



INTERNATIONAL
DAY **for the**
ERADICATION
of POVERTY
17 OCTOBER



PRESENTATION OF SPEAKERS



Mariyamou Drammeh

Mariyamou Drammeh is 19 years old. Her parents arrived in the US from Gambia more than 20 years ago. She was born and raised in South Bronx, where she still lives with her family. She's a Junior in NYU, studying Sociology with a minor in public policy.

Mariyamou has been volunteering since last March with ATD Fourth World and she did an internship during the summer. Her role was to support the coordination of the Festival of Arts and Learning, in 3 low-income communities in NYC.

Mariyamou serves in the Community Service Chair for NYU's Muslim's Students Association. She's also a Mentor to High School students applying to College.



Obie Donald

Obie is 25 years old. He grew up in Ocean Hill - Brooklyn, a low income neighborhood, where he met ATD Fourth World in the Street Library. As a young adult, he participated as a youth and now is still involved with 4th World Peoples University and ongoing research.

He completed his GED which allowed him to study last year in LaGuardia Community College. Due to a lack of financial support, he's not able to continue, right now. In the meantime, he's working at Eataly Gourmet shop in NYC Flatiron area.



Nicole Maucher and Johnny Ocean

Nicole Maucher is from New Jersey and Johnny Ocean from New York City. They are married and have 3 young children. Johnny is a cook and Nicole is searching for a job. When Nicole was pregnant of their first child, they lost their home, going from family members' homes to different shelters. Since the last 18 months, they have lived in the Jamaica family Residency, a private shelter in Queens. They met ATD Fourth World during the Story garden happening every Wednesday in this shelter, that their children attend. In 2016, they worked on the dissemination of the Handbook *Making Human Rights Work for People Living in Poverty*, a manual translating the UN Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, published by ATD Fourth World and Franciscan International. Reflecting the content of this handbook to their personal experience, they presented this manual in different meetings: UNANIMA International, the Indigenous People Committee.



Patrick Lubin

Patrick is French and he moved to the United States 20 years ago to follow his wife. Technician, he lost his job, then his wife, then his home. Experiencing homeless for a couple of years, he now sleeps in the storage unit where he keeps his belonging. Patrick is a great advocate. He can't stand to see people on the streets and always try to speak with them to give them courage and hope. He's convinced that love can change the world. In 2016, he worked on the dissemination of the Handbook *Making Human Rights Work for People Living in Poverty*, a manual translating the UN Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, published by ATD Fourth World and Franciscan International. Reflecting the content of this handbook to his personal experience, he presented this manual in different places: UNANIMA International, the Indigenous People Committee, Children Welfare Organization Project.



Kimberly Tyre

Kimberly Tyre has 4 children, grown-up and teenagers. Three of her children have special needs. Because of the serious alcohol issue of her husband, she decided to separate from him and to raise her children by herself. With the challenges brought by her children and being a

single mother in poverty, she got overwhelmed and decided to be hospitalized to have a break. That's when her children were put in foster care for 6 months. She fought fiercely to have her children back and since then she never stop grabbing all the opportunities to speak up about parenting, especially parenting with disabled children and single parenthood. She's an active advocate for the Children Welfare Organization Project (CWOP). She's also very involved in her children education, attending all the meetings in their school and taking part of the Parents Association.



Marlon A. Wallen

Marlon Wallen was born in May 5th 1969, in the town of Arima, Trinidad West Indies to a traditional Hindu family.

Marlon attended Five Rivers Junior High and majored in business from Arima Senior Comp. In 1988 he emigrated to the United States where he became a very active member of the LGBTQ community. Two years into his stay in the US, Marlon discovered he was infected with HIV. He soon became a voice in the fight against HIV/AIDS, Marlon played a role in affecting change both in his home town and state wide within the healthcare system and through public speaking. He has served on the Title I Planning Council for the Ryan White CARE Act, a Federal law that funds services for people living with HIV disease (PLWH) who cannot pay for the care they need. He has also been involved with MAP for Health, a community-based, nonprofit organization that works to improve healthcare access, disease prevention and service delivery for the Asian and Pacific Island community in Massachusetts.

In 1999 Marlon was selected for the HIVSTOPSWITHME multimedia campaign, not only because of his role in the LGBTQ community as a gay man but also for his activism as an immigrant of color, addressing the stigma and shame of being gay and HIV positive.

In 2009 he became a Constituent Advisor for the Center for Social Policy at the University of Massachusetts to contribute with his first hand experience on homelessness, discrimination, abuse and HIV to the elaboration of inclusive and sustainable social policies.

Thought still undocumented Marlon has been able to find creative ways to earn a living and contribute to the betterment of US society.



Donald Lee

Donald Lee began his career in the United Nations at the organization's regional headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. He later moved to New York to the Division for Social Policy and Development to head its work on poverty and employment – key development issues that defined his major contributions as an economist in the United Nations.

Donald helped establish the Youth Employment Network in 2001 and was – until his retirement from the United Nations in 2011 – a member of its Steering Committee, which included senior specialists in youth employment from the World Bank and the International Labour Organization.

He went on to head the Social Perspectives on Development Branch which focuses on issues of social development, in particular poverty eradication and employment,

In 2008, in recognition of his commitment and contribution to global poverty issues, he was inducted into the International Committee for October 17th which promotes and supports the United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. He has been President of the Committee since 2012. More recently, in 2014, he was appointed to the Advisory Group on Education Diplomacy, Association for Childhood Education International.

Before joining the United Nations, he taught Economics and Business Management at Deakin University in Australia, and the University of Malaya in Malaysia.

He is an advocate for poverty eradication, social justice and environmentally sustainable economic development through his research, publications and blog (<http://globalsocialchange.com>)



Sparsh Shah

Sparsh Shah a.k.a. “PURHYTHM” is a 13-year-old child prodigy, singer, song writer and a rapper. He has been training in Indian classical music for last seven and a half years and American vocal music for three years. He has multiple talents such as performing in community events (over 60 live performances, including GRAMMY PARK as the Next Generation: Emerging Artist), appeared on several radio and television shows such as BBC, NBC: Little Big Shots, SONY: Keys To Kismet, etc), hosted shows as an MC, Pi Champion of his school by memorizing 250 digits of Pi, can speak some of the 12 longest words in English dictionary in less than 18 seconds, can speak in 4 different accents in English, written 11 original songs, several poems, short stories, motivational/funny speeches (“I am Disabled”, “Environmental Protection”, “Three Lessons of Life”), etc. He has won three music contests including “Young Voice of NYC” and became the Youth Ambassador for St. Jude’s Children Research Hospital.

Sparsh became an internet sensation with the launch of Eminem's cover song, "Not Afraid" with over 45 million views on all social media sites combined. He was recognized and applauded by Eminem's Shady Records, Chris Brown, Akon, Jay Sean, Salman Khan and Shiamak Davar on their personal social media/websites. Sparsh was recently featured in an amazing cover of Michael Jackson's song: Heal The World by Maati Bani, which went viral with over 18 million views in just the first week of the launch of the song.

Sparsh been a catalyst in helping raise over half a million dollars for various philanthropic organizations. Sparsh won the "Most Inspiring Individual" award at the International Children's Advisory Network Research and Advocacy Summit in Barcelona, Spain. Despite of all the medical challenges in life, Sparsh's spirit is unbreakable and he aspires to inspire billions of people all over the world with his musical talent.