

## **Living and Writing the LGBTQIA Rural Life: An Artistic & Professional Development Panel**

**Number:** T122

**Date/Time:** 9:00am - 10:15am on Thursday March 24, 2022

**Location:** 121A, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level

Moderator: Catharine Wright ([cwwright@middlebury.edu](mailto:cwwright@middlebury.edu))

Participant: François Clemmons ([clemmons@middlebury.edu](mailto:clemmons@middlebury.edu))

Participant: Estela Gonzalez ([estela345@gmail.com](mailto:estela345@gmail.com))

Participant: Alex Bacchus ([abacchus@middlebury.edu](mailto:abacchus@middlebury.edu))

Participant: Patricia Powell ([ppowell@mills.edu](mailto:ppowell@mills.edu))

How does LGBTQIA writing inform an understanding of life in rural spaces? This panel discusses the complexities, challenges and opportunities queer writers can face when writing in and about rural communities. LGBTQIA presenters of various walks of life and career stages explore this question from perspectives that include multi-generational inhabitants of rural U.S. communities and transnational experiences. We consider the possibilities for creating queer writing alliances across social differences, geographies, careers, and disciplines. Panelists will address some or all of the following questions:

- What can queer perspectives reveal about rural spaces?
- How do intersections of race, class, religion, dis/ability, stage of life and career, and/or nationality impact one's queer rural writing life and work?
- What particular needs do LGBTQIA+ writers in rural communities have for/in writing community?
- What are the possibilities?

### **Event Agenda:**

1. Welcome: 1 minute
2. Panelists' 7-minute presentations
  - a. Alex Bacchus
  - b. François Clemmons
  - c. Estela González
  - d. Patricia Powell
  - e. Catharine Wright
3. Panelists' discussion: 20 minutes
4. Q/A: 15 - minutes