



## SHATTERING THE SILENCE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE WITH ARTS & ACTION



**Steve Connell** is the Poetry Slam Champion and 2003 National Champion (team LA). His work has been featured on a wide variety of media outlets, including ABC World News, Good Morning America, MSNBC's Hardball, HBO's Def Poetry (twice), Showtime's Crossover, MTV's World AIDS Festival, BET's Lyric Café, as well as Oprah Winfrey's celebration of Maya Angelou's 75th birthday and Quincy Jones' Lifetime Achievement Award celebration. <u>stevenconnell.com</u>

**Sarah Rice** from MTV "Real World Brooklyn", "The Ruins" and "Real World/Road Rules Challenge" hopes to use her artistic skills to help victims of sexual abuse. She volunteered at The Gay and Lesbian Center in New York by initiating an art therapy program called "Mirror, Mirror on the Wall... Self-Image Awareness through Art." The class was dedicated to the creativity of the human spirit and the process of healing by exploring the experiences and expectations of self-image in today's culture. <u>IamSarahRice.com</u>

**Angela Rose**'s decade of work on the issue of sexual violence has made her a highly-respected, engaging speaker on violence prevention, survivor empowerment, and advocacy through the arts. Angela's efforts have been profiled by CNN, The Today Show, and The Montel Williams Show. Rose is the Founder and Executive Director of PAVE: Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment. She co-created the Binding Project using the ties that were used to bind her hands behind her back when she was abducted from a shopping mall parking lot. <u>AngelaRoseInfo.com</u>



Artist and Owner of Koko Mia, **Morgan Ramsdell** was inspired by the issues of PAVE and drawing upon experiences of her own life, Ramsdell juxtaposes raw edgy imagery with the gentle to speak about women's issues. She uses poetry from her own journals and images from her photographs and paintings in her artwork that will hopefully inspire and empower those who experience it. <u>Kokomia.com</u>



PAVE's International Faith Director, **Jaime Gill**, believes that the MASKs that we wear are our Mistakes, Assumptions, Scars, and Knowledge of our true selves; and because we don't feel that we will be accepted by our friends, families, and/or society. Removing the Mask is a thought provoking and engaging exercise that will cause vulnerability and encourage forgiveness, empowerment, and healing!



**Diana Riser** is a poet and PAVE's Research Director. She is pursuing her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology at Virginia Tech. Her research focuses on risk, resilience, trauma in child and adolescent development, and on pedophilia. Diana hopes to provide greater insight into the occurrence of sexual abuse and subsequent recovery of victims including using the arts.

**PAVE: Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment** is an international nonprofit that uses art, education and action. PAVE is a grassroots organization and their initiatives have been implemented in 55 cities and 3 countries. <u>www.ShatteringTheSilence.org</u>