

Congratulations

Class of 2016

Michael Fleming
and the entire team at the
David Bohnett Foundation
are proud to support
The UCLA LGBT Center's
19th Annual Lavender Graduation



Improving Society Through Social Activism

BOHNETTFOUNDATION.ORG

19TH ANNUAL | JUNE 11, 2016

Lavender Graduation



Congratulations Class of 2016!

We are proud of your accomplishments and look forward to your continued engagement with the LGBTQ community beyond UCLA!



Rae Lee Siporin, Curt Shepard, and Al Aubin
FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE LGBT CAMPUS RESOURCE CENTER
WITH CHANCELLOR GENE BLOCK AND CHANCELLOR EMERITUS CHUCK YOUNG

MINTON-SPIDELL

INCORPORATED

PROUDLY COMMENDS

Anzor Komok

AND

Arman Sharif

FOR THEIR DISPLAY OF EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP

We congratulate all UCLA LGBTQ students and graduates of 2016 for what you have already accomplished, and thank you for your contributions to our community in the future.

With great pride and admiration,

We wish you all the best.

Go, Bruins!

Welcome

Welcome to the 19th Annual Lavender Graduation at UCLA!

**"EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON
WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD."
—NELSON MANDELA**

You all are living proof that education is a powerful tool to create change. Just by being here today, you are creating change and leaving your mark on this community! Over the last 19 years of this ceremony and 21 years of the LGBT Campus Resource Center's existence, we have honored many leaders who have come before us and paved the path for the work we do. And I look forward to being witness to how you continue this legacy of community transformation!

At UCLA, we are home to the brightest young people in the world. During your time here, you have explored identities, taken leadership positions, and learned what it means to be part of a diverse LGBTQQIA community. This is just the beginning of your incredible journey! Sitting amongst us today are graduates who will go on to become teachers, scientists, law makers and entrepreneurs. In short, you will become catalysts for change in your respective fields and communities, armed with an education and supported by those who have come before you and those who will follow in your footsteps.

Though Lavender Graduation only occurs once a year, remember that every day is a cause for celebration. We are a strong community with so much potential. We continue to grow, become more visible, and integrate our many complex and beautiful intersections into the cultural fabric of UCLA.

On behalf of the LGBTQ Student Leadership Council, the LGBT Campus Resource Center, and LGBTQ Studies, I thank you for the work you have done to enhance our campus and the work you will continue to do to transform our communities in the future. Be fierce, be beautiful, be yourself.

With Bruin PRIDE,
Raja G. Bhattar, Director
LGBT Campus Resource Center



D'Lo

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

D'Lo is a queer/transgender Tamil-Sri Lankan-American actor/writer/comedian whose work ranges poetry and spoken word, stand-up comedy, solo theater, plays, films and music production. He is a co-producer for DisOriented Comedy (mostly female Asian-American nationally-touring stand-up comedy showcase).

D'Lo holds a BA from UCLA in Ethnomusicology and is a graduate of New York's School of Audio Engineering (SAE).

His work has been published in various anthologies and academic journals, most recently: *Desi Rap: Hip Hop and South Asian America* and *Experiments in a Jazz Aesthetic* (co-edited by Sharon Bridgforth) and *Troubling the Line: Trans and Genderqueer Poetry and Poetics*.

Aside from touring and facilitating workshops on the university/college circuit with "D'FaQT to Life" (defacto), D'Lo tours "Ramble-Ations: A One D'Lo Show" (dir. Adelina Anthony) which received the NPN Creation Fund Grant inclusive of residencies in 9 US cities with additional support from the Durfee Foundation Grant.

In 2010, D'Lo was selected for the Asia Pacific Performance Exchange (APPEX) – an international three week intensive residency in Bali with a particular focus on American and Asian artists through UCLA's Center for Intercultural Performance.

His full-length stand-up storytelling show D'FunQT (defunct), directed by Steven Sapp of Universes in NYC (Ken Sawyer in LA), has toured internationally (SF, NY, Manchester, UK and 7-city tour in India and Sri Lanka - with additional funds received by through the Ford Foundation travel grant to host workshops for queer & trans theater artists in Chennai, India).

The documentary by Crescent Diamond based on D'Lo's life/work, called *Performing Girl*, won the best short documentary award at Outfest 2013. His tv/film credits include co-starring in the HBO series *LOOKING* as Taj, on the Amazon series *TRANSPARENT* and the Netflix series *SENSE 8* as Disney. This year he will be featured in Sundance Fellow Adelina Anthony's feature-length film *BRUISING FOR BESOS* in the supporting lead role of Rani. He also appears on the web series *EASTSIDERS* and *DYKE CENTRAL*.

He is currently in post-production for his web-series *Private Dick* and working on the follow up show to D'FunQT called *To T, or Not to T* and his screenplay *GodFreaQ*.

Presenting the Class of 2016

DOCTORAL DEGREES

Jaimini Parekh*
JURIS DOCTORATE

Michelle Thompson
DOCTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT

MASTERS DEGREES

Gregory Achen
MASTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK

Caroline Larrieu Casias*
MASTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK

Steven Liang
MASTER OF FINE ARTS, FILM & TV PRODUCTION

Jean Simona Libby
MASTER OF EDUCATION, STUDENT AFFAIRS

Kevin Medina
MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Lucas Ramón Mendos
MASTER OF LAWS, SEXUALITY AND THE LAW

Harold Sarmiento
MASTER OF SCIENCE, NURSING

Martha Zamora
MASTER OF EDUCATION, STUDENT AFFAIRS

BACHELORS DEGREES

Ryan Ahari
BACHELOR OF ARTS, POLITICAL SCIENCE

Erendirani Aparicio Chavez
BACHELOR OF ARTS, CHICANA/O STUDIES
MINOR IN EDUCATION

Victor A. Beteta
BACHELOR OF ARTS, DESIGN/MEDIA ARTS

Vanshree Bhalotia
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, ASTROPHYSICS

Jaemmie Cañas
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ANTHROPOLOGY
MINOR IN DISABILITY STUDIES

Kara Chang
BACHELOR OF ARTS, COMMUNICATION STUDIES
MINORS IN LGBTQ STUDIES & EDUCATION STUDIES

Magdalena Chavez
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ENGLISH
MINOR IN LGBTQ STUDIES

Jeongmin Choi
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ENGLISH

Kevin Contreras
BACHELOR OF ARTS, SOCIOLOGY
MINOR IN LGBTQ STUDIES

Daniel de la Cruz
BACHELOR OF ARTS, PSYCHOLOGY
MINOR IN LGBTQ STUDIES

Miriam Emery*
BACHELOR OF ARTS, AMERICAN LITERATURE
MINOR IN FILM

Kirsten Noelle Fargas
BACHELOR OF ARTS, GENDER STUDIES

Patty Gonzalez
BACHELOR OF ARTS, GENDER STUDIES
MINOR IN LGBTQ STUDIES

Khushboo Gulati
BACHELOR OF ARTS, WORLD ARTS AND CULTURES

Addam Joseph Hammond
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, PHYSICS

Joel Hernandez
BACHELOR OF ARTS, MUSIC EDUCATION
MINOR IN MUSIC INDUSTRY

Ronald Andre Holden Jr.
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES
MINOR IN THEATER

Armando Huipe
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ENGLISH LITERATURE

Mariejo Rosalyn Ibale
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ART HISTORY
MINOR IN VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION

Kelsie T Jones
BACHELORS OF ARTS, AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES & GENDER STUDIES

Lindsey Anne Lee
BACHELOR OF ARTS, AMERICAN LITERATURE & CULTURE
MINOR IN SOCIAL THOUGHT

Hector Gustavo Lerma
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ANTHROPOLOGY
MINOR IN THEATER

Janeth Olivia Lopez
BACHELOR OF ARTS, CHICANO STUDIES & GEOGRAPHY

Winston Luhur
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, MOLECULAR, CELL AND DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY
MINORS IN LGBTQ STUDIES & BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

Pedro Magdaleno
BACHELOR OF ARTS, GENDER STUDIES
MINOR IN LGBTQ STUDIES

Garance Gabrielle Sophie Merholz*
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, NEUROSCIENCE

Devin Tré Murphy
BACHELORS OF ARTS, AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES & POLITICAL SCIENCE
MINOR IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Rebecca Nevarez
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ANTHROPOLOGY
MINOR IN LGBTQ STUDIES

Mydiem Nguyen
BACHELOR OF ARTS, SOCIOLOGY
MINOR IN GENDER STUDIES

Omar Nieto
BACHELOR OF ARTS, COMMUNICATIONS STUDIES
MINOR IN LGBTQ STUDIES

Marien Ann Padua
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES; CONCENTRATION IN PILIPINO STUDIES
MINOR IN LABOR & WORKPLACE STUDIES

Harvey Peralta
BACHELORS OF ARTS, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & DANCE
MINOR IN CHICANA/O STUDIES

Isis Yeung Piccillo
BACHELOR OF ARTS, HUMAN BIOLOGY AND SOCIETY
MINOR IN GENDER STUDIES

Rashmi Raviprasad
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, ASTROPHYSICS
MINOR IN FRENCH

Kevin "Kayden" Riambon
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES; CONCENTRATION IN PILIPINO STUDIES
MINORS IN LABOR & WORKPLACE STUDIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Ernesto Rocha
BACHELOR OF ARTS, POLITICAL SCIENCE & CHICANA/O STUDIES
MINOR IN LAW, LABOR & POLICY STUDIES

Alejandra Rodriguez
BACHELOR OF ARTS, FRENCH
MINOR IN LGBTQ STUDIES

Sam Sandoval
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ANTHROPOLOGY

Aubrey Sassoon
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ANTHROPOLOGY

Pardes Seleh*
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, HUMAN BIOLOGY AND SOCIETY
MINORS IN MEDICINE & PUBLIC HEALTH

Yadira Sesmas
BACHELOR OF ARTS, SOCIOLOGY
MINOR IN CHICANA/O STUDIES

Devin Shen
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, BIOLOGY
MINOR IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Pablo Simental
BACHELORS OF ARTS, WORLD ARTS AND CULTURES & CHICANA/O STUDIES

Yiqing Song
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, PHYSICS

Stephanie Nicole Sybert
BACHELOR OF ARTS, ETHNOMUSICOLOGY
MINOR IN MUSIC INDUSTRY

Kayleigh Wade
BACHELOR OF ARTS, CHICANA/O STUDIES
MINORS IN LGBTQ STUDIES & EDUCATION

Siliang Wang
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, COGNITIVE SCIENCE; SPECIALIZATION IN COMPUTING

Jeffrey Wong
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, HUMAN BIOLOGY AND SOCIETY

Yibing Yang
BACHELORS OF ARTS, PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY

Melissa Young*
BACHELORS OF ARTS, ARABIC & INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

*in absentia

Congratulations!

19TH ANNUAL

Lavender Graduation Program

PROCESSION OF STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, & INVITED GUESTS

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME

Raja G. Bhattar
Director, LGBT Campus Resource Center

GREETINGS

Dr. Janina Montero
Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

D'Lo
Class of 1999
Recipient of the 2016 Lavender Leader Award

2015–2016 HIGHLIGHTS

by John Whitty

RAE LEE SIPORIN OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

presented to Rebecca Nevarez
by Al Aubin

CURTIS SHEPARD UCLA LGBT LEADERSHIP AWARD

presented to Kara Chang
by Al Aubin

AL AUBIN SERVICE TO THE UCLA LGBT COMMUNITY AWARD

presented to Kevin Medina
by Curt Shepard

CHARLES E. HARLESS GRADUATE STUDENT LEADER AWARD

presented to Gregory Achen
by Curt Shepard

EZEKIEL "ZEKE" WEBBER LEADERSHIP IN ACTIVISM AND EDUCATION AWARD

presented to Armando Huipe & Aubrey Sassoon
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presented to Omar Nieto & Isis Piccillo
by Andrew Flores

MINTON-SPIDELL EMERGING LEADER AWARD

presented to Arman Sharif & Anzor Komok
by Dr. Michelle Erai

LGBTQ STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

presented to Lavender Health Alliance
by Dr. Michelle Erai

STUDENT'S CHOICE FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARD

presented to Dr. Ardis Ann Moe
by Harold Sarmiento

BRIDGE BUILDER AWARD

presented to Dr. Janina Montero & Kelly Schmader
by Dr. Maria Blandizzi

**LGBTQ STUDIES PRIZE FOR BEST SENIOR PROJECT
ON A QUEER THEME**

presented to Khushboo Gulati
by Dr. Alicia Gaspar de Alba and Dr. Anurima Banerji

LGBTQ STUDIES MINOR CERTIFICATES

presented by Dr. Alicia Gaspar de Alba and Tomarion Brown

UCLA LAMBDA ALUMNI NETWORK SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

presented by Michael Avila & Steven Llanusa

EDWARD SCOTT MORRISON SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

presented by Raja G. Bhattar

STUDENT SPEAKER

Armando Huipe

PRESENTATION OF LAVENDER GRADUATES, CLASS OF 2016

presented by Dr. Saeromi Kim

CLOSING REMARKS

Raja G. Bhattar

RECESSIONAL

REFRESHMENTS IN THE ATRIUM

DAN CALDER EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS AWARD

presented to Omar Nieto & Isis Piccillo
by Andrew Flores

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presented by Dr. Saeromi Kim

CLOSING REMARKS

Raja G. Bhattar

RECESSIONAL

REFRESHMENTS IN THE ATRIUM

Student Organizations

UNDERGRADUATE

Queer Alliance

BlaQue

Fluid

La Familia

Pan-Asian Queers (PAQ)

Project 1

Queer x Girl

Spectrum

TransUP

Cornerstone

Delta Lambda Phi Fraternity

Gamma Rho Lambda Sorority

Kabalikat Kore

Lavender Health Alliance

OutWrite Newsmagazine

Prism

QOM

Society of Nonbinary Genders (SONG)

GRADUATE

Lambda Graduate Student Network (LGSN)

Library & Archive OUTreach, Graduate School of Education & Information Studies

Luskin PRIDE, Luskin School of Public Affairs

MedGLO, David Geffen School of Medicine

Out@Anderson, Anderson School of Management

OUTLaw, School of Law

Queers for Public Health, Jonathan & Karin Fielding School of Public Affairs

For more information on how to get involved, visit us:

LGBT Campus Resource Center

Student Activities Center, B36

www.lgbt.ucla.edu

Thank You!

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE THIS CELEBRATION POSSIBLE:

D'Lo

Vice Chancellor Janina Montero

Vice Chancellor Jerry Kang

Dr. Maria Blandizzi, Dean of Students

Dr. Deb Geller, Office of the Dean of Students

Al Aubin, Rae Lee Siporin, and Curt Shepard

Mark Taylor, Anderson School of Management

Pam Cysner & Zoila De La Pena, Student Organizations, Leadership & Engagement

University Committee on LGBTQ Affairs

2016 Pride Week Committee

Gender Studies

Dr. Alicia Gaspar de Alba & LGBTQ Studies

UCLA Lambda Alumni Network

Paul Moore, David Bohnett Foundation

Rick Nelson, Minton-Spidell Inc.

Dr. David Baron, Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center

Geno Mehalik, Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center

Michael Terronez, Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center

Kiran Mistry, Recreation

Coca Cola, Inc.

Saryl Radwin & Jen Netland, Office of Residential Life

Patricia Ch au Nguyen, Alumni Association

Fran Keller-Stillwell, Thousand Oaks Trophies

Lupe, Gourmet L.A. Bakery

Rosslyn Forrester, Gorilla Marketing

ASUCLA Catering

The Green Initiative Fund

Dion Veloz, Student Activities Center

Brittany Williams, Fed Ex

Liz Manzanero, Queer Alliance

Syd Rein

Lavender Graduation Student Coordinating Committee:

Allie Atienzo, Patty Gonzalez, Marisa Gonzalez Leal, Emory Johnson,

Aaron Kinsfather, Chanel Mozer, Max Payne, Christina Thompson, Isaac Williams

...and a special thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers and presenters!

*LGBTQ Studies
Conratulates
this Year's Minors*

Kara Chang

Magdalena Chavez

Kevin Contreras

Daniel de la Cruz

Winston Luhur

Pedro Magdaleno

Rebecca Nevarez

Omar Nieto

Paige Oldham

Alejandra Rodriguez

Kayleigh Wade

UCLA Health

and the

David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Congratulate

2016 Lavender Graduates

We celebrate the accomplishments of LGBTQ students,
staff and faculty and are inspired by your contributions
to UCLA and the Los Angeles community

UCLA Health



David Geffen
School of Medicine



UCLA

**Lambda
Alumni Association**
for LGBTQ Bruins



**Congrats new
Lambda
Alumni!**

**7/10- New Alumni Mixer
V Wine Room- West Hollywood- 1p**

Email/follow us for more information:

lambda@alumni.ucla.edu



[.com/UCLALambda](https://www.facebook.com/UCLALambda)



[.com/UCLALambda](https://www.twitter.com/UCLALambda)



**David Geffen
School of Medicine**

*Congratulations,
Class of 2016!*

*May all your skies
ahead be blue!
UCLA Urology*

UCLA

University Committee
on LGBTQ Affairs

*Congratulations
UCLA LGBT
graduates of 2016
on your efforts
and outstanding
achievements.*

*We wish you the
best of luck in your
future ventures!*

UCLA

SCHOOL
OF THEATER,
FILM AND
TELEVISION

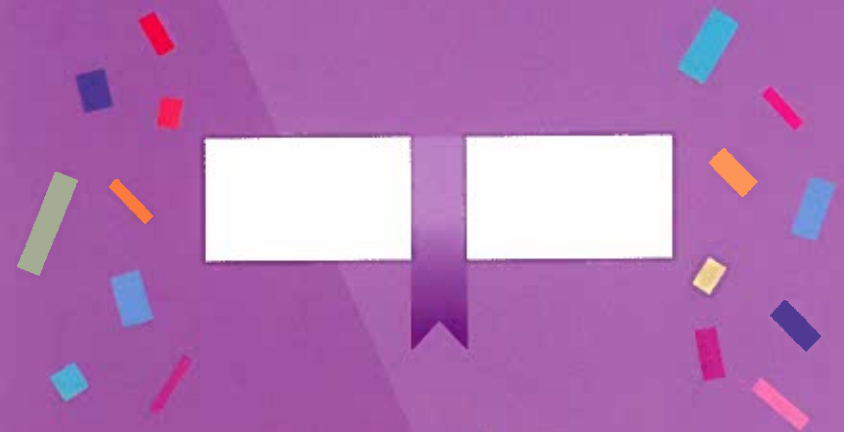
Teri Schwartz, Dean

and the
UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television
proudly support the

19th Annual Lavender Graduation

Congratulations to the
2016 graduating class!

UCLA The Ashe Center | Student Health & Wellness



Congratulations.

On behalf of all of our staff at The Arthur Ashe
Student Health and Wellness Center,
congratulations to all of the LGBTQIA scholars on
this tremendous accomplishment. We wish you
good health and success in your future endeavors,
with the support of UCLA always behind you.

*"Success is a journey, not a destination. The doing is
often more important than the outcome."*

Arthur Ashe

www.studenthealth.ucla.edu

shine
inside/out