https://www.binghamton.edu/centers/harriet-tubman/index.html>
- Anne Bailey, *The Weeping Time: Memory and the Largest Slave Auction in American History*, Cambridge University Press, 2017. 206 pages.
- Vincent Terrell Durham, *The Fertile River*. PDF has been placed in the Retreat 2024 Google Drive
- Isabel Wilkerson, *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration*. Vintage Press, 2010. 793 pages.
- Robin Diangelo, *White Fragility: Why It's So hard for White People to Talk About Racism*. Boston, Beacon Press, 2018. 159 pages.
- Kendall, Francis E. "Understanding White Privilege" 2002. A PDF file posted on the American University website. 10 pages.
- Vines Community Gardens website <https://vinesgardens.org/>
- Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Binghamton University website  
<https://www.binghamton.edu/diversity-equity-inclusion/index.html>
- Harriett Tubman home <https://www.harriettubmanhome.com/>
- Women's Rights National Historic Park <https://www.nps.gov/wori/index.htm>
- Susquehanna Street, Binghamton  
<https://www.wbng.com/2024/02/06/history-behind-binghamtons-1st-black-church/>

**Journal Narrative:** Prepare an intercultural narrative following the prompt provided in the agenda for Sunday night. This narrative should take you no longer than ten minutes to tell and discuss with the full group.

**Recipes:** Locate copies of the recipe(s) and any particularly hard to find spices or sauce ingredients for the meal(s) you are taking the lead in cooking for the group. -- **Bring along recipes from last year and this year to be brought together into a recipe book (Katharine)**

### **Personal Items to be sure to pack.**

- Meaningful item that symbolizes your intention for intercultural growth (for Opening)
- Songbook, music, journal, art pad for expressing yourself, drawing instrument of choice.
- walking/hiking shoes; yoga mat
- Critical medicines, insurance information, medical professional contact information.
- \*\*Umbrella and/or water resistant jacket; Sunscreen and insect repellent

### **Arrival Travel Plans**

### **National Participants Contact Information**

### **Local Participant Contact Information:**

### **Emergency Contacts:**

**Dietary Restrictions / Allergies / Critical Medications 38 or Medical Information.**

## **Proposed Schedule**

### **Prelude: Sunday July 28 - Travel & Opening**

**Theme: Working Towards Social Justice and Equity in the Intercultural Relations of the Southern Tier of New York State**

#### **5:00 – 6:30 pm -- Opening Picnic Supper at the Pumpelly Estate**

Katharine will prepare picnic in advance

Picnic on patio overlooking river or in the events center if it rains

#### **6:30 - 7:30 pm -- Opening Session.**

Our Spirit of Entry and Intention Setting for our Time Together [Leads - Christa & Adele]

- Our Mission: We gather to share our intercultural journeys, to advance our well-being and creative expression, and to support each other in facilitating intercultural
- Setting of Intention and Creating *our Space* -- *Altar*
- Song of Welcome (10 -15 minutes) Adele
- Art Experience (15 minutes) Carol
- Prep for Other Workshops (10 minutes) Katherine

#### **7:30 - 9:00 Exploring how Positionality impacts Global Intercultural Relationships**

The suggested prompt for this year's narrative retreat is the following:

- Describe an experience where you have engaged with a woman or women of color, and have become aware of your positionality and their positionality and struggle for equity. How did that experience impact you?

Global Intercultural Narrative Sharing - Participants will share their Global Intercultural Narratives with the whole group, after which the facilitator will lead the group in a discussion of the narratives and the common themes that came up across them.

*Reminders of our agreements.*

- The narrative belongs to the speaker and will not be shared without permission.
- We will practice listening to each other with curiosity rather than judgment
- We will take pauses to breathe, recenter ourselves, call ourselves back to our intention
- Our intention is to bear witness to the stories of defining events in our lives that have been at the core of our “intercultural journey -- in all of our diversity.

## **Day 1 - Monday July 29**

### **Introductory workshop, The Harriet Tubman Center for Justice and Equity, FreedomTrail**

**7:00 - 8:00 Morning Stretch**

**8:00 - 9:00 Breakfast:** Pumpelly House

**9:00 - 10:30 Morning Workshop**  
Morning Workshop (continuation of Sunday evening sharing)

**10:30 - 11:00 Orientation for the meetings we will have with local hosts during the week**

**11:00 - 12:00 Transition - Travel to Downtown Binghamton**

**12:00 - 1:30 Lunch in Downtown Binghamton**  
Pho Nomenal, 20 Hawley Street, Binghamton

**1:30 - 3:30 Meet with Director of the Harriett Tubman Center for Freedom and Equity, at Binghamton University Downtown Center, 67 Washington Street, Binghamton, Room 201**

**Discussion** with Professor Anne Bailey about her book *The Weeping Time: Memory and the Largest Slave Auction in American History* and her work creating the Harriet Tubman Center for Freedom and Equity We will meet at the Binghamton University Downtown Campus, Conference Room 201. After our discussion Anne will lead us on a tour of part of the Freedom Trail which recognizes local efforts in support of the

underground railroad and the distinguished achievements of several Broome County African Americans.

**4:00 - 4:30 Drive from Downtown to Katharine's home (possible stop photocopying)**

**4:30 - 5:30 Dinner Preparation** - Nathalie and Christa will prepare dinner. Down time.

**5:30 - 7:30 Dinner**

Dinner between 5:30 and 6:00. Debrief our first experiences.

**7:30 Return to Owego and short evening River Walk**

Return to the Pumpelly House. If the weather is nice, we could do a short walk along the Susquehanna River. If not, we can sing in the Salon of the Pumpelly House.

## **Day 2: Tuesday July 30 Visit to Old Souls Homes Studio, Brunch with Entrepreneurial Women, Play Reading with Director Jim Micalec**

**7:00 - 8:00 Morning Stretch**

**8:00 - 9:00 Light Breakfast at the Pumpelly Estate**

**9:00 - 11:00 Walk along historic streets of Owego, a visit to Christina Knickerbocker's studio and visit to other galleries.**

Artist/entrepreneur Chris Knickerbocker purchased a large building, rented storefronts to local retail merchants and uses the second floor for an enormous studio where she assembles amazing creations out of junk. We will also visit the Black Cat Gallery, an artist cooperative and talk with whoever is at the cash register about their art

9:30 - appointment at Old Souls Home Art Studio, 42 Lake Street.

Note: there is lead paint on the premises and Christina has cats.

**11:30 Lunch with Owego Women Entrepreneurs. Dugan House Restaurant**

145 Front Street, 607- 687-9873

We will gather for an early lunch at Dugan's restaurant and invite five women entrepreneurs as our guests to share their stories with us:

Beth Johnson, owner of the Parkview Hotel,

Stephanie Whitmore, owner of the Pumpelly Estate,

Chris Knickerbocker, owner of Old Souls Home Studio

Janelle Malia, owner of Black Cat Gallery

Julie Lovelass, owner of the Owego Kitchen, former owner of the Belva Lockwood Inn

Lucie Nelson, art historian and former owner of one of the historic homes

**2:00 - 6:00 Play Reading and Discussion (with break for tea and snacks)**

*The Fertile River* by African American and Binghamton born Vincent Terrell Durham with James (Jim) Michalec, Director of the Face It! Theater Company

- Intermission - Afternoon Tea / Snack
- Jim and his wife Heather DeHaan, a specialist in Russian and Central Asian history will be our guests for dinner at MJ's.

**6:00 - 6:30 Free time**

**6:30 - 7:30 Dinner at MJs**

596 Fifth Ave. Owego

**8:00 Evening of song**

Upon return to the Pumpelly House we will enjoy an hour singing together either outdoors by the river or in one of the beautiful salons.

**Day 3: Wednesday, July 31 - Vines Community Gardens – Driving Tour of Broome County**

**7:00 - 7:30 Morning Spiritual Practices -- Morning Tea & Mind-Body Check Meditation**

**7:30 - 8:30 Morning Meal - Pumpelly House**

**B9**

**8:30 - 9:30 Drive from Owego to downtown Binghamton**

**9:30 - 11:30 Visit to Vines Garden, 157 Susquehanna Street, Binghamton1**

607-205-8108

We will visit the newly constructed office building for Vines and learn how the construction makes the building completely energy self-reliant. Then we will visit the Urban Farm to observe Farm Share Distribution and meet with the youth program interns. We are in a traditional multicultural neighborhood with stops on the Underground Railroad. In conversation with Executive Director Amelia LaDolce and hopefully some of the gardeners and interns, we will learn about how this project addresses food insecurity and builds community.

We will be joined by Katharine's friends Nancy Zimmet and Bet Tricomi

**11:30 - 1:30 Lunch, Park Diner, 119 Conklin Ave.**

607-722-9840

Lunch will be at the Park Diner in their private room. Nancy and Bet will join us. Amy Shapiro, one of the original founders of Vines and neighborhood leader for housing reform will also join us.

We have a reservation for the back room

**1:30 - 3:00 Driving Tour Immigrant Communities and Industrialization in Broome County**

Drive through the neighborhoods of Ukrainian and Greek orthodox churches, the reimagined Endicott-Johnson shoe manufacturing neighborhood of Johnson City, Little Italy, and the founding location of IBM. Stop at the grocery store for groceries enroute.

**3:00 - 4:00 A walk in the Binghamton University Nature Preserve  
or along the Susquehanna River in Endicott.**

**4:00 - 5:00 Free time for those not cooking**

**5:00 - 8:00 Dinner at Katharine's**

Our guest will be Bathabile Mthombeni, Binghamton University Ombudsman. Bathabile is from South Africa and a lawyer. She will lead us in a discussion on Whiteness building on our May phone conversation on White Privilege. Dinner will be prepared by Carol and Judy.

**8:00 - 8:30 Drive back to Pumpelly House**

**8:30-9:00 Evening Closing and Songs with Adele**

**Day 4 Thursday August 1st - Workshop: Intercultural Leadership.**

**We will be hosted by the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Binghamton University. We will collaborate in offering a UNESCO story circles workshop for interested Binghamton University staff**

**7:00 - 8:00 Early Morning walk or Stretch/yoga**

**8:00 - 9:00 Breakfast at the Pumpelly Estate**

**9:00 - 11:00 Walking tour of the historic homes on Front Street, Owego**

Lucie Nelson, art historian, will lead us on a walk along Front Street, identifying the stops on the underground railroad, the architectural styles and stories of some of the historic figures including the achievements of prominent 19th century women. Lucie will meet us at the Pumpelly house at 9:00

**11:00 - 12:00 Drive to the Binghamton Campus. We must be on time for this activity!**

**12:30 - 3:00 Lunch and Intercultural Leadership on Campus and in the Community; Experience of a Circle Pedagogy Workshop with leadership of Binghamton University's Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.**

We are guests of DEI for lunch at 12:30

For this workshop we will enter into discussion with university colleagues about the pedagogies they and we use to foster intercultural understanding in our respective communities. We will learn about the University's work to hire and retain diverse faculty and staff and the work to strengthen the intercultural skills of faculty, staff, and students. In exchange we will discuss our experience with circle pedagogies. Then we will proceed with a jointly- designed UNESCO Story circles exercise.

Introductions:

Dr. Ada Robinson Perez - Executive Director, Office of Equity, Access and Diversity  
Educational Institute

Dr. Christa Olson, Co Founder, Global Intercultural Circle

Introducing the UNESCO Story Circles Activity  
Jade Doswell, Coordinator for Diversity Education  
Jenn Smith, Coordinator for Restorative Practices  
Katharine Krebs, member of GIC

**3:00 - 4:00 Optional walk in the campus Nature Preserve**

**4:00 - 6:00 Return to Owego and free time**

**6:00 - 7:30 Dinner at the Cellar**  
196 Front Street, Owego, 607-687-2916

**8:00 - 9:15 Discussion of the Experiences this week in the Southern Tier, Gathering up Our meaningful objects, and evening song**



## **Day 5 Friday August 2nd - A Day for Visiting Vineyards along Cayuga Lake via Ithaca, Friday night lodging in Ithaca**

**8:00 - 9:00 Morning Stretch**

**9:00 Breakfast, Checkout and pack the car(s).**

We will drive in all of our cars to the Country Inn and Suites where we will leave all cars except Christa's and then set out to visit wineries  
1100 Danby Road, #96B, Ithaca, 607-252-5791

**10:00 On the Road - Visit to Wineries in the area (Cayuga Lake)**

Knapp Winery, on the west side of Cayuga Lake, will be the site of our tasting.  
**Address: Knapp Winery, 2770 Ernsberger Rd, Romulus, NY**

**You do not have to drink wine to participate! For free, you can come and listen to the information for 45 minutes.**

Those who do want to taste, the cost is \$12.00. (Free just to listen.) This winery also has a restaurant (reasonably priced). We will eat there after the tasting.

We will drive back to Ithaca on a road that hugs the lake.

It is a 45-minute drive from the Knapp Winery to the Country Inn hotel in Ithaca.

**5:30 Check in to the Country Inn and Suites**

**6:30 Dinner in Ithaca Moosewood Restaurant**

215 N,Cayuga Street, Ithaca. 607-273-9610

The Moosewood - a famous vegetarian restaurant.

Our reservation is through Resy

Afterwards we will walk along the Ithaca Commons

## **Day 6 Saturday August 3rd Visiting Harriet Tubman Home and Seneca Falls Women's Rights Historic Park**

**7:00 Breakfast:** Country Inn and Suites. Judy, Adele and Katharine will check out,

**8:30 Departure for Harriet Tubman Home**

Distance from Ithaca to the Tubman Home is 40 miles and takes one hour to drive. We need to allow ourselves some extra time. The tour at the Tubman house starts at 10:00. It lasts 1 and ½ hours. 180 South Street, Auburn, 315-252-2081,

**1:00 Lunch** - we will stop either at Prison City Pub and Brewery, 28 State Street Auburn, 315-604-1277 or at the Auburn Diner, 64 Columbus Street, Auburn,

**2 - 5:00 W, Seneca Falls**

136 Fall St., Seneca Falls, 315-568-0024. The Women's Rights Center is 15 miles from Auburn and takes about 25 minutes to drive the distance. If there is a park-like place we can gather, we may do the closing ceremony here

**5 - 7:00 Dinner and Closing Ceremony in Auburn**

**Osteria Salina** restaurant, 6:00 p.m. reservation  
16 State Street, Auburn, 315-258-9070

**7 - 9:00 Travel / Hotel Options after Dinner.**

**Day 7 Sunday August 4th - Travel Day back to Newark**

From Ithaca we need 5 hours to get back to Newark.