



Uniting on the High Road

A Conference on Economic Justice at the Local Level

Request for Democracy Sparks Speaker Proposals, *deadline extended to April 19, 2024.

Uniting on the High Road: A Conference on Economic Justice at the Local Level will take place on June 20-22 in Buffalo, NY. Hosted by Cornell University ILR Buffalo Co-Lab and Partnership for the Public Good, with community and academic partners from across Buffalo, the conference will bring together activists and leaders working in local and national movements for racial and economic equality, climate justice, worker rights and power, and a strong democracy.

The final morning of the conference will feature **Democracy Sparks**: a series of 5 minute presentations, open to *anyone*—community members, academics, elected officials, youth, etc. This session will showcase innovative ideas that serve the public good—either imagined or actualized—to ignite sparks of creativity and possibility. These talks should help our conference audience of advocates, researchers, lawyers, labor union members and others to imagine the future economy, democracy, and community that is possible through collective action.

Requirements:

- Ideas that could reshape/reimagine the way we think about the world today (broadly defined)
- 5 minute presentation with required visual accompaniment (example: 5-10 ppt slides, painting, other artistic expression). **WE WILL BE VERY STRICT ON TIME.**
- Commit to a 30 minute practice Zoom session in advance of the conference (in May/June)

To Apply

Send the following to Kricky Ksiazek, High Road Program Coordinator and ks844@cornell.edu:

- Title of Your Presentation
- 1-2 sentence summary (for the conference program)
- Brief overview of Content or Idea (max 300 words)
- Summary of or actual visuals that you will use to present your idea (max 200 words)
- Your CV or Resume

A committee of Cornell staff, PPG staff, and PPG partner organization representatives will select winning proposals. We will notify applicants of the outcome by April 30, 2024.

Cornell University ILR Buffalo Co-Lab advances an equitable economy and democratic community, collaboratively integrating scholarly and practical understanding to strengthen civic action. Since 1946, ILR has played a vital role in the region, working in partnership with businesses, unions, government, education and community organizations to build an economy that works for all. The bold pragmatic new initiatives of Buffalo Co-Lab follow a long line of innovations over decades of economic change. Always aligned with high road principles, ILR consistently promotes radical collaborations in pursuit of the common good.

The Partnership for the Public Good (PPG) is a community based think tank, building a more just, sustainable, and culturally vibrant Buffalo Niagara through action-oriented research, policy development, and civic engagement. Launched in 2007 it now hosts a partner network of more than 340 community groups, nonprofits, and civic organizations.