



From the moment you meet Jessica, you know you're in for something that will challenge your mind, inspire your conscience, and invigorate you to pursue change in your community. Nominated for the past two years by Campus Activities Magazine for Best Diversity Artist and referred to as the "Margaret Cho" of Diversity Trainers, Jessica's programs are

direct, customized, and highly interactive. Her workshops, seminars, and keynotes don't just leave participants energized but inspired and motivated to follow through with action to create change. Jessica uses her take on life to lead participants through a safe but confrontational process of examination, self reflection, and open dialog that is as challenging as it is rewarding.

**tough subjects • progressive ideas**



**Jessica Pettitt**

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**866-769-9037**

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**I am...**  
**Jessica Pettitt**

**I am...**  
**Social Justice and  
Diversity Consultant  
and Facilitator**

### **Education**

**Master of Education, Higher Education Administration**, May 2000  
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

**Bachelor of Arts, Sociology with Secondary Certification in Social Studies**, June 1996  
Hendrix College, Conway, AR

### **Supplemental Training**

**The LeaderShape Institute**, Cluster Facilitator,  
Monticello, IL. May 2007

**Out & Equal Workplace Summit**, Training of the  
Trainers, Chicago, IL. September 2006

**Social Justice Training Institute II**, Participant,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL. February 2005

**Social Justice Training Institute**, Participant,  
Northampton, MA. June 2003

**Toward Acceptance RoadShow**, Training of the  
Trainers, American College Personnel Association,  
Long Beach, CA. March 2002

### **Work Experience**

#### **Coordinator of Social Justice Programs**

July 2006 – May 2007  
*Social Justice Leadership Center, Center for Student Involvement and Leadership*  
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

#### **Student Success Coordinator**

December 2004 – December 2005  
*Multicultural Student Center*  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

#### **Program Advisor**

April 2002 – November 2004  
*Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Student Services*  
New York University, New York, NY

### **Professional Publications**

Pettitt, J. *Gender Bending Your Ear! The Peer Educator: A Health Resource for Student Leaders*. The BACCHUS Network. December 2007/January 2008, 30, 3. pg. 9 & 13.

Pettitt, J. (2007) *Showing Up White*. The Voice: News From the Commission for Social Justice Educators, November 2007, pg 4-8.

Pettitt, J. (2007) *Marriage: The New Frontier*. TransOhio: Bringing Together the Ohio GLBTQI Community, October 2007, 1(2), 4-5.

Dunk, M. & Pettitt, J. (2007) *Connecting the Dots: Social Justice as developing concept to a way of learning*. News From the Commission for Social Justice Educators, March 2007, pg 8-10.

Beemyn, B. G., Pettitt, J., *How Have Trans-Inclusive Non-Discrimination Policies Changed Institutions?* GLBT Campus Matters 3(1), June 2006. page 6-7.

Beemyn, B. G., Pettitt, J., Marciano, O. (2006). *Transgender Resource Guide*. Pre-Conference Workshop; Everything a Student Affairs Administrator needs to know about Transgender students. NASPA, March 12th & ACPA, March 19th.

Pettitt, J. and Marciano, O. (2006). *Transamerica: A Journey Worth Taking?* GLBT Campus Matters, 2 (1), January 2006. page 8.

Pettitt, J. (2005). *Faces Like Mine*. ECHO Magazine, June 2, 2005, Issue 410. (became monthly column)

Beemyn, B., Dominique, D., Pettitt, J., and Smith, T. (2005). *Trans Action Steps: Trans Inclusive Steps for a College Campus*. Journal of Gay and Lesbian Issues in Education, 3, (2).

Pettitt, J. and Krutzsch, B. (2004). *Translating Boyer's principles and community: Impact on Trans/gender variant campus populations*. Talking Stick: Symbol of International Friendship, 22 (3), 12-14. Association of College and University Housing Officers-International.

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**Audiences** – student leadership, paraprofessionals, faculty, staff, task force members, alumni, human resource staff, corporate trainers & community members

**Activities** – workshops, break-out sessions, meetings, keynotes, work groups, seminars, conferences, & staff trainings addressing social justice & diversity (race, class, size, ability, gender, sexual identity, transgender inclusion, privilege, access, realms of influence, leadership, etc.)

**Approach** – individualized style for each group, flexible agenda for in-training challenges, practical “take back to your desk” actions steps, personal assessment, growth for ally & advocate development.

**Access** – training of trainers materials, on-going support, evaluation and assessment, programming ideas for student leaders, & discussion starters for campus communities & workplace colleagues

## **Interactive Workshops**

### **The Day Everything Changed...**

It's every administrator's nightmare — your campus (primarily white, small/large, public/private) on the nightly news for a racist party, hazing report, or other shocking incident. Suddenly, you're in crisis mode, searching for a sense of perspective. Whether you're in such a mode or trying to prevent an episode, there are things you can do to examine the gap between social responsibility and your campus code of conduct. There is a way to make these life changing moments positive and educational. Seasoned professionals and new professionals join us for a highly interactive program, facilitated discussion, and supportive action planning session.

### **Sticks and Stones: LGBT 101**

What do Will & Grace, U-Hauls, fence sitters, drag queens, and breeders have in common? See how slang, media images, and stereotypes stack up.

### **Gender This!**

What's in your pants; what do your pants look like; and what do you do with your pants off? You may not want the details, but you do need to see how simple the difference between Sex, Gender, and Sexual Identity are as well as explore their connection, with social perception, expressions, and meanings.

### **Facing Trans: Inclusion, Advocacy, and Empowerment**

Advanced training for trans advocates to work with beginners, teach others, and do better work as trans advocates.

### **Social Justice: When Diversity Isn't Enough**

To be a social justice advocate means more than eating food from other countries or watching a movie with subtitles — it means getting personally involved and taking action.

### **Just Rescue**

As a leader, even the self proclaimed “do gooding” folks make assumptions, write back stories, and make powerful decisions with limited information. Just Rescue is finding a way to work with the judgments and assumptions we are all hard wired to make.

## **Energetic Keynotes**

### **Be the Change You Want To Be**

“But I am only one person, what can I do to solve a problem?” Progress is just a phone call away. Find out what you are passionate about and who your realm of influence is so that you can tune out the negative voices. Doing the same thing is comfortable. Get uncomfortable as often as possible and do something different. If you don't do something different, change won't ever happen.

## **Full Day Seminars**

### **Facing Trans: Inclusion, Advocacy, and Empowerment**

From the basics to action plans, be an informed leader concerning transgender inclusion.

### **Social Justice Core Competencies**

Dive into seven core areas of self discovery, sharing, and reflection to become a social justice advocate.

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## Testimonials

The response from Jess's keynote on diversity among the organization was phenomenal...many participants implemented the suggestions she put forth. Our own group instituted changes in our executive board structures due to her talk."

*Adelle Fontanet, University of Florida,  
Pride Student Union President*

"Jessica can energize a group and have them talking to each other and laughing, which is no easy feat in the early morning or during an all-day event."

*Brett Genny Beemyn, Director, The Stonewall Center,  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Past Chair,  
National Consortium of Directors of LGBT Resources  
in Higher Education, and Board Member, Transgender  
Law and Policy Institute*

A letter to Jessica's former supervisor:

We recently flew Jessica Pettitt here to Boise State University to conduct our staff and advisory board training. My staff and board gave me back such wonderful reviews that I had to write to let you know what a genuine treasure you have in her. Jessica trained my staff on how to be an ally for groups that you are not a part of. My staff enjoyed her style greatly, but above all they got so much from the training. She was able to give us a language that we can use to speak to each other and that in itself was a huge team builder. Jessica also tackled some pretty uncomfortable issues that our Board was having and mediated a key conversation between two board members that were still hurting from an earlier exchange. She did this so professionally and brilliantly that I wanted you to know how impressed we all were with her work. I plan to have her back perhaps mid-year to do some review with our staff and board. I know both groups are eager to have her back, as am I. Thank you for allowing her to come do our training, she was exactly what we needed.

*Ro Parker, Boise State University*

"We invited Jessica to campus to speak with student affairs staff, faculty and student groups. Through her presentations Jessica was able to engage all participants in lively, thoughtful, and meaningful interactions. She is particularly sensitive at facilitating honest and challenging discussions around a variety of difficult yet important topics. Her presentation style is dynamic and flexible, accommodating quickly to the emerging needs of the group she is working with. We hope we will have the opportunity to bring her to campus again"

*Kevin Morrison, formerly from Earlham College,  
International Program Office*

"I'm surprised my school brought you! Thank you for treating us like adults."

*University of North Carolina - Wilmington student*

## Recognition

### Best Diversity Artist Nomination

*Campus Activities Magazine*

Reader's Choice Awards, 2007-2008

## References

### Chrissy Lieberman, Direct Supervisor

Former, Assistant Director of the Center for Student Involvement & Leadership, Student Union Memorial Center, University of Arizona  
(520) 621-8026 • ceagan@email.arizona.edu

### Dr. Keith Humphrey, Professional Colleague

Assistant Dean of Students, University of Arizona  
(520) 621-7057 • kHumphrey@arizona.edu

### Cathy Busha, MSW, Professional Colleague

Director of Community Programs, GLBT  
Community Center of Colorado  
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### **Reference Letter**

June 12, 2007

I wanted to pass along my endorsement of Jessica Pettitt's keynote speech of "Be the Change You Want to Be." We brought Jessica Pettitt to our campus (SUNY-Fredonia) on March 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of this year.

Our SafeZone committee was impressed with her website and could tell that she would be a captivating and engaging speaker. She has an ease with her subject matter; one that seemingly comes from her extensive knowledge and polished public speaking/interaction skills. She presents her subject matter in a way that is tangible and usable for administrators, staff, faculty and students alike. The former is most notably present in her Keynote speech. Her presentation made it clear how each individual can change his/her own space; making it easier to effect and ultimately effectuate the change you want to see in the world.

Often speakers may only really know how to reach certain audiences and can at times be a bit esoteric; Jessica has the ability to translate her knowledge to all who seek to learn. Our Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs was also impressed with her and mentioned the want to bring Jessica back in the future. As you can assume from the former, all were pleased with Jessica's visit.

I wanted to extend my recommendation of Jessica's talents and ability as a speaker/trainer as well as the value of this program. We had about 75 students/staff/faculty present for her Keynote. All in attendance found it rather impressive, inspirational, and informative. I think your institution could only benefit from her talents and passion.

Michael Mancini  
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