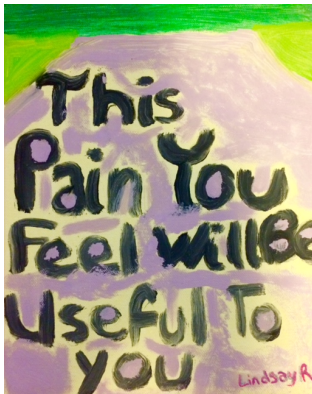


Crossing Point Arts was most pleased to bring together our community of esteemed colleagues and supporters for our May 17th Symposium.



The germ of the idea for this event was sparked by a grant we received from Art4Moore which funded the opportunity for survivors to participate in dedicated workshops of painting, drawing and multi-media.



The awareness-raising art exhibition consisted of large collaborative paintings by international survivors from **Lifeway Network** (Bronx) and smaller pieces by domestic survivors, from **GEMS** (Central Harlem) depicting their words of wisdom.

(Workshop Teaching Artists: Anne H. Pollack & ArinMaya Lawrence)

Choice Removed/Choice Restored

The event highlighted a panel discussion which brought into focus the numerous paths in which people are trafficked and the effective paths that we, as a community, are collectively taking to help survivors heal and reclaim their lives. Our panelists, with whom we partner closely, work through: medical care, psycho-social research and literary research.

Panelists:

Veronica Ades, MD; Founding Director: EMPOWER Gyn (providing free OB Gyn health care to survivors of sex trafficking)

Phuong Thao Le, PhD (Researcher at NYU School of Global Public Health - researcher in HT)



Winston Benons, Jr., Veronica Ades, ObGyn; Laura Barberan Reinares, PhD; Phuong Thao Le, PhD; Anne H. Pollack

Laura Barberan Reinares, PhD (Researcher / Professor @ BCC, author: "Sex Trafficking in Post Colonial Literature")

Anne H. Pollack, Founder / Exec. Dir. of Crossing Point Arts

Winston Benons, Jr., Moderator; Pres. of Crossing Point Arts Brd. of Directors

The discussion traversed each of the panelists respective work and their individual approach to restoring choice to survivors through:

- Medical treatment - at NYC's only health care clinic for survivors of sex trafficking.
- Psychosocial Research - to understand better survivor's healing trajectory.
- Literary Research - to address words and messaging and breaking down the stigma that survivors endure while questioning the media's representation of human trafficking.
- The Arts, which act as a force of well-being and inner liberation.

Please join us in our goal to grow our initiative! [DONATE](#) Thank you!