

# Detroit Free Press

## MICHIGAN

# Month of workshops, panels to support transgender youth offered by Michigan group



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Detroit Free Press

Published 9:00 a.m. ET Sept. 30, 2023 | Updated 9:00 a.m. ET Sept. 30, 2023

Michigan-based nonprofit Stand with Trans, a leading organization supporting transgender youth and their loved ones, is holding its fourth annual Trans Empowerment Month this October.

The group will offer dozens of virtual workshops, panels and performances, including a few in-person events in the metro Detroit region for transgender and non-binary youth, all under the theme “Come Together.”

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The series of events runs through the month of October, kicking off with a keynote address on Sunday, Oct. 1 and offering something different almost every day.

Registration is free for youth and adults up to age 24, and \$50 for parents and others age 25 and up.

“However,” said Stand with Trans founder Roz Keith, “we don’t want cost to be a barrier for anyone. So, if someone finds it a financial hardship but wants to participate, they can contact through our website and say they’re looking for a subsidy. We do have some funds set aside, and we can give them a code to register.”

Keith said the event continues to develop and improve every year.

“We have amazing speakers this year,” she said. “Our presenter network has really expanded. We want to make sure that we’re putting the content out authentically and that we have people with lived experiences in front of the youth and allies, so young people can see them and think, ‘I could be doing this job,’ or ‘I could be speaking out on advocacy,’ or ‘I could be talking about mental health because I’m studying social work,’ whatever the situation might be. I really like putting presenters in place who are models of possibility for the young people who are viewing.”

Keith said that attendees can register at any point during the month, and that the event is not just for Michiganders, as most of the discussions are virtual.

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“We have people from all over the country who come to our events virtually,” she said. “We’ve pulled in people from 40 different states that I know of, and it’s probably closer to 50 now.”

Interested persons can sign up and learn more at [standwithtrans.org/TEM](https://standwithtrans.org/TEM).