MARCH 25TH, 2023



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JUSTICE COLLECTIVE



## A NIGHT FOR YOUTH REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

EVENT PROGRAM AND ZINE





Our sincere thanks to our partners and supporters that made tonight possible:

PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF GREATER NEW YORK PLAN C PILLS ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH

THE RAOS, CHRISTINE PITNEY, MORGAN LOVE

THE RJC ADVISORY BOARD (MAYA, PAYAL, JESS, KENDALL, AND LIZZIE)

JANE'S CLUB (IG: @JANESCLUB\_)

KRISTEN WNUCK FOR BEING THE MOST COMPETENT EVENT LEAD RJC HAS EVER SEEN.

# EVENT PROGRAM

Emceed by Isabella Villa Real Seabra

7:30pm

Welcome Remarks by Niharika Rao

Thank God for Abortion

Shilpita Mitra-Behura & Hennessy Garcia

Assemblymember Harvey Epstein

Wilchai

Elijah Castle

Bridget Schwartz

Kayla Williams

Larada Lee-Wallace

Bri Joy



# SPEAKER BIOS

**Bridget Schwartz:** While attending Skidmore College from 2017 – 2021 Bridget Schwartz was involved in the school's Planned Parenthood Generation Action chapter, becoming chapter president her senior year. Skidmore PPGen promoted access to sexual and reproductive health care on campus and created a space for students to advocate for reproductive justice. In 2020 Bridget also worked as a field organizer for the Nevada Democrats. She is now the content manager for news and activism at Betches Media. *Instagram and TikTok:@Betches\_Sup* 

Larada Lee-Wallace currently serves on the board of directors for California's only statewide abortion fund, ACCESS Reproductive Justice, and as the State Campaign Manager for Abortion Access at Advocates for Youth. Larada is passionate about expanding abortion access and decentering white, cisgender, and heterosexual voices and pathology in conversations around abortion and bodily autonomy. She strives to make this a reality through training and educating youth on how to advocate and speak about abortion in a way that is liberating and destigmatized, sharing their own abortion story publicly, and supporting people through their own abortion experiences by crafting a compassionate, judgment-free, abortion positive environment as a doula.

Niharika Rao (they/she) is an abortion doula and co-founder of the Reproductive Justice Collective NY, a coordinator at Advocates for Youth, and an organizer with NYC for Abortion Rights. Their work focuses on confronting the connections between the criminal legal system and reproductive access through legislative advocacy, clinic defense, and self-managed abortion support and awareness. They are also currently leading the campaign for legislation to get abortion pills on campus across New York State.

# SPEAKER BIOS

**Elijah Castle** works in research centered around the trans community, addressing topics such as client-clinician relationships, autonomy and consent, and how stigma affects provisions of care. Elijah also provides educational workshops, materials, and support in community settings on topics related to gender-affirming healthcare including surgery information, healthcare navigation, adolescent care, and sexual health. *elijahcastle.com*.

Shilpita Mitra-Behura (she/her) is an undergraduate at Columbia University who is passionate about ensuring that abortion is treated as essential healthcare. She is a co-lead of RJC's Community Advocacy working group, which is currently leading the campaign for access to medication abortion pills on New York State university campuses. She also does clinical imaging research into the structure of the uterus, helping to generate some of the first data pools about uterine structure and correlated function.

Hennessy Garcia (she/they) is a queer Afro-Latinx student studying environmental science at CUNY Medgar Evers College. They are also studying data analytics in an online degree program at Southern New Hampshire University. Hennessy is also an organizer, activist, abolitionist, and intersectional feminist. They work in community with NYC For Abortion Rights and the Reproductive Justice Collective. They additionally work in community with NY Renews and Public Power NY.

**Isabella Villa Real Seabra** (she/her) is a Brazilian undergraduate student at Barnard College interested in the intersections of human rights law and social justice. On campus, she is the Co-Lead Organizer of RJC and Co-President of Take Back The Night. Outside of campus, tonight's host organizes with a coalition of Brazilian and South American organizations fighting for reproductive justice in Brazil.

# PERFORMER BIOS

Thank God for Abortion is a queer activist collective and strategy conceived in 2015 by artist Viva Ruiz , born as a response to the catastrophic closing of abortion clinics throughout the US. Their mission is to eliminate the criminalizing stigma around abortion one t-shirt, one installation, one party, one rally, one conversation- one soul at a time. They are occupying a light and apology free space in a conversation that even in the left is fraught with guilt and secrecy. They are committed to a repossessing of our own narratives and pull it back from the dominant extreme right-wing "sin" perspective which continues to justify legislating the torture and death of abortion seeking people. They are broadening the spectrum of this conversation by inhabiting a joyful and authentic place in regards to our own experience with abortion, they hope to inspire others to do the same. *Instagram: @thankgodforabortion.* 

**Bri Joy (he/they)** is a multidisciplinary artist, specializing in drag, music, and theatre. He is a part of the Haus of Quench, a queer Brooklyn art collective. He is grateful to be here supporting the efforts of reproductive rights activists as he has a record of organizing and participating in actions to secure reproductive rights for all. He is honored to be here giving a drag performance this evening! *Instagram: @bri.jOy.* 

**Dana Fang** is an artist based out of NYC who has been classically trained as an illustrator at RIT, and has been live painting all over the country. Sphongle, Ivy Lab, Truth, CharlestheFirst, and Yheti are just some of the bigger names she's painted alongside at festivals and concerts. She mixes the use of color theory with imagery of music, geometry, and spirituality with modern day cultural values in a surrealistic manner using acrylic on canvas. Come watch Dana create beautifully intricate, spiritually resonant artwork. *Instagram: @art\_by\_fang.* 

# PERFORMER BIOS

**Wilchai** is mapping out a blueprint for growth, one note at a time. Originally a jazz-trained guitarist and producer hailing from Normal IL, she garnered accolades from American Composers Federation and Downbeat Magazine and played classic venues around NYC including Terminal 5, Mercury Louge, and Williamsburg Hall of Music. Wilchai draws from these wide-ranging experiences and contemporary influences spanning from Coltrane to Dijon and Charlotte Day Wilson to create soul-stirring alt-R&B and indie. *Instagram: @steph.fm solo.to/wilchai* 

Violist Kayla Williams is an advocate for diversifying music through her own experiences as a Black woman. Originally from Florida, Kayla began playing the violin at age four then at age ten she discovered her true passion, the viola. As a winner of the 2018 Lynn Concerto Competition, she made her concerto debut performing Bartok's Viola Concerto. Williams has been the guest of music festivals across a range of music including the Grand Teton Music Festival, the Florida Folk Festival, and the 2022 Pittsburgh International Jazz Festival. Williams has both live and recorded performances with Grammy Award winner Jon Batiste, and has performed with the Jonas Brothers at the Marguis Theater in Times Square this month. As a recitalist, Williams has performed in concert series around the country, including the Island Concert Association February Festival in St. Simons Island, GA. Williams earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Viola Performance from the Lynn Conservatory of Music in Boca Raton, Florida, and a Master of Music degree in Viola Performance from the Juilliard School in New York City. She is also the recipient of the 2021-2023 Juilliard Career Advancement Fellowship. Instagram: @thekaylabay.



RJC's members are students and young people from across New York who are committed to defending reproductive freedom. We do work throughout New York City around legislative advocacy, doula work and abortion support, selfmanaged abortion awareness, and access to genderaffirming care.

We believe that incorporating abortion care into the routine services provided at campus clinics will increase youth abortion access and decrease stigma related to seeking fullspectrum reproductive healthcare. This is especially urgent as New York becomes a destination state post-Dobbs, and our abortion clinics and funds experience increased demand from patients from restricted states. Anti-abortion groups have also started focusing increasingly on New York City, leading to clinic harassment and invasions.

We cannot be complacent about abortion access.



### URGENT ACTION FOR ABORTION ACCESS IN NEW YORK!

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS ABOUT THE NEED FOR ABORTION PILLS ON CAMPUS AT CUNY AND SUNY!



### **TEXT NYCREPRO TO 50409**

We've made it easy for New Yorkers to urge legislators to support abortion pills on campus! **Text NYCREPRO to 50409** to automatically send your reps a letter asking them to require CUNY/SUNY campuses to provide abortion pills at their campus health centers and provide funding for the policy!

Download our extensive library of shareable zines, guides, and information at reprojusticecolumbia.org/guides.

Follow our campaign and see our actions for MAB on Campus at reprojusticecolumbia.org/abortion-pills.

IG: @reprojusticecollective, Twitter: @reprojusticenyc

reprojusticecolumbia.org SMA Hub: sma-info.carrd.co





Advocates for Youth works with young people to champion youth rights to bodily autonomy and build power to transform policies, programs, and systems to secure sexual health and equity for all youth. Advocates' Youth Activist Network stands 75,000 strong on 1,200 campuses and in tens of thousands of communities.

We envision a society in which all young people are valued, respected and treated with dignity; sexuality is accepted as a healthy part of being human; and youth sexual development is normalized and embraced. In such a world, all youth and young adults are celebrated for who they are and afforded honest, affirming, inclusive sex education; access to confidential, universal sexual health services; and the economic, educational, and social power to exercise their bodily autonomy and make informed decisions regarding their health and well-being. Join one of our campaigns for youth sexual health and reproductive justice at advocatesforyouth.org/ourcampaigns. We have campaigns and resources about Condom/Contraceptive Access, Sex Education, Sexual Violence and Title IX, #FreeThePill, Abortion Access and Support, and communities centered around young Muslim and Womxn of Color Advocates!



With abortion bans spreading nationwide in reaction to the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, young people between the ages of 14–24 can sign up to join this grassroots effort to create a national network of young people who provide support navigating the abortion process, including logistics and travel. Learn how you can help others in your campus or community, become an abortion doula, understand the laws and medical facts around self-managed abortion care, provide housing or rides for others needing abortion care, and/or join other activists in fighting abortion bans.

Too many already face barriers to abortion care, including restrictions, travel, and cost. We all need to become experts on how to get an abortion and how to connect other folks to abortion care. We need to learn about self-managed abortion and become resources for those who need to know more about it. Legal abortion is not enough, young people need to help each other access it.

Sign up now to join a network of young people ready to become resources for abortion access in our communities. Let's build the world we need.

IG and TikTok: @advocatesforyouth Twitter: @advocatestweets

advocatesforyouth.org



## Planned Parenthood of Greater New York

Planned Parenthood of Greater New York (PPGNY) is a leading provider, educator, and advocate of sexual and reproductive health care in New York State. PPGNY offers a wide range of sexual and reproductive health services at its 23 health centers across 65% of New York State. PPGNY is a trusted source of medically accurate, evidence-based information that allows people to make informed decisions about their health and future. As a voice for reproductive freedom, PPGNY supports legislation and policies that ensure all New Yorkers have access to the full range of reproductive health services and education.

Planned Parenthood Generation (PPGen) Action is a network of young activists across the country who organize events on their campuses and in their communities to:

- Mobilize advocates for reproductive freedom
- Raise public awareness about reproductive health and rights
- Educate young people about sexual health
- · Create lasting change in their communities

At PPGNY, our 12 active chapters affiliate–wide, are leading sexual and reproductive education and advocacy work for their campus communities. Chapters have been closely collaborating with our sexual and reproductive health coalition partners, hosting sex education events, de-stigmatizing abortion talks, and health fairs. Additionally, they are leading campus campaigns including establishing contraceptive/safe sex vending machines and programming for partnering with local abortion and pregnancy doulas.

With more than 350 chapters across the country, Planned Parenthood Generation Action is harnessing the power, energy, and enthusiasm of young people to fight for reproductive freedom and for fundamental justice for all.

#### Planned Parenthood of Greater New York Action Fund

#### GAVELS OFF OUR MEDICATION ABORTION: A COMMUNITY CARE AND MOBILIZATION EVENT

This community convening will center community care + education, and how we can boldly push back against this current attack on reproductive rights and ensure access for all.

Date: April 2nd Time: 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Location: The Riverside Church 490 Riverside Dr | New York, NY 10027

Join PPGNY at Riverside Church on Sunday, April 2nd, 2–5 pm for **Gavels Off Our Medication Abortion: A Community Care and Mobilization Event.** This community convening will center community care and education, and how we can boldly push back against this current attack on reproductive rights and ensure access for all, especially in light of the recent case that threatens access to Mifepristone, one of the 2 drugs used in medication abortion.

View upcoming New York Actions and RSVP for the above by scanning the QR Code!



Look at the policy Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts is fighting for in New York at plannedparenthoodaction.org/empire-state-acts!

#### IG, Twitter, FB: @ppgnyaction

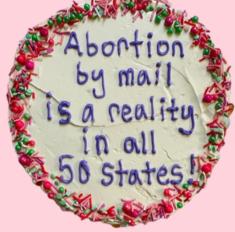
plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthoodgreater-new-york



Plan C (plancpills.org) is an evidence-based information campaign for abortion pill access in the US.

We provide information on abortion pills, including where they're found online and how they're used for a safe home abortion through our Guide to Pills (plancpills.org/guide) and communications campaign.

We do this to disentangle the method from politics and put it back where it belongs: in the hands of the people who want to use it.



Our small but mighty team of veteran public health advocates, researchers, social justice activists, and digital strategists incubates new initiatives that disrupt old barriers to access by working at the intersection of research, technology, advocacy, and health to usher in a new era of abortion access for this safe, effective method for anyone seeking to end an early pregnancy at home.



## JOIN THE PLAN C COMMUNITY!

We are a community of people who want to spread the word about abortion pills and how they are already being accessed in all 50 states. **Join at plancpills.org/community.** 

As a member of the community, you'll receive access to:

- Free Plan C Stickers and mini-handouts to distribute.
- Self-Managed Abortion (SMA) info-sessions.
- The Plan C Community Discord
- Weekly actions you can take to support abortion access.

IG, Twitter, TikTok: @plancpills

plancpills.org plancpills.org/donate



Girls for Gender Equity (GGE) works intergenerationally, through a Black feminist lens, to center the leadership of Black girls and gender-expansive young people of color in reshaping culture and policy through advocacy, youthcentered programming, and narrative shift to achieve gender and racial justice.

We center Black girls and gender–expansive youth because we understand that when we center the most marginalized among us, it benefits those around us.

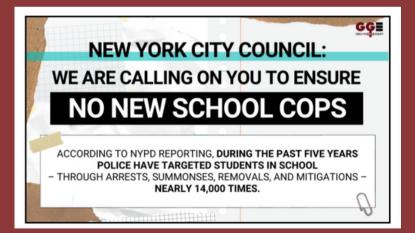
While Black girls make up only 16% of all female-identified students, they make up more than one-third of all girls with a school-related arrest. (Monique W. Morris, Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools, 2015.)

60% of Black girls will experience sexual violence before age 18. (Black Women's Blueprint ND.)

Black girls and women with uteruses are three to four times more likely to experience pregnancy-related death than their white counterparts. (CDC, 2019)



Visit **bit.ly/PFS-GGE** to download our toolkit for police-free schools in New York City. This toolkit is a compilation of tips, templates, and resources to assist school community members in creatively reimagining and building strategies to sustain a Police-Free School. It is our hope that this provides the context and language helpful to actively participate in the work to address the systemic racism young people are subject to on a daily basis due to the presence of police in their schools.



IG and Twitter: @ggenyc



www.ggenyc.org



reproductive health access project

The Reproductive Health Access Project (RHAP) trains, supports, and mobilizes primary care clinicians to ensure equitable access to sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion. By centering communities most impacted by barriers to care, RHAP fills critical gaps in clinical education and care delivery.

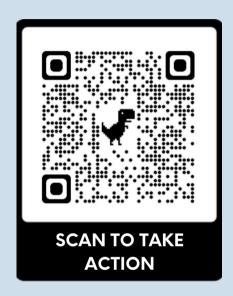
#### Share resources!

Talk about and share our patient education resources (especially our zines and self-managed abortion resources!) on social media so your community can access evidence-based, person-centered information on reproductive health care. Resources are available at reproductiveaccess.org/resources.

#### **Become a Patient Education Field Tester!**

RHAP is looking for field testers! The role we expect from field testers is to make sure the translations we provide 1) accurately convey information in a way that is easy to understand and culturally appropriate, and 2) reflect RHAP's values of evidence-based practice, intersectionality, patient-centeredness, and purposeful inclusion. We are looking for field testers with fluency in reading and writing Arabic, Chinese Simplified/Traditional, French, Hindi, Spanish, Vietnamese, or any other language. Field Testers receive a \$100 honorarium for each resource they help to field test. If you are interested in helping RHAP field test some of our resources, please reach out to education@reproductiveaccess.org.

## TELL NY LEGISLATORS TO PROTECT PROVIDERS SENDING ABORTION PILLS TO RESTRICTED STATES!



We must pass a 'Shield Law' for NY clinicians who are working to help pregnant people in restricted states by sending abortion pills through organizations like AidAccess. They should not face prosecution or lose their licenses for being brave enough to defy a christofascist law.

IG: @reproductiveaccess, Twitter: @RHAP1 reproductiveaccess.org

# **CALLEN-LORDE**

CALLEN-LOR

Callen–Lorde is the global leader in LGBTQ+ health care. Since the days of Stonewall, we have been transforming lives in LGBTQ+ communities through excellent comprehensive care, provided free of judgment and regardless of ability to pay.

In addition, we are continuously pioneering research, advocacy and education to drive positive change around the world, because we believe healthcare is a human right.



Care with Action is a program to engage Callen–Lorde patients and community members in the advocacy we do to support the health and wellness of our TGNB, Queer, and BIPOC communities, as well as to advance health equity and racial justice. Join a community of activists who care about the future of LGBTQ+ health!

We'll be asking you to show up to events and rallies, speak out about the importance of increasing access to care, and tell your story to help make change!

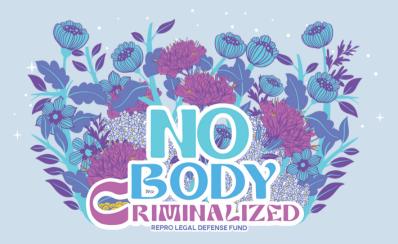
IG: @callenlorde callen-lorde.org linktr.ee/callenlorde callen-lorde.org/shop

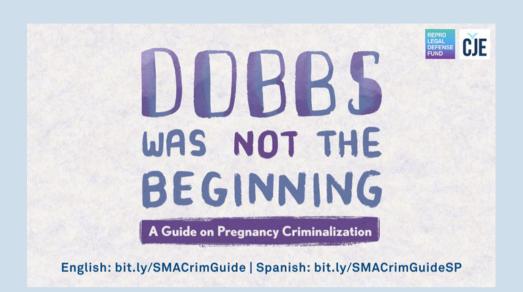


## REPRO LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

The Repro Legal Defense Fund provides bail and strong defenses for anyone criminalized for something that happens during pregnancy, and the folks who directly support them. RLDF, in partnership with the Transgender Law Center, also runs the Trans Health Legal Fund, which provides resources for trans people facing investigation, arrest, or prosecution for seeking healthcare.

Criminalization is financially and emotionally expensive. Our fund covers practical support costs for the whole human who is criminalized: paying for bail, attorneys fees, expert witnesses, social workers, commissary, cell phones and other costs for those targeted by the state.





Organizers and advocates, this guide is for you. Repro Legal Defense Fund and Community Justice Exchange have collected our grassroots experiences from case support, financial assistance, to navigating press for someone criminalized for self-managed abortion.

Pregnancy criminalization has no doubt heightened since the Dobbs decision but the truth of the matter is, folks have been criminalized for their pregnancy outcomes long before in ways, and through systems, that seem to be unrelated to abortion on the surface but very much are.

If you know someone caught up in the legal system for self-managing their abortion, this guide can help.

**Listen to the new RLDF Podcast!** Search up 'No Body Criminalized' wherever you get your podcasts!

reprolegaldefensefund.org/give IG: reprolegaldefensefund reprolegalhelpline.org

# New York Abortion Access Fund

The New York Abortion Access Fund supports anyone who is unable to pay fully for an abortion and is living in or traveling to New York State by providing financial assistance and connections to other resources.

# Why does New York State, a state where people can get public health insurance coverage for abortion services, need an abortion fund?

Shouting protestors are not the only barrier to abortion access. Abortion is prohibitively expensive for many people, with the average cost ranging from **\$523 at 10 weeks, to \$3000 at 24 weeks** gestation.

Even in New York and the 16 other states that provide Medicaid coverage for abortion, thousands of low-income people fall between the cracks. Many people may be too poor to pay for abortion procedures, but they are uninsured and not poor enough to obtain public health insurance coverage, such as Medicaid.

In addition to helping people from New York, NYAAF also assists people from out of state who need help covering the costs of their procedures in New York. New York City is a major destination for many people across the country seeking abortions.

In 2022, we pledged 1.2 million dollars to support nearly 1800 abortion seekers from 26 states and 5 countries, and in the first two months of 2023 alone, NYAAF has already pledged \$421,778 towards peoples' abortions. If we continue to receive requests for funding at this rate, we would be on track to move more than 3 million dollars in 2023.



By joining as a Fund-a-Thon participant, you will directly fund abortions for folks most impacted by abortion barriers– including Black people, Indigenous peoples, and people of color, people with low incomes, young people, domestic violence survivors, people with low incomes, immigrants, people with disabilities, sex workers, and people who live at the intersection of these experiences. You will also build community with fellow reproductive health, rights, and justice advocates.

Fund-a-Thon participants commit to fundraising in their own community and having heart-to-heart conversations about abortion. **You can fundraise on your own or grab a group of friends and start a team.** 

Either way, we will give you tools along the way to support your peer-to-peer fundraising!

NYAAF is also hosting an in-person Trivia event the weekend of May 19 2023 in New York City! This event will be an opportunity to uplift the fundraising efforts of our supporters in the NYC area and celebrate with our larger community. It will also be an opportunity to connect with folks new to the movement and spread the word about the great work of NYAAF. The event will be free for all Funda-Thon fundraisers, and open to non-participants with a slidingscale cover charge. More details will be shared soon. While event attendance is not mandatory for fundraisers, we do encourage you, and your teams, to join and play trivia with us!

Twitter: @nyaaf, Instagram: @nyaafund

nyaaf.org/donate

Funding hotline: 212–252–4757 or email: info@nyaaf.org.



## NY BIRTH CONTROL ACCESS PROJECT

#### About us

We center our work on birth control access and focus our resources on training reproductive health advocates. These young adults learn, develop, and exercise the skills necessary to advocate for legislation, policy change, and in areas of direct impact.

#### Why now?

While some see New York as a bastion of pro-choice policy, as leaders of the national movement there is still much work to do. Over 1 million women live in a contraceptive desert and lack meaningful access to birth control. In fact, most advocates join NYBCAP because they themselves have faced barriers to birth control.

#### Sign the Petition for Emergency Contraception!

Sign the petition at nybcap.org/associate-board to help us get emergency contraception placed in vending machines on college and university campuses, in transit stations and other public places. Emergency contraception is a safe form of birth control which is available over-the-counter in pharmacies and can be easily and discreetly dispensed from vending machines. Across the United States, campuses are installing vending machines for emergency contraception and citing several reasons why their students are supportive of the measure, including patients' preference for anonymity and privacy, 24/7 availability and the convenience of vending machine locations.



Twice a year NY Birth Control Access Project hosts a movie screening for our Associate Board members. We coordinate with organizations across NYC to invite the young people they work with.

This spring, we will be showing Love and Basketball with our "Sexy Sex Ed" panel to follow and will be discussing healthy relationships.

The event is free for anyone 25 and under (with RSVP) and open to all ages! We hope you can make it! All donations support advocates doing the work to improve access to birth control and fight for reproductive rights.

Link to Tickets/RSVP on Instagram @nybcap!



Donate: nybcap.org/donate nybcap.org/join-us

# A NIGHT FOR YOUTH REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

## OPEN ME FOR:

PROGRAM DETAILS

SPEAKER AND PERFORMER BIOS

PAGES ON EACH ORGANIZATION FEATURED TONIGHT

WAYS TO GET PLUGGED IN TO THE IMPORTANT WORK HAPPENING AROUND YOUTH REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE IN NEW YORK!!

## WE NEED YOU IN THIS MOVEMENT!

Created March 2023. IG: @reprojusticecollective, Twitter: @reprojusticenyc reprojusticecolumbia.org

