# Upcoming Trainings

The following is a list of upcoming judicial trainings:

**April 19, 2012**

American Bar Association

Presented in partnership with the ABA Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Committee

and ABA Judicial Division

*LGBT Legal Issues for the Courts and Lawyers*

Webinar; Chicago IL

**June 5, 2012**

*National Association of State Judicial Educators*

*Presenting Judicial Education on Fairness Topics*

Webinar: NASJE

**August 5-8, 2012**

*National Association Of State Judicial Educators*

Boston, MA

**October 22-25, 2012**  
National Judicial College:

Creating a Bias-Free Courtroom (2 day program, 8 hours a day)  
Reno, NV

**Past Trainings**

**February 24, 2012**  
Pennsylvania State Trial Judges Conference  
*Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in Your Court:*

*Practical Approaches to Current Issues and Future Problems*

Philadelphia, PA

**January 15, 2012**

***Los Angeles County Bar Association***

***Current Issues for LGBT Persons in the Courts***

**Los Angeles, CA**

**December 15, 2011**

California Center for Families, Children and the Courts

*Same-Sex Domestic violence*

San Francisco, CA

**December 8, 2011**

Minnesota Statewide Judicial Education Conference

*Access to Justice and Fairness in the Courts: Sexual Orientation*

Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN

**December 7, 2011**

Hennepin County Bar Association

*LGBT Jury Issues*

Minneapolis, MN

**October 26-27, 2011**  
National Judicial College:

Creating a Bias-Free Courtroom (2 day program, 8 hours a day)  
Reno, NV

**September 13, 2011**

American Judges Association

Same-Sex Domestic Violence

**July 29, 2011**  
Federal Immigration Administrative Law Judge Training  
Atlanta, GA

**July 18-21, 2011**  
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges – Family Domestic Violence Department  
New Orleans, LA

**May 28, 2011**  
*International Conference on Sexual Minorities in the Balkans Judicial Training Law Enforcement Training*  
Belgrade, Serbia

**May 20, 2011**  
*OH Judicial College*  
Dayton, OH

**March 2011**  
*Relationship Recognition, Youth, Hate Crimes, Surrogacy and Assisted Reproduction*(All Day Training)  
New York

*Sexual Orientation Component for the North Dakota Benchbook*

**February 2011**  
*Judicial and Court Officer Trainings* (2 sessions)  
Miami-Dade, FL

**December, 2010**  
*Family Courts* (Full Day Session. Received Highest Score in Family Courts Training)  
Washington D.C.

**October 2010**  
*American Judges Association Conference*  
Denver, CO

*National Judicial College, Creating a Bias-Free Courtroom* (2 day program, 8 hours a day)  
Reno, NV

**August 2010**  
*National Association of State Judicial Educators, Annual Conference*  
San Antonio, TX

**May 2010**  
*Annual Domestic Violence Conference*  
New Hampshire, CT

**April 9, 2010**  
*Ohio Judicial College*  
Columbus, OH

**March 16, 2010**  
*National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, National Conference on Juvenile and Family Law*  
Las Vegas, NV

**March 5, 2010**  
*Nevada Family Law Conference*  
Ely, NV

**October 14, 2009**  
*Gay in the Courtroom: Breaking Barriers To Equal Access*  
El Paso, Texas

The purpose of this training was to educate lawyers, judges and key court personnel regarding issues involving lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in court – whether as witnesses, parties or jurors. In multiple sessions, participants learned (1) basic terminology that is associated with LGBT people and their identities, including information about sexual orientation and gender identity, in order to facilitate constructive discussion on sensitive and complex matters involving LGBT people in the court system; (2) how issues involving LGBT people often arise in court – in civil, criminal, family and juvenile context; and (3) LGBT issues pertaining to domestic violence.

Judge Maria Salas Mendoza, 120th Judicial District Court  
Judge Alma Trejo, County Criminal Court at Law #1  
Sam Aguilera, PUENTES LGBT Resources  
Dr. Gary Gates, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Jody Marksamer, National Center for Lesbian Rights  
Kristin Tucker, Program Manager, Northwest Network of Bisexual, Trans, Lesbian and Gay Survivors of Abuse  
Darren Mitchell, Legal Resource Center on Violence Against Women, Takoma MD  
Judge Kathleen Anderson, Assoc. Judge, 383rd District Court

**August 11, 2009**  
*National Association of State Judicial Educators’ Annual Meeting Roundtable Discussions and Workshops for Judicial Educators*  
Asheville, North Carolina

The curriculum for this training dealt with difficult judicial education topics.

Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law

**June 24-27, 2009**  
*New York Gay Officers’ Action League: 2009 Conference of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Criminal Justice Professionals*  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
New York, New York

Training # 1: Participants learn practical information and tools to prevent sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination in the workplace. They also learn how to document and substantiate cases for successful litigation and administrative agency outcomes. In addition, as LGBT law enforcement officers rise through the ranks, they may be the targets of harassment or litigation over sexual orientation policies. This session will give practical tips on how to employ best practices in the area to avoid these conflicts.

Tom Ude, Staff Attorney, Lambda Legal (NY)  
Rae Koshetz, Esq.  
Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law

Training # 2: With the issue of same-sex couples’ marriage and relationship recognition in the news, in statehouses and courtrooms, the courts are increasingly on the frontlines in the treatment of these couples. The impact of out of state same-sex marriages and civil unions, dissolution and custody issues, parental rights, benefits disputes and discrimination questions are all present in courtrooms across the US. This panel presented an overview of the national legal cases and trends on same-sex marriage and civil unions as well as how these issues specifically affect courts now and in the future. In addition, the speakers discussed the most recent demographic studies showing the characteristics of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender couples and families nationally to identify the potential for LGBT issues to appear in general civil litigation as well as divorce, parenting and custody matters before courts throughout the United States.

Prof. Ed Stein, Cardozo School of Law, former Williams Institute Scholar  
Prof. Joanna Grossman, Hofstra School of Law  
Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law

**March 13, 2009**  
*National Center for Juvenile and Family Court Judges Program*  
LGBTQ Youth in the Juvenile Justice System: Accurate Data, Practical Techniques and Best Practices  
Orlando, Florida

Recent studies indicate that LGBTQ youth are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system and their experiences differ from those of their heterosexual peers. This course trains judicial officers to: (1) Identify who LGBTQ youth are and where they are present in the courts, in foster care, in child welfare settings, and in the juvenile justice system; (2) Evaluate policies and practices in these systems that may lead to inappropriate treatment, bias, or abuse; (3) Create a tool-box of best practices and practical strategies for supporting LGBTQ youth within these systems to allow them to grow and thrive; (4) Put individual LGBTQ youth’s behavior and experiences in context, and tailor disposition plans to meet each individual’s unique needs; and (5) Develop self-monitoring techniques to eliminate negative stereotyping and preconceptions.

Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Gary Gates, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
\*Joint collaboration with the National Gay and Lesbian Judges Association.

**January 15, 2009**  
*Proposition 8 and the Legal Challenge Against It*  
Orange County UCLA Alumni Association  
Orange County, CA

The presentation reviewed the In Re Marriage opinion from the California Supreme Court, which extended marriage to same-sex couples; the vote on Proposition 8; the basis for the subsequent legal challenge to Proposition 8 and whether the measure applied retroactively.

Doug NeJaime, Law Teaching Fellow, Williams Institute  
Brad Sears, Executive Director, Williams Institute

**October, 2008**  
*Washington State Annual Judicial Conference*  
Sexual Orientation: Issues for the Courts  
Washington

In preparation for a court-wide judicial education program, the Williams Institute integrated its anti-bias curriculum (described above) into the State of Washington’s judicial education training program. Specifically, the Williams Institute helped develop appropriate exercises and scenarios for judges to work through related to the state’s domestic partnership statute and other matters related to sexual orientation law.

**October 22 – 23, 2008**  
*National Judicial College Program*  
Building a Bias-Free Environment in Your Court  
Reno, Nevada

The purpose of this course, which is designed for all judges and judicial educators, is to help judges understand and overcome biases to make reasoned, fair and just decisions. As with other skills-based courses, participatory and interactive exercises are used to build skills and practice techniques. An important part of the course is the use of video to give each participant an objective confidential record of the participant’s capabilities, strengths and weaknesses. Another important part of the course focuses on new and emerging issues in various bias areas, including some review of techniques and methods, which have been effective in the past.

**May 12, 2008**  
*12th Annual International Conference of Gay & Lesbian Criminal Justice Professionals*  
Washington, D.C.

Popular media often fosters stereotyped images of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) population and their families. The Williams Institute’s presentation provided a demographic portrait highlighting the complexity and diversity of the LGBT community. The presentation also offered a summary of some current LGBT legal and policy issues of particular interest to criminal justice professionals. These issues included employment discrimination (focusing on case law involving criminal justice professionals), the particular challenges of transgender individuals in the criminal justice system, and a national overview of trends in hate crimes.

**April 17, 2008**  
*Sexual Orientation Law Issues in Wisconsin*  
Family Law Seminar  
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Wisconsin family court judges and court commissioners participated in an interactive session with a panel that included: 1) a demographer from The Williams Institute; 2) an attorney from Madison with a background in social work, expertise in sexual orientation law, and particular familiarity with Wisconsin statutes governing adoption and guardianship; and 3) a state Supreme Court judge. In the first portion of the program, the judges and commissioners took a self quiz. This was followed by a presentation on the demographics of the state. The second part of the program involved break-out groups where the judges examined three hypotheticals involving family units headed by same sex parents. The scenarios covered issues such as factors to be considered when determining placement schedules when same sex couples with children are managing joint legal custody arrangements as well as the validity of contracts of “intended parents.” The judges also considered issues surrounding petitions to grant or terminate guardianship, grant visitation, or those seeking child support when only one parent is biologically related to the child.

Gary J. Gates, Senior Research Fellow, The Williams Institute  
Michele Perrault, Attorney, Madison, Wisconsin  
Honorable Shelley Gaylord, Dane County, Wisconsin

**March 12-13, 2008**  
*Family and District Court Judges Statewide*  
Dissolution of Same Sex Partnerships and the Current Legal Landscape for LGBT Individuals in Nevada�  
Ely, Nevada

Nevada Family Court judges confront sexual orientation law issues, but there is little statutory guidance on how to manage cases coming before the Nevada Bench. A highly experienced local practitioner with expertise in same sex family law matters facilitated discussion regarding the challenges judges face in a legal environment where — with little legislative guidance — case law is rapidly evolving. The Williams Institute panel presented an overview of national trends on same sex marriage, civil unions, and domestic partnerships with a focus on states neighboring Nevada. A social scientist presented the most recent demographic studies showing the characteristics of lesbian and gay couples and their families.

Gary J. Gates, Senior Research Fellow, The Williams Institute  
Clifford Rosky, Law Teaching Fellow, The Williams Institute  
Caren Jenkins, Esq.

**Dec 7, 2007**  
*Family Court Judges Statewide*  
Concord, New Hampshire

Background for New Hampshire Family Court Judges – Anticipating January 1, 2008 Civil Unions  
The legal system in New Hampshire confronts new challenges as same sex couples joined in civil unions (as of January 1, 2008) come before New Hampshire’s family court judges, special masters, and magistrates with issues that have traditionally faced opposite sex couples. Issues include dissolution of civil unions as they impact division of property, child custody, and child support. As part of a panel that included a Vermont judge and a New Hampshire law professor and practitioner, Williams Institute speakers provided an interactive self-test for the judges that prompted discussion about the practical challenges judges face as civil unions go into effect. Williams Institute speakers discussed the most recent demographic research studies showing the characteristics of New Hampshire same-sex couples and families to provide participants with accurate information that can be used to craft practical solutions to issues that arise in the courts.

Brad Sears, Executive Director, The Williams Institute  
Judge William Cohen, Vermont Supreme Court  
Mary Pilkington-Casey, Franklin Pierce School of Law

**May 22, 2007**  
*New York Judicial Institute*  
New York, NY

Issues in New York Family Law (Sexual Orientation)

The legal system in New York increasingly confronts sexual orientation law issues, particularly as they relate to current state of the law in New York State on custody and adoption for and by same-sex-couples. Panelists discussed how sexual orientation and same-sex couples may affect family law, including national trends and how issues may arise in the New York courts, and special considerations, if any, in these cases.  In addition, speakers discussed the most recent demographic research studies showing the characteristics of New York same-sex couples and families to provide participants with accurate information that can be used to craft practical solutions to issues that arise in the courts and provide guidance on how to approach these issues in their courtrooms.

Prof. Suzanne Goldberg, Columbia Law School  
Dr. Gary Gates, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Hon. Clark Richardson, New York State Supreme Court

Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Youth Involved in the Juvenile Justice System

Who are the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth already within the juvenile justice system?  Judges received current and accurate demographic data on these youths in New York and nationally. The panel also discussed when and how LGBT youth self-identify and disclose their minority sexual orientation and gender identities and provided guidance on how judges may appropriately deal with that information.  The course explored the various risk factors and issues facing LGBT youth in the juvenile justice system and provided strategies to better address the needs of LGBT youth.

Hon. Paula Hepner, New York State Supreme Court  
Miriam Yeung, NY LGBT Community Center  
Susan Hazeldean, Esq., Urban Justice Center  
Oswaldo Luciano, MS, GLSEN  
Mishi Faruquee, Correctional Association of NY  
Rudy Estrada, Esq., LGBTQ Coordinator for the Administration for Children’s Services

Issues And Approaches For New York Courts To The Recognition Of The Same-Sex Relationship Systems In Neighboring States – Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Massachusetts – and Canada

New York is uniquely situated with respect to foreign state recognition of same-sex relationships.  Each of the 5 states that border New York have differing systems for those couples’ relationships, ranging from marriage in Massachusetts, to Civil Unions in Connecticut, New Jersey and Vermont, to no recognition in  Pennsylvania.  Additionally, Canada recognizes marriage for same-sex couples.  This session explored concrete approaches to resolve the variety of legal issues likely to appear in the New York courts.  Judges learned how to approach these issues within a framework consistent with past legal precedent and the structure of the legal problems facing the courts.

Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Prof. Edward Stein, Cardozo Law School, NY  
Prof. Andrew Koppelman, Northwestern Univ. Law School, IL

**September 27, 2007**  
*California Statewide Judicial Branch Mega-Conference, Administrative Office of the Courts, California Center for Judicial Education and Research*  
Dealing with Diversity in the Courtroom  
Anaheim, CA

In this interactive course, judges enhanced their ability to respond in positive ways to incidents of bias in the courtroom.  Participants discussed how stereotypes and bias can hinder individuals and courts in serving California’s diverse and multicultural population.  Trainees evaluated and developed culturally sensitive techniques to communicate effectively with other people and learned to avoid improper biases such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, socio-economic status or national origin.

Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Hon. Ken Kawaichi (Ret.), Alameda Superior Court, CA  
Mr. Michael Roosevelt, California Center for Judicial Education and Research

**November 21, 2006**  
*New Jersey Statewide Judicial Conference*  
Sexual Orientation, Same-Sex Couples and the Courts  
Bergen County, NJ

The legal system in New Jersey increasingly confronts sexual orientation law issues: the NJ Domestic Partnership Act and Law Against Discrimination, the impact of out of state same-sex marriages and civil unions, dissolution and custody issues, parental rights, and discrimination questions.  Building on the 2005 panel on the NJ Domestic Partnership Act, this panel presented an overview of the national legal cases and trends on same-sex marriage, civil unions and other legal questions to explore how these issues specifically affect NJ courts now and in the future.  In addition, the speakers discussed the most recent demographic studies showing the characteristics of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender couples and families in NJ and nationally to identify the potential for LGBT issues to appear in general civil litigation as well as divorce, parenting and custody matters before the NJ courts.

Hon. Jack L. Lintner, Appellate Division NJ  
Prof. Suzanne Goldberg, Columbia Law School (until July 2006 at Rutgers-Newark, School of Law)  
Dr. Gary Gates, The Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law

**October 5, 2006**  
*National Association of Women Judges*  
Same-Sex Unions and the Courts  
Las Vegas, NV

Modern America is a mobile society. Accordingly, the effect of interstate travel and relocation is having a significant impact on people, families, and on the developing law. This panel discussed the status of same sex unions and related legal issues currently before the courts.  Panelists explored the New York, and Washington same-sex marriage decisions, and other litigation pending before state supreme courts  in New Jersey , Maryland and California.  This discussion included diversity matters and jurisdictional disputes, as well as cases that one might consider to be traditional family court cases involving mobile couples. Finally, the panel included discussion of demographics and statistics of same sex unions and related issues to provide accurate information about where these issues are arising, who the people are within the legal system, and where same-sex couples live.

Hon. Deborah Schumacher, Washoe County Court, NV  
Gary Gates, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Prof. Chai Feldblum, Georgetown Univ. School of Law

**September 13, 2006**  
*Utah Judicial Conference*  
Same-Sex Couples in Utah and the Family Courts  
Alta, UT

The legal system in Utah increasingly confronts sexual orientation law issues, particularly as they relate to same-sex couples in the family courts. Panelists discussed how sexual orientation and same-sex couples may affect family law, including national trends and how issues may arise in the Utah courts, and special considerations, if any, in these cases.  In addition, speakers discussed the most recent demographic research studies showing the characteristics of Utah same-sex couples and families to provide participants with accurate information that can be used to craft practical solutions to issues that arise in the courts and provide guidance on how to approach these issues in the courtroom.

R. Bradley Sears, Executive Director, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Commissioner Hon. Michelle Blomquist, Utah Courts  
Prof. Laura Kessler, Univ. of Utah Law School

**May 18, 2006**  
*Colorado Judicial Institute – Family Issues Conference*  
Sexual Orientation and the Courts  
Vail, CO

The legal system in Colorado increasingly confronts sexual orientation issues- including parental rights, the impact of out of state same-sex marriages and civil unions and other family law topics.  This panel presented an overview of the national legal cases and trends as well as how these issues specifically affect Colorado courts now and in the future.  In addition, the speakers also discussed the most recent demographic studies showing the characteristics of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender families nationally and in Colorado to identify the potential for LGBT issues to appear in divorce, parenting and custody matters before courts throughout the state.

R. Bradley Sears, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Prof. Laura Spitz, Univ. of Colorado School of Law  
Ms. Gina Weitzenkorn

**May 19, 2006**  
*Colorado Office of the Child’s Representatives Domestic Relations Conference*  
Sexual Orientation and the Courts  
Denver, CO

The Colorado Office of the Child’s Representative’s Domestic Relations conference for attorneys who provide best interest representation to children who are victims of abuse, are subject of a delinquency matter, or are the subject of a high conflict divorce, and CASA volunteers, county attorneys, judicial officers and other professionals who serve the Colorado courts.

The legal system in Colorado increasingly confronts sexual orientation issues – including parental rights, the impact of out of state same-sex marriages and civil unions and other family law topics.  This panel presented an overview of the national legal cases and trends as well as how these issues specifically affect Colorado courts now and in the future.  In addition, the speakers also discussed the most recent demographic studies showing the characteristics of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender families nationally and in Colorado to identify the potential for LGBT issues to appear in divorce, parenting and custody matters before courts throughout the state.

Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Prof. Laura Spitz, Univ. of Colorado school of Law  
Ms. Gina Weitzenkorn

**May 12, 2006**  
*District of Columbia Judicial Conference*  
Rocky Gap, MD

Sexual Orientation:  An update on recent DC and national cases and issues for judges

R. Bradley Sears, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Prof. Joan Shaffner, George Washington Law School, DC  
Hon. Juliet McKenna, DC Superior Court

Sexual Orientation:  DC Demographics, Public Policy and Workplace Issues for judges and senior court administrators

Dr. Gary Gates, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law  
Prof. Darren Hutchinson, American University School of Law, DC  
Hon. Kaye Christian, DC Superior Court  
Prof. Todd Brower, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law

**September 8, 2005**  
*AB 205 Domestic Partner rights and Responsibilities – California Statewide Judicial Branch Conference*  
San Diego, CA

Same-sex Couples in California: Data from Census 2000

The demographics of same-sex couples including issues of childrearing and different patterns among minority couples, retirement and military service

Dr. Gary Gates, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law

AB 205: The Civil Partnership Act. History, Overview, Applications and Critique  
AB 205 and the presentation of particular legal issues that judges may encounter in family law cases involving California registered same-sex domestic partners

Prof. Grace Blumberg, UCLA School of Law, CA  
Hon. Margaret Johnson, CA Superior Court, Santa Clara County

**December 2, 2005**  
*Working Towards Equality: Responding to Sexual Minority Domestic Violence, Oregon Judicial Branch Conference*  
Portland, OR

The Williams Institute presented an overview of domestic violence issues in gay and lesbian relationships at a judicial conference for Oregon judges and other key personnel from the judicial and criminal justice system.�

**September 21, 2004**  
*From Gay Marriage to Domestic Violence to Hate Crimes:  What You Need to Know About the Cases Coming to Your Court  
47th Washington Judicial Conference*  
Spokane, WA

Justice Barbara Madsen, Chair, Gender and Justice Commission introduced the training in which Brad Sears and William B. Rubenstein from the Williams Institute presented a full morning training on sexual orientation matters, including Demographics of the Gay Community in Washington State, An Overview of Sexual Orientation Constitutional Law in the U.S, a Family Law Panel with Judge Marlin Appelwick, Court of Appeals, Div. I; Judge Kenneth Kato, Court of Appeals, Div. III; Judge Mary Yu, King County Superior Court; Professor Lisa Brodoff, Seattle University School of Law; Ms. Barbara Wechsler, Family Law Attorney, a Domestic Violence/Youth/Hate Crimes Panel with Judge Annette Plese, Spokane County District Court, Ms. Connie Burk, Northwest Network; Ms. Jennifer Stapleton and Mr. Teague Griffith, Spokane Domestic Violence Consortium, a panel on Ethical Considerations In Managing Your Courtroom with Mr. Lindsay Thompson, Gender and Justice Commission, and Judge Mary Yu.