

What People are Saying

"How wonderful it was to have you here for the Dragon Panel Project! Your visit had such an impact on me, my colleagues and our students. You gave me new energy!

The interns felt the process of creating Dragon Panel Project as well as having time with you and your speech was such a powerful experience for them. They feel it was the highlight of the year...."

Dara Raboy-Picciano, LCSW-R
Co-Founder/Coordinator 20:1 Sexual Assault
Prevention Prog.
Health Promotion and Prevention Services
Binghamton University

How, Where?

Do you want to honor a person of color who is not well known who did something amazing?

~Make a multi-colored panel for them!

Do you feel it important to remember the continuing violence against people of color?

Do you want to honor a person of color killed with race as a likely factor, who touched your heart?

~Make a black and white panel for them!

Anyone can do a Project!

All you need are foam core panels, and a little imagination. There is no "right" or "wrong" way — follow your light. Make it your own!

~Make a head and tail, attach them all together with "velcro", TA - DA!

Dragons can be displayed almost anywhere

join with others, let us know

Contact: allonefamily@comcast.net

Also Check out **The Healing Racism Toolkit**,
<https://tools4racialjustice.net> coming Spring 2020



Promotional material produced for Binghamton University displays

"We will remember them."

The Dragon Panel Project
with
The Dragon of Many Colors

**Bearing Witness to:
Violence Against People of Color
&
"Ordinary" People of Color who
did Extraordinary Things**





THE DRAGONS

This project is part of a 30-year ministry using communal artistic expression to engage hearts and hands for compassionate social change to create awareness and honor that of God in everyone.

History — Who We Are

The purpose of the original **Dragon Panel Project** is to bear witness to violence against people of color. It is similar to the Clothesline Project which was also created by Rachel Carey-Harper to bring awareness to violence against women. The Dragon Panel Project grew out of a "Vigil for Victims of Hate Crimes: Holding in the Light Those who Suffer Vicious Human Rights Violations" initiated by James Varner at New England Yearly Meeting in 2013. For that event, Rachel creating two panels on black foam core that named Trayvon Martin and James Bird. The following year she added a panel for Michael Brown.

Soon after this, Rachel created a dragon by adding more panels, a dragon head and tail, and the Dragon Panel Project was born.

The Dragon continued to grow and in 2018 inspiration came to Rachel to design a companion piece to celebrate "ordinary" people of color who've done extraordinary things and the **Dragon of Many Colors** was created.

Health Promotion
and Prevention Services
Binghamton
University

— <https://www.facebook.com/pg/BinghamtonHPP/photos/>.



Mother Bear and Rachel — (Sisters of the Light production 1997)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTcRiQoOk3E>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgAoEWvBumc>

James Varner continues to mentor and be an elder for this project. In addition, Rachel is also accountable to many other people of color with whom she has been honored to work over many years:

"I thank you with a DEEP LOVE for your loving witness. I appreciate your Ministry." "Thank you for your energy and high spirit. I APPRECIATE YOUR DEDICATION."

— Greg Williams, Rail of Justice



"I have enjoyed working with Rachel Carey-Harper for many years and feel our efforts shed light on the effects of racism and find her to be a woman of love and integrity ... She is loved and appreciated by [my tribe] because she comes in truth." — Mother Bear, Wampanoag Bear Clan Mother (2018)



(James and Rachel— 2019)
"God brought us together for a reason, we have GOD's work to do together in this troubled world! We are also together to support each other, thank GOD!" — James Varner, Maine Human Rights Coalition

Why a Dragon?

Dragons are symbols. Often they are associated with fear and power. Fear is pervasive in violence against people of color which is depicted in the Project. On the surface is the irrational white fear — of males of color manifested in various ways such as clutching the pocketbook at the sight of a black man or the exaggerated fear of women of color's anger. This masks the real fear which is under the surface, a fear of losing white privilege, supremacy and dominance. People of color carry true, rational fear because a simple incident, a tail light being out, can lead to death. Violence against people of color is dangerous for everyone as it tears the fabric of community. Meanwhile, the companion piece, the Dragon of many colors, conveys what can be made manifest when fear is overcome and lives are not cut short.

Dragons symbolize that we are not powerless, that we can make a choice. We can heal, grow and change and together, build a better and truly loving, peaceful and just world.

~rch