

2025 CAMP SYMPOSIUM

Breakout Biographies and Headshots

**Adam "Papadam" Stein**

Panelist: How to Still Love Your Campmates After the Burn

Papadam is an 11-year burner who serves the Burning Man community as part of the Peer Support Team. A lifelong educator, mediator, activist, parent, grandparent, and spouse, Papadam makes his home in Sonoma and FAFA Camp in Black Rock City. He provides support to volunteer Burning Man teams through 1:1 or small group work as well as leadership coaching for those teams.

**Andie "Actiongrl" Grace**

Panelist: Cultural History of Theme Camps

Andie Grace is a Producer in Burning Man's Philosophical Center and a devoted steward of its culture, using storytelling to amplify the voices of its global community. Known to many as AG, she first came to Burning Man in 1997 with her band; she joined the Media Mecca crew as a volunteer in 1998, and soon joined the event staff full time. This role grew to the management of the Communications Department and the co-development of the Regional Network, helping to lay the foundation for this interconnected, international network keeping Burning Man alive around the world.

After a career hiatus co-founding startups in coworking, film, and digital media, Andie returned to the Burning Man staff in 2019. Now part of the Philosophical Center, she focuses on production, publishing and narrative initiatives to illuminate Burning Man's cultural impact far beyond the playa. With a deep belief in radical participation and shared storytelling, Andie continues to foster connections between Burners old and new, ensuring the stories of this vibrant community are told, heard, and carried forward for the future.

**Andrew Bauman**

Producer: So You Want to Start a Theme Camp?

Host: Keep the Fire Burning

Andrew has been attending the Gerlach Regional since 2016 but was probably a burner before that. He has helped to run theme camps, art car support camps, and an art car over the last 9 years and has recently joined the Camp Advisory Team.

After working in government/lobbying for 20 years, Andrew now runs a center focusing on advancing civic literacy and community political involvement, and lives with a very opinionated Siberian Husky named Havok.



Berta “Pita Mama Bear” Hodges

Producer - Your Digital Goodie Bag: Answers at Your Fingertips

Pita Mama Bear is a co-lead for FAFA Camp, an international camp devoted to community, fun, singing, dancing, and shenanigans. When she is not obsessing about all things Burning Man, Pita is teaching Pilates, volunteering on the Camp Support Team, helping to feed people, spending time with family, gardening, and practicing her fancy dance moves.



Brian Konash

Host: So You Want to Start a Theme Camp?

Brian Konash has led Camp NYC Deli at Burning Man since 2022. NYC Deli gives away 5,000 meals during the Burn and also provides a public 70 degree cooling center with an 85 person capacity. Deli is also a HUBS Lead Camp and provides power, water, grey-water removal etc for ~300 burners in our HUBS sister camps (NYC Deli is 70 people)



Charlie Dolman a.k.a. Louder Charlie

Charlie oversees event operations in Black Rock City, including Emergency Services, Gate-Perimeter-Exodus, the Black Rock Rangers, BRC Department of Public Works, Community Services, the Cafe and Ice services, the Department of Mutant Vehicles, and on-the-ground Art operations. He also oversees the Special Recreation Permit Burning Man holds with the U.S. Federal Government during the event season. As part of this role, Charlie sits on the Black Rock City Operations Management Board, the Budget Committee and the Executive Committee. He also chairs the Event Operations Team and Event Leadership Team meetings.

Charlie came to Burning Man from the UK, having spent many years working at an array of events where his roles included production, finance, licensing, promotion, and management. Events of note include: Secret Garden Party, Wilderness Festival, and Lovebox — where Charlie played instrumental roles in founding, growth and development.



Daquan “Big Soda” Carathers

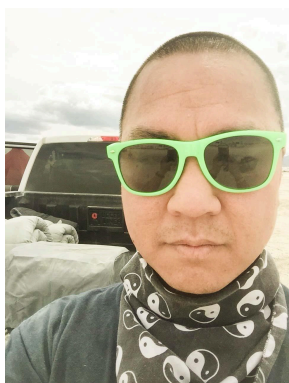
Panellist: How to Love Your Campmates After the Burn

Daquan aka Big Soda is a dedicated mental health professional with extensive experience in substance abuse rehabilitation, harm reduction, and behavioral health management. Big Soda also has a background in counseling and community outreach. Big Soda has worked with diverse populations to support individuals struggling with addiction and mental health challenges. His current position as harm reduction specialist ensures a compassionate, evidence-based approach to reducing harm and overdose prevention. Additionally, Big Soda has a strong foundation in de-escalation and conflict resolution, helping communities and individuals navigate challenging situations.

**Dave Heiblem**

Panelist: Keep the Fire Burning

This is Dave. He's a person. He does things, sometimes at that thing in the desert. He's the perfect blend of grumpy and stupid and his playa name is Baby Tiger.

**Gaway "G-Turtle" Young**

Panelist: So You Want to Start a Theme Camp?

G-Turtle has been to 16 burns with his first burn in 2002. In 2009, when the theme coincidentally was "Evolution", his participation took a natural leap forward when he co-founded camp Sake To Me.

The core of Sake To Me's interactivity is serving a variety of chilled and fruit-flavored sake in authentic carafes and cups both in the communal shade pad as well as curbside. Sake To Me has always been a relatively small camp, averaging 6-12 campmates for its first several burns, but in recent years has blossomed to about a 20-person camp

**Harley K. Dubois**

Panelist: Cultural History of Theme Camps

A founding member of Black Rock City LLC, Harley K. Dubois has over 25 years of project management, art and city planning experience. As the City Manager of Black Rock City for over 10 years, Harley oversaw both the Playa Safety Council and Community Services departments, ensuring the citizens of BRC are happy and safe, including ingress, life on playa, and egress. She originated theme camp placement, the Greeters, Playa Info, and Burning Man Information Radio, and has kindled the development of all other Community Service teams. Harley also created and maintains a comprehensive training and self-development program for the Burning Man staff, fostering volunteerism and cross-departmental communication.

Harley was a founding member of the Black Rock Arts Foundation (BRAAF), where she created and chaired the Grants to Artists committee and acted as the foundation's liaison with the Burning Man Project. She worked closely with the Executive Director and other staff members in conducting day-to-day operations. As Chief Transition Officer Harley was responsible for the merging of Black Rock City LLC, BRAAF, and Burners Without Borders into the Burning Man Project. She helped to complete the merging of art related programs into a unified Burning Man Arts program. She is passionate about seeing volunteerism fully integrated into all BMP operations, and is continuing to integrate and develop BMP programs and infrastructure to support Burning Man's role as a network node for our global expansion.



Jesse "Papercut" Gibson

Panelist: Have a BLAST!

Papercut has been burning since 2018 and has held several roles ranging from theme camp organizer for two separate camps, DPW Fuel Admin, BRC Greenhouse Gas Emissions Auditor and currently Theme Camp Sustainability Specialist. In his current role, he visited over 50 theme camps, learning about best practices as well as pain points and revamped the Green Theme Camp Community website, which is the resource he's going to present on today.



Jillian Izzary

Host: Frontage and Layouts

Jillian is co-lead of Rabbit Hole camp and has been burning since 2015. Based in New York she likes long walks in the forest of Hudson Valley and listening to Industrial Rock and Hand Pan.



Karen "KJ" Jacobs

Facilitator: How to Still Love Your Campmates After the Burn

Karen Jacobs, aka KJ, is the Learning Manager for Burning Man Project's Education Program. In this role, she is privileged to connect with the global Burner community in service of the program's mission: to teach the philosophy, Principles, and practices of Burning Man culture and experience around the world.

KJ has been Burning since 2001 and working for Burning Man Project since 2007, and believes that the best part of Black Rock City is seeing it through the eyes of her kid. She lives in Reno with her family.



Kat "Magnolia" Nadel

Panelist: Have a BLAST!

Kat loves nerding out about food waste diversion and sustainability in general. She started the volunteer-led compost collection offering at Burning Man in 2016 and it's been growing ever since. She's also a contributing member of the BLAST (burner leadership achieving sustainable theme camps) team. Her vision for a cleaner world includes diverting the food waste of all 70,000 Burning Man participants - and doing so joyfully.

**Lori "Mom" Archer**

Panelist: So You Want to Start a Theme Camp?

Mom is the lead for Barbie Death Village and the Playa Restoration Administrative Coordinator at the Burning Man Project. Since her first burn in 2017, Mom has always felt at home on Playa. Being a long-time resident of Reno, NV there is no avoiding Burning Man!

She was an art build lead for Head Maze in 2019. And, in the same year she began volunteering with RAPID (Reno Area Volunteer Burners). In 2020, Mom became the lead for Barbie Death Village (founded in 1999). After the 2022 Burn, Mom started volunteering for Playa Restoration which lead to her current position with the Burning Man Project as the Playa Restoration Administrative Coordinator.

Mom has also volunteered with many Burning Man mentoring outreach groups and participated as both a panelist and participant in the Camp Symposium since 2023. When not engaged in Burning Man related activities, Mom is a solo-parent to two young adults and is the Owner/Broker of Real Estate Connection (Sales and Property Management) and teaches Real Estate Classes.

**Louis Reinhardt**

Panelist: So You Want to Start a Theme Camp?

Lou Reinhardt is the camp lead for Camp Bad Education. He lives in Idaho with his wife and co-lead, Leah and their two dogs Roger and Primrose. This will be their 7th burn and their 2nd as camp leads. After 30 years in the military and intelligence community, He now volunteers in the humanitarian disaster relief space. Lou enjoys snowboarding, SCUBA and skydiving, competitive shooting and most anything outdoors. He believes the best thing about Burning Man is the friends that you make in the dust.

**Mark Duncan**

Panelist: So You Want to Start a Theme Camp?

Mark lives in San Jose, Ca and is the "Head Gardener" for The Sound Garden, a sound camp on the 2:00 side, which is now in its sixth year on the playa.

Mark has been going to the playa every year since 2014

He worked on Temple of Promise for three months, and loves and supports the Temple Crew every year. He has also been on the build team for two Art installations "TRACE" and "Chapel of Chimes," and has been on the core leadership for four different camps.

Despite all the resistance and flak thrown at him...he was committed to and "Kept the Vibe Alive" at Renegade Burn 2021 and helped support the event by co-sponsoring the "Playa Live Feed" for the renegade Burn in 2021

**Michael “Dustin” Fasman**

Facilitator: Frontage and Layout Workshop

Panelist: New Theme Camp 101

Dustin was the lead of the Black Rock Tea Company camp, and is the Volunteer Coordinator for BMP's Documentation Team. Burning since 2003, he's crewed on Big Art, volunteered at Media Mecca and gets involved in various BMP projects year round. Dustin also creates pro-bono videos for nonprofits and brings his therapy dog Quin to senior homes and dementia facilities.

**R.M. Michaële “No Limit” Antoine**

Panelist: How to Still Love Your Campmates After the Burn

R.M. Michaële Antoine, M.S., M.A., RYT, CPC (she/her) is an interpersonal communication and conflict consultant, facilitator, mediator, and coach who supports individuals and teams to build trust while navigating change. She works with impact-driven clients with the interpersonal and systematic transformation necessary to sustain healthy workplace cultures. Her work lives at the intersection of mindfulness, communication, and design; she believes our collective work requires interpersonal revolution and begins with the individual.

**Ron “Capt Ron” Taniwaki**

Panelist: Keep the Fire Burning

Capt Ron is a 16 year Burning Man Veteran and is currently the Cruise Director of Banana Hammocks. He previously was the Supreme Commander of the ORPHAN ENDORPHAN Empire for 11 years.

He has created 11 interactives in Black Rock City, and has hosted the Daddy WARBUCKS Cigar Lounge at 8 regionals, and was on the board of Directors for Apogaea, the Colorado Regional Burn from 2018 - 2022.

He's currently the administer for three Burning Man related Facebook groups, nad has been a producer and instructor for multiple symposiums over the years.

He is also the author of “The Captain's Log” a (34) part series of articles about surviving and thriving at Burning Man (<http://orphanendorphin.com/reading.html>).

**Siobhan Elliott**

Producer: How to Still Love Your Campmates After the Burn

Siobhan Elliott is the Network Manager for BMP's Education Program, where she thrives at the intersection of technology, education, and community engagement. Passionate about helping Burners share their knowledge with the global Burning Man community, she enjoys creating spaces for learning and connection. Siobhan has spent the past decade living nomadically, but she still considers North Florida home.

**Stacey “Ranger Keeper” Black**

Panelist: How to Still Love Your Campmates After the Burn

Keeper has been a burner since 2001 and a Ranger since 2002. She keeps her cup full running the local Gerlach school by day, serving as the Deputy Department Manager for the Black Rock Rangers by night, and being a proud mom of 2 awesome kiddos who still think BRC is the coolest place in the world.

**Steven “Doctor Steve” Queen**

Panelist: Have a BLAST!

Dr. Steve is a 13-year burner, Camp TCO at the Playa Penthouse, and now Co-lead for the Renewables for Artists Team helping Burning Man artists and now campers transition from Generators to Renewable power, primarily solar, but also wind.

He has been involved in numerous Art projects over the years, (747, Solar Shrine, Black Asé), and as TCO is a bit of a mad scientist creating lighting effects, flame effects, camp solar power, grey water flocculation-reuse systems, and now on-playa hydrogen gas generation for cooking systems.

**Stuart Mangrum**

Director, Philosophical Center

A member of the Burning Man community since 1993, Stuart was one of the Project's first year-round organizers, and has held leadership roles in communications, education, and storytelling. He published Black Rock City's first daily newspaper, the Black Rock Gazette, from 1993 to 1997, and helped organize one of the playa's first theme camps, Tiki Camp, in 1994. He helped launch Burning Man's first website, first radio station, and first live webcast. After a 20-year career in marketing he returned to the organization in 2013 as Education Director, helping to organize conferences and symposia and guiding our first forays into online learning. A longtime collaborator with Burning Man founder Larry Harvey, he has co-written or written nine of the annual event art themes. In his current role he is focused on collecting and disseminating the stories of Burning Man in multiple media, overseeing documentation and archival functions as well as new media ventures in print, audio, and film. A native of Los Angeles and a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he holds a degree in Government from the University of Maryland.



Teresa "T-Fire" Delfin

Co-producer: Your Digital Goodie Bag: Answers at Your Fingertips

T-Fire is a California-based Burner. She has been with Barbie Death Village since 2019. In addition to the Symposium, T-Fire is actively involved with B.E.D. and has volunteered with Placement and Media Mecca. You can catch her on Playa serving up café de olla at Deadbeat Café.

Travis "Spock" Newcomb

Panelist: Keep the Fire Burning

Spock has been the co-mayor of Ataraxia, a 120-person Esplanade camp, since 2021, and has been building communities and teams based on psychological safety since 2006. His current focus is to transform the Ataraxia Foundation into a self-organizing, year-round community that extends beyond Black Rock City. For fun, Spock enjoys accountability, herding cats, and long walks on the playa.

More to be announced soon!