

**4th Annual**

# Healthy Men and Boys **Summit**

**Raising emotionally and socially connected boys:  
Exploring intersections of gender, race and trauma**

Connect, learn and be inspired to act at this unique professional development event. Practitioners and leaders in the fields of education, public health, mental health, parenting, and related fields, who are committed to developing healthy boys and men, are welcome.



## **Keynote**

**Niobe Way, Ph.D. Raising emotionally and socially connected boys**

*Author Deep Secrets: Boys' friendships and the crisis of connection*

Niobe Way's research challenges our stereotypes about boys, revealing their deep capacity and need for connectedness. Yet as boys age, they feel they must "man up" by becoming stoic and independent, losing intimate friendships and feeling isolated. Way argues the solution lies in exposing gender stereotypes and helping boys foster and maintain deep relationships.

## **Workshops on raising healthy boys and intersections of...**

### **Trauma and Gender**

Steven Botkin, &  
James Arana  
MERGE for Equality

Using experiential activities and global examples, we explore the impact of trauma on boys, how male socialization compounds this trauma and the resulting dilemmas for individuals, families and communities. We share practices for unpacking this "Man Box," promoting cross-gender dialogue and serving as role models for a healthy masculinity.

### **Race and Gender**

Albert Pless, Jr.  
Cambridge Public Health Dept  
Haji Shearer  
MA Children's Trust Fund

This interactive workshop provides an overview of key outcomes that differ for boys in the U.S. based on race. We will systematically and anecdotally explore some of the structures that create these different trajectories and discuss ways to support boys of color in overcoming barriers that prevent them from growing into healthy men.

### **Gender Identity and Expression**

Mason Dunn &  
Bobbi Taylor  
MA Trans Political Coalition

Using experiential activities, we explore gender identity and expression, including trans and cis gender, as well as gender fluidity. This workshop will also explore the benefits of supporting and expanding gender awareness - in light of the limitations of traditional, rigid gender norms - in working with boys, families and communities.