

Workshops

Friday, July 11

The Equal Rights Amendment: What's Congress Got to Do with It? 100 Years and Counting. *(Albert 1)*

- Mary Ann Gorman, ERA Task Force Chair, Maryland NOW
- Camerina Davidson, CA NOW State President
- Carolyn Maloney, NY NOW President/ NOW National Board Member; Founder ERA NOW and former Member, U.S. House of Representatives

Presenters will review the status of the ERA, highlight the increased and pressing need for the ERA now more than ever considering actions taken in the first six months of the Trump Administration, and identify simple actions attendees can take to advance the ERA. The ERA is the most powerful and lasting tool we must protect women's economic well-being and restore and enhance reproductive health care and rights in all states. This workshop builds on one presented at the 2023 National NOW conference when the Sign4ERA petition to urge members of Congress to affirm the ERA was discussed as a strategy to move forward.

Amplify Union Power for Reproductive Justice *(Nikko 2)*

- Jordana Sardo, Longtime organizer for Radical Women in Portland, OR coordinator for Working Group of the National Mobilization for Reproductive Justice and Executive Board member of AFSCME Local 88.
- Tina Turner-Morfitt, Labor activist, American Federation of State Municipal and County Employees (AFSCME) retiree and President of Oregon Chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
- Jay Hunt, Member of AFSCME Local 88, National Mobilization for Reproductive Justice
- Kristina Lee, Member of Reproductive Justice Sane Francisco, Service Employees, International Union Local 1021 and Labor for Palestine

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Amplify Union Power for Reproductive Justice *(con't)*

The majority of women are workers and many lead key labor battles. The movement for reproductive justice needs the weight and militancy of organized labor. Union leadership must stand with members and community on issues like abortion and childcare. Gender gaps in wages, promotions, and education are dramatically widened when parents have

to leave the workforce to provide childcare. These injuries are compounded for people who are low-paid, poor, of color, queer, trans, or living with disabilities.

State and federal attacks on abortion, bodily autonomy, and LGBTQIA+ access to health care impact the majority of young workers and the 47% of the workforce that is female. In addition, the same forces attacking reproductive rights are also seeking to destroy unions. As activists work through their local unions and educate rank-and-file workers, the reproductive justice movement can be greatly strengthened by the numbers, militancy and know-how of organized labor. Participants will learn how to bring resolutions to unions and share experiences from workplace organizing. Attendees will have the opportunity to become part of a network of other labor organizers for reproductive rights.

Let's Talk About Porn: A Consciousness-raising Conversation About the Negative Impacts on Us *(Nikko 3)*

- Peggy Patty, Former defense attorney for low-income women and Director of the Legal Institute at the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Aly Dearborn, Licensed psychotherapist and Certified as a California Sexual Assault Victims Counselor.

Presenters will briefly share current research about violent pornography's effects on women and girls. In small breakouts, participants will discuss the negative impacts of pornography on their lives. Presenters will guide the group in drafting actions for their local communities and will provide trauma-informed resources. Let's gather to discuss the toxic environment created by increasingly violent internet pornography.

Becoming a Digital Advocate: Using Your Voice and Tools to Make an Impact *(Marcel 1)*

- Kim Sontag, Director of Digital Media and Communications
- Catherine Mendoza, Fund-raiser leading national digital campaigns, mobilizing online communities

Learn how to become a confident digital advocate! This session will cover using advocacy tools, what and when to post, how to share impactful stories, and strategies for online fundraising to help you raise awareness, inspire action, and support the causes you care about through social media and digital platforms. This session is designed to help you become a powerful digital advocate, equipped with the tools and confidence to make your voice heard and inspire others to act. Whether you are brand new to digital engagement or looking to take your skills to the next level, this interactive session will walk you through the essential components of online advocacy. You'll learn what to post, when to post, and how to use your own voice to make a meaningful impact. We'll also explore how to share personal stories that resonate, mobilize supporters, and drive donations.

You'll leave this session with a toolkit of digital strategies and real-life examples to guide your online efforts - plus the confidence to advocate boldly and authentically in the digital space. The goal of this session is to empower participants to become effective digital advocates by teaching them how to use social media and online tools to raise awareness, share compelling stories, and successfully fundraise for the causes they care about.

Saturday, July 12 - Workshops

The Intersection of Art x Feminist Activism: Art as a Tool of Resistance *(Nikko 1)*

- Cassandra Kehoe, Artist and attorney with a focus on alternative dispute resolution, DEIA practitioner, advocate for fusing art and activism
- Lindsay Wengloski, MA in US History with focus on religious history, gender with belonging and community/citizenship.
- Vim Shaw, Community activist, creator of safe/secure dissent, host and community organizer or poetry workshops, slam and open mic events

The creation of art itself is a form of feminist resistance. This workshop will highlight examples of historic and modern persuasive feminist art installations and contemplate how participants can create their own artistic communities in their cities to enact change. Art allows us to tap into alternative storytelling in its unique ability to raise awareness, advocate for change that transcends words alone. Panelists will explore how art can be used as a tool of resistance, from individual artistic disciplines to community projects and shared spaces. Discussion

about how to incorporate artistic practices into their everyday routines and within their communities, carving out time for space, inspiration, reflection, meditation and artistic visions of what could be. This workshop will also invite attendees to consider their home communities, identifying opportunities for positive change through art. What are the possibilities for rejuvenation and inspiration? Whether establishing individualist artistic meditative practices, designing resistance and dissension symbology, or organizing marches, this workshop highlights the persuasive power that thoughtful design and artistic narratives can lend to our feminist resistance.

Growing NOW Chapters *(Albert 1)*

- Barbara Hays, Maryland NOW State President and NOW's Chapter and State Development Director for 20 years
- Crystal Lopez Peters, Action Vice President for Maryland NOW, PAC Administrator

Tips and techniques on how to grow NOW chapters across states. We will review how to make a chapter development plan for your state, map current members in your state, reach out to new members and help build networks of activists, and learn how to target areas that can sustain new chapters. We will review how to prepare for meeting National NOW's Chapter Convening Requirements. Are you adding new members? Do you want to know how to get started on a new chapter? Are you interested in learning more about your members to capitalize on their skills and abilities? Would you like to learn how to find new members in an area, but that list of zip codes looks really daunting?

We will cover all of these and more in this dynamic interactive workshop! We will show you how to quickly map your members to find where they actually live. The goal of this workshop is to help state and chapter leaders with limited budget and resources to identify possibilities for chapter development that will strengthen your state's and chapter's structure. Attendees may want to bring a laptop with internet access and their last Statewide Membership Report from Chapter Services.

Saturday, July 12 - Workshops

Boundary Setting & Self Awareness as a Feminist Practice *(Nikko 3)*

- Kelly Caldwell, Facilitator, mediator, trainer and organizer
- Chrystal Brim, Vice President of NOW Oregon

In activist, caregiving, or leadership roles, many of us struggle to set limits without guilt or conflict. This engaging workshop explores boundary-setting as both a feminist act of self-respect and a practical tool for personal and collective sustainability. Using self-awareness as a foundation, we'll unpack why boundaries matter, how to recognize when one is needed, and what it looks like to set them with clarity and compassion. Participants will learn a simple communication framework for expressing boundaries in personal, professional, and organizing contexts—without apology. This workshop includes solo reflection, paired practice, and real-life scenario work rooted in values, mutual respect, and emotional intelligence. By the end, participants will feel more confident

identifying their limits, naming their needs, and holding space for honest, sustainable relationships—both in and outside activist spaces. Whether you're navigating burnout, over-giving, or people-pleasing, this session offers tools to reclaim your time, energy, and emotional well-being.

NOW Young Feminists: How to bring your Youth Engagement into the NOW Framework *(Marcel 1)*

- Shelby von Hofe, Creator of the NOW Young Feminist Program at NOW's National Action Center and is Membership and Engagement Manager
- Supria Bhatia, Chapter Relations Manager at NOW's National Action Center and runs the CAN program for college-based organizing

This workshop will be a course on the NOW Young Feminists Framework and its associated programs, such as Campus Action Networks (CANs) for High Schoolers and Undergraduates, Young Feminist Action Networks (YFANs) for Post-Graduates and Young Professionals, and the Young Feminist National Committee (YFNC), can help chapters create a pipeline for young feminists to find their feet and community in activism and organizing and to continue engagement through all life's phases with NOW!

What is NOW Young Feminists and how can it help grow your chapter? This workshop, hosted by Shelby von Hofe and Supria Bhatia from NOW National, will show you how to bring your youth engagement into the NOW Framework and grow your efforts!