Welcome to the 2022 Brave New Futures Convening!

Dear Brave New Voices Family,

Youth Speaks is honored to host you in the Bay - the beautiful home of our headquarters and the birthplace of Brave New Voices. BNV has been uplifting youth voices internationally for over two decades, and while there have been many beautiful experiences, we also recognize the necessity to reflect on the history of the festival as we plan for the future, and the many ways young people are asking the Festival to evolve.

The purpose of the Convening is to come together as a field of value-based organizations, artists and cultural leaders to imagine a new national vision for the spoken word and youth voice field, as well as tap into our collective imaginations to dream about what a future Brave New Voices Festival might look like. We may be gathering in person for only a day, but we expect this to be an impactful time together filled with rich conversation, authentic reflections, and share a few delicious family-style meals in San Francisco’s culinary mecca.

For those visiting San Francisco from outside of the Bay Area for the Convening, we know your time will be very limited to experience the City (Frisco)! In the event that you’re looking to get out and explore a little, we’ve put together a short list of restaurants and cultural sites close to where you will be housed at Parc55 Hotel in downtown San Francisco. We have also included information on public transportation and parking garages located near the Parc55 Hotel.

Happy adventuring! We thank you for embarking on building new futures!

With Brave New Voices Love,
Mush, Executive Director, Youth Speaks
Network Organizations

Words Beats and Life
First Wave
Meta-Four Houston
DewMore Baltimore
Southern Word
Teens With a Purpose
Fountain City Slam, Inc.
Urban Word NYC
Young Chicago Authors
Sacramento Area Youth Speaks
Young DFW Writers
With Our Words
Participant Local Guide

**Hotel: Parc55 Hotel**
55 Cyril Magnin St.
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 392-8000

**Convening Location: Hotel Nikko**
(Right across Ellis Street)
Carmel Room I & II 8am - 5pm
Breakfast and Lunch provided
222 Mason St
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Brave New Futures Performance**
8pm 7/18/22
CounterPulse Theater
80 Turk Street
San Francisco 94102

**Things To Do:**

A Traveler’s Guide to SF Restaurants, Theaters, Shopping, Museums

**Shopping:**

Westfield San Francisco Centre

ReLove – Black Owned Thrift Shop
Museums:

**Museum of African Diaspora (MoAD)**
685 Mission St, San Francisco, CA 94105
Sundays Open 12pm - 5pm

**Asian Art Museum (AAM) Tickets**
Asian Art Museum
200 Larkin St.
San Francisco, CA 94102
Sundays 10am - 5pm

**San Francisco Museum of Art (SF MOMA)**
151 3rd St, San Francisco, CA 94103
Sundays 10am - 5pm (Visitors Guide)

Theaters:

**Brava Theater (Events)**
2781 24th St, San Francisco, CA 94110.

**ACT (Events)**
415 Geary St, San Francisco, CA 94102

**The New Parish (Events)**
1743 San Pablo Ave, Oakland, CA 94612

**Piano Fight (Events)**
144 Taylor St, San Francisco, CA 94102
## Restaurants, Cafes & Coffee

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>Red Bay Coffee</td>
<td>1 Ferry Building, San Francisco</td>
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<td>AL's Place</td>
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<td>El Farolito</td>
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<td>Old Mandarin Islamic</td>
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<td>The Morris</td>
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<td>Palette Tea House</td>
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<td>Square Pie Guys</td>
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<td>True Laurel</td>
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<td>Wildseed</td>
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<td>Zuni Cafe</td>
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Public Transportation

Located on Powell Street in the heart of Union Square, the hotel is very easily accessible by both BART (train) and MUNI (buses, light rail and cable cars).

From the airport, take any BART train to the Powell Street stop and walk four blocks up Powell Street; the entrance to the hotel is just before the corner at Sutter Street.

For more information on schedules, stops and helpful trip planners, visit:

http://www.bart.gov/
https://www.sfmta.com/getting-around/transit

Parking

Sir Francis Drake Hotel
450 Powell St b/t Post St and Sutter St (415) 392-7755

Sutter Stockton Garage
444 Stockton St b/t Sutter St & Bush St Entrance on Stockton St (415) 982-8370

Union Square Garage
333 Post St b/t Powell St & Stockton St Entrance on Geary St
Youth Speaks
Contacts

Carlynn Newhouse
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Producing Director/National Initiatives
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(415) 710–7427

Gabriel Cortez
Program Director
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Michelle Mush Lee
Executive Director
mlee@youthspeaks.org
(510) 928–2257
Brave New Futures
Convening
Agenda

Sunday, July 17th

Arrive & Explore San Francisco
(no convening activities this day)
Fly into San Francisco Airport and Hotel Check-In

Parc55 Hotel
55 Cyril Magnin St
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 392-8000

Monday, July 18th

Brave New Futures Convening: Speaking Into Existence a New National Vision for BNV
Nikko Hotel Conference Room: Carmel Room I & II
222 Mason St
San Francisco, CA 94102

8:00 AM
Breakfast @ Nikko Hotel: Carmel Room

9:00 AM
Setting the Stage for the Convening
Welcome and acknowledgment of who is in the room

The State of the Youth
Conversations about the creative, social-emotional, intellectual health of the young people we serve, particularly since the start of the pandemic in 2020.

10:30 AM
25 Years of BNV and Building of a Youth Voice Movement
Joan Osato and Marc Bamuthi Joseph

11:30 AM
Panel & Q&A: A Conversation on BNV Alumni’s Impact on Global Culture & Future Promise
featuring Joan Osato, Nick James (Creative Director, Youth Speaks) Marc Bamuthi Joseph, Carlynn Newhouse (BNV alumni) & Cydney Edwards (BNV alumni, Future Corps)
Monday, July 18th (cont’d)

12:30 PM  Lunch @ Nikko Hotel: Carmel Room

1:00 PM   **BNV: Dreams of a New National Vision for the Next 25**
                      Candice Wicks-Davis, co-founder of Edutainment for Equity

5:00 PM   Dinner on own / Decompress Time

8:00 PM   **Welcome to the Bay: An Evening of Poetry & Open Cypher**
                      A closing evening of local artists, youth MCO champions, BNV 2022 Bay Area Team, and us!
                      
                      *CounterPulse Theaer*
                      80 Turk Street
                      San Francisco, CA 94102

Tuesday, July 19th

**Depart San Francisco**
Parc55 Hotel to San Francisco International Airport
The next generation speaks for itself.