



COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

With Gretchen Alther, José Barzola, and Scott Nishimoto

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2021
12 – 1:30 PM (HST)
ON ZOOM



Register: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CADRremote>

Leaders are often called upon to facilitate meaningful, civil, and sometimes difficult conversations. Join us to learn about why such conversations are as important as ever, and experience how they can be structured. **This highly interactive workshop** will include a facilitated courageous conversation and tools for doing this in other spaces. This workshop is relevant for leaders working with teams and communities and anyone wanting to learn more about effective communication in challenging spaces.

Inquiries: (808) 539-4237

About the Speakers



Gretchen Alther directs the Center's flagship residential course, the Asia Pacific Leadership Program. Ms. Alther has over 15 years of experience as an international educator. Previously, Ms. Alther designed and managed multimillion-dollar programs to support disaster relief, conflict zone aid, and resilience in marginalized communities in the US, Myanmar, Pakistan, Nepal, Gaza, Colombia, Haiti, and beyond. She recently worked with the UNFPA Arab States Office to operationalize their resilience framework in Syria and the broader region. Ms. Alther serves on the advisory committee of the Institute for Climate and Peace, and is a founding board member and chairperson of the Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security. She earned an M.A. from Brandeis University, postgraduate certificates in leadership and peacebuilding from the East-West Center and Chulalongkorn University, and a B.A. from Texas A&M University.



José Barzola has a passion for creating social change through nonviolence, nurturing relationships that transcend cultural barriers, and focusing on issues of diversity, inclusion, and equity. He is a highly organized higher education administrator with almost 20 years of experience and success in administration, student development within academic and student affairs, a professional mediator and facilitator for almost 10 years both in New York and Hawai'i. He is currently the pEducational Specialist and Affiliate Faculty at the Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, a Peace Educator with Ceeds of Peace, a Program Advisor for the Institute for Climate and Peace, and a Board of Director for the Conflict Resolution Alliance, a local nonprofit that aims to develop and support peacebuilders in Hawai'i.



Scott Nishimoto was born and raised on the island of O'ahu by two incredible storytellers, mentors, community catalysts—and retired oral historians. Their stories about injustice and inequality inspired him to attend law school to study social justice where he became actively involved in community organizing and peace initiatives. Scott followed his passion to work for Abilities Unlimited where he worked with adults with disabilities for nearly seven years. As the Vice President of Workforce Development & Community Relations, he was able to develop several innovative programs designed to help adults with disabilities to gain employment, independence, and dignity. Scott believes his identity as a father shapes his plans and actions as Executive Director of Ceeds of Peace, a non-profit dedicated to raising children to become peacebuilding leaders.

Presented in collaboration with: Conflict Resolution Alliance • The Hawai'i State Bar Association – ADR Section • Spark M. Matsunaga Institute for Peace & Conflict Resolution • **Community Mediation Centers:** Kaua'i Economic Opportunity, Inc. Mediation Program • Ku'ikahi Mediation Center • Maui Mediation Services • The Mediation Center of the Pacific • West Hawai'i Mediation Center

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