

**TED** Women2020

# FEARLESS

Nov 19, 2020  
5:00 - 7:00 pm  
Virtual on Zoom

Presented by

**TED<sup>x</sup>**  
IndianaStateUniveristy  
Women

Register Here:



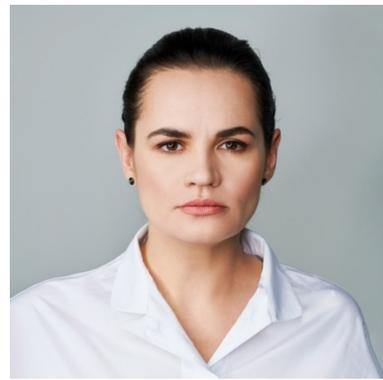
Welcome to the first

**TED<sup>x</sup>**  
**IndianaStateUniversityWomen**  
x = independently organized TED event

This webinar will bring you into the worlds of many amazing women in our community.

The goals of this event are to celebrate different women and their roles; bring awareness to disparities women face; and share accomplishments. Students, faculty, staff, and community members are welcomed to participate. We want to highlight the fearlessness of the women in our community.

You will be able to also enjoy great talks and a performance from the TEDWomen2020: FEARLESS conference. Including (left to right) Madison McFerrin, Jamila Gordon, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya. The women are changing lives and encouraging others to take a step towards being fearless.





**Lilly Howard**

**Lead Organizer**

She/Her/Hers

Bio: Lilly Howard is a second-year master student studying Student Affairs in Higher Education. She received my bachelor's degree in marketing from the University of Southern Indiana. A town called Alton, Illinois is where Lilly spent most of her life. It is a historic small town with plenty of wildlife and fishing. As the graduate assistant for the Women's Resource Center, Lilly plans events that center around women, and supply feminine products and education material for students. I enjoy being educated and educating others on social justice. In my spare time, I paint, spend time with my pets and practice making a difference.

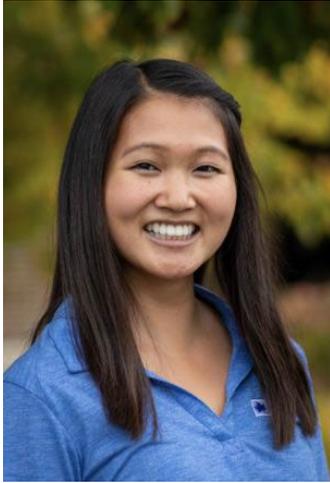


**Dr. Elonda Ervin**

**Team Member**

She/Her/Hers

Bio: Dr. Elonda Ervin, an Indiana State University graduate and administrator, serves as the Executive Director of the Office of Multicultural Services and Programs. Prior to coming to Indiana State University, Elonda was an administrator at Blue Cross Blue Shield for 15 years. During her travels, she has also served as adjunct faculty and lecturer at several Ivy Tech Community College, Purdue University Calumet and Indiana University Northwest for about 10 years. Elonda has spent the past 12 years at Indiana State University. During this time, she has served as advisor to several Greek and student organizations to increase persistence among those diverse populations. A Gary native, Elonda holds two degrees from Indiana State - a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and a bachelor's degree in Criminology. She earned her master's degree in Communication from Purdue University-Calumet and a Paralegal Certificate from Roosevelt University in Chicago.



**Jillian Pelikan**

**Host**

She/Her/Hers

**Bio:** My name is Jillian Pelikan and I am from the western suburbs of Chicago. I am a junior majoring in Communication Sciences and Disorders and minoring in Language Studies (Spanish), Psychology, and Counseling. At ISU, I am a part of the Honors College as an Honors Student and Honors Peer Mentor. In addition, I am a part of the Student Philanthropy Executive Team serving as the Vice President of Operations, Alpha Phi Omega (A National Service Fraternity) serving as the Pledge Educator, and the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association serving as the Vice President. I also work at the Career Center as a Career Peer Advisor helping students develop professionally through Resume and Cover Letter Walk-In appointments. In my free time, I enjoy volunteering, running, and baking.

# Speakers

## Bre Pierce

Student, Indiana State University

She/Her/Hers



Bio: Bre Pierce is currently a senior majoring in General Studies with minors in Early Childhood, Early Intervention, and Human Development and Family Studies. She works in the Office of Multicultural Services and Programs, as the Sycamore Safe Zone Coordinator. She loves talking to others about the important topics of mental health and LGBTQ+ rights.

### Title: “Not All Wounds Are Visible”

Description: Description- Throughout life, we experience things that make us happy, make us confused, make us angry, and sometimes makes us scarred. When all these scaring experiences build up, trauma begins to build. Sometimes you do not realize that all the stuff that has happened in your past has hurt you, until you start taking a look at your past and how it has shaped who you are. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is something that does not get talked about often outside of military individuals. Starting the conversation is important, as once it is started- it will be less of a "taboo topic".

## Elynor Head

Student, Indiana State University

She/Her/Hers



Bio: Elynor Head attends Indiana State University and currently is pursuing an undergraduate degree in Geology. She is a part of the Honors College and has been able to get involved in student research at a relatively young age. Elynor is currently studying diatoms in acid mine drainage and has a large interest in science, especially involving space exploration, and renewable energy. In her academic future at Indiana State, she hopes to become

involved in the John C. Hooke observatory on campus and continue to be a part of undergraduate research. Elynor hopes to impact the world by getting more individuals interested in science no matter their sex, age, or race. She believes all individuals can expand humanities understanding of what's around us through scientific discovery.

### Title: **“Women: Change Agents that are out of this World”**

Description: In under four years the first woman will explore the moon's surface for the first time in history. Women have advanced space exploration since the beginning and are about to spark a new age of science. Space suits and other equipment designed to survive the harsh environment of space are being altered to meet women's differences. Understanding the effect, the moon has on women would be an advancement itself, but the different perspective women could bring could enhance problem solving when working in dangerous environments like space. The first woman to land on the moon could also capture the attention of younger women and increase women in STEM. I believe there is nothing more

exciting than space exploration and I'm confident myself and other women could change it and make it even better.

## Lexie Signor (ABD)

Musician, Instructor

She/Her/Hers



Bio: Lexie Signor is a musician and music educator from Northern Michigan. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree, and several advanced degrees- Master of Music in Trumpet Performance, Master of Music in Jazz Performance and Pedagogy and a Doctorate (ABD) in

Brass performance from the Jacobs School of Music (Bloomington, Indiana). In addition to being a dynamic and engaging clinician, conductor, composer/arranger and classroom instructor, she is also an active freelancer; Lexie has performed with Adele, Keith Urban and the DIVA jazz orchestra among many others. Her recent performance endeavors are an upcoming Trumpet Solo collaboration with Composer Robert Paterson, performances of her arrangements by the Virtual Trumpet Ensemble, and remaining a top-call studio musician in the greater Indianapolis Area for Hal Leonard and various independent artists. Lexie Signor is a performing artist and clinician endorsed by S.E. Shires, Marcinkewicz Mohthpieces, Torpedo Bags, and Soulo Mutes.

### **Title: Uncovering the unspoken rules of the freelance world and higher ed. from the female perspective**

Description: I am a professional musician; over the years, I have had great success in this field through many struggles- the foremost being that I chose a "man's" instrument (the trumpet), and the second... that I did not know I had Asperger's

Syndrome. I was diagnosed last year, and my entire life began to make sense: I am often deemed bold, forward, and brave- but more often these are described as tactless, shrill, aggressive, and "not in keeping with collegiate decorum." All I've known my entire life was that I was good- really good, off-puttingly good at music. I didn't have to try and when I did... look out! So, why wasn't I good enough? As a young musician, I was told "show up early, play well, and be a team player- that's what gets you gigs." However, when working as a freelancer and being highly recommended by my many influential friends in the industry for jobs, as soon as the contractor found out I was a woman something changed. They call us "Neuro-Divergent"... I call it ASD "Superpowers."

## **Dr. Melissa McCollister**

Assistant Professor, Indiana State University

She/Her/Hers



Bio: Dr. Melissa K. McCollister is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work at Indiana State University (ISU). She has been an activist in the LGBTQIAP+ community for over 22 years and implemented the first LGBTQIAP+ youth program in Akron, Ohio. Additionally, she was a faculty liaison for students placed at the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center of Greater Cleveland.

She has served on multiple racial and social justice initiatives in the community as well as the Summit County LGBTQ+ task force. In her role at ISU, she has collaborated with the local community to create LGBTQIAP+ safe zone training with three undergraduate students that completed a field placement in spring 2020. Currently, she is serving as the Executive Director for the new Pride Center

of Terre Haute and she teaches macro social work courses, human behavior, and child and family practice.

**Title: "Developing Leaders for LGBTQIAP+ Advocacy in Rural Environments"**

Description: Advocacy for LGBTQIAP+ individuals in rural environments requires us to focus on building authentic, genuine, and real emotional relationships that are transformative, not transactional. In racial and social justice initiatives, its best to amplify the voices for those with least power and help to build the strengths of multiple leaders to help sustain change. In this presentation, I will share with you my personal journey as a "fearless" woman in leadership that has come to understand the unifying power of courage, compassion, and character.

**Bahareh Javadizadeh**

Assistant Professor, Indiana State University

She/Her/Hers



Bio: Dr. Bahareh Javadizadeh is an assistant professor of management specializing in Human Resource Management and Organizational Behavior. Her research explores the individual and organizational outcomes of perceived identity threat in the workplace, the creation of façades of conformity as a coping mechanism, and the buffering role of the climate of authenticity. Moreover, she has an interest

in exploring glass ceiling beliefs among women and minorities as well as civility in the workplace. Bahareh has taught Human Capital Management, Organizational Behavior, and Teamwork. In her teaching, she centers her effort on the wholesale establishment of a challenging, engaging, and thought-provoking environment in

which students are continually confronted with provocative questions, tasked with applying course materials to real world examples, and asked to share their ideas. The Department of Management within the NMSU College of Business recognized her for outstanding teaching during 2017-2018.

**Title: Women who cannot display their authentic selves**

Description: Iran is full of inspired, talented, and bright women who shine in their workplace despite the difficulties they confront. However, as a result of government restrictions regarding religious displays, many women feel inauthentic. Many Iranian women believe in the autonomy of choosing their religious beliefs and freedom to select hijab at heart but are all afraid to act based on their beliefs in their workplace. More and more women are protesting against the compulsory hijab today and seek their right to freedom of choice.

**Maryem Salam**

Student, Indiana State University

She/Her/Hers



Bio: Maryem Salam has a Masters’ degree in Marketing and is currently an MBA student at Indiana State University. She also works as a graduate assistant at the Marketing and Operations department of the Scott College of Business. During her academic path, Maryem has developed an interest in the glass ceiling literature, which has inspired her to start her research journey on this topic. Currently, she is working on a research project entitled "Reverse Queen Bee Syndrome: When Do Female Subordinates Favor Male Bosses Over Female Bosses?", a qualitative study that uses social identity theory to explore the nature

of female subordinates' perception of their female boss, and the reasons underlying their preference to work for a male boss.

**Title: “Do women really support each other in the workplace?”**

Description: Women are valuable leaders in organizations. Nevertheless, many of them face various limitations when they are attempting to advance in the workplace. While we might think that women support other women to break through that glass ceiling, research has shown that the female-female relationship in the workplace is not always positive. The purpose of this talk is to raise awareness about some beliefs and behaviors that females can engage in, and that can negatively impact their career advancements, along with that of other women.

**Amanda Muhammad**

Professor, Indiana State University

She/Her/Hers



Bio: Amanda Muhammad, Ph.D., is a Professor in apparel merchandising at Indiana State University. She received her B.S. degrees from Fontbonne University in business, merchandising, and accounting, as well as a Master of Business Administration. Her Ph.D. in Human Environmental Sciences is from the University of Missouri – Columbia. Dr. Muhammad has one daughter, Saabirah Muhammad, who will

complete her B.A. in Studio Art and a minor in Art History at Indiana State University in December of 2020.

**Title: “Overcoming Risk Factors!”**

Description: “Overcoming Risk Factor” tells the story of defying the odds associated with being an academic risk. In this reflection, Amanda Muhammad details the challenges she encountered during her formative years yet persisting to complete a doctorate and attaining Professor's rank. The reality is, as many of us know, all students have "risk factors," but from her experiences, some students seem to receive daily reminders of their potential for failure rather than their potential for triumph.

**Janie Myers DO, FACOS, FACS**

She/Her/Hers

Interview



Bio: Janie Meyers is a board-certified surgeon who is an advocate for holistic health. She is currently serving her second term as Vigo County coroner and works at Terre Haute Regional Hospital (HCA) as an Advance Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeon. Meyers works to keep the community informed and knowledgeable of ways they can be proactive about their health. A graduate of Spelman College and Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM), she continues her education through taking advantage of opportunities in and outside of the hospital including Wabash Valley Breast Cancer Survivors Medical Advisory Board member and consultation services at the Center for Applied Value Analysis (CAVA) Robotics as Assistant

Medical Director. Her most recent publication was Robot-assisted Surgery: An Extension of Surgeon's Eyes, Hands, InSpire Magazine from October 2016.

**THANK YOU for coming!**

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