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## Expression Not Suppression Conference



Expression Not Suppression 2017



ENS took place on Saturday, April 22. ENS brought together 50+ trans and queer youth who are dedicated to creating safe schools and healthy communities in the Central Valley. It was a huge success! GSA youth leaders organized a day filled with learning opportunities, community building time, and welcomed local organizations to participate in an LGBTQ+ inclusive resource fair. Participants attended empowering workshops that address topics like:

- Learning about LGBTQ+ rights youth have in schools
- Grassroots organizing
- Disrupting the gender binary
- Comprehensive and inclusive sex-ed
- How to have a kick-ass GSA club
- Intersectional feminism
- Transgender 101

- #ReportTheHaters: Responding to Hare in Trumps America, and much more!  
**GSA Network Youth Leaders**

**Keynote Speaker: Justin Kamimoto**



This year, keynote speaker, Justin Kamimoto, centralized his speech on the theme Building Community. He shared his personal story and offered his inspiration to youth that as a queer person of color, creating change is doable, if we remember to believe in ourselves, work together, and create community. Participants were eager to engage in the community building activity Justin led where the rainbow flag was worn as a cape which represented LGBTQ+ identities as a symbol of power and strength.

[Check our blog to learn more](#)<sup>[1]</sup>

[Help continue making events like this possible.](#)<sup>[2]</sup>

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## Past Events

**Expression Not Suppression 2016**

ENS 2016 was one of our most successful conferences yet! Amazing guest speakers, empowering workshops, and unforgettable performances, we can't wait to share the fun with you at the next one. Link coming soon.

## **[Expression Not Suppression 2013](#)**<sup>[3]</sup>

**Expression Not Suppression 2013 was a huge success for Central Valley youth! [Click here to read a recap of the day](#)**<sup>[3]</sup>.

## **[Expression Not Suppression 2012](#)**<sup>[4]</sup>

**Expression Not Suppression 2012 was held on Saturday, March 24th at Big Red Church in Fresno and was a wonderful success for Central Valley youth! [Click here](#)**<sup>[4]</sup> to read a full recap of the day's events.

The featured speaker was Yosimar Reyes, a two-spirit poet/activist based out of San Jose, Ca. His style has been described as "A brave and vulnerable voice that shines on the issues affecting queer immigrant youth and the many disenfranchised communities in the U.S. and throughout the world." [Click here to visit Yosimar Reyes' website!](#)<sup>[5]</sup>

## **Expression Not Suppression 2011**

Expression Not Suppression 2011 was a huge success! Link with recap coming soon.

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**Source URL:** <http://gsanetwork.org/ens>

### **Links**

[1] <http://gsanetwork.org/ENS-2017>

[2] <http://gsanetwork.org/civicism/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=1>

[3] <http://gsanetwork.org/news/blog/fists-air-expression-not-suppression-2013/02/27/13>

[4] <http://gsanetwork.org/news/blog/expression-not-suppression-2012/04/11/12>

[5] <http://yosimar.tumblr.com/>