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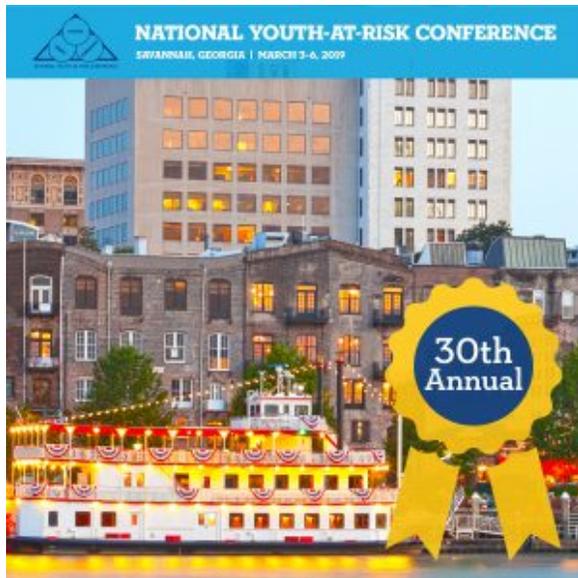
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Georgia Southern hosts 30th annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference

February 6, 2019

More than 120 training sessions are coming to Savannah as the Georgia Southern University College of Education hosts the 30th annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel March 3 through 6.



The conference brings together over 1,200 professionals in education, social work, law enforcement, counseling, and other child and family advocacy fields from around the country for quality, relevant training to better serve youth placed at risk.

Joe Hendershott, Ed.D., author of *Reaching the Wounded Student* and president of Hope 4 The Wounded, Inc., will be the keynote speaker for the Grand Keynote Banquet on March 4. Hendershott will encourage attendees who work with students affected by trauma and offer methods for boosting students' self-esteem, increasing achievement and engagement in the classroom, graduating from high school, and learning to create empathic connections.

Yong Zhao, Ph.D., and Pedro Noguera, Ph.D., will be Monday and Wednesday's keynote speakers respectively. Zhao calls for a paradigm shift in education with his presentation, "Reach for Greatness: Personalizable Education for All Children," while Noguera offers insight into creating equitable opportunities for students in his presentation, "Excellence Through Equity."

The National Youth-At-Risk Conference aims to help professionals create safe, healthy, caring and intellectually empowering educational environments for children and adolescents.

Those interested in registering or viewing the speaker schedule can do so at www.nationalyouthatrisk.org.

For more information about the upcoming conference, email Bonnie Overstreet at the Georgia Southern University Division of Continuing Education at nyarconference@georgiasouthern.edu or call 912-478-5555.

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Georgia Southern to host free screening of “Bully,” Q&A with area experts to follow

February 6, 2019

On Tuesday, Feb. 12, Georgia Southern University College of Education (COE) will host a free screening of “Bully,” a film documenting the effects of bullying on school-aged students and their families. The screening, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 6 p.m. in University Hall, room 156, located on the Armstrong Campus in Savannah.

The documentary, filmed over the course of a single school year, follows five students and their families as the students cope with cruelty from classmates while trying to fit in. Transcending geographic, racial, ethnic and economic borders, the film examines the growing issue of bullying in schools today and how students, parents, teachers and administrators are facing the problem.

According to filmmaker Lee Hirsch, Sundance Film Festival and Emmy-Award winner, over 13 million American kids will be bullied this year, making it the most common form of violence experienced by young people in the nation.

The film sparked an ongoing effort called “The Bully Project,” which is a global movement to stop bullying and transform children’s lives by changing the culture of bullying into one of empathy and action. The movement website, www.thebullyproject.com, includes tools and resources on bullying for educators, students, parents and advocates.

Following the screening, the COE will host a question-and-answer session with local professionals in the fields of social work, juvenile justice, counseling and bully prevention in schools.

This screening is the first in a series of five events that will take place on the Armstrong Campus during the Spring 2019 semester. The series is being offered at no charge to students or the community as a result of a Campus Life Enrichment Committee grant written and received by COE faculty Regina Rahimi, Ed.D., Kathleen Burke-Fabrikant, Ph.D., and David Owens, Ph.D.

The additional screenings will include: “The Cartel” on March 5; “The School in the Cloud” on March 27; and “Elementary Genocide” on April 16.

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