

The Office of the President &
The Office of Communications & Marketing

present

A PRIDE MONTH PANEL DISCUSSION

Beyond the Binary: Protecting LGBTQ+ Health, Rights & Representation in a Shifting Political Landscape

Thursday, June 26, 2025

11:30AM – 1:00PM

450 Clarkson Avenue Entrance, PHAB Hall

FEATURED PANELIST



Alphonso David, Esq.

President & CEO

Global Black Economic Forum

Former President of the Human Rights Campaign

Former Staff Attorney at Lambda Legal

PANELISTS



Cynthia L. Benson, DO, FACEP, MPH, MBA

Interim Medical Director and Director of Quality

University Hospital at Downstate



Elka Jacobson-Dickman, M.D., MHA

**Associate Dean for Clinical Medicine and
Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics**

Division of Pediatric Endocrinology



Suzanne Rappaport, OTD, OTR/L

OTD Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor

Occupational Therapy Program, School of Health Professions



Christopher Román, Ph.D.

Chair

Department of Cell Biology

Associate Professor

Departments of Cell Biology and Medicine

MODERATOR



Efekona Nuwere, Ed.D, MPH, OTR/L

Program Chair

Occupational Therapy Program, School of Health Professions



DOWNSTATE
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

ABOUT THE EVENT

This panel will examine growing threats to LGBTQIA+ health and the future of inclusive care. Topics include legislative attacks on gender-affirming treatment, the erosion of civil liberties, and broader political rollbacks impacting medical access. Panelists will also discuss how inclusive medical education can drive equity and share strategies for building affirming systems that protect LGBTQIA+ communities while advancing dignity and access for all.

**LIMITED QUANTITIES OF GIVEAWAYS
AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPANTS AT THE
END OF THE EVENT.**

TO VIEW THE LIVESTREAM



Scan the QR or visit
<https://tinyurl.com/36xums8j>

PARTICIPANT BIOS

For more information about
our participants:



Scan the QR or visit
<https://tinyurl.com/5h2562mx>