

SHANNON T.L. KEARNS

Speaker



Shannon has spoken at:

Pride in Prague, Czech Republic
Philadelphia Transgender Health Conference
Metropolitan Community College, St. Paul, MN
Wild Goose Festival
Judson Memorial Church, NYC
Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, WA
Ball State University, Muncie, IN

About Shannon

Shannon is the director of Empathy Into Action and the co-founder of QueerTheology.com. A published author, a playwright, and screenwriter, Shannon was a Humanitas New Voices Fellow for 2022 and was a recipient of the Playwrights' Center Jerome Fellowship in 20/21 and he was a Lambda Literary Fellow for 2019 (in playwriting) and 2022 (in screenwriting) and a Finnovation Fellow for 2019/2020.

Shannon is an ordained priest, educator, and a sought after speaker.

Select Topics

Subversive Stories: The Power of Narrative
Current LGBTQ+ Trends
No One Taught Me How To Be A Man: What a Trans's Mans Experience Reveals About Masculinity
Cultivating Healthy Masculinity

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Talk Descriptions

Subversive Stories: The Power of Narrative.

Part personal narrative, part exploration of stories, in this talk Shannon shares his story of growing up a Christian fundamentalist in a rural community and his journey to becoming the first openly transgender man ordained to the Old Catholic priesthood. He'll share the way stories saved him and how stories can deepen empathy and open up new ways of being.

Current LGBTQ+ Trends

In this informational workshop, Kearns will draw on his deep well of experience with LGBTQ+ communities to share the current trends and what they mean for organizations, churches, and communities. More than just a list of stats and figures, this workshop will go deep into how your organization can better advocate for and support LGBTQ+ folks, as well as what these trends say about culture more broadly.

No One Taught Me How To Be A Man: What a Trans's Mans Experience Reveals About Masculinity

Shannon TL Kearns grew up in a world of rigid gender roles and around people who assumed he was female. When he transitioned he had to figure out what it meant not only to be a man, but to be the kind of man he felt good about. In this talk he shares his journey of transition, of figuring out his masculinity, and what his experience might reveal about masculinity that can help non-trans men feel better in their bodies, their relationships, and their friendships.

Cultivating Healthy Masculinity

In a world filled with "toxic masculinity", online discourse where women are consistently choosing the bear over the man, and conversations about unequal labor in relationships, households, and the workplace, is masculinity the problem or is it men?

Let's explore what healthy masculinity can look like. We'll define the terms and then explore how we can start to cultivate healthy masculinity right where we are. We'll explore models of healthy masculinity and specific things we can do right now to start to cultivate these mindsets and behaviors in our own lives and in the lives of the men we love.