

## Apply Now to the 2023 Anti-Supremacist Training and Creation Institutes

The Institute for Research on Male Supremacism (IRMS) **invites organizers, researchers, artists, and journalists** interested in misogyny and transmisogyny to join us to learn and design innovative strategies to address the roots of supremacist and authoritarian cultures, ideologies, and structures. [Apply](#) for our **2023 Anti-Supremacist Training and Creation Institutes!**

Our next application **deadline, Saturday April 1**, is for our **May 11-14 Institute in Los Alamos, New Mexico**. New Mexico is a safe harbor state on abortion, and this institute will focus on anti-abortion, -trans, and -drag mobilizations alongside broader analysis of the intersecting supremacist infrastructure. We especially welcome nearby regional organizers and artists from New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona, while also encouraging participants from anywhere in the United States. **IRMS covers all expenses for accepted participants.**

“**Training and Creation**” means that participants both learn more deeply about supremacist and authoritarian mobilizations, and utilize that knowledge to collaborate on effective and innovative interventions toward furthering liberatory **gender expression** and **bodily autonomy**. The institutes will discuss well-worn “playbooks” the Right has used and reused over decades on gender justice issues such as abortion rights, transgender humanity, sexuality education, and drag and queer performance, and intersecting issues such as racial justice and critical race theory.

We encourage participants to watch **our anti-supremacist webinar series** as part of the training curricula. In the first session, [now available to watch online](#), the Center for Applied Transgender Studies Fellows Blu Buchanan and Florence Ashley discussed how attacks on trans youth care reflect the same bioessentialist ideology as anti-abortion and anti-CRT movements. Our next [webinar on March 23](#) with journalist Amy Littlefield will dive into anti-abortion strategy.

This knowledge will provide the foundation for our cohort’s **creation** work, generating concepts for new **innovative strategies** and **experiments** through collaborations among organizers and artists and researchers and journalists to develop ideas and resources. We aim to utilize this institute space to generate resources (from one-pagers to zines to videos) and develop *or support existing* innovative and root cause interventions to reach wider populations of activists. *Participants will have the opportunity to receive funding (\$500 to \$5000) to collaborate on resource and innovation concepts generated through the institute.*

An organization led by women and non-binary people, IRMS values the importance of integrating joy and resilience to sustain our ability to work on these topics. The New Mexico institute will include drag performance and options to walk in our gorgeous local canyons. We will integrate this approach to joyful community building into designing anti-supremacist work (we look to examples such as PopMob’s queer dance parties in response to the Proud Boys).

## More about the IRMS vision

IRMS researches supremacist movements and ideologies to design more effective structural- and culture-change strategies. These institutes are a **collaborative project**, co-creating a cohort of individuals who share IRMS's desire to engage in prevention that:

- Takes **creative** approaches that simultaneously build **community joy**
- Focuses on **root causes** in changing **culture, education, and systems**
- Designs short-term tactics against a **long-term strategy**
- Supports **sustainable cultures** and **emotional health** for individuals in this work
- Embraces **radical visions** of just, liberatory, and democratic futures

Informed by **intersectional feminism**, our work centers opposition to misogyny, transmisogyny, and misogynoir while delving into the expansive landscape of supremacist organizing. IRMS frames our work as addressing “**supremacism**” rather than “extremism,” “radicalization,” or other terms connoting fringe activities. Why? Dehumanizing beliefs shape mainstream culture and structures, from high rates of intimate partner violence against women to mass violence by misogynist incel men. “Extremism” framing implies that centrist beliefs are most desirable, undermining **radical social justice visioning**. Our solutions build from this understanding.

## How to Apply

To apply for the cohort, fill out [this brief Google Form](#) with your information, challenges you face in your social justice work, and what you hope to get from the institutes. *The 2023 institutes are U.S.-based, with an intersectional and transnational organizing perspective.*

Event date options (each participant selects which institute(s)/session(s) they will attend):

- May 11-14: Los Alamos, New Mexico
- June 9-11: San Diego, CA, accompanying Mobilization conference
- June 22-25: Virtual
- July 9-11: Minneapolis, at 22<sup>nd</sup> Century Initiative conference
- September 7-10: Los Alamos, New Mexico
- October 12-15: Virtual

Our current application deadlines are:

- **Second-round: April 1 (deadline for attending May 11-14 New Mexico Institute)**
- Third-round: April 20 (deadline for June and July in-person events)
- Fourth-round: May 25 (deadline to attend June Virtual Institute)

Please email [adibranco@theirms.org](mailto:adibranco@theirms.org) with any additional questions.

## Anti-Supremacist Organizing Training Series

### Roots, Structures, and Intersections of Supremacism

February 23, 2023, 6pm EST/3pm PST

[Watch the recording here](#)

This opening training session for IRMS's 2023 anti-supremacist training series delves into approaching organizing from an anti-supremacist perspective and understanding supremacist organizing and ideology in contemporary and historical perspective. As part of the IRMS mission to connect research to action, the session discusses how understanding intersections and divergences across supremacist movement supports organizing strategy, and how to apply this understanding to intersectional cross-movement organizing and effective use of media. With speakers from IRMS and the Center for Applied Transgender Studies. [Watch here](#).

#### Speakers:

Florence Ashley is a transfeminine jurist and bioethicist currently pursuing a doctorate at the University of Toronto. They publish on various topics relating to trans issues with a particular interest in improving access to gender-affirming care and countering attempts to criminalize it.

Blu Buchanan is affiliated with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at UNC Asheville. Their academic writing has appeared in journals like *GLQ: The Journal of Gay and Lesbian Studies* and *PUBLIC: A Journal of Imagining America*, as well as edited volume chapters in *Black Feminist Sociology: Perspectives and Praxis* and *Unsafe Words: Queer Perspectives on Consent in the #MeToo Era*.

Alex DiBranco is the executive director and co-founder of the Institute for Research on Male Supremacism ([theirms.org](http://theirms.org)), which connects research to action to contest misogyny and transmisogyny. She provides training, advice, and consulting on male supremacy for social justice organizations and expertise to media outlets such as NPR, TIME, The New Republic, and the AP. DiBranco received her Ph.D. from Yale Sociology for research on U.S. right organizational and philanthropic infrastructure, with an emphasis on the Christian Right and anti-abortion and anti-LGBTQI ideology. She is a fellow with the Pop Culture Collaborative and an advisor for the 22nd Century Initiative.

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