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FESTIVAL  
**2021**

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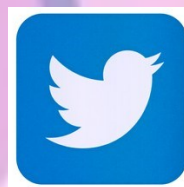
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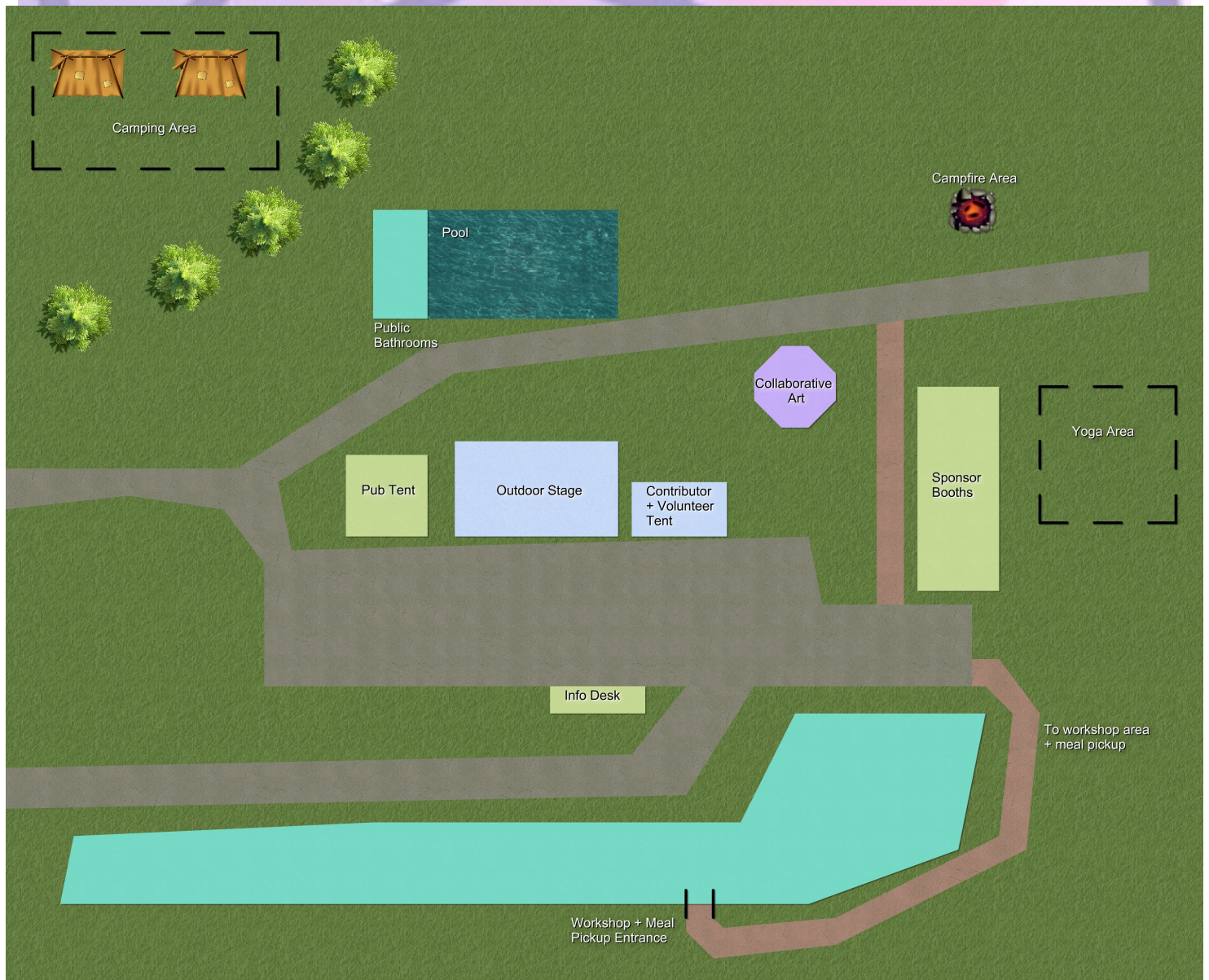
[skylightfestival.ca](http://skylightfestival.ca)

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# Map of Skylight 2021



# SAFETY PROTOCOLS AND COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

## COVID PROTOCOLS

- \* Five Oaks will collect contact tracing information and keep it for one month following protocols laid out in <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r21520>
  - \* Five Oaks will post capacity limits for both indoor and outdoor events
  - \* Five Oaks is responsible for cleaning facilities. Any concerns should be addressed to their facility manager on duty
  - \* Skylight will post their safety plan at the registration table
  - \* Skylight will keep 2 sides of each tent open following protocols laid out in <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r21520>
  - \* Each person in attendance at the festivals is responsible for the following:
    - \* Wear a mask for all indoor activity
    - \* Maintain a distance of 2 meters from all persons outside your household both indoors and outdoors.
    - \* Wear a mask outdoors when 2 meters cannot be maintained
    - \* Exceptions include being unmasked when eating or drinking with others
- 

## SKYLIGHT COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

Skylight is governed by the principle of respect for all people. As such, we strive to:

- \* make Skylight accessible
- \* make Skylight a safer space
- \* acknowledge areas we need to grow
- \* care for our environment

We welcome your feedback! At the end of each day, stay a few minutes for 'whine and cheese' - a time set aside specifically for feedback. We would also take suggestions for contributors you'd like to see at the festival.



# 2021 Skylight Festival Schedule

## Saturday, August 28

workshop				
all group event				
Choose your own adventure				
Performance				
Time		Outdoor tent	Workshop area	Other
9:00am	The beginning			Arrive and check-in
10:00am		First words, welcome		
10:20am		Skylight past, intros		
10:30am		Heather Beamish		
11:00am		Skylight future		
11:30am	The middle	Michiko Bown-Kai	Din	Lunch
12:30pm				
12:45pm				Pool open @ 12:45
1:45pm		Piper Hayes	Heather Beamish	
2:45pm		Drew Brown	Michiko Bown-Kai	Yoga with Cheri
3:45pm		Michael Shewberg		
4:45pm		Beer and Hymns		
5:30pm		The last supper... and open mic		
6:45pm	The end	Evening with Drew, F-105 & Piper & Carson		
9:15pm		Whine and cheese - chat with SkyFolk		

## Sunday, August 29

Time		Outdoor tent	Workshop area	Other
9:00am	The begin- ning			Arrive and check-in
9:30am		First words, welcome, introductions		
10:00am	The middle	Theatre of the Beat Unmute and more		
10:30am				
11:00am				
11:30am				
12:15pm				Lunch
12:30pm		Hootenanny—campfire songs		
1:30pm		Heather Beamish		Din
2:15pm	Drew Brown			Yoga with Cheri
3:00pm	F-105 Din and Marc			
3:30pm	The end		Closing performance: Jeffrey Straker	
5:00pm			The last supper + whine and cheese - chat with the Skyfolk	

# Meet the Contributors



## Piper & Carson Hayes

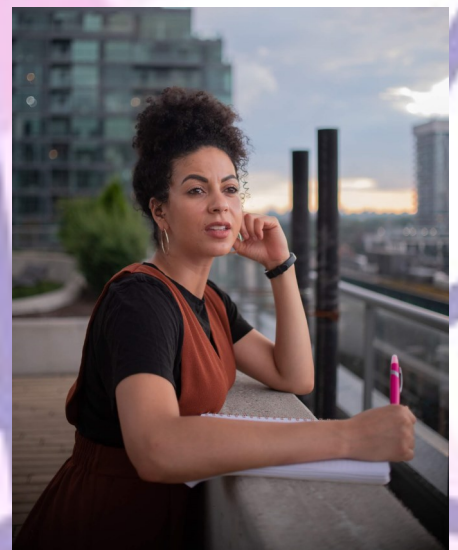
From festival stages to intimate house concerts, Piper & Carson remind us of why we go to see live music. Their song writing is free and fiercely personal; as if it's been running in the woods, washing in cold water, and howling with wolves. The couples undeniable chemistry and onstage presence draws the audience into the conversation. Piper's immersive storytelling provides context and familiarity bringing their original music to life. After first meeting on Carson's father's organic vegetable farm, they've spent the last five years touring Turtle Island coast-to-coast, showcasing at international Folk Conferences, touring overseas to the Netherlands and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. October 23, 2020 marked the official release of "a wonderful new recording "Edgewalker's Remedy" - a concept album specifically designed to provoke reflection about our lives and what we all take for granted." - Jan Hall, Folk Roots Radio, which comes after their critically acclaimed 2017 release 'Piper & Carson'. Their work is deeply rooted in intention and both strive to use their platform to forward social change. This duo will make you believe that folk music can change the world.

## Heather Beamish

Heather is a tea-drinking, female-loving, ex-evangelical pastor turned spoken word artist, activist and educator. Heather recognizes that throughout history differences have divided, isolated and disrupted our connection with each other. In her work she prioritizes resourcing communities with tools for rebuilding, reimagining and reconciling those differences.

Heather is excited to co-create vibrant, inclusive community spaces where the faces, stories and needs of those who are Queer, Black, and Indigenous (BIPOC), along with allies who are committed to the work, are centred and celebrated. In her talks, you will encounter themes that speak to the variety of intersections that she lives out of every day. To follow her journey and view more of her work, connect with Heather on Instagram at @heatsbeam or her website:

[heatherbeamish.com](http://heatherbeamish.com).



# Meet the contributors



## Jeffrey Straker

Singer-songwriter pianist Jeffery Straker grew up taking piano lessons in small-town Saskatchewan. He actually swears he was born under the piano on the family farm, and since those 'grand' beginnings he's gone on to perform over 100 shows per year across Canada, Europe and Latin America. The storytelling nature of his roots-folk songs has the power to transport a listener - out onto a lake in Canada's North or to the main street of a prairie town. A clever lyricist with an energetic piano style his song writing has drawn critical comparisons to the likes of Harry Chapin, Kris Kristofferson & Billy Joel and the Chicago Free Press has written:

"Rufus Wainwright, as well as k.d. lang are among the Canadians making essential and beautiful music. Add the name Jeffery Straker to that list."

Straker's 2017 album "Dirt Road Confessional" reached #5 on the iTunes Canada singer-songwriter charts. It saw him debut at Canada's National Arts Centre and perform live on BBC Radio in the UK. His songs have been licensed for film, TV and theatrical productions and he's performed his music in sold-out shows with symphony orchestras. The recipient of a Western Canadian Music Award in 2019, he also received the Saskatchewan Music Award for Roots/Folk Artist of the Year in 2020 and the Saskatchewan Country Music Award for Keyboard Player of the Year in 2021. Jeffery has just released his brand new ten-song recording "Just Before Sunrise" and his 'Pandemic Piano' tour will see him make 50 stops this summer performing his new music. "Delighted to be back at Skylight" [www.jeffstraker.com](http://www.jeffstraker.com)

## Drew Brown

Drew Brown is an award-winning and Juno nominated musician, producer, podcaster, photographer, social justice & anti-racist advocate, craft beer aficionado, bourbon lover, storyteller, and all-around awesome human. His vulnerability and warm heart attract everyone he meets, and his tireless efforts to humanize every person and disarm hate with love are his daily pursuit. He also has a side project under the moniker Hymns For The Architect - in which he creates music for spiritual practices and the seasons of the soul. When he isn't recording, performing, and producing, you can find him gracing the open mics, walking the protest lines, inspiring neighbourliness, speaking out in interviews, and posting awareness, soulfulness, and silliness on Instagram. And thankfully Drew Brown can honestly say that he DID NOT write this bio.

- [www.drewbrownmusic.com](http://www.drewbrownmusic.com)
- [instagram.com/drewbrownmusic](https://www.instagram.com/drewbrownmusic)
- [twitter.com/drewbrownmusic](https://twitter.com/drewbrownmusic)
- [youtube.com/hymnsforthearchitect](https://www.youtube.com/hymnsforthearchitect)





# Meet the Contributors



## Din

Din has made seven albums, five with The Soles, and two as F-105. While music is the thing Din loves to do the most (and chosen vocation), he also has a wide variety of interests including the daily study of comparative mythology, science and spirituality, ancient civilizations, yoga, walking, biking, travelling, movies, books, activism and art. He is a Fine Art grad of OCADu, even having done many public works including Byzantine Icons (trained by renowned Iconographer Fr. Ted Kufous). You can see some of his Icons at St. John Compassionate Mission, Toronto, and works like a life-sized sculpture of St. Paul at St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto. He has been involved as an activist since the wars following Sept 11 2001, but his primary focus has been Indigenous rights, since having spent two weeks at the Grassy Narrows blockade in 2004. Din feels he best expresses this wide variety of interests through music, and is looking forward to the opportunity to do so at Skylight fest 2021. His life goal is to express an entire Hero's Journey through music, making as many albums as needed, and our the world to perform them for people.

## Michiko Bown-Kai

Michiko Bown-Kai is minister in The United Church of Canada who is passionate about social justice and creative expression. Michiko studied Social Justice and Peace Studies and Political Science at the University of Western Ontario before attending Emmanuel College for their Master of Divinity program.

Over the past decade Michiko has engaged in ministry in many forms: as a Sunday School coordinator, program coordination at The United Church's General Council Office, a youth group leader, an intern minister at East End United Regional Ministry, and most recently as the minister at Saint Luke's United Church.

Michiko is always excited to learn more about cultures, languages, and nature. You can often find Michiko biking, highland dancing, or befriending as many dogs as possible.





# Meet the Contributors



## Michael Shewburg

Michael Shewburg is the Executive Director of Five Oaks Centre, an intercultural centre for retreat, education and healing. Michael is also the minister of Richwood United Church, a rural church in Oxford County. Michael is a Designated Lay Minister of The United Church of Canada. Michael worked with local municipalities, farm owners, public health and arriving temporary foreign workers to establish a migrant worker care program during the COVID-19 pandemic. Five Oaks has since then housed over 550 workers for their 14-day isolation care and 130 workers in long term care.

## Cheri Otterbein

I began my yoga journey in the early 2000's when I signed up for an introductory yoga class with my husband because I thought it would be a fun activity that we could do together... 20 years later, my love of yoga continues. In 2015 I completed my yoga teacher training in Hatha Yoga with the Sacred Movement Yoga School based in Ottawa and currently am an instructor at Movati in Waterloo. I love introducing beginners to the balance of movement and stillness that is yoga and I am passionate about making yoga part of a daily routine. In 2013 I was introduced to a 50 day yoga challenge and have managed to do at least 20 minutes of yoga every day since then. This has led to completing my daily practice in unusual places including airports, ball diamonds, campgrounds, trains and boats. When I'm not on my mat, I can be found baking cinnamon buns, doing custom quilting with my longarm, taking long walks or swinging my partner at a square dance.



## Catherine Arcand-Pinette

A professional classical singer, Catherine Arcand-Pinette is a well respected Oakville vocal teacher, clinician and adjudicator. A graduate of the Masters In Performance and Literacy Program at Western University, she has enjoyed a diverse musical career from exploring her love of Early Music through the ensemble Musikay, to performing throughout Southern Ontario as a part of the jazz trio, Trio Bella, to singing Broadway favourites in recital, to performing in the cover band "Tonight's Band". Catherine is currently the Voice Department Specialist and co-director of the Enriched Voice Program at the Merriam School of music where she has taught for the last 21 years. At St. Paul's United Church in Oakville, Ontario, she has previously led the Youth Choir, GLOW, as well as the Worship Band and is now the Director of Music in charge of all Sunday music including the Adult Choir. Catherine believes that her job as the Director of Music is to facilitate the congregation's ability to experience a profound and spiritual connection to the divine through music, and she strives to accomplish this each week by accessing her love of diverse musical styles and making intentional choices. Catherine is blessed to be able to share her gift of music this way on a weekly basis and is hoping that her leadership in Beer and Hymns will provide a similar spiritual connection and joy to those who attend.



# Meet the Contributors



## Theatre of the Beat

Theatre of the Beat (TOTB) is a Canadian touring theatre company working to catalyze conversations on social justice and its intersection with the beliefs of the communities in which we find ourselves. Since 2011, Theatre of the Beat has been staging change across North America (and recently The Netherlands) by creating original social justice theatre and workshops for underrepresented populations. Through an immersive cultural exchange of grassroots theatre, hospitality, and philosophy, the company empowers its audience to work towards a just future.

### Cedric Martin - Co-writer/Production Manager

Cedric is a Toronto-based actor, director, producer and playwright. Cedric is the Artistic Producer of Theatre of the Beat, as well as Co-Artistic Director of [Don't Look Down Theatre Company](#). Recent credits for Theatre of the Beat: Rudy in Yellow Bellies, and Stage Manager of Selah's Song. Don't Look Down credits: Brian in Skyline, Dan in The Valley, Frank in Never Swim Alone, John in Rose of Youth. Directing credits include: The Ends of the Earth, Criminal Genius, Not Good, and Local Man Ruins Everything, as well as Dramaturge for Here lies Henry. Film work: Winterbourne: A Horror Anthology, (Stained Glass Media,) Bourne Obstruction, (Kevin O'Connor,) Frost, (Heather McDowell.) Cedric also likes to spend time working with the youth at his church, and spending time with his wife, Alyse.

### Kimberlee Walker - Co-writer/Show Facilitator

Kimberlee Walker is a social worker, actor, and Applied Theatre facilitator. After graduating from the University of Waterloo's Peace and Conflict Studies program with a Drama minor, Kimberlee became a founding member of Theatre of the Beat in 2011 and has been involved in the company in some way ever since. She performed in nearly all of the company's major touring productions; selected credits include the roles of Sue Steiner in Gadfly, Robyn in Forgiven/Forgotten, and Alex in This Will Lead to Dancing. After receiving a Master's of Social Work degree from Wilfrid Laurier University, Kimberlee developed TOTB's "Restorative Justice Theatre Program" at Grand Valley Institution for Women. This program marks the first time that a professional theatre company has collaborated with federally incarcerated women in Canada, and has been the subject of a recent academic publication. Kimberlee is passionate about using the arts as a tool for personal and social change, and is thankful to have many opportunities to do so. In addition to her theatrical pursuits with TOTB, Kimberlee has held a number of social work positions and now works as a therapist at Transformation Counselling. In her spare time, Kimberlee enjoys training on the aerial hoop and eating rainbow sherbet.

### Frances Loiselle - Dawn/Hailey:

Frances Loiselle is an actor/ theatre artist currently based in Toronto. She has performed in two summer repertory seasons at Theatre on the Ridge (select credits include Tempting Providence, The Drowning Girls, The Melville Boys, Peter Pan). She has also appeared at 4th Line Theatre (Bombers), and has choreographed for Theatre Malcontent (The Bartender). Frances is a recent graduate of George Brown Theatre School. This is her first project with Theatre of the Beat, and she is very thankful for the opportunity to be a part of a project focusing on an important social issue.

### Brendan Kinnon - Actor/Facilitator

Brendan Kinnon (he/him) is a Toronto-based artist with a passion for alternative theatre practices and assisting multidisciplinary artists in the development of new work. He is the founder of [Riot King: Art Market](#) - an artist hub producing theatre and arts-community events in the digital and physical space. Through Riot King, Brendan hopes to develop sustainable arts practices and that this work can serve to educate and inspire patrons and artists alike about the urgent need for environmental justice. This summer, Brendan was hired as the Festival Producer for the 20th annual [Paprika Theatre Festival](#) where he has been assisting the team to bring the full digital festival to life! Brendan has worked with independent companies across Southern Ontario as an actor, director, and producer. Some highlights from the past few years include two tours of Theatre of the Beat's show [#ChurchToo](#) across Canada and to The Netherlands, joining The Way with [Theatre by Committee](#) in *Wagon Play at Toronto Fringe 2018*, and connecting with all of the artists that have been involved in the *Dark Crop Performance Festival* which Brendan started producing with [OPIA Theatre Collective](#) in 2017. When not on stage or sending emails, you can find Brendan working away in his garden or strolling around the many wonderful parks of Toronto!



# Workshops & Performances



## Piper & Carson

Outdoor tent | Sat 1:45pm | Workshop with Piper  
Outdoor tent | Sat 6:45pm | Performance

**SOMATIC VOICE: POWERFUL VOCAL TECHNIQUES FOR MIND BODY CONNECTION**

We are not necessarily taught how to speak or sing powerfully. In fact, we often do many things to suppress our vocal power. The voice and how we use it can connect us with some of the most vulnerable aspects of self-expression, and with each other. This workshop is all about 'vocal empowerment'; uncovering the physiological, technical, emotional and spiritual aspects of our voice, in order to reach a fuller expression. Gain comprehensive experience of the body, sound production and practical techniques to help you best utilize your voice as an instrument of both physical and emotional power.



## Heather Beamish

Outdoor tent | Sat 10:30am | Performance  
Workshop area | Sat 1:45pm | Workshop  
Outdoor tent | Sun 2:15pm | Performance

**CAPTURING HEARTS AND BUILDING BRIDGES—ART AS OUR WAY FORWARD**

In our increasingly virtual society, art invites us back into our hearts and bodies. It provides avenues for connection, healing and transformation. Join artist, activist and storyteller, Heather Beamish as she explores the role art plays in building bridges and keeping us connected to ourselves and others.



## Din & F-105

Workshop area | Sat 11:30am | Workshop (Din)  
Outdoor tent | Sat 6:45pm | Performance (F-105)  
Workshop area | Sun 1:30pm | Workshop (Din)  
Outdoor tent | Sun 3:00pm | Performance (F-105)

**USING JOSEPH CAMBELL'S FAMOUS 'HERO'S JOURNEY' IN SONG WRITING TO INSPIRE THE SPIRITUAL PATH**

Many years and albums ago, Din (formerly of The Soles, now F-105) experimented with using famed mythologist and author Joseph Campbell's 'Hero's Journey' – which showed that all myths and stories, especially in religious texts, followed a similar journey he called 'The Monomyth'. To Din's surprise this gave him his first two radio hits, and a small yet global fanbase, which has allowed him to tour the world conveying spiritual messages through

his songs, in a fun and non-didactic way. This workshop will take a closer look at his song writing, and how it even incorporates Biblical elements, to hopefully inspire people to a more spiritual path. This workshop will look at examples from movies, music and art – as the Hero's Journey has always been used, from the ancient world to the modern.

# Workshops & Performances

## Theatre of the Beat

Outdoor tent | Sun 10:00am | Workshop

UNMUTE is a forum theatre piece that addresses the rise of domestic violence and gender-based assault during COVID-19 and premiered in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness month in November 2020. While a family's life may seem normal from the other side of the screen, abuse is lurking behind closed doors. UNMUTE invites the audience to participate in the story, contributing their own experiences and changing the outcomes of the scenes. By using the forum theatre model, audiences will learn skills and resources for how they can make a difference.



### Drew Brown

Outdoor tent | Sat 2:45pm | Performance

Outdoor tent | Sat 6:45pm | Performance

Outdoor tent | Sun 1:30pm | Performance



### Jeffrey Straker

Outdoor tent | Sun 3:30pm | Performance



### Cheri Otterbein

Yoga on the hill

Sat 2:15pm

Sun 3:45pm



# Workshops



## Michiko Bown-Kai

Outdoor tent | Sat 11:30am | Workshop

Workshop area | Sat 2:45pm | Workshop

### PLEASURE THEOLOGY

Based on the lessons from Adrienne Maree Brown's *Pleasure*

Activism, this workshop is an opportunity to explore the ways in which pleasure, joy, and excitement are all parts of our faith and spirituality. In this space, we will be introduced to the core concepts of pleasure activism and engage in conversation and personal reflection. All forms of participation (speaking, listening, observing) are welcome in this space as we talk about pleasure from a variety of perspectives.

### MOVING BEYOND NICE: CREATING LIBERATED AND AFFIRMING COMMUNITIES OF FAITH

What are the questions to ask ourselves and our communities that will ensure we are not missing out on the full transformative potential of engaging in questions around gender, sexuality, belonging, and liberation? If you are just starting out or feeling isolated in the work of 2SLGBTQ+ justice in the church this space is for you. If you have been doing the work of 2SLGBTQ+ justice in your church for a while and wonder what comes next this space is also for you. This workshop is a collaborative and conversational space for storytelling, strategizing, and asking the questions that just can't be answered by Google.

Please email [michikobownkai@gmail.com](mailto:michikobownkai@gmail.com) ahead of time if you would like to discuss any access needs for participating in this workshop.



## Michael Shewburg

Outdoor tent | Sat 3:45pm | Workshop

Join Michael Shewburg, Five Oaks Executive Director for reflections and learnings from Five Oaks experience of hosting of temporary foreign workers for quarantine care in 2020 and 2021 during the global COVID-19 pandemic. This talk will feature learnings, outcomes, story-telling and Five Oaks birds eye view of the struggle between farm owners, farm labourers, advocates and consumers. While not an expert in the area of migrant worker rights, Michael has the perspective of living in an agricultural community, being a consumer of farm products, hosting workers and caring about worker rights. The time will conclude with a fruitful conversation amongst participants. It is noteworthy that a large group of workers will be living onsite while SkyLight Festival runs in 2021.

## This and That

**Public washrooms** are located at the swimming pool

**Pub hours** are Saturday from noon until the end of the evening performance and Sunday will be concession only.

**Next Skylight: July 15-17, 2022**

Hope to see you there! Already on deck are Brian McLaren, Kate Reid, Theatre of the Beat, Nell Walker, Diem Lafortune, Erik Mohr, Forest Church and more to come!!

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Some of the best events are spread by word of mouth. We encourage you to promote the Skylight Festival in your circles! We would like to see Skylight grow over the next few years as this is, ultimately, what will keep Skylight viable. We appreciate your support and hope that Skylight has and will continue to inspire you!

If you would like to get involved, please talk to anyone on the team to see how you can become part of the magic!

**Skylight Planning Teams!**