

TAPA announces

*TAPA Trade Series: Anti-Racism Training and Education Sessions*

theatre  
dance opera trade series

Presented by **Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA)**

in partnership with

**Cultural Pluralism in the Arts Movement Ontario (CPAMO)**

Financially Supported by the **Ontario Arts Council (OAC)**

ASL Interpretation Generously Supported by **Roseneath Theatre**



**Roseneath  
Theatre**

In an exciting partnership with **Cultural Pluralism in the Arts Movement Ontario (CPAMO)**, **Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA)** is pleased to offer five *Anti-Racism Training and Education Sessions* available exclusively to **TAPA Members**, FREE OF CHARGE.

**CPAMO** will provide a series of training and educational sessions on issues related to anti-racism, equity and pluralism. All sessions will offer contemporary insights on these issues as they relate to the arts and engagement of IBPOC and other marginalized artists and arts organizations.

We are thrilled to be working with **CPAMO** to offer these important education and training sessions to **TAPA member companies**. With generous financial support from the **Ontario Arts Council (OAC)**, we have been able to remove the financial barrier for these sessions to facilitate change through anti-racism work within Toronto's theatre,

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dance, and opera landscape. TAPA is proud to be offering these sessions to our member companies and hopes that they will help company managers lead their teams in creating a more equitable performance sector in Toronto.

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## The Sessions

### 1. Critical Response Process

**Date:** Tuesday, October 26, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 – 4:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom – the session will not be recorded

**Facilitated by Kevin A. Ormsby, CPAMO Program Manager, TAPA Board Member**

This session will focus on supporting participants' understanding/skills of engaging in discourse on these issues and how to set up/facilitate dialogue on sensitive and contentious issues.

### About the Facilitator



Program Manager of Cultural Pluralism in the Arts Movement Ontario (CPAMO), **Kevin A. Ormsby** is also the Artistic Director of KasheDance, movement coach and Arts Marketing Consultant. The Ontario Arts Council's Chalmers Fellowship recipient (2017), KM Hunter Dance Award Nominee (2016), Toronto Arts Council's Cultural Leaders Lab Fellow (2015) and The Canada Council for the Arts' Victor Martyn Lynch – Staunton Award 2014 recipient for outstanding achievement by a mid career artist, he has many interests in the creative practice and administration in dance. He has honed his passion for dance, advocacy, writing and education while performing with various companies and projects in Canada, the Caribbean and the United States.

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## 2. Embodied Practice and Social Justice Activism in the Arts

**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 – 4:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom – the session will not be recorded

**Facilitated by Shannon Litzenberger, CPAMO Program Associate**

This session will provide participants with the knowledge/skills to using practices that enable participants to embody their understanding of these issues and how that can assist them in taking action.

### About the Facilitator



**Shannon Litzenberger** is an award-winning contemporary dancer, choreographer, director, advocate and leadership developer based in Toronto. She creates imaginative performance experiences that explore our relationship to land, the politics of belonging, the importance of community, and the forgotten wisdom of the body. Her perspective grows from her roots in Canada's rural prairie and the profound, embodied effect of close-to-the-land living. Shannon is a seasoned cultural policy thinker and advocate of positive social change. Interested in the transformation of people and systems through embodied practice, she designs and facilitates workshops on collaboration, leadership, inclusion and transformational change within organizational settings, using movement-based interventions. She has worked with many institutions including Business/Arts, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, the Pierre Elliot Trudeau Foundation, the Metcalf Foundation, and the Ivey Business School at Western University, among others. Shannon is the recipient of the Jack McAllister Award for accomplishment in dance and a twice-shortlisted finalist for the KM Hunter Award. [www.shannonlitzenberger.com](http://www.shannonlitzenberger.com)

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### 3. Conflict Resolution - Part 1: IBPOC Perspectives

**Date:** Tuesday, January 18, 2022

**Time:** 1:00 – 4:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom – the session will not be recorded

**Facilitated by Sheila Wilmot, CPAMO Program Associate**

This session will be done in 2 parts. Part 1 will focus on conflict resolution from a more general IBPOC perspective.

#### About the Facilitator



**Sheila Wilmot** has been engaged in collaborative consulting work with arts organizations since 2014, in the intersecting areas of conflict resolution and equity-focused practice. Topics have particularly included an attention to whiteness and racism. The work has included research, workshop design and delivery, training and policy guide development, and conflict mediation.

She teaches in the *Community Engagement, Development and Leadership* certificate program at Ryerson University (The Chang School). She is the Subject Matter Expert for the *Community Engagement Practices* and *Capstone* courses she has taught since 2013.

She was the staff *Equity Officer* for a union Local for almost 14 years. She successfully negotiated equity-related contract provisions, and effectively represented union members in human rights focused- grievances and complaints.

Sheila holds a PhD in *Adult Education and Community Development* from OISE/University of Toronto (2011). She is also the author of *Taking responsibility, taking direction: White anti-racism in Canada* (Arbeiter Ring, 2005).

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#### 4. Conflict Resolution - Part 2: Indigenous Perspectives

**Date:** Tuesday, February 15, 2022

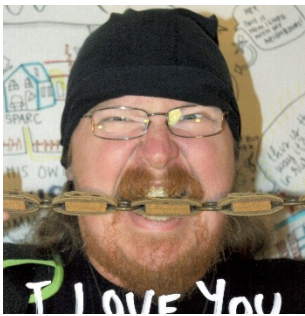
**Time:** 1:00 – 4:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom – the session will not be recorded

**Facilitated by Clayton Windatt, CPAMO Program Associate**

The second part in the Conflict Resolution session. Part 2 will focus on conflict resolution with an Indigenous lens.

#### About the Facilitator



**Clayton Windatt** is a Métis non-binary multi-artist living and working between Sturgeon Falls and Toronto, Ontario. Clayton holds a BA in Fine Art from Nipissing University and received Graphic Design certification from Canadore College. With an extensive history working in Artist-Run Culture and Community Arts, and through their own activism, Clayton works towards healthier relationships for national and global Indigenous artists and communities. The former Executive Director of the Aboriginal Curatorial Collective, Clayton maintains contracts with several colleges and universities, arts magazines, arts councils, arts organizations, and other organizations as a critical writer, columnist and consultant in addition to pursuing their independent arts practice. Clayton is an active filmmaker and director with works featured in festivals such as ImagineNative and the Toronto International Film Festival and recent commissions by the National Film Board of Canada. Clayton works in/with community, design, communications, curation, performance, theatre, technology, and consulting, and is a very active writer, filmmaker and visual-media artist and was recently appointed to the National Gallery of Canada's Board of Trustees.

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## 5. Anti-Black Racism in the Arts

**Date:** Tuesday, March 22, 2022

**Time:** 1:00 – 4:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom – the session will not be recorded

**Facilitated by** **charles c. smith, CPAMO Executive Director, and Sedina Fiati, CPAMO Program Associate**

This session will look at the particularities of Black artists and their experiences, challenges they face, and strategies to address.

### About the Facilitators



**charles c. smith** is a poet, playwright and essayist who has written and edited twelve books. He studied poetry and drama with William Packard, editor of the New York Quarterly Magazine, at New York University and Herbert Berghof Studios. He also studied drama at the Frank Silvera's Writers' Workshop in Harlem. He won second prize for his play *Last Days for the Desperate* from Black Theatre Canada, has edited three collections of poetry (including the works of Dionne Brand, Marlene Nourbese Phillips, Claire Harris, Cyril Dabydeen, Lillian Allen, George Elliot Clarke, Clifton Joseph), has four published books of poetry and his poetry has appeared in numerous journals and magazines, including Poetry Canada Review, the Quille and Quire, Descant, Dandelion, Fiddlehead, *Anti-Racism in Education: Missing in Action* (Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives), the Amethyst Review, Bywords, Canadian Ethnic Studies and others. charles was the founder of the Black Perspectives Cultural Program in Regent Park and recently received a grant from the Ontario Arts Council's Writers Reserve Grants Program and the Toronto Arts Council Writers Grants Program.

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**Sedina Fiati** is a Toronto based facilitator, artist and activist. She is currently Artist Activist in Residence with Nightwood Theatre and nearing completion after 3 years with Generator as Training Consultant for the Artist Producer Training Program and a member of their Strategic Advisory Committee. She was the co chair of ACTRA Toronto's Diversity Committee and ACTRA Toronto Councillor and 2nd Vice President of council for Canadian Actors' Equity Association. Recent projects: Toronto Fringe – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Audit, various workshops in anti oppression, anti Black racism and social justice (Volcano Theatre, Clarice Season 1, Tall Boyz Season 2, York Regional Arts Council, Firecracker Department). She is one of the founding members of the Black Pledge Collective: [www.theblackpledge.ca](http://www.theblackpledge.ca)

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