NYAR Savannah Program 2011
National Youth-at-Risk Conference, Savannah

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Recommended Citation
22nd Annual National Youth-at-Risk Conference

MARCH 6–9, 2011

Hyatt Regency Hotel on the Historic Riverfront in Savannah, GA

Successful Programs for Empowering Youth: Overcoming Poverty, Violence, and Failure

www.nationalyouthatrisk.com
Explore Issues, Find Answers

Examine risk factors for dropout among boys living in poverty, especially generational poverty. *Boys in Poverty* structures issues according to boys’ physical, emotional, cognitive, and social development, and also explores the unique problems of sensitive, gay, gifted, ADHD, and postadolescent males.

Hear Solution Tree Authors

You are invited to attend presentations by Robert Barr and Kenneth Williams at the National Youth-At-Risk Conference. Explore their research-based books, as well as other youth-at-risk publications, at solution-tree.com.

Order today!

800.733.6786 solution-tree.com
DEAR CONFERENCE ATTENDEES,

On behalf of the Planning Council and our sponsors, we welcome you to the 22nd Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference. Over the years, the conference has grown tremendously and so have the needs of the youth we serve. We remain dedicated to providing up-to-date comprehensive professional training to all adults who serve youth. This year, over 100 nationally and internationally recognized presenters share successful programs and strategies for creating safe, healthy, caring, and intellectually empowering environments to reduce at-risk conditions and promote the well-being of all our young people.

We hope you find the conference presentations both useful and stimulating and that you have several opportunities to network with like-minded professionals. Thank you for helping make the conference a resounding success again this 22nd year!

Best regards,
Dan Rea and Denise Weems-White
Georgia Southern University, College of Education, Co-Chairs of the Conference Planning Council

CONFERENCE MISSION
The conference trains adults who serve youth to create safe, healthy, caring, and intellectually empowering educational environments that foster the well-being of all children and adolescents.

Conference at a Glance

**March 7. MONDAY**

8 AM Check In Opens - Lobby, Onsite Registration Opens – 2nd Floor Balcony, Exhibits Open – Lobby & 2nd Floor Balcony, Continental Breakfast – Regency Ballroom Prefunction

8:45 – 10 AM High Flying Schools Award Ceremony
Keynote Presentation Joseph B. Washington

10:30 – 11:45 AM Concurrent Sessions

11:45 AM – 1:15 PM Lunch on your own

1:15 – 2:30 PM Concurrent Sessions

3 – 4:15 PM Concurrent Sessions

4:15 PM Turn in Evaluations

6 PM National Youth-at-Risk Idol & Mixer

**March 8. TUESDAY**

8 AM Check In Opens - Lobby, Onsite Registration Opens – 2nd Floor Balcony, Exhibits Open – Lobby & 2nd Floor Balcony

8 – 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 9:45 AM Concurrent Sessions

10:15 – 11:30 AM Concurrent Sessions

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Lunch on your own

1 – 2:15 PM Concurrent Sessions

2:45 – 4:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

4:30 – 5 PM PLU Credit Mastery Test

4:00 PM Turn in Evaluations

**March 9. WEDNESDAY**

7:30 AM Check In Opens - Lobby, Onsite Registration Opens – 2nd Floor Balcony, Exhibits Open – Lobby & 2nd Floor Balcony

7:45 – 8:15 AM Continental Breakfast

8:15 – 9:15 AM Keynote Presentation Donna M. Beegle

9:45 – 11 AM Concurrent Sessions

11:15 – 12:30 PM Concurrent Session

12:30 PM Turn in Evaluations
The conference trains adults who serve youth to create safe, healthy, caring, and intellectually empowering educational environments that foster the well-being of all children and adolescents. To accomplish this mission, it offers over 100 presentations by nationally and internationally recognized presenters to over 1200 conference participants from across the United States. In these presentations, participants learn about current research-based educational programs and strategies, which empower young people to overcome at-risk conditions that may threaten their safety, health, emotional needs, or academic achievement. Participants also gain knowledge of proactive solutions and best practices for meeting the serious challenges faced by many of our youth today such as school violence, poverty, learning difficulties, underachievement, achievement gaps, illiteracy, boredom, apathy, low expectations, misbehavior, dropout, drugs, bullying, gangs, teen pregnancy, sexual harassment, racism, and dysfunctional families. Furthermore, participants gain effective educational tools to build strong caring schools, communities, and families, which can meet the diverse needs of all our young people. Illustrative of the conference mission, the conference logo—consisting of three overlapping circles—represents the well-trained collaborative efforts of schools, families, and communities in fostering the well-being of our youth.

I. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & SCHOOL LEADERSHIP
Closing the achievement gaps and promoting learning for all students.

II. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS
Fostering social and emotional skills of all children and youth and enhancing the social climate.

III. SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION
Preventing violence and ensuring safety for all children and youth.

IV. MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH
Promoting the mental and physical health of all children and youth.

V. FAMILY & COMMUNITY
Developing and enhancing family and community support for all children and youth.

Our Thanks To The 2011 Planning Council

DR. DAN REA, CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR
Professor, Curriculum, Foundations, and Reading, College of Education, Georgia Southern University

DR. DENISE WEEMS-WHITE, CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR
Assistant Professor, Teaching and Learning, College of Education, Georgia Southern University

JANICE REYNOLDS, CONFERENCE COORDINATOR
Program Development Specialist, Continuing Education Center, Georgia Southern University

• Kaye Aikens (Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools)
• Ron Alt (ALTernatives)
• Bernadette Ball-Oliver (Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools)
• Joyce Baker (Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools)
• Deanne Bergen (Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Region 5 Office of Prevention Services and Programs)
• Kelly Burke (Bethesda Home for Boys)
• Lou Caputo (Family Connection Partnership, Inc.)
• Evelyn Baker Dandy (Retired)
• Irene Denmark (First District RESA Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities)
• Jane Ford-Brocato (White Bluff Elementary School)
• John H. Finney (Economic Opportunity Authority)
• Irma Gibson (Savannah State University)
• Michele S. Hartzell (Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools)
• Marilyn Hutchinson (Armstrong Atlantic State University)
• Carol Jenkins (Englewood High School)
• Stephanie Kenney (Georgia Southern University)
• Thomas Koballa (Georgia Southern University)
• Eric Landers (Georgia Southern University)
• Lois J. Landy (Division of School & Leader Quality, Georgia DOE)
• Monica Lanier (Director of Federal Programs, Bulloch County Schools)
• Steven M. Larson (Savannah College of Art and Design)
• Charlotte Mallard (Pineland MH/MR/SA Services/Southeast Prevention Services)
• Khani Morgan (Savannah Technical College and Royce Learning Center)
• Shaunae Motley (Future Foundation, Inc.)
• Michael O’Neal (Parent University)
• Judith Shuman (Effingham County Board of Education)
• Sherry Smith (Georgia Southern University)
• Mike Stubbs (Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools)
• Jana Underwood (Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools)
• Marie Williams (Georgia Southern University, Center for Continuing Education)
This Year’s Conference Provides an Array of Learning Opportunities

CONCURRENT SESSIONS: Presentations of successful practices, programs or issues with our featured and highlighted speakers are provided in a lecture style format.

PANELS: Panels feature a group of experts chosen to discuss an important topic and allow for an audience question and answer period. This year’s panel topics are: Building Peace in Our Schools and Communities, Meeting the Challenges of Rural Education, and Educating “Mean Girls.”

TOWN HALL MEETING: Our Town Hall Meeting, How to Reach Young African American Males, is the sixth in this annual series of discussions. It will be a double session with ample time for audience participation.

POSTER SESSIONS: Poster Sessions provide an opportunity for interaction and consultation with highly respected professionals with expertise in specific areas. These sessions feature visual aids and handouts. All sessions will be first-come, first-served.

NAME BADGES MUST BE WORN: To be admitted to the banquet on Sunday, February 28 and the breakfast each day you must wear your name badge, which will indicate that you are registered for these events.

CELL PHONES: Please turn off Cell Phones during each presentation. Thank you!

CONFERENCE EVALUATION FORMS: Evaluation forms will be distributed by our Room Monitors at the first Concurrent Session at each day of the conference. Please turn in your completed evaluations at the end of each day to a Room Monitor. For your convenience evaluation collection boxes will be in the hotel’s public areas. An evaluation of the conference’s general sessions will be accessible via nationalyouthatrisk.com or via an email announcement following the conference.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING UNIT (PLU) MASTERY TEST: Georgia educators who will be earning a PLU at the conference should report to the registration area on Tuesday at 4:30 PM to take the short essay Mastery Test. Please allow 30 minutes to complete your test.

SEATING CAPACITIES: The seating capacity for each presentation room is listed throughout the program. The smaller presentation rooms fill quickly. Please arrive early for presentations in those rooms and be prepared with a second choice.

Professional Learning Units

Participants of the 22nd Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference who hold a valid Georgia Teaching Certificate or Paraprofessional License or who are working towards a Paraprofessional License, will be eligible for one (1) PLU credit hour. One (1) Professional Development Unit (PLU) credit is available for participants who attend 10 hours of the conference. Participants must successfully complete a short written examination of the material covered. Successful PLU candidates will receive their PLU credit forms within 4-8 weeks following the conclusion of the conference. These forms may be submitted to employing GA public school systems for 1 credit toward certification renewal. PLU credit is used by employees of Georgia public school systems who currently hold certificates in an approved field (certified teachers, school counselors, administrators, etc.) as credit toward RENEWING their existing certificates.

PLEASE NOTE: All professional development forms are available at the Professional Development Table in the Registration Area. These forms must be completed and returned to the Professional Development Table by the specified time. You, the participant, are responsible for signing, completing, and returning all forms in order to receive these credits. You must turn in your Prior Approval Form no later that 10 AM on Monday, March 7. Those who have turned in a completed PLU Prior Approval Form will then be given a copy of the conference’s objectives to review while attending the conference. The Mastery Test will be given on Tuesday, March 8 at 4:30 PM for those who have already attended 10 hours of the conference. Report to the conference registration desk for directions to the testing room. Please allow at least 30 minutes to take the test. The test will also be given on Wednesday, but only during times when presentations are not in session. Information about the Wednesday testing times and locations will be available at the conference registration area.

Continuing Education Units

ALL PARTICIPANTS

Conference participants will be awarded 1.50 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for 15 hours of participation through the Division of Continuing Education and Public Service at Georgia Southern University. Certificates will be mailed after the conference upon request via the online conference evaluation form.

COUNSELORS

This program has been approved by the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia (LPCA). Please be sure to sign the LPCA sign in sheet at the Professional Development Table in the registration area.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS

This program has been approved by the Georgia Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (GAMFT) to offer continuing education units for Marriage and Family Therapists desiring state licensing renewal. Please be sure to sign the GAMFT sign in sheet at the Professional Development Table in the registration area.

PEACE OFFICERS

If you are required to be registered or certified by Council you may wish to apply for Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) credits. Peace officers must attest that he/she has attained a minimum of (90%) percent of the training course. You may sign the Course Completion Report at the Professional Development Table in the registration area BEFORE you leave the conference.

SOCIAL WORKERS

This program has been approved by the Georgia Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). Please be sure to sign the NASW sign in sheet at the Professional Development Table in the registration area.
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Sunday • 2:30 – 5:30 PM • Pre-Conference Workshop

LET’S GET REAL ABOUT RACISM: CREATING BRIDGES TO TALK ABOUT OUR DIFFERENCES
FEATURED SPEAKER: Lee Mun Wah, Founder and Director, StirFry Seminars and Consulting, Berkeley, CA

There is so much that is unspoken in this country about race issues. In this workshop we will explore how to have this dialogue on race and racism in a way that will lead to more intimate and honest conversations and relationships with one another. This gathering is about confronting some of the issues that keep us all from talking to one another about race/racism. It is also about discovering new ways to begin that conversation, creating a bridge to talk about our differences, exploring what opens us up and what closes us down, and finally, looking at 101 ways to become culturally competent in our relationships and workplaces. Before we can truly become a multicultural nation, we must have ongoing relationships based on respect and understanding, reflection and curiosity. Our differences and our similarities must be embraced, valued and integrated into the very fabric of our workplaces, communities, schools and governmental institutions. It also means coming to an understanding that awareness and holidays are just the beginning. I hope that you will join us in making this a better world not only for our children, but for ourselves—not by starting tomorrow, but by beginning that conversation today.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Sunday • 2:30 – 5:30 PM • Pre-Conference Workshop

AIM TO GROW YOUR BRAIN: UNLEASHING A MINDSET OF ACHIEVEMENT
FEATURED SPEAKER: Joanne Billingsley, Educational Consultant, San Antonio, TX

Discover a neuroscience, research-based framework for inspiring struggling and disengaged learners. Economically disadvantaged, English language learners and special education students are often disproportionately represented in the dropout, failure, and truancy rates. This framework focuses on intentionally teaching these and all under-achieving students how to unleash their brain’s potential for growth. Participants will leave with specific research-based strategies and lessons that inspire greater student effort and result in more resilient, successful learners. Acquire the knowledge, skills, and lessons needed to deliver this life-changing message of hope to students: Smart is something you get, not something you are. If you embrace new challenges, give your best effort, and practice faithfully, you will grow in intelligence. We all have the potential to grow a better brain.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Sunday • 2:30 – 5:30 PM • Pre-Conference Workshop

SELF-ESTEEM BUILDING TO ADDRESS SEXUAL-RISK BEHAVIORS AMONG GIRLS
FEATURED SPEAKERS: Quinn M. Gentry, Behavioral Scientist, Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute and Message of Empowerment Productions, LLC, Baltimore, MD; Aleisha Langhorne, Health Scientist in the Office of Women’s Health within the Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.; Deborah Scott, President, Sage Associates, Inc., Houston, TX; Nazly Restrepo, Associate Director, Orange County Bar Foundation, Santa Ana, CA; Tori Tyfer, Program Director, Demoiselle 2 Femme, Chicago, IL

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health

The fact that one in four girls in the United States has an untreated sexually transmitted disease (STD) means that past attempts at sex education and risk reduction proved ineffective in addressing the root causes of why girls engage in unprotected sex in the first place. Research indicates that, in fact, girls with lower self-esteem are not only at greater risk for STDs, but also are more likely to have experienced physical or sexual abuse, substance abuse, unmet mental health needs, teen pregnancy, early sexual involvement, gang involvement, and poor parental supervision. To address these risk factors and the rising epidemic among young women, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health (OWH) is implementing innovative gender-responsive prevention programs. Based on research suggesting a greater emphasis on self-esteem and self-efficacy, several of these OWH-funded community-based programs integrate culturally competent strategies of self-esteem with medically accurate sexual health knowledge among girls at greater risk for STDs and HIV. As such, this workshop will showcase some highly effective techniques and best practices for implementing gender-responsive programs for girls in various settings, including public schools, boarding schools, and community-based organizations. The programs selected highlight cultural competency in applying self-esteem in that each serves an ethnically diverse population, including Native American, Latina, and African American adolescent girls.

6 – 8 PM

GRAND KEYNOTE BANQUET AND OPENING SESSION

Regency Ballroom • Sunday • 6 PM • GRAND KEYNOTE BANQUET

Featuring: Young Men of Integrity Boys Choir of Hodge PREP
Under the direction of Alcicia Walton, Music Specialist, Hodge Elementary PREP School, Savannah, GA

Regency Ballroom • Sunday • 6:45 PM • KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

WORKSHEETS DON’T GROW DENDRITES
Marcia L. Tate, Ed.D., Educational Consultant, Developing Minds, Inc., Conyers, GA

“If students don’t learn the way we teach them, then we must teach them the way they learn.” Experience 20 brain compatible strategies that maximize understanding and memory. Use music, metaphor, and movement to increase academic achievement for all students. Explore research that shows why these strategies are preferable to others. Ensure that brains retain key concepts, not only for tests, but for life!

Master of Ceremonies
Ron Alt, President, ALTernatives & NVAR Planning Council Member, Savannah, GA

Welcome
Otis Johnson, Mayor, Savannah, GA

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Thomas Koballa
Dean of the College of Education, Georgia Southern University
What is a High Flying School?

A High Flying School demonstrates outstanding success in the following areas:

1. The school ranks in its state at the 75th percentile or higher in at least three academic subjects in at least two grade levels, and/or meets high standards for achievement on other state academic accountability data, and/or is recognized in its state for closing achievement gaps among student racial groups and sub-groups.

2. The school’s student population is comprised of at least 50% of students living at or below poverty level.

3. The school’s student population is comprised of 50% or more minority students.

4. The school demonstrates high levels of collaboration with community and/or university in addressing youth-at-risk issues within the school and community.

5. The school provides extra-curricular opportunities for students to develop citizenship skills.

6. The school curriculum includes activities related to the growth of students as individuals who are successful members of a democratic society.

Regency Ballroom • Monday • 9 – 10 AM • KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

7 KEYS TO GETTING YOUR CRAYONS BACK
Joseph B. Washington, President and CEO, The Joseph Washington Group, Stone Mountain, GA

Our Crayons represent our creativity and imagination. We were born with the ability to be imaginative and creative. It was in kindergarten that we were all given a box of Crayons. This message is a wake-up call for all of us to realize that inside of us is greatness. Every one of us has a dream, a purpose and a desire to live BIG. But what I also know is that around the fourth grade our Crayons were taken from us and we were given a pencil with an eraser on the end of it. The pencil was given so that we would transition into the next phase of our lives. But something strange happened. Many of us used that pencil to erase away all of our dreams, hopes and desires. Our Crayons represented our unwavering imagination that allowed us to dream even when our eyes were open. It is time to go and get our Crayons back.

FOLLOWING THE KEYNOTE PRESENTATION PLEASE EXIT THE REGENCY BALLROOM TO ALLOW THE HYATT AMPLE TIME FOR A RESET

Ballroom D, E, F • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM
• Q & A AND BOOK SIGNING WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER JOSEPH WASHINGTON

Savannah Room • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • “HIGH FLYING SCHOOL” SHOWCASE

“HIGH FLYING SCHOOL” SHOWCASE
Teachers and principals from five “High Flying Schools” showcase how they closed achievement gaps and raised achievement for all students in their schools. The audience is invited to hear their stories and ask questions. “High Flying Schools” meet six criteria: (1) high achievement, (2) high poverty, (3) high diversity, (4) community collaboration, (5) citizenship development, and (6) democratic education.
**Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**CULTURAL COMPETENCY FOR LEADERS • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 1:15 PM**

FEATURED SPEAKER: Lee Mun Wah, Founder and Director, Stirfry Seminars and Consulting, Berkeley, CA

In today’s workplace environment, cultural competency is a must, not only because we are entering into a global economy, but because an increasing number of employees are entering into the workplace from a vast variety of cultures and geographic regions. With those new faces come different perspectives and unique ways of approaching leadership and workplace situations. Unless those different perspectives are understood and valued, an environment of distrust, confusion, and fear threatens to erupt in the form of conflicts, lawsuits and communication breakdowns. In this unique workshop and training, participants will learn that cultural competency requires not only an awareness of cultural differences, but also many other cultural competencies, including cross-cultural communications skills, community development expertise, and an awareness of social issues and contexts.

**Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**TEACHING IS THE ART OF SCULPTING KIDS’ MINDS: CONSTRUCTING AN ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT WHERE STUDENTS REFLECT, CONNECT AND EXPAND NEURAL NETWORKS • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 1:15 PM**

FEATURED SPEAKER: Joanne Billingsley, Educational Consultant, San Antonio, TX

Explore a neuroscience, research-based framework for closing the academic language and achievement gap. Use what we know about the way the brain learns and create rich learning experiences that build background, language, and deep understanding. Learn about the specific research-based strategies and skills needed to implement this student-centered, instructional model that incorporates eight brain-compatible elements. Intelligence is a function of experience. Therefore, the best learning environment is one that creates common classroom experiences as the basis for instruction and allows students to experience learning!

**Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**ENGAGING ALL STUDENTS: MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR MOST AT-RISK STUDENTS**

• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 1:15 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER: Steven W. Edwards, Edwards Educational Services, Inc., Alexandria, VA

This presentation will cover specific strategies, techniques, and practices to engage our most compromised youth. Special attention will be given to engaging students at multiple levels focusing on structures, prophecies, and services customized to meet students’ needs. Participants will leave the session with tools that they can immediately implement in their school settings.

**Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**IT’S TIME TO END THE PLAGUE OF SCHOOL DROPOUTS: ONCE AND FOR ALL!**

• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 1:15 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER: Franklin P. Schargel, The Schargel Consulting Group, Albuquerque, NM

If we wish to eliminate the plague of school dropouts, we need to eliminate the causes. There are 5 causes: the child themselves, the family they come from, the community they live in, the school(s) they attend, and the teachers they have. Having identified the causes, the attendees at this interactive workshop will develop strategies to use to specifically address each of the causes of school dropouts.

**Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**“HIGH FLYING SCHOOLS” SHOWCASE**

Teachers and principals from five “High Flying Schools” showcase how they closed achievement gaps and raised achievement for all students in their schools. The audience is invited to hear their stories and ask questions. “High Flying Schools” meet six criteria: (1) high achievement, (2) high poverty, (3) high diversity, (4) community collaboration, (5) citizenship development, and (6) democratic education.
HAVE SOME PIE OR DESERT OUR YOUTH
FEATURED SPEAKER: Keith L. Brown, 20/20 Enterprise, Fayetteville, GA

In this high octane, interactive, thought provoking workshop, Keith will prove his “PIE” Theory [Perception Is Everything] is the key ingredient to the success or failure of today’s youth and families. Through relevant examples, Keith will illustrate how our Perceptions determine our level of expectations for youth, how we educate and interact with youth, how we relate to pop culture and social media, and the level of commitment we put forth once our Perceptions are in place. This workshop will reshape your paradigm as it relates to some politically correct held beliefs such as, “I don’t see color,” and “I treat them all the same.” This workshop is a MUST for “change agents” who genuinely want to have the same impact on youth as Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, Skype, BET, and MTV do BUT with much more substance. This “PIE” will cause you to “Lose the Wait” in terms of bridging the gap between adults and today’s youth and provide strategies which can be used as bridge builders.

Our Thanks to
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health and
Solution Tree
for their annual support of our conference.
Ballroom D, E, F (Seating Capacity 200) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session
Q&A AND BOOK SIGNING WITH JOSEPH B. WASHINGTON

Visit the Exhibitors
Exhibits are located on the LOBBY and MEZZANINE LEVELS.
You are urged to visit these areas to gather information and to examine materials, which may be of benefit to your programs.

ACTIVE PARENTING
20/20 ENTERPRISES
BOTVIN LIFESKILLS TRAINING
BURGESS PUBLISHING AND MEDIA
BRAINCHILD
BRANE EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS
CHAMPIONSHIP CHESS
CHEROKEE CREEK BOYS SCHOOL
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, ST. PAUL
CREATIVE THERAPY
DIANE’S ETC.
DISCOVERY TOYS
EDUVISION. LLC
ENI-GIKENDAAASOYANG
EPIC EMPOWERMENT ENTERPRISES, LLC
HAMILTON BOOKSTORE
GEM EDUCATION ART
JOURNEYWORKS PUBLISHING
LIGHTHOUSE CARE CENTER OF AUGUSTA
NATIONAL GUARD COUNTERDRUG PROGRAM
NATIONAL RUNAWAY SWITCHBOARD
PALTECH, INC.
PROJECT ADVENTURE, INC
REACH THEM TO TEACH THEM
READ RIGHT
SALVATION ARMY OF SAVANNAH
SANDY’S LITTLE SCHOOL
SCREENING FOR MENTAL HEALTH
SOLUTION TREE
THE EDMAT COMPANY, INC.
THE LIONHEART FOUNDATION
THE RINGER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
UNIVERSITY BEHAVIORAL CENTER, ORLANDO
URBAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
WILLINGWAY HOSPITAL
WORDPLAY MULTIMEDIA. LLC
YOUNG MASTER MINDS OF ATLANTA
YOUTH LEARNING INSTITUTE, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Pick up your MONDAY evaluations now from the Room Monitors!
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session

TRANSFORM YOUR YOUTH WITH MENTORING
FEATURED SPEAKER: Kristina Marshall, President and CEO, Winning Futures, Warren, MI

Mentoring is a powerful, proactive approach to empowering at-risk youth. Learn from a mentoring expert on how to incorporate mentoring into your youth program, recruit and retain volunteer mentors, and design a structure that works for you. All practices are based upon the National Mentoring Partnership Elements of Effective Practice and the WinningFutures’ evidence-based programming. Participants will be provided with sample materials they can customize for their program.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session

LIFESKILLS TRANSITIONS: PROMOTING SUCCESS IN THE LEAP FROM SCHOOL TO WORK
Alayne MacArthur, Principal Consultant, National Health Promotion Associates, Inc, White Plains, NY

Community college and vocational education programs is a path to economic opportunity for at-risk populations where educators provide young adults the academic and social emotional skills necessary to face the new roles and responsibilities that come with joining the workforce or post-secondary education. LifeSkills Transitions brings the best practices in skills based approaches to stakeholders engaged in the task of preparing young adults for new roles and responsibilities.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session

ADDRESSING SCHOOL VIOLENCE THROUGH RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICES
Holly Snyder, Restorative Justice Coordinator, Children’s Home Association of Illinois; and Michelle Southey, Behavior Management Specialist, Kiefer School, Peoria, IL

The violence that is taking place in the homes and neighborhoods of students is finding its way into the school setting. Learn how Restorative Justice can be utilized in the school setting including the classroom to promote the safety and well being of students and school staff. This session will increase knowledge about Restorative Justice as well as provide an interactive discussion regarding practical ways to implement.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session

WOW – THE WORLD OF WORK
Trina Pulliam, Chief Trainnovator, and Beth Ryan, Chief Idea Architect, Trainnovations, Jupiter, FL

Youth Unemployment has created a “lost generation.” Youth have dropped out of the labor market without hopes of returning any time soon. Making appropriate choices, using critical thinking and problem solving skills, and having the technical know-how to find and keep a job is lacking among youth today. Learn about the “lost generation,” the impact this has on our future, and how one program is making a difference. For 14 – 16 year olds, the focus is on The World of Choices and for 17-21 year olds, the focus is on The World of Work. The combination of thinking and practice gives young adults the skills and the hope necessary for them to continue their journey of learning and working successfully.
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**CULTURAL COMPETENCY FOR LEADERS**
*FEATURED SPEAKER: Lee Mun Wah, Founder and Director, Stirfry Seminars and Consulting, Berkeley, CA*

In today’s workplace environment, cultural competency is a must, not only because we are entering into a global economy, but because an increasing number of employees are entering into the workplace from a vast variety of cultures and geographic regions. With those new faces come different perspectives and unique ways of approaching leadership and workplace situations. Unless those different perspectives are understood and valued, an environment of distrust, confusion, and fear threatens to erupt in the form of conflicts, lawsuits and communication breakdowns. In this unique workshop and training, participants will learn that cultural competency requires not only an awareness of cultural differences, but also many other cultural competencies, including cross-cultural communications skills, community development expertise, and an awareness of social issues and contexts.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**TEACHING IS THE ART OF SCULPTING KIDS’ MINDS: CONSTRUCTING AN ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT WHERE STUDENTS REFLECT, CONNECT AND EXPAND NEURAL NETWORKS**
*FEATURED SPEAKER: Joanne Billingsley, Educational Consultant, San Antonio, TX*

Explore a neuroscience, research-based framework for closing the academic language and achievement gap. Use what we know about the way the brain learns and create rich learning experiences that build background, language, and deep understanding. Learn about the specific research-based strategies and skills needed to implement this student-centered, instructional model that incorporates eight brain-compatible elements. Intelligence is a function of experience. Therefore, the best learning environment is one that creates common classroom experiences as the basis for instruction and allows students to experience learning!

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**ENGAGING ALL STUDENTS: MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR MOST AT-RISK STUDENTS**
*FEATURED SPEAKER: Steven W. Edwards, Edwards Educational Services, Inc., Alexandria, VA*

This presentation will cover specific strategies, techniques, and practices to engage our most compromised youth. Special attention will be given to engaging students at multiple levels focusing on structures, prophecies, and services customized to meet students’ needs. Participants will leave the session with tools that they can immediately implement in their school settings.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**IT’S TIME TO END THE PLAGUE OF SCHOOL DROPOUTS: ONCE AND FOR ALL!**
*FEATURED SPEAKER: Franklin P. Schargel, The Schargel Consulting Group, Albuquerque, NM*

If we wish to eliminate the plague of school dropouts, we need to eliminate the causes. There are 5 causes: the child themselves, the family they come from, the community they live in, the school(s) they attend, and the teachers they have. Having identified the causes, the attendees at this interactive workshop will develop strategies to use to specifically address each of the causes of school dropouts.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**“YOU ARE NOT A GARBAGE CAN”: A CREATIVE APPROACH TO TEACHING NUTRITION TO CHILDREN**
*Jimmie Barnett, Consultant, Trainer, Motivational Speaker, Smart Bites LLC, Upatoi, GA*

This presentation will give teachers, parents, nutrition professionals and others who care for children ages 4 - 10 a creative guide for getting kids excited about nutrition. The session is packed with fun activities and strategies for teaching children the importance of healthy eating, how to make healthy food choices, and how to analyze food messages they receive through societal influences.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION: A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3:00 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER: Wayne Sakamoto, Director of School Safety, Murrieta Valley Unified School District, Murrieta, CA

Schools have long been instructed to build the social climate of the school to reduce bullying behaviors and to use anger management programs to intervene with school bullies. How do you build a positive school climate? Why have anger management approaches received mixed reviews in bullying intervention? In addition, the research has indicated that mediation/conflict resolution approaches should not be used if bullying is suspected, yet counselors and school administrators have stated they have used conflict resolution to successfully intervene with some bullying. This session will cover a step by step cost effective process to building a positive school climate and will take a new look at the bully and will identify specific bullying typologies and assessment of these typologies. The session will also discuss appropriate interventions based upon the bully typology. The session will provide answers regarding when to use anger management, mediation, conflict resolution and other intervention strategies. The session is appropriate for school administrators, counselors, mental health personnel, coaches, activities directors and other staff that directly deal with bullying.

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

MUSIC, MOVIES, & MEDIA: FROM TI TO FB@ TOOLS YOU CAN USE IN 2011!

• DOUBLE SESSION CONCLUDES AT 4:15 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER: Eric Rowles, President and CEO, Leading to Change, Inc., Charlotte, NC

What’s the connection between Drake & Green Day? From T.I. & Taylor Swift? From You-Tube & My Yearbook? X-Men & Harry Potter? Come to this tool-filled workshop to learn how to use over 40 different media tools, including today’s music, movies, and social media in your cutting edge work with young people. Participants will be introduced to many free or inexpensive tools that they can use to hear the music months before their youth, legally download clips of movies still in the theater, and connect with 100’s of their youth via broadcast texting! Hold on tight and arrive early, as this workshop moves at warp speed.

• THIS DOUBLE SESSION CONTINUES UNTIL 4:15 PM
ONLY PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTEND PART 1 (1:15–2:30 PM) WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE 3 PM SESSION.

FIVE CONFERENCE STRANDS

I. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & SCHOOL LEADERSHIP
Closing the achievement gaps and promoting learning for all students.

II. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS
Fostering social and emotional skills of all children and youth and enhancing the social climate.

III. SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION
Preventing violence and ensuring safety for all children and youth.

IV. MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH
Promoting the mental and physical health of all children and youth.

V. FAMILY & COMMUNITY
Developing and enhancing family and community support for all children and youth.
Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

CHANGE HAPPENS NOW! ARE YOU READY? 1 + 1 = 1 • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER: Fred Stokes, President, Fred Stokes Group, Ltd., Tarrytown, GA

In today’s society, there is no shortage of quick fix programs and applications about how to solve the problems that are confronting our youth. Every year there is a new...and improved formula on how to deal with “at risk kids.” However, our youth are still falling through the cracks at an alarming rate. The kids that are not dropping out of school are performing at or below their grade level. On the surface, it would appear that the kids themselves are at fault. But, who’s really at fault? Is it the Parents/Guardians, the School System or could it be the Government? Because these problems are not bias to skin color or socioeconomic background, all of our kids are “at risk.” What do we do to turn things around for the better so that our young people can succeed? Are you tired and frustrated in dealing with kids that seem like they just don’t get it? Fred Stokes shares real life success stories using humor and analogies about his days spent in the NFL to move you to the next level.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

PANEL: WHAT TO DO ABOUT GIRLS BEHAVING BADLY

MODERATOR: Tori Tyler, Demoiselle 2 Femme, Chicago, IL

PANELISTS: Laverne Morrow Carter, President, Research and Evaluation Solutions, Inc., Alexandria, VA; Deborah Scott, Sage Associates, Houston, TX; Stephen Brown, President & CEO of Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc., Orlando, FL; Lauren Josephs, Vice-President & COO of Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc, Orlando, FL

DISCUSSANTS: Susan Alford, Director, The Girls Center, Youth Learning Institute, Clemson University, Pickens, SC; Michelle Perkins, Educator, PYDS, Inc. “Positive Youth Development Services,” Pooler, GA; Janet M. McGee, Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida, Oak Hill, FL; Laverne Morrow Carter, President/Chief Project Director, Research and Evaluation Solutions, Inc., Alexandria, VA; and Santrecheel Julian, Youth Community Action Project Coordinator, Project South, Atlanta, GA

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health

In this panel, adolescent social and health experts who have implemented violence prevention and intervention models will deconstruct four dimensions of violence with prevention and early intervention. Such a focus may result in girls being appropriately classified as “deprived vs. delinquent,” which shifts the intervention focus from that of a punishment model to a treatment paradigm. These four dimensions of violence include: (1) intimate partner violence, where we examine power and control from an adolescents’ perspective, (2) family violence, where we examine how family secrets of sexual abuse, and the “normalization” of physical and verbal abuse impact girls’ violent behavior, (3) peer-to-peer violence particularly in school settings as unique “place-based” intervention environment, and (4) street crimes and commercial sexual exploitation that bring girls to the attention of the juvenile justice system as the first point of intervention.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

UNDERSTANDING AND INFLUENCING YOUR SCHOOL’S CULTURE: THE RESEARCH AND WHAT IT TAKES!

FEATURED SPEAKER: Dennis Carpenter, Deputy Superintendent, Newton County Schools, Founder and Lead Consultant, LeaderLearners, LLC, Covington, GA

In this session, the presenter will provide an overview of two pieces of profound research related to transforming school culture and maximizing organizational effectiveness/achievement through challenging employees. In addition to understanding this research, that impacts all organizations, attendees will be exposed to some very practical strategies that will allow them to shape the culture of their schools/organizations and ultimately get results for students! This is a very focused presentation for education practitioners who are focused on results; yet understand the critical need to influence the human dynamics constantly working within the subculture of their organization.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

YOU GOTTA REACH ‘EM IN ORDER TO TEACH ‘EM: REDEFINING EDUCATION FOR A NEW GENERATION

FEATURED SPEAKER: Hotep, Founder, Hustle University, Stone Mountain, GA

A multi-media presentation that completely revolutionizes the way educators and students view school and education! This presentation completely destroys common misconceptions teachers and mentors have about education and how to get youth to perform their best. This collaborative learning workshop also demonstrates the most overlooked missing ingredients in “education,” and definitively explains why black students (especially boys) have the most difficult time in school. Most importantly though, this presentation provides solutions! It shows how to shift students’ perception of school and illustrates its direct link to them achieving their wildest dreams!
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session
CREATING A CULTURE OF SUCCESS IN A RURAL HIGH SCHOOL
Anthony Smith, Principal and Dara Bennett, Assistant Principal, Pierce County High School, Blackshear, GA

Pierce County High School has implemented a culture of success for all students by implementing many “outside the box” strategies. The school created a professional learning community where learning comes first for all. Strategies will be presented to show how to implement monthly professional learning through focus groups, how to form course teams where teachers teaching like courses work together to provide quality instruction and assessment, and how to implement a modified block schedule that enhances student learning. Student motivational strategies such as a lunch remediation instead of zeroes, test prep rallies for standardized tests, test prep sessions each night before the tests and student reward systems will be presented. Implementation of these strategies has created a culture of success for students and teachers which have resulted in remarkable gains in student achievement over the past 8 years. The target audience will be administrators and teachers from middle and high schools.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session
A MODEL FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
Thomas D. Peacock, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, Winona State University, Winona, MN; Elizabeth Albert-Peacock, Instructor, University of Minnesota at Duluth, Duluth, MN; and Maawanji-idiwag, Early Childhood Cohort, University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN

Intended for anyone working in leadership development and/or with high risk youth, the presentation will describe an innovative and potentially liberating leadership development program for Minnesota’s Indigenous youth, ages 14-17, from the 11 federally-recognized Dakota and Ojibwe communities. The presentation will focus on describing the conceptual model for the program, which incorporates 5 dimensions: critical consciousness (internalized oppression, fear of freedom, development of individual and collective consciousness); the application of traditional Dakota and Ojibwe leadership in contemporary leadership; transformational leadership; The Circle of Courage (a youth resiliency and empowerment model that targets generosity, independence, mastery and belonging); the Harvard model for tribal economic development (culture, sovereignty, institutions and leadership matters); and transformational leadership (Bass, Burns).

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session
POSITIVE ACTION CENTER: A NEW APPROACH TO DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT
Susan Armoni, Executive Director, and Robert Gonzales, paxUnited: The National Mediation Center, Carrollton, TX

Behavior problems in our classrooms are the major deterrent from learning. Millions of dollars are spent each year in dealing with discipline referrals. Many times the students and the adults who work with them are at a loss as to how to change these situations. Join us as we explore Positive Action Center (PAC), a peer to peer mentoring program that incorporates a process that allows the situations to be examined and behaviors changed to afford both student success and classroom peace.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session
TOWARD A PARADIGM OF GROUP MENTORING FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN GIRLS PLACED AT RISK
LaShawnda Lindsay-Dennis, Assistant Professor, and Sha’Quawn Hines, Student, Paine College, Augusta, GA

Many African American girls can benefit from structured programs that offer an opportunity to develop psychosocial skills that help them navigate multiple environmental challenges. Relatable adult women with similar life experiences can often serve as a network of support and provide strategies for healthy living. This presentation describes culturally specific processes described by both African American female mentors and mentees.
BECOMING A DYNAMIC ADMINISTRATOR: MANAGEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT
Angelica R. Collins, Assistant Principal at SGA Elementary, Waynesboro, GA, and Kaveous K. Preston, Assistant Principal, Paulding Co. Schools, Dallas, GA

Objective: To help administrators recognize their ability to excel as leaders. Topic to be covered: Learning how to inspect what you expect, support teachers and students, empower other administrators, be firm, fair and consistent, enhance your leadership style to allow for shared decision-making and collaboration, be data-driven, and implement an effective discipline plan using some of Terry Alderman’s strategies and organizers. We will also provide the audience ways to be effective evaluators of Learning Focus Schools.

NUTRITION CURRICULUM METHODOLOGY FOR STUDENTS WITH MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCE LEVELS IN A SELF CONTAINED CLASSROOM
Naeemah A. Raqib, Family and Consumer Science Extension Educator, Faculty, University of Maryland Extension, Glen Burnie, MD

With changing classroom environments teachers find themselves adapting lessons to ensure greater impacts. This workshop educates teachers on methods and strategies used to enhance a nutrition education curriculum for special needs students in a self-contained classroom while measuring impacts. This learned skill set will enable teachers to more effectively adapt lessons for their students.

SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS AT COLQUITT COUNTY HIGH
Chad Horne, CTI Coordinator; Lynn Griffin, CIT Coordinator/Special Education Department Head; Donna Mitchell, Transition Specialist, Colquitt County High School, Moultrie, GA

At Colquitt County High School we are promoting leadership and developing social and emotional skills by starting a class and club that we call Partnerships for Success. The mission of this program is to provide leadership, community service, and foster friendships for students with and without disabilities. Our objective is to do all that we can at CCHS to foster an atmosphere of inclusion at our school. Come see what makes ours successful and how to start your own!

TEEN ANGER, A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO TEACHING ADOLESCENTS TO EFFECTIVELY CONTROL THEIR ANGER
Raychelle Cassada Lohmann, Author and Professional School Counselor, Hilton Head Island High School, Beaufort County, SC

With the problem of teen anger growing at middle and high schools across the nation it is more important than ever before that teens learn to cope and channel their anger in appropriate ways. This session will examine anger management and incorporate coping skills and strategies in both individual and group counseling. The presenter will provide handouts and practical resources to help practitioners teach adolescents effective and healthy ways to express anger.

ABSTINENCE AND MARRIAGE 1+1 DOES EQUAL 2
Bobbie Kern, Executive Director; Jennifer Orton, Director; Laura McTier, Program Manager, Resource Center of Gwinnett, Lawrenceville, GA

The target audience is from middle to high school students, teachers, and civic groups that work with this age range of youth. It is designed to help students discover that abstinence is the safest, healthiest lifestyle and one that prepares them for a healthy marriage. Not only is it important to understand the ramifications of pre-marital sex but to understand the significance of a healthy marriage.

ACT FOR AT-RISK STUDENTS
Robin Gibson, SAT Coach, Hephzibah High School, Hephzibah, GA

We are the dream builders. After school when the athletes are practicing for the BIG GAME, we are preparing students to take the ACT. We give them a diagnostic test. We work on their strengths and weaknesses. We address math, science, reading and writing. We share snacks and secret strategies to help that at-risk student achieve his/her dream. We give them a post test- actual ACT and then we show up the day of their ACT and share breakfast with them before the test because we love what we do!

THE ECHO BOOMER GENERATION: SUGGESTIONS FOR MAKING CONNECTIONS
Willie Burden, Associate Professor; Drew Zwald, Associate Professor; Daniel R. Czech, Associate Professor; and Trey Burdette, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

The objective of this presentation will be to enhance understanding and improve the communications and connections between the academy of teachers and caregivers and our students. Organizations that serve children and youth should be more aware/knowledgeable about the important significance of this generation, their culture and future promise.

ENGAGING INNER CITY PARENTS OF EARLY ADOLESCENTS: WHAT WORKS?
Nadine Finigan, Senior Research Program Manager, Johns Hopkins University: Schools of Medicine and Public Health, Baltimore, MD

Parent involvement has been proven effective in the academic success and future orientation of youth. However, little is known about how best to engage and involve parents of adolescents, especially in inner city environments. This presentation will present original research on best practices for involving parents of inner city youth which would benefit participants responsible for parent engagement.
THE TIES THAT BIND US—WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THOSE TIES ARE BROKEN
Judy Fields Davis, Educational Consultant, Af-firmations, Savannah, GA

In "The Ties That Bind," the work of several noted educators, social activists and social psychologists will be examined in order to get to the heart of why community ties are so very important. Do we suffer from our own misguided need to give and to provide our children with everything? Even to give them what we should allow them to earn for themselves.

EVALUATING PERCEPTIONS OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS AMONG ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED AND MINORITY FEMALE ADOLESCENTS
Katherine Coffee, Doctoral Candidate; Carisa Raucci, Doctoral Candidate; and Mary Steinhardt, Professor, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

A public school in Texas aims to stop declining health among economically disadvantaged and minority female adolescents. A mixed-methods study examined perceived adolescent well-being according to students, parents and faculty, and confirmed the national downward trend among females (grades 6-9). Results support the need for comprehensive, age-appropriate female wellness curricula. Target audience includes teachers, curriculum developers, and school leaders.

USING FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS TO CLOSE THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP AND IMPROVE PARENT COMMUNICATION
Douglas Edwards, Data Support Specialist; Constance Morman, Parent Liaison; Angela Winchester, Department Chair, Social Studies; Anna Ladson, School Counselor; and Byron Kellam, Licensed Counselor, Creekside High School, Fairburn, GA

A teacher-friendly system of formative assessment closes the achievement gap by providing real-time feedback on student understanding and providing constant student progress for counselors and parents.

DOES SCHOOL LEADERSHIP EFFECT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT?
Maryjane Kirby, Mentor, Walden University, Fayetteville, NC

Largely, research focuses on formal leadership of school principals. This research finds that principals exert leadership through assemblage of actions that coalesce around different "models" of leadership, including transformational, transactional, ethical, and laissez-faire. An emergent body of research examines the leadership practices of teachers, either as informal leaders without a formal leadership role, or as formal leaders in roles such as department head, coordinator of a special program, or teacher mentor.

IMPACT OF NON-ACADEMIC BARRIERS ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE: A SAMPLE FROM A DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM
Emby Miller, School Social Worker, Academic Acceleration Academy, Columbus, OH

This informative poster presentation is engaging to an audience of educators and social workers who are concerned about the dropout crisis. This presentation demonstrates innovative thinking in school reform through use of assessment, academic recovery, and career-based intervention. It also highlights a predictive model of school success with a profile of nonacademic barriers to credit accumulation and graduation.

GEORGIA COLLEGE EARLY COLLEGE—PROMOTING ACADEMICS FOR AT-RISK STUDENTS
Barbara C. Roquemore, Assistant Professor and Camille Murter, Principal, Early College, Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA

The Georgia College Early College, an innovative college setting, offers educational opportunities to students in grades 7-12. Ninety-five percent of the students are from low-income families, 100% are first generational college attendees and 69% are African-American. Part of the initiative by The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the program is effectively raising the academic level of at-risk students.

Room Monitors will be collecting MONDAY evaluations at 4:15 PM.

Do we have your current email address?

Please stop at the Registration Booth on the Second Floor to confirm your email address.
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT: WHAT IS IT REALLY WORTH?

FEATURED SPEAKER: Michael O’Neal, Executive Director, Parent University, Savannah-Chatham County Public School System, Savannah, GA

This presentation will address the question: why are such limited resources going towards parental participation and development? Parent University was founded 11 years ago to simultaneously help parents learn to be effective advocates for their children and to work on dispelling the effects of racial tension in Savannah’s public schools. Parent University bridges the gap between the community and the public schools by providing practical training for parents and encouraging parental involvement in their children’s education. This community-based program has attracted over 4,600 participants in the Savannah area, and has won numerous awards. The majority of these participants come from underserved communities. Now, in these tough fiscal times, if we asked if there is still the will in the community to continue this level of service, some would say “NO there is not.”

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

GETTING BEYOND INDIVIDUAL ADOLESCENT GIRLS RISK FACTORS

MODERATOR: Deborah Scott, Principal and Executive Director, Sage Associates, Houston, TX

PRESENTERS: Stephan Brown, President & CEO of Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc., Orlando, FL; Lauren Josephs, Vice-President & COO of Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc., Orlando, FL; Onica Barnes, Program Coordinator, Women Accepting Responsibility, Baltimore, MD and Ashley Cunningham, Prevention Health Education Specialist, Women Accepting Responsibility, Baltimore, MD; and Quinn M. Gentry, Behavioral Scientist, Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute and Message of Empowerment Productions, LLC, Baltimore, MD

Sponsored by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health

Individual interventions are more effective when they acknowledge the context within which individual risk behaviors arise. Too often interventions take for granted that individuals have equal access to resources, such as education, income, and opportunity structures. The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health (OWH) is implementing gender-responsive prevention programs that allow grantees to address locally-defined social and health threats that impede individual behavioral change. Without addressing the social structural issues, many adolescent girls revert back to risky behaviors, particularly when their social environment or other structural constraints fail to support or value their commitment to protect themselves from risky behavior. In this presentation, OWH-funded agencies will highlight the ways in which they address various social determinants of girls’ health, including viewing mental health from an environmental perspective, providing access to higher educational opportunities, engaging partners and parents as co-educators, and addressing other gender inequities that lead to poorer health outcomes for adolescent girls.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

MORE THAN A TEST SCORE: EMPOWERING YOUTH IN NONTRADITIONAL EDUCATION

Melinda Strickland, Principal, Floyd County Education Center, Rome, GA

At risk of dropping out, students assigned to punitive-based alternative schools often exhibit feelings of failure and rejection among peers. Chronic behavior and academic problems have taken a negative toll on the overall well-being of these students in society. Empowering students to take responsibility and ownership in their academic, behavior, and attendance alleviates the “alienation” and lack of “sense of belonging” as described by two critical reasons students drop out of school. Students are actively involved in all aspects of their education at the Floyd County Education Center (FCEC). Programs at FCEC provide students with opportunities to assist others while learning valuable social, civic and employment skills. The FCEC students benefit from both sides as leaders and receivers of service learning and academic accountability.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

POETIC MAGIC: SPOKEN WORD AS A TOOL IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

FEATURED SPEAKER: Percy L. Chastang, Jr., Founding Mentor, Poetic Magic, Valdosta, GA

There is something special happening in youth development and it goes by the name of Spoken Word Poetry. This presentation is designed to provide an in-depth analysis and discussion concerning the power and potential of youth self-expression in addressing adolescent health and youth development challenges in today’s society. In addition, Poetic Magic co-founder Percy L. Chastang will share the basics of a spoken word youth movement in South Georgia that has evolved over the past 9 years. The mission of Poetic Magic is to reveal spoken word poetry as living art; thereby inspiring young people to read, write, think, and listen, ultimately contributing to the promotion of social tolerance and cultural exchange through uncovering the power of the individual and collective voice.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

G.O.L.D. (GIRLS OVERNIGHT LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT) PROGRAM

Janet M. McGee, Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida, Oak Hill, FL

The GOLD Program is a preventative, positive youth development program that focuses primarily on adolescent girls. This presentation will provide step-by-step planning and implementation of an established overnight, girls-only leadership development program, which features fun activities, teaching and learning experiences, community involvement, and a chance to help middle school and/or high school girls to discover their strengths and develop leadership skills. Young girls have the opportunity to build supportive relationships with women leaders within the school as well as the community.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION: A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE
FEATURED SPEAKER: Wayne Sakamoto, Director of School Safety, Murrieta Valley Unified School District, Murrieta, CA

Schools have long been instructed to build the social climate of the school to reduce bullying behaviors and to use anger management programs to intervene with school bullies. How do you build a positive school climate? Why have anger management approaches received mixed reviews in bullying intervention? In addition, the research has indicated that mediation/conflict resolution approaches should not be used if bullying is suspected, yet counselors and school administrators have stated they have used conflict resolution to successfully intervene with some bullying. This session will cover a step by step cost effective process to building a positive school climate and will take a new look at the bully and will identify specific bullying typologies and assessment of these typologies. The session will also discuss appropriate interventions based upon the bully typology. The session will provide answers regarding when to use anger management, mediation, conflict resolution and other intervention strategies. The session is appropriate for school administrators, counselors, mental health personnel, coaches, activities directors and other staff that directly deal with bullying.

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

MUSIC, MOVIES, & MEDIA: FROM TI TO FB@ TOOLS YOU CAN USE IN 2011! (CONTINUED)
FEATURED SPEAKER: Eric Rowles, President and CEO, Leading to Change, Inc., Charlotte, NC

What’s the connection between Drake & Green Day? From T.I. & Taylor Swift? From You-Tube & My Yearbook? X-Men & Harry Potter? Come to this tool-filled workshop to learn how to use over 40 different media tools, including today’s music, movies, and social media in your cutting edge work with young people. Participants will be introduced to many free or inexpensive tools that they can use to hear the music months before their youth, legally download clips of movies still in the theater, and connect with 100’s of their youth via broadcast texting! Hold on tight and arrive early, as this workshop moves at warp speed.

• THIS DOUBLE SESSION BEGAN AT 1:15–2:30 PM
ONLY PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTENDED PART 1 (1:15–2:30 PM) WILL BE ADMITTED.

An evaluation of the conference’s general sessions will be accessible via nationalyouthatrisk.com or via an email announcement following the conference.

“Youth don’t usually change because of programs — they change because of people.”

Allen Mendler and Moe Bickweat
Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

CHANGE HAPPENS NOW! ARE YOU READY? 1 + 1 = 1
FEATURED SPEAKER: Fred Stokes, President, Fred Stokes Group, Ltd., Tarrytown, GA

In today's society, there is no shortage of quick fix programs and applications about how to solve the problems that are confronting our youth. Every year there is a new...and improved formula on how to deal with “at risk kids.” However, our youth are still falling through the cracks at an alarming rate. The kids that are not dropping out of school are performing at or below their grade level. On the surface, it would appear that the kids themselves are at fault. But, who's really at fault? Is it the Parents/Guardians, the School System or could it be the Government? Because these problems are not bias to skin color or socioeconomic background, all of our kids are “at risk.” What do we do to turn things around for the better so that our young people can succeed? Are you tired and frustrated in dealing with kids that seem like they just don't get it? Fred Stokes shares real life success stories using humor and analogies about his days spent in the NFL to move you to the next level.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

YOUR PATH, YOUR CHOICE, YOUR LIFE
FEATURED SPEAKERS: Kathy Garwood, M.Ed., Executive Director, Crisp County Community Council, Inc., Georgia Family Connection Partnership, Cordele, GA; Lisa Simpson, LMSW, School Social Worker, Crisp County School System, Cordele, GA; Katrisha Williams, BSMS, Youth Development Coordinator, Adolescent Health and Youth Development, District 7 Public Health, Columbus, GA; and Robin Meadows, LMSW, Family Literacy Educator, Turner County Even Start, Ashburn, GA

Take an innovative approach to preparing youth for the “real world” without the “real life” consequences by implementing a Teen Maze in your community. This interactive workshop will provide an overview of a Teen Maze and how it can empower youth to choose their best path in life. The Teen Maze is a life-size game board where students are the game pieces, and life’s choices are the dice. Each student’s experience is different based upon the random drawing of a life choice. The Maze stimulates teens to think about the potential ramifications of their choices should this be a real-life experience.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

COMMUNITY MENTORING: LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION, CRIME PREVENTION, AND CAREER EXPLORATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR RURAL YOUTH
LaShawn Williams-Schultz, Clinical Assistant Professor, Utah State University, Tooele, UT

This presentation is geared towards prevention and intervention professionals. It will explain the One2Won mentoring program concept created for at-risk youth in Tooele, Utah. Significant life stressors will be presented and participants will learn the three-pronged approach utilized to the benefit of at-risk youth in our community and how it can be applied to youth in similar communities.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

OPERATION RECOVERY: EDUCATING STUDENTS THAT HAVE OPTED OUT OF TRADITIONAL EDUCATION
Gina H. Gavin, Assistant Director, and Jade Holley, Head Resource Specialist, Gateway to College Academy at Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston, GA

This informative session features strategies used to re-engage students who have dropped out of traditional high school. Attendees will receive an overview of the Gateway to College model as well as gather useful resources that can be used in any setting to enhance student success. Learn how this Academy also addresses the social and emotional needs of at-risk students enrolled in their program.
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

THERE IS NO “I” IN TEAM; THE COLLABORATIVE LEARNING TEAM
LaDonna R. Rudolph, At-Risk Interventionist; Virginia Smiley, Instructional Teacher; Shaundra Stephens, Behavior Interventionist; Montgomery Public Schools; and Sabrina Johnson, Turnaround Specialist, Montgomery, AL

Objective: Identify the characteristics and function of collaborative learning teams for Alternative Settings. Identify how effective collaborative teams are organized and structured in Alternative Schools. Determine how to implement collaborative learning teams in non-traditional settings.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

USING THE ARTS TO TEACH LITERACY
Francee Levin, Teaching Artist, Levin Consultants, Columbia, SC

This arts integration program produces amazing results, because there is something in the arts to reach every child. Students learn if they can talk, they can write, and, best of all, writing is fun. Readers’ Theatre and Stories and Poems on Demand bring out students’ creativity, getting them completely engaged, so there are no limits to what they can achieve.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE: A DISTURBING TREND
Audrey Coaston-Shelton, School Psychologist and Glenda Andersen, School Social Worker, Cincinnati Public Schools, Cincinnati, OH

Many youth are at risk of experiencing violence in their dating relationships and are unaware of the possible short and long-term consequences of this abuse. Youth must be able to identify whether they are in this type of relationship and what to do to protect themselves from this abuse. This presentation will identify the causes, prevalence, and outcomes of this phenomenon in teen dating relationships today. Also, evidence-based programs will be discussed which promote healthy dating relationships. As the result of HB 19, schools in Ohio are required to incorporate dating violence prevention within the health curriculum. The target audience is anyone who works with youth: counselors, teachers, school psychologists, social workers, group facilitators, administrators, SROs, etc.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

WHAT WILL THE YOUTH DO WITHOUT “U”? EMPOWERING ADULT ROLE MODELS—STAR STATUS NOT REQUIRED!
Asiah Wolfolk-Manning, Esq., Educator, Author, and Professional Speaker, Founder of AsiahUnlimited, Pembroke Pines, FL

You do not have to be a celebrity or hero to be a role model. This presentation is ideal for educators, youth leaders, and parents who want to learn practical ways to inspire, influence, and impact youth. You will learn strategies that help you connect with young people without sacrificing important values. We will discuss strategies for reaching without preaching, caring by sharing, and listening instead of dismissing.

“Young people need to believe that the adults are in it for the long haul, and that these adults listen to them, care about them, and are not just seeking conformity and compliance.”

Allen Mendler and Moe Bickweat
OUT FROM THE GLOOMY PAST: RETRACING THEIR SOUTHERN CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY THROUGH INTERGENERATIONAL LENS
Martha S. Lue Stewart, Professor, Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences and Angela Griner, Doctoral Student, Ed.D Program, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

This presentation describes an approach to community based learning which involves partnership between a local church in an urban community, an at-risk youth center, and university professor to provide African American youths the experience of a Southern Civil Rights bus tour. The impact of complementary learning opportunities on the racial and ethnical identity development of school age children will be discussed.

REBUILDING FOR LEARNING: USING A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM TO ADDRESS BARRIERS TO STUDENT LEARNING
Jarod Anderson, Director of Learning Supports; Merrianne Dyer, Superintendent; and David Shumake, Associate Superintendent, Gainesville City Schools, Gainesville, GA

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the UCLA Center for Mental Health provided a framework for schools to rebuild the hearts and minds of children. Due to the success of this effort, the framework is being applied in school systems whose children's lives present significant barriers to learning. This project will describe the redesign of personnel, focus of work groups, and process management for a school district to maximize resources to improve student learning. School systems with a high degree of poverty, disabilities, or English Language Learners can apply this “whole child” process to increase their success for children at high risk for failure.

THE NEED TO TEACH CIVILITY: THE TEACHING OF CIVILITY IN COLLEGE SPECIAL EDUCATION METHODS CLASSES
Michael W. Borders, Associate Professor, Gordon College, Barnesville, GA

What is the need of teaching civility in our schools? All participants are welcome and will receive the following handouts: (1) Survey results of interns and clinical supervisors from an eight-county Georgia area; (2) an exhaustive review of the literature of teaching civility; (3) innovative sample lesson plans and pre- and post-test results; and (4) anecdotal evidences of instructional impact.

THE EFFECTS OF READING PROGRAMS ON LOW INCOME PRESCHOOL CHILDREN
Evin Winkelman, Student; Andrea Sisson, Student; Lauren Heard, Student; and Tsu Ming Chiang, Professor, Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, GA

Low-income preschoolers showed more interest in books and learning after being exposed to a one on one reading program. This study introduces the benefits of reading to children at younger age to foster their interest in literacy. The details of the reading program and books chosen will be shared with teachers and other mentors of at-risk preschoolers.

USING NONFICTION TEXTS TO IMPROVE YOUNG CHILDREN’S BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE AND VOCABULARY IN SCIENCE/HEALTH
Janice Hunter, Research Fellow, Florida Institute of Education at the University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL

Nonfiction books provide the content focus to enable preschool teachers to develop young children’s vocabulary and build background knowledge in the science/health and wellness domains. This strategy addresses improving reading comprehension in the primary years.

DEBUNKING THE MYTHS ABOUT DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION
Brenda Logan, Associate Professor, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

This poster session will explore the top ten myths pertaining to differentiated instruction. It will provide evidence and examples of why the myths must be destroyed. If teacher attitudes are going to be positive towards this method, that a number of schools are choosing to implement, this presentation can provide the fodder to modify those attitudes. Informed conversations can begin in pre-service education college classrooms and at first-day back inservices for classroom teachers.

MORE THAN A TEST SCORE: EMPOWERING YOUTH IN NONTRADITIONAL EDUCATION
Melinda Strickland, Principal, Floyd County Education Center, Rome, GA

At risk of dropping out, students assigned to punitive-based alternative schools often exhibit feelings of failure and rejection among peers. Chronic behavior and academic problems have taken a negative toll on the overall well-being of these students in society. Empowering students to take responsibility and ownership in their academic, behavior, and attendance alleviates the “alienation” and lack of “sense of belonging” as described as two critical reasons students drop out of school. Students are actively involved in all aspects of their education at the Floyd County Education Center (FCEC). Programs at FCEC provide students with opportunities to assist others while learning valuable social, civic and employment skills. The FCEC students benefit from both sides as leaders and receivers of service learning and academic accountability.
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2011

3 – 4:15 PM • MONDAY • BALLROOM A • POSTER PRESENTATIONS

P.R.I.D.E OVERVIEW OF EFFECTIVE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR EVERY STUDENT
Tasha Grier, ELA Lead Teacher/Department Chair, Anita White, Carson Middle School, Greensboro, GA

P.R.I.D.E. is a common sense behavioral management program that teachers may immediately use to provide essential corrective measures for students without degrading the student. The program targets beginning teachers and those teachers who need effective remediation as it relates to classroom management.

YOUTH VIOLENCE: HOW GENDER MATTERS IN GIRLS’ AGGRESSION
Nadine Finigan, Senior Research Program Manager, Johns Hopkins University, Schools of Medicine and Public Health, Baltimore, MD

Over the past decade, adolescent girls, especially those of color and from disadvantaged neighborhoods, have been arrested at alarming rates. Using a combination of original research and data from the extant literature, this presentation examines the aggressive behaviors manifest by urban African American girls’ while providing strategies for developing effective programs.

PROTECTING YOUTH FROM THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF PERFORMANCE ENHANCERS: A RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACH
Willie Burden, Associate Professor; Drew Zwald, Associate Professor; Daniel R. Czech, Associate Professor; and Trey Burdette, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

The objective of this presentation will be to discuss identification and intervention procedures for youth related to today’s prevalent use of performance enhancing drugs (PEDs). Organizations that serve children and youth should have standard operating procedures in terms of informing caretakers and protecting children from the potential harmful side effects that PEDs can present.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & TEAM BUILDING
Suzanne Velazquez, Assistant Professor and Jean Bacon, Assistant Professor, Stony Brook University, School of Social Welfare, Stony Brook, NY

This presentation is targeted to educators, counselors and coaches who work with young people to build esteem and develop leadership skills. This presentation will examine ways to develop and encourage leadership and team building. We will use group activities to underscore characteristics of effective team membership. Participants will become familiar with models of empowerment and the behaviors that get in the way of having a cohesive team. Conference attendees will understand group dynamics and the ways in which it is productive and destructive to team progress.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM - INCORPORATING ANIMALS INTO PROGRAMS TARGETING AT-RISK AND URBAN YOUTH AUDIENCES
Christopher Anderson, 4-H Youth Development Specialist, University of Maryland Extension, College Park, MD

Capitalize on the positive benefits that animals provide to young people by including animal science programs in their work with at-risk youth audiences, even in the most urban of areas. The poster will highlight and display examples of the resources which are needed to be successful in starting, recruiting participants and teaching animal science programs targeting underserved, at-risk, or urban youth.

DEBUNKING MYTHS! PROMOTING AUTHENTIC UNDERSTANDING
Roben Taylor, Assistant Professor of Special Education and Celia Hilber, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Al

This presentation is about how children understand ideas in school. Educators and parents will gain insight into these challenges and how they relate to breakdowns in the neurodevelopmental functions. This presentation’s objective is that all participants walk away with the knowledge that children, especially those who have learning difficulties, can achieve understanding in school when their needs are recognized.

Turn in your evaluations to the room monitors.

6 – 8 PM
NYAR IDOL AND CONFERENCE MIXER

Harborside Center • Monday • 6 - 8 PM • Light Refreshments will be served
Hosted by the Urban Leadership Institute and Meshelle (The Indie Mom of Comedy) with Special Musical Guest J423
LINE DANCING, SPOKEN WORD POETRY, & SINGING.
COME AND SHOWCASE YOUR GIFTS AND TALENTS.
(please sign up at the second floor registration area before 5 pm on Monday)
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

AT-RISK YOUTH FOR DUMMIES
FEATURED SPEAKER: Bryce Barnhart, Director of Professional Development, Associated Marine Institutes, Tampa, FL

Many of us use the term “At-Risk Youth” but what does it really mean? In this session we will look at the key defining characteristics of this population and analyze how it is changing and evolving over time. Furthermore, we will challenge some of the preconceived notions people have about “At-Risk Youth” and how these notions can impact programming and decision-making. And of course, as the title implies, we will have a little fun, too.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

THE POWER OF PEERS
Shannon Fricilone, Manager of Programs, Abraham Low Self Help Systems, Chicago, IL

This interactive session will examine The Power of Peers: How Teens Can Make Their Mental Health a Business and Not a Game; by using the peer led approach of The Power to Change, a cognitive behavioral training (CBT) program for adolescents age 12 to 18. Session participants will learn how empowering teens to take control of their lives, rather than be victims of events or of other people’s behavior.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

INVEST IN TOMORROW: HELP OUR STUDENTS FIND THEIR VALUE • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 10:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Pam Williams, 2010 Georgia Teacher of the Year, Appling County School System, Baxley, GA

There are so many complaints today from universities, employers, and citizens about the lack of drive and ambition among our youth. It seems that the general consensus is that our future generations seem to lack many of the necessary traits required to be a contributing member of society. The key to making forward leaps in this area lies not only in content, but in communication. This presentation will focus on the key elements in helping our youth find their individual paths to success by educating adults in better way to break down communication barriers.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

EARLY ONSET BIPOLAR DISORDER: IS TIER III ENOUGH? • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 10:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Richard Marshall, Associate Professor, Psychological and Social Foundations, University of South Florida Polytechnic, Lakeland, FL

Students with early onset bipolar disorder and severe disruptive behavior disorders pose special challenges for schools implementing Response to Intervention. Nevertheless, the underlying neurobiology of the emotional dysregulation associated with this disorder provides important clues to developing, implementing, and evaluating interventions.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

ACT TO PREVENT SELF-INJURY
Diane Santoro, Youth Programs Manager, Screening for Mental Health, Inc., Wellesley Hills, MA

Workshop participants will learn how to identify, understand, and prevent non-suicidal self-injury in a school setting. Published research will be reviewed and highlight preliminary evidence behind a universal high school self-injury prevention program. This session will promote ways to engage parents and school staff as partners in prevention while increasing collaboration with community providers.
**Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**WHY TRY? INNOVATIVE INTERVENTIONS THAT PROVIDE HOPE AND MOTIVATE YOUTH TO OVERCOME POVERTY, VIOLENCE, AND FAILURE • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 10:15 AM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Christian Moore, Founder, Why Try, Inc., Orem, UT

The presentation will provide the audience with tools to help youth answer the question, “Why try in life?” Christian Moore will walk the audience through several practical methods to teach emotional intelligence and important life skills such as: anger management, problem solving, overcoming peer pressure, keeping laws and rules, building support systems, and having a vision of their future. This workshop will emphasize a strength-based approach to helping youth overcome their challenges using “multiple intelligence” methods that emphasize the youths’ learning styles, including visual analogies (pictures), music, and hands-on activities, to teach youth in ways that they will understand and remember.

**Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**IS ANYBODY HOME?!? STRATEGIES TO REACH DISCONNECTED PARENTS • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** David C. Miller, Chief Visionary Officer, Co-founder and LaMarr Darnell Shields, President, Co-founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD

Although parents care about their children and wish to have positive relationships, lack of time, easily accessible information, consumer friendly material or unwilling partners can make it difficult to achieve a mutually beneficial relationship between a parent and the child. Reaching Disconnected Parents is an opportunity to learn how to engage disconnected parents who are often non-responsive and apathetic. This interactive workshop will explore the factors that lead to developing effective relationships between parents and children, as well as discuss lessons learned from Urban Leadership Institute’s direct work with parents and students to improve academic and social development.

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**Call for Proposals**

**23rd Annual National Youth-at-Risk Conference**

**Deadline: September 9, 2011**

**Online Submissions only**

Visit nationalyouthatrisk.com for details and access to the online submission form.

Submission Form opens June 1, 2011.

Conference Dates: March 4 – 7, 2012, Hyatt Regency, Savannah, GA

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“Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them.”

*Lady Bird Johnson, former U.S. First Lady*
Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

SAFE SCHOOLS: UTILIZING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES TO FOSTER A SAFE SCHOOLS CLIMATE
FEATURED SPEAKER: John Vandenburgh, Speaker, Trainer, and Program Developer of the PLUS Program, Peer Leaders Uniting Students, Murrieta, CA

In this session participants will develop a strong understanding of the impact group identity has on individual adolescent behavior, particularly with racism, gangs, violence, and bullying. Educators must understand the importance of developing programs that foster relationships among youth and a sense of belonging for the youth. This session will examine how to engage a peer/youth leadership program to be proactive in the implementation of a pattern of activities that (1) develops a culture of communication between students, (2) connections for all students and (3) a sense of responsibility in the students for the outcomes on their campus.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

PANEL: BUILDING PEACE IN OUR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES
MODERATOR: Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, Professor Emerita, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA
PANELISTS: Michael W. Borders, Associate Professor of Teacher Education, Gordon College, Barnesville, GA; Susan Armoni, Executive Director, paxUnited: The National Mediation Center, Carrollton, TX; Holly Snyder, Restorative Justice Coordinator, Children’s Home Association of Illinois, Peoria, IL; and Jeremy Foreman, Executive Director, HandsOn Southeast Georgia, Statesboro, GA

This panel presentation discusses how to go beyond merely “keeping peace” in our schools and communities. In an era preoccupied with zero tolerance policies and tight surveillance for strict security, we have neglected the fundamental human needs for positive peace and well-being. Panel members share successful programs, strategies, and techniques for fostering cultures of peace and well-being in our classrooms, schools, and communities.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

GIRLS: RISK FACTORS, TRENDS, AND STRATEGIES
FEATURED SPEAKER: Gabriela Baeza, Project Specialist, San Diego County Office of Education, San Diego, CA

This presentation provides the latest research regarding girls’ issues such as, gang involvement, violence, aggression, and drug use. Ms. Baeza explores the risk and protective factors related to gender-specific issues as well as providing practical and research-based strategies for working with adolescent and teen girls.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

HOW TO AFFECT THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM: A JUDGE’S PERSPECTIVE
FEATURED SPEAKER: David Admire, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice, South Utah University, Cedar City, UT

Young people come into the criminal justice system as defendants, witnesses and victims. It is important to understand how to affect that system in such a manner as to provide a positive outcome. This session will provide you with an insider’s perspective on how that can be accomplished. You will learn a comprehensive approach and strategies that can be employed in your court system.

“Our children are our only hope for the future, but we are their only hope for their present.”

Zig Ziglar
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

BRIDGE TO EXCELLENCE: INDIVIDUALIZING THE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE BY MEETING STUDENTS WHERE THEY ARE
Terecia Gill, Supervisor of Drop-Out Prevention and Alternative Education, Spotsylvania County Schools; Misty Kelley, Special Education Department Chair & Testing Coordinator, JJWEC; and Karen Washington, English Instructor, Spotsylvania, VA

Alternative Education students are a diverse group who require an individualized plan for school success. We will share our model school approach whereby students are assessed by a diverse school-based team upon enrollment through school records, student interviews, and family conferences. Based on the team recommendations, an individualized alternative education experience is created for every student on the basis of academic ability, graduation requirements, and behavioral and emotional support needs. Conference participants will learn how to create a Bridge program to place students on the appropriate graduation track, use online courses and technology to improve student success, and support the whole student through character development, social skills training, and mental health services regardless of the size of the program or school. Learn how to ignite the flame of excellence in at-risk students to be leaders in their own lives.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

WHY DID THAT KID JUST DO THAT? THINKING ANALYTICALLY ABOUT CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS
Eric Landers, Assistant Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

This session will focus on understanding why children engage in challenging behaviors. Emphasis will be placed on how to use a simple, effective, and teacher-friendly structure for examining behaviors, gathering information, and matching behavioral interventions.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

FROM “BYSTANDERS” TO “UP STANDERS”: EMPOWERING YOUTH TO REDUCE BULLYING AND VIOLENCE TO CREATE A SCHOOL CLIMATE FOR ALL YOUTH TO THRIVE
Ken Greene, Student Director, Barrow County Schools, Winder, GA

The risk factors of an unsafe school climate and frequent incidents of peer bullying and violence adversely affect school attendance and a variety of other unhealthy, risky behaviors including early and recurrent drug use/abuse. This session focuses on how to engage, equip and empower a diverse group of influential students to reduce bullying and violence, transforming students from “bystanders” to “up standers.”

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

IN THEIR WORDS: WHY YOUTH RUN AND HOW TO REACH THEM
Gordon J. Vance, Director of Programs, National Runaway Switchboard, Chicago, IL

The National Runaway Switchboard will present research from ten years of caller trend data and recent studies focused on youth in a variety of settings-shelters, residential care, schools, and the streets. Participants will identify causes of runaway incidents to better understand the youth with whom they work and explore methods to reach youth and equip them with supportive resources.
THE SUCCESS OF FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS IN A COLLEGE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM WITH ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
Annette Wilson, Assistant Professor, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

The qualitative study will examine teacher first generation graduate education candidates with English as a second language (ESL) who have successfully completed student teaching. The goal is to (1) collect data on the knowledge and skill levels of ESL candidates; (2) use interviews to reflect on the student teaching experience; and (3) to identify career goals as future members of society’s professional arena.

PROJECT BOUNCE: DEVELOPING RESILIENCY & RESPONSIBILITY USING SPORTS AS A METAPHOR: A SUSPENSION INTERVENTION PROGRAM
Jerono P. Rotich, Assistant Professor, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, Greensboro, NC; YongChul Chung, Associate Professor, Sogang University, Seoul, South Korea; and Regina Epps, Lecturer, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, Greensboro, NC

Project Bounce is a service-learning program assisting African American males ages 15-18 on long or short-term suspension, and in group homes graduate from High School. Sports clinics, workshops, and male mentors are used to develop personal and social responsibility, resiliency, and other related life skills (e.g., time management, goal setting, and communication skill) needed for academic and everyday life success.

UNDERSTANDING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SKIN TONE
Henry L. Harris, Associate Professor and Counseling Department Chairperson, UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, NC

This poster presentation will address some of the unique challenges faced by students with darker skin. Participants attending this session will: (1) learn more about the historical context of skin tone, (2) understand how skin tone influences self-esteem, and (3) learn about effective empowerment programs.

CREATING A PERSONAL SENSE OF PLACE IN A WORLD OF PLACE-LESS-NESS
Marjorie M. Nussbaum, Southern University, Statesboro, GA

Targeting educators and curriculum developers, the topic of introducing and embedding place-based education into the mainstream classroom curriculum will be explored with two primary objectives in mind: understanding the need for this type of focus and discovering ways to insert, embed and enhance this type of learning in the classroom.

THE SECRET TO TRUE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT
Lisa Jaszczyk, Associate Trainer, Center for Teacher Effectiveness, Grass Lake, MI

The secret is OUT! This session is for EVERYONE that works with children. Join us as we learn how to effectively manage challenging behaviors in the classroom, explore strategies for establishing trust and eliminating power struggles and minimizing potential triggers. You will receive invaluable materials filled with lessons, techniques, and strategies for successful classroom management.

“Children have more need of models than of critics.”
Joseph Joubert
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

CATCH THEM DOING SOMETHING RIGHT!
FEATURED SPEAKER: Bryce Barnhart, Director of Professional Development, Associated Marine Institutes, Tampa, FL

People and organizations that provide schooling and programming for “at-risk youth” often take a no-nonsense approach to dealing with undesired behaviors that are prevalent with this population. This approach is usually heavily laden with punishments and undesirable consequences from the youth. Although this may get the desired short-term behaviors under control, what is it costing you in terms of long-term behavioral change and staff morale? “Catch Them Doing Something Right” will provide techniques and tips on how you can still maintain control while at the same time creating an environment that encourages long-term change and allows the teachers and staff to focus on the good things the kids do every day.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

BRAIN-BASED PEDAGOGY FOR YOUTH-AT-RISK? YES! BUT BE CAREFUL!
Linda Ann H. McCall, Assistant Professor, and Joan Schwartz, Assistant Professor, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

Brain-based Pedagogy for Youth-At-Risk? YES! But Be Careful! Spotlights research-based, award-winning ideas for the classroom—and cautions to consider before implementing these ideas. This interactive presentation offers exciting implications for all students, especially those labeled “at risk.” Hand-outs and strategies for implementing this model will be offered.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

INVEST IN TOMORROW: HELP OUR STUDENTS FIND THEIR VALUE
FEATURED SPEAKER: Pam Williams, 2010 Georgia Teacher of the Year, Appling County School System, Baxley, GA

There are so many complaints today from universities, employers, and citizens about the lack of drive and ambition among our youth. It seems that the general consensus is that the future generations seem to lack many of the necessary traits required to be a contributing member of society. The key to making forward leaps in this area lies not only in content, but in communication. This presentation will focus on the key elements in helping our youth find their individual paths to success by educating adults in better way to break down communication barriers.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

EARLY ONSET BIPOLAR DISORDER: IS TIER III ENOUGH?
FEATURED SPEAKER: Richard Marshall, Associate Professor, Psychological and Social Foundations, University of South Florida Polytechnic, Lakeland, FL

Students with early onset bipolar disorder and severe disruptive behavior disorders pose special challenges for schools implementing Response to Intervention. Nevertheless, the underlying neurobiology of the emotional dysregulation associated with this disorder provides important clues to developing, implementing, and evaluating interventions.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

OVERLOOKED AND UNDERTREATED: HOW WE CAN CLOSE THE GAP IN ADOLESCENT DEPRESSION AMONG TODAY’S YOUTH
TeShaunda Hannor-Walker, Professional School Counselor and Part-time Adjunct Professor, Dougherty County Schools & Albany State University, Albany, GA

Adolescent depression has become one of the most overlooked and undertreated mental health disorders facing our youth today with minority youth becoming the most “at risk.” Depression, according to some researchers will become the cancer of the 21st century. For many reasons, teens have developed a very future way of masking their depression; thus, making depression even more difficult to identify, treat, and prevent. Today’s session will address depression across the K-12 spectrums and discuss some of the common ways teens hide their emotions. Participants will also learn about the relevant statistics; myths surrounding depression and self-mutilation; cultural, racial and gender considerations of adolescent depression; successful treatment approaches based on empirical research; and counseling strategies that can be used in small group and/or individual sessions.
**Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session**

**WHY TRY? INNOVATIVE INTERVENTIONS THAT PROVIDE HOPE AND MOTIVATE YOUTH TO OVERCOME POVERTY, VIOLENCE, AND FAILURE**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Christian Moore, Founder, Why Try, Inc., Orem, UT

The presentation will provide the audience with tools to help youth answer the question, “Why try in life?” Christian Moore will walk the audience through several practical methods to teach emotional intelligence and important life skills such as: anger management, problem solving, overcoming peer pressure, keeping laws and rules, building support systems, and having a vision of their future. This workshop will emphasize a strength-based approach to helping youth overcome their challenges using “multiple intelligence” methods that emphasize the youths’ learning styles, including visual analogies (pictures), music, and hands-on activities, to teach youth in ways that they will understand and remember.

**Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session**

**NO ONE RISES TO LOW EXPECTATIONS • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 1:00 PM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Victor Woods, National Speaker, Author, Motivator, U Can Make It, Bloomingdale, IL

An in-depth look on how labeling our youth: thugs, gang members and hoodlums ultimately feeds the juvenile detention center and prison system. Learn how to reach the most unreachable child from a man that was labeled at risk and unreachable himself. Hear the truth facts from a man that was incarcerated in prison twice for an armed robbery ring and counterfeiting 40 million dollars worth of VISA gold cards now national speaker and published author with Simon and Schuster, CNN contributor, and currently negotiating a movie deal about his life.

**FIVE CONFERENCE STRANDS**

I. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & SCHOOL LEADERSHIP
   Closing the achievement gaps and promoting learning for all students.

II. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS
   Fostering social and emotional skills of all children and youth and enhancing the social climate.

III. SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION
   Preventing violence and ensuring safety for all children and youth.

IV. MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH
   Promoting the mental and physical health of all children and youth.

V. FAMILY & COMMUNITY
   Developing and enhancing family and community support for all children and youth.
Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

UNDERSTANDING GIRLS IN Gangs
FEATURED SPEAKER: Mayra Nunez, Hope Works Supervisor, Tariq Khamisa Foundation, San Diego, CA

This presentation will discuss the history of female gang involvement through research, including a comparison of the characteristics and behavior of female and male gang members. This session will also include gender related risk factors, level of involvement and their roles/activities in the gang. Intervention strategies on how to work with female gang youth will also be discussed. A brief testimonial of a former gang member and her life in the gang will be highlighted.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

HUMMING BETWEEN THE LINES: HOW TO EMPOWER CHILDREN THROUGH BOOKS AND MUSIC
FEATURED SPEAKER: Donna Wiggins, Author, Researcher, Education Consultant and Associate Professor of Music Education, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC

Participants will learn strategies for integrating music into literacy experiences that empower young children academically, socially, and emotionally during this highly interactive session. Strategic alignment of this music and literacy intervention with school language arts and healthy living curriculum standards will be demonstrated through fun, hands-on experiences and multimedia presentations.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

BUILDING A SYSTEM OF CARE FOR AT-RISK YOUTH AND FAMILIES
FEATURED SPEAKER: Donetta M. Bracey, International FAST Trainer (Families AND Schools Together), Camden, SC

This presentation focuses on how to create a system of care by bringing parents, schools, and community agencies together to create a supportive environment. Participants will learn strategies that connect families with school and community-based resources, and about the benefits of creating a system of care. Participants will also learn how to engage even difficult to reach parents and youth.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

IDENTIFYING AND HELPING THE DEPRESSED CHILD
Don Martin, Professor and Director of School Counseling Program, Youngstown State University, and Magy Martin, Walden University, Youngstown, OH

Child depression is often misdiagnosed or under-diagnosed in young children. In this workshop, the presenters will discuss how to identify a depressed child in school and the types of mental health and classroom interventions that help these children. The workshop will be targeted for teachers and social service personnel.

An evaluation of the conference’s general sessions will be accessible via nationalyouthatrisk.com or via an email announcement following the conference.
RAISING AWARENESS OF THE STRESSORS OF POVERTY
Cherry Watts, Assistant Professor; Becky J. Cox, Assistant Professor; and Michelle Horton, Associate Professor and Director of the Social Work Program, The University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, TN

The objective of this presentation is to share perceptions of poverty from teacher candidates and social work candidates who participate in a three-hour poverty simulation. The scenario is of interest to teachers, social workers, and administrators concerned with raising awareness of factors influencing students in poverty. Attendees will participate in a mini-simulation and experience the stressors of poverty.

HELP THEM CHANGE THEIR LIVES!! ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL SUCCESS WITH AT-RISK YOUTH THROUGH LEADERSHIP CLASS
Marcia Nelson, Educator, High School English/Theatre/Speech and Leadership Class Crossroads Alternative High School; and Mike Reeder, Crossroads Alternative High School, Minneapolis, MN

This Leadership class is designed to challenge “at-risk” youth to improve themselves by becoming leaders in their own lives, in their schools and their communities through self-exploration, team building activities, physical challenges and service learning projects. The class could be replicated or portions could be adapted for daily use in English, physical education, social studies, special education and (most) other areas.

PRINCESS TO PRISON: WHAT ABOUT THE GIRLS!

This workshop provides an up close and personal look at how incarcerated girls are affected mentally, physically, emotionally. We will discuss the historical relevance of slavery and the current impact of hip-hop culture on the mindset of girls. Subtopics include: Princess to Prison: What about the Girls; The Mind of the Incarcerated Girl; “7 Deadly Sins” (juvenile law & school policy); and Returning to the Community.

CULTURE & LANGUAGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM
Lorenzo Flores, Assistant Professor, Governors State University, University Park, IL

Cultural Exchange Program: Creating positive culturally diverse learning environments. The target audience for this session is: parents, teachers, principals, and district level administrators. America’s classrooms have become more culturally diverse. This presentation will clearly demonstrate how to promote positive learning environments that promote appreciation for culturally diverse and linguistically different students. Enjoy and witness how innovative teachers and principals provided students a successful first-hand experience of a culture and language other than their own.

“Children need love, especially when they do not deserve it.”
Harold Hulbert
MISSION CRITICAL: REAL STUDENTS, REAL PROBLEMS, AND REAL SOLUTIONS  
Kenston J. Griffin, CEO, Dream Builders Communication, Inc., Charlotte, NC

Another long day of lesson plans that could not be completed or a week of being disrespected, misunderstood while the workload continues? How do you fix it? Our presentation will provide engaging techniques to get students motivated and back on track.

EMPOWERING TEACHERS: INSTRUCTIONAL TOOLS THAT PROMOTE LEARNING FOR ALL  
Lisa Jaszcz, Director of Instructional Programs, Accelerated Schools plus, Grass Lake, MI and Denise Nelson, Accelerated Schools Plus, Randleman, NC

This is a MUST session for ANYONE who works with kids! This hands-on session will explore high end teaching strategies proven to empower teachers and promote acceleration for all students. Topics will include classroom creativity, critical thinking, questioning strategies, designing interest centers and tools to promote student inquiry in the classroom. You won’t want to miss this one!

P.R.I.D.E OVERVIEW OF EFFECTIVE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR EVERY STUDENT  
Tasha Grier, ELA Lead Teacher/Department Chair, Anita White, Carson Middle School, Greensboro, GA

P.R.I.D.E. is a common sense behavioral management program that teachers may immediately use to provide essential corrective measures for students without degrading the student. The program targets beginning teachers and those teachers who need effective remediation as it relates to classroom management.

CYBERBULLYING: THE NEW FORM OF HARASSMENT  
Henry L. Harris, Associate Professor & Department Chairperson, UNC Charlotte, Department of Counseling UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, NC

This presentation is for all interested in this subject. The objectives are to specifically 1) discuss the various forms of cyberbullying, 2) address the negative emotional and psychological consequences of cyberbullying, and 3) discuss effective prevention and intervention strategies.

REMINDER:  
THE PLU MASTERY TEST WILL BE GIVEN TODAY AT 4:30 PM IN BALLROOM B.
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

THE EMPATHY PROJECT • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: David Levine, Founder and Director, In Care of Students, Accord, NY

Sponsored in part by Solution Tree

Using his book, Teaching Empathy, David will present a culture building process that works towards creating an emotionally safe learning community free from bullying and other low-level forms of aggression. David has facilitated the implementation of this project in numerous inner city schools in the Northeast, including four schools in The Bronx, NY.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

ON FIRE WITH THE POWER OF STORYTELLING: EMBLAZON LEARNING WITH HEARTFELT STORIES • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Chang’a Mweti, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN

Use storytelling to ignite a fire under your students and get them moving. Motivating stories enkindle longing hearts and thaw out frozen brains. They get the creative juices flowing and transform cold academic concepts into warm invitations to learning. Employ storytelling to appeal to students’ emotions and build bridges across cultures. Learn teaching tips and techniques on storytelling in the classroom including how to sneak it through the back door to make learning fun! Discover the five educational concepts embraced through storytelling.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

HOW TO KEEP YOURSELF MOTIVATED AND MOTIVATE STUDENTS TO SUCCEED • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Robert E. Criner, President/CEO, Sharing a Vision, Medicine Park, OK

This presentation provides proven techniques and strategies for teachers and staff to keep themselves motivated and able to empower students to See, Accept, and Achieve their potential for greatness. The components being presented are: Secrets to Motivating Students, Self-Motivation Techniques, How to Help Students Develop and Achieve Goals, How to Create Enthusiasm in Students and How to Motivate Students through Suggestion.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

GANGSTERISM: UNDERSTANDING THE GANGSTER MINDSET • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Corporal Daryl Macaluso, Gang Resistance Education And Training, Durham Police, City of Durham, City of Durham, NC

This program is designed to assist educators to achieve a Safe School Climate by reducing the influence of gangs and other negative peer groups from school campuses. Gang culture is unique; understanding the cultural differences within the community is key to understanding and affecting change within gang related and at-risk youth. This presentation focuses on the gang mindset giving the participant tools to begin to reach and teach gang related and at-risk youth. Participants will also be familiarized with some history of events that shaped the philosophy of America’s gang population.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

“IT’S ONLY WHEN GRANDMA’S HERE”: EXPLORING DIFFERENCES IN HOW PARENTS AND EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS SOCIALIZE CHILDREN TO ADOPT WEIGHT-RELATED BEHAVIORS
Natasha A. Brown, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of Health, Behavior, and Society, Baltimore, MD

This presentation describes a qualitative research study that explores how primary caregivers and extended family members differ in how they socialize children to adopt desired weight-related behaviors. The presenter will discuss the data in the contexts of core cultural values and familial structure and obligations. Anticipated audience members include individuals with an interest in family-based and/or childhood obesity research.

Room Monitors will be collecting TUESDAY evaluations at 4 PM.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

TURNING YOUR SCHOOL AROUND: 12 SECRETS OF SUCCESS OF HIGH-POVERTY/HIGH-PERFORMING SCHOOLS

• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER: Robert D. Barr, Emeritus Analyst, Boice State University, Boise, ID

Sponsored in part by Solution Tree

This session will present 12 powerful, proven strategies for improving the performance of low-income/minority students. The strategies are based on a number of studies of high-poverty/high-performing schools, as well as in-depth case studies of effective Title I schools. Because the 12 Secrets are so practical and cost effective, they have been and can be replicated. The 12 Secrets are in fact a cutting edge blueprint for improving the performance of high-poverty schools. And in a time of budget cuts, a number of the strategies are inexpensive.

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

NO ONE RISES TO LOW EXPECTATIONS

FEATURED SPEAKER: Victor Woods, National Speaker, Author, Motivator, U Can Make It, Bloomingdale, IL

An in-depth look on how labeling our youth: thugs, gang members and hoodlums ultimately feeds the juvenile detention center and prison system. Learn how to reach the most unreachable child from a man that was labeled at risk and unreachable himself. Hear the truth facts from a man that was incarcerated in prison twice for an armed robbery ring and counterfeiting 40 million dollars worth of VISA gold cards now national speaker and published author with Simon and Schuster, CNN contributor, and currently negotiating a movie deal about his life.

“You can learn many things from children. How much patience you have, for instance.”

Franklin P. Jones
Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

“WHO AM I?*: ADDRESSING THE IDENTITY CRISIS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN YOUTH THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CULTURALLY RELEVANT PRACTICES • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER: Anthony E. Outler, COO, Co-Founder, Epic Empowerment Consulting, Atlanta, GA

The stereotypical images of African American youth in popular culture serve to shape the perception that many African American youth have of themselves. Moreover, these commodified, media driven images of blackness also tend to mediate the perceptions of the educators, counselors, social workers, etc. who serve them. This workshop will allow participants an opportunity to critically analyze the misleading forces that shape African American identity construction. The participants will then be provided with examples of proven culturally relevant strategies and programs that serve to counter these self-destructive messages. Participants should be prepared to engage in genuine dialogue and deep analysis for the purpose of becoming change agents in the lives of the students they serve.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

PANEL: MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF RURAL EDUCATION

MODERATOR: Marilyn Hutchinson, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

PANELISTS: Anthony Smith, Principal, Pierce County High School, Blackshear, GA; Adrienne Lacey-Bushall, Director of Special Services, Natchez-Adams School District, Natchez, MS; LaShawn Williams-Schultz, Clinical Assistant Professor, Utah State University, Tooele, UT; Donny Swinson, Social Studies Department Chair, Washington-Wilkes Comprehensive High School, Washington, GA

Schools in rural areas and small towns face difficult challenges in serving the needs of children and public education. This panel presentation discusses how best to serve the special needs of rural youth and schools. Panel members share successful programs, strategies, and tools for meeting the challenges of rural education.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

INSPIRING TURNOVER Teachers AND BUILDING TURNOVER SCHOOLS

FEATURED SPEAKER: Theresa Martin, Administrator, Ware County School System, Waycross, GA

Research on resilience has shown that children who beat the odds, who made a resilient comeback, formed a relationship with at least one caring adult, often a teacher. Teachers who make this kind of major difference in a student’s life have been called “turnaround teachers” (Benard, 2003). In this session, learn about the unique belief systems and practices of turnaround teachers and discover ways to capitalize on the tremendous power that already exists within each school to build strong competent and resilient youth.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

TAPPING INTO THE POWER OF YOUTH/ADULT PARTNERSHIPS

FEATURED SPEAKER: Kris Bosworth, Professor, College of Education, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Many of the negative behaviors that young people exhibit are related to alienation from the core societal institutions—family, school, community. When youth have the opportunity to participate in the decisions that shape their organizations and institutions, they will feel more connected and increase the likelihood that they will be positive, productive members of those institutions. This session will explore the various models for youth/adult partnerships and suggest strategies for implementing them in youth serving organizations.
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

WHAT’S THE DIFFERENCE? (AN ANALYZATION OF THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT GAP AMONG INNER CITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)
Lorraine P. Gaillard, High School Science Educator and Nicola T. Gaitor, Richmond County School System, Augusta

The presentation will present the results of an analyzation of the possible bases for the differences in academic achievement between a selected population of at risk high school students and their counterparts who are identified as average achievers and over achievers. Targeted audiences include high school administrators and educators.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

GIRLS CIRCLE: PROMOTING THE RESILIENCY OF GIRLS
Susan Alford, Director; Lis Morris, Regional Advocate; and Pam Bryant, Director of Public Relations, Youth Learning Institute, Clemson University, Pickens, SC

Are you challenged in your work with girls? Want to engage and empower them? This workshop will feature a live demonstration of the research-based Girls Circle model, a female-responsive, structured support group for girls ages 9 to 18. Workshop participants will receive practical information on how this successful approach can be implemented in schools, community and juvenile justice settings.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

A COMMUNITY ACTION CASE STUDY: CONCEPT MAPPING TO IDENTIFY STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO REDUCE BULLYING
Elizabeth Silva, Director, Winchester Coalition for a Safer Community, Winchester, MA, and Alayne MacArthur, Founder and Principal Consultant, Circa Learning, Ithaca, NY

The roots and fruits of bullying reside in and impact all aspects of community life. Concept mapping is a mixed methods approach used by the Winchester Coalition for a Safer Community to engage the community’s families, schools, civic organizations, businesses, public health and safety agencies, and legislative bodies to identify and arrive at consensus about the high value strategies these diverse stakeholders could implement to reduce and prevent violence.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

ENCOURAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-EFFICACY OF YOUNG LEARNERS THROUGH AN INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING EXPERIENCE
Nancy McBride-Arrington, Assistant Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

Appropriate for all educators, this session highlights an intergenerational service-learning project in which third grade music students share music and writing activities with their grand friends in a nearby nursing home. Participants will learn about the effects of service-learning on students’ self-efficacy, and be given a hands-on collaborative opportunity to design service-learning projects applicable to the at-risk students under their jurisdiction.

“The essence of teaching is to make learning contagious, to have one idea spark another.”

Marva Collins
IMPLEMENTING CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PEDAGOGY IN CHINA
Jing Sun, Chinese Instructor, Foreign Language Department, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

The objectives of the presentation are to investigate cultural diversity awareness in the public schools of China, report China’s current educational practices that may either enhance cultural responsiveness or create at-risk conditions for students of diverse cultures, compare and contrast the culturally responsive pedagogy of China and the United States, and make recommendations for enhancing the culturally responsive pedagogy of China. The presentation topic is culturally responsive pedagogy. My target audience is schoolteachers of all levels and professors of education.

EMPOWERING TEACHERS FOR EXPLOSIVE AT-RISK STUDENT LEARNING GAINS
Tanja Brannen, Educational Consultant, Mary Crane, Educational Consultant, and Jonathan Hilliard, BRANE Educational Consultants, Inc., Titusville, FL

This poster session will include tips for relationship building, lesson design, and instructional delivery. Administrators and teachers accepting responsibility for the learning of at-risk students will be positively integrated into the presentation. This integration will aid the learning organization in developing a culture among all staff members that boosts teaching quality and enhances relationships between parents, staff members, and students. Specific case studies will be shared with the participants that demonstrate the connection between teacher performance and student achievement. Participants will learn how simple changes in the relationships between teacher-student along with engaging instructional delivery can boost at-risk students’ motivation and academic achievement.

READ-ALOUD & THINK-ALOUD FOR STRUGGLING ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL)
Lucia Lu, Professor and Inez Heath, Professor, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA

In this case study research, an ELL 2nd grader was invited to read-aloud and think-aloud to develop her reading fluency and reading comprehension once a week. These two strategies effectively improve her English language arts, reading, math, and thinking, and she successfully passed the Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Test on the 2nd grade.

CURRENT TRENDS AND BEST PRACTICES IN THE USE OF THERAPEUTIC GROUP HOMES FOR ADOLESCENTS
David A. Scott, Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

The effectiveness of therapeutic group homes has been questioned as an effective form of treatment for at-risk youth. This presentation will examine the recidivism rates of at-risk youth who participated in an established residential group home program, and what the author found that works in this treatment modality.

BRAIN-BASED PEDAGOGY FOR YOUTH-AT-RISK? YES! BUT BE CAREFUL!
Linda Ann H. McCall, Assistant Professor, and Joan Schwartz, Assistant Professor, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

Brain-based Pedagogy for Youth-At-Risk? YES! But Be Careful! Spotlights research-based, award-winning ideas for the classroom—and cautions to consider before implementing these ideas. This interactive presentation offers exciting implications for all students, especially those labeled “at risk.” Hand-outs and strategies for implementing this model will be offered.

PREVENTION-SMART PARENTS
Jeff Lee, Executive Director, Mentor International, Loughborough, United Kingdom, and Ken Winters, Professor, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN

Prevention-Smart Parents (www.prevention-smart.org) is the first free global resource to help parents via an online e-learning program. It was created by scientists and individuals commissioned by Mentor from many countries so that the e-learning course applies to many cultures and communities.

PREDICTIVE RISK FACTORS IN ASSESSING SUICIDAL IDEATION IN ADOLESCENTS
Nancy Zlatkin, Student, Nova Southeastern University, Davie, FL, and Allison Randel, Student, Nova Southeastern University, Plantation, FL

Research was conducted based on the hypothesis that if adolescents are provided with skills to devise practical solutions that will improve their ability to deal effectively with stressors, their risk of suicide may be reduced. This particular study also focused on assessing which risky behaviors may predict suicidal ideation in adolescents. This topic is critical to advancement in adolescent suicide prevention.

MOVE!
Yakisha T. Simmons, Senior Technical Writer, Beta Tech, Grace Hill Bible College, Atlas Technologies, Inc., Summerville, SC

Beyond physical limitations, what if we decided at the age of one that we didn’t want to walk... that we did not want to move? It’s safe to say that the structure of our world would be different. The same...what if dreamers, visionaries and goal setters simply stopped progressing? So many of our great inventions we would not have today. This is a call for educators, leaders & students to get back to a place of mobility. To get where you need to go, you’ve got to move.
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session
THE EMPATHY PROJECT
FEATURED SPEAKER: David Levine, Founder and Director, In Care of Students, Accord, NY
Sponsored in part by Solution Tree

Using his book, Teaching Empathy, David will present a culture building process that works towards creating an emotionally safe learning community free from bullying and other low-level forms of aggression. David has facilitated the implementation of this project in numerous inner city schools in the Northeast, including four schools in The Bronx, NY.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session
ON FIRE WITH THE POWER OF STORYTELLING: EMBLAZON LEARNING WITH HEARTFELT STORIES
FEATURED SPEAKER: Chang’aa Mweti, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN

Use storytelling to ignite a fire under your students and get them moving. Motivating stories enkindle longing hearts and thaw out frozen brains. They get the creative juices flowing and transform cold academic concepts into warm invitations to learning. Employ storytelling to appeal to students’ emotions and build bridges across cultures. Learn teaching tips and techniques on storytelling in the classroom including how to sneak it through the back door to make learning fun! Discover the five educational concepts embraced through storytelling.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session
HOW TO KEEP YOURSELF MOTIVATED AND MOTIVATE STUDENTS TO SUCCEED
FEATURED SPEAKER: Robert E. Criner, President/CEO, Sharing a Vision, Medicine Park, OK

This presentation provides proven techniques and strategies for teachers and staff to keep themselves motivated and able to empower students to See, Accept, and Achieve their potential for greatness. The components being presented are: Secrets to Motivating Students, Self-Motivation Techniques, How to Help Students Develop and Achieve Goals, How to Create Enthusiasm in Students and How to Motivate Students through Suggestion.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session
GANGSTERISM: UNDERSTANDING THE GANGSTER MINDSET
FEATURED SPEAKER: Corporal Daryl Macaluso, Gang Resistance Education And Training, Durham Police, City of Durham, City of Durham, NC

This program is designed to assist educators to achieve a Safe School Climate by reducing the influence of gangs and other negative peer groups from school campuses. Gang culture is unique; understanding the cultural differences within the community is key to understanding and affecting change within gang related and at-risk youth. This presentation focuses on the gang mindset giving the participant tools to begin to reach and teach gang related and at-risk youth. Participants will also be familiarized with some history of events that shaped the philosophy of America’s gang population.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session
WORKING WITH YOUTH IMPACTED BY TRAUMA
Jean Bacon, Assistant Professor, and Suzanne Velazquez, Assistant Professor, Stony Brook University, School of Social Welfare, Stony Brook, NY

Participants who attend this presentation will be able to define childhood trauma. We will explore some of the emotions described by youth impacted by traumas. Encouraged discussions will include understanding the dynamics of trauma in children and identifying the impact of trauma on development, psychosocial functioning, and the functioning of family systems. Presentation attendees will be given the tools to devise strategies of support, understand how their own experiences with trauma influences their response and have an ability to select effective modalities for intervention that are compatible with ethnic, gender and cultural mandates. Experiential activities will assist participants gaining a deeper level of knowledge of the reality of young people effected by trauma.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

TURNING YOUR SCHOOL AROUND: 12 SECRETS OF SUCCESS OF HIGH-POVERTY/HIGH-PERFORMING SCHOOLS
FEATURED SPEAKER: Robert D. Barr, Emeritus Analyst, Boise State University, Boise, ID

Sponsored in part by Solution Tree

This session will present 12 powerful, proven strategies for improving the performance of low-income/minority students. The strategies are based on a number of studies of high-poverty/high-performing schools, as well as in-depth case studies of effective Title I schools. Because the 12 Secrets are so practical and cost effective, they have been and can be replicated. The 12 Secrets are in fact a cutting edge blueprint for improving the performance of high-poverty schools. And in a time of budget cuts, a number of the strategies are inexpensiv.

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

ANYBODY HOME?!? STRATEGIES TO REACH DISCONNECTED PARENTS
FEATURED SPEAKER: David C. Miller, Chief Visionary Officer, Co-founder, and LaMarr Darnell Shields, President, Co-founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD

Although parents care about their children and wish to have positive relationships, lack of time, easily accessible information, consumer friendly material or unwilling partners can make it difficult to achieve a mutually beneficial relationship between a parent and the child. Reaching Disconnected Parents is an opportunity to learn how to engage disconnected parents who are often non-responsive and apathetic. This interactive workshop will explore the factors that lead to developing effective relationships between parents and children, as well as discuss lessons learned from Urban Leadership Institute's direct work with parents and students to improve academic and social development.

2011 Conference Season
SPONSORED BY GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTER

Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building, Statesboro, GA
THE SOTL COMMONS: THE SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING AND LEARNING • MARCH 9 – 11
8TH ANNUAL SOUTHEAST COASTAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES • MARCH 31 – APRIL 1

Coastal Georgia Center, Savannah, GA
8TH ANNUAL GEORGIA CONFERENCE ON INFORMATION LITERACY • SEPTEMBER 23 – 24
36TH GEORGIA EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING • OCTOBER 21 – 22

Details
http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/conferences.html
Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

“WHO AM I?”: ADDRESSING THE IDENTITY CRISIS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN YOUTH THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CULTURALLY RELEVANT PRACTICES

FEATURED SPEAKER: Anthony E. Outler, COO, Co-Founder, Epic Empowerment Consulting, Atlanta, GA

The stereotypical images of African American youth in popular culture serve to shape the perception that many African American youth have of themselves. Moreover, these commodified, media-driven images of blackness also tend to mediate the perceptions of the educators, counselors, social workers, etc. who serve them. This workshop will allow participants an opportunity to critically analyze the misguiding forces that shape African American identity construction. The participants will then be provided with examples of proven culturally relevant strategies and programs that serve to counter these self-destructive messages. Participants should be prepared to engage in genuine dialogue and deep analysis for the purpose of becoming change agents in the lives of the students they serve.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

CHILD AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM: BRIDGING THE GAP 21ST CENTURY STYLE!

FEATURED SPEAKER: Irma J. Gibson, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Savannah State University, Savannah, GA

Presently, government interventions regarding child welfare problems are mainly addressed at the tertiary prevention level and “separately” from the educational system, a crucial component. The social implications regarding failure to utilize innovative and collaborative strategies to address at-risk youth and their families in the 21st century have approached an extremely critical and morbid state. Cradle to prison pipeline statistics indicate the importance of including the community, the educational and child and family welfare systems as “out of the box” intervention measures are utilized to address poverty, family issues, emotional bankruptcy and educational deficits at the primary and secondary levels of prevention. This powerful presentation will address these implications and provide an inside perspective about “Operation Takeback: The Burial” and “Hip Hop Therapy: Up close and Personal,” two conjoined innovative approaches that have proven to be effective and empowering in addressing the 21st century needs of at-risk youth via collaborative partnerships that uniquely connect the family, school, and community.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

COMMUNICATING WITH ATTITUDES – KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL

Featured Speaker: John L. Reimer, President, North Carolina Dropout Prevention Association, Burlington, NC

Grade 2—“I hate School!” Grade 5—“I don’t want to go to school!” Grade 7—“As soon as I can quit, I will!” Dropout age—“Graduate? Not me!!” These comments are from real kids! Keeping kids in school and not on the streets is a communication with attitudes issue. Data gathered from 350 dropouts illustrates the role attitudes played in their ultimate decision to dropout. This interactive, dynamic, and no nonsense presentation that explores tools and strategies that dropouts tell us work, and how their futures can be enhanced with a creative approach to learning. Learn the tools that give all students options for the future and an image of what the future might be.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

IT TAKES A VILLAGE WITH A LEADER: IMPROVING COMMUNITY SCHOOL RELATIONS TO SUPPORT AT-RISK YOUTH

Russell Mays, Assistant Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

Participants will discover ways in which leadership outside of the school building can be as important as leadership inside the school building. The presentation will include reports of personal experiences, data from research, audience participation, music and storytelling.
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

OTC MIDDLE COLLEGE—SUPER SIZED INTERNSHIPS
LaRaine Bauer, OTC Middle College Director, and Sandy Pierce, Staff, Ozarks Technical Community College-Middle College, Springfield, MO

We all agree that education is the essential key to success, but helping a young person truly believe and understand this concept in the face of a myriad of teenage challenges can be a huge issue. It’s time to SUPER SIZE your internships! Make school relevant through enhanced opportunities in the community and narrowly focused curriculum that keeps career and college center stage. The OTC Middle College is an alternative high school located on a community college campus with three goals for all their students: finish high school, start college early, and begin a work or internship experience as quickly as possible. Students find self-confidence, develop leadership skills, and experience the workforce first hand under the careful support and direction of their teachers. Local community business leaders see the long-term benefit in helping youth now when they need it most while they can still make a significant impact or change in their life plan.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

SEVEN PROVEN STRATEGIES FOR CREATING POSITIVE CLASSROOMS TO INCREASE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND IMPROVE BEHAVIOR
J. Allen, Consultant, Positive Action, Inc. Twin Falls, ID

This presentation will provide seven evidence-based strategies demonstrated to increase academic achievement and improve classroom behavior. Teachers, counselors and administrators will get a practical approach to addressing the social and emotional issues that undermine education and contribute to poverty, violence and failure. Participants will leave with both new insights and practical tools.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

BUILDING A SYSTEM OF CARE FOR AT-RISK YOUTH AND FAMILIES
Tammy Jelinek, Families and Schools Together, Madison, WI

This workshop focuses on how to create a system of care by bringing parents, schools, and community agencies together to create a supportive environment. Participants will learn strategies that connect families with school and community-based resources, and about the benefits of creating a system of care. Participants will also learn how to engage even difficult to reach parents and youth.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

SAVANNAH-CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS COLLABORATIVE TRUANCY REDUCTION PROGRAM
Quentina Miller-Fields, Senior Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Tiffany Griffin, School Social Worker; and Tara Tolbert, School Social Worker, Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools, Savannah, GA

This exciting workshop is ideal for all educators and community partners. The facilitators and panelist will present data and conduct a forum that highlights the success of Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools (SCCPSS) truancy program based on the Chatham County Truancy Reduction Protocol and collaborative efforts of the community. The facilitators and panelist welcome questions and suggestions.

“Don’t try to fix the students, fix ourselves first. The good teacher makes the poor student good and the good student superior. When our students fail, we, as teachers, too, have failed.”

Marva Collins
A COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTION MODEL FOR LATINA YOUTH AT RISK FOR HIV INFECTION, DELINQUENCY AND HIGH-RISK BEHAVIORS
Nazly Restrepo, Associate Director, CA Orange County Bar Foundation, Santa Ana, CA


THE REPUBLIC OF CREATIVE THOUGHT: HOW TO INCORPORATE CREATIVITY IN YOUR WORK AND EVERYDAY LIFE
Jerry Dale Jones, Professor, University of North Carolina Pembroke, Pembroke, NC

The Republic of Creative Thought provides proven training for instructors who have an interest in creativity, and how to incorporate that development in their work and everyday life. It provides concrete strategies on how to encourage creative development in their life and workplace.

ASSESSING, GRADING, AND DIFFERENTIATING WHOLE CLASS INSTRUCTION: NOT AN OXYMORON BUT A SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUE
Paulette Proctor Harris, Professor, Augusta State University, Augusta, GA, and Audie Holmes, Assistant Professor, Paine College, Augusta, GA

Teachers at all grade levels will be shown a model of how to instruct, assess, and grade all students fairly and accurately while providing a differentiated curriculum in a whole class framework for any grade level or any content area.

MINORITY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT VS. THE BURDEN OF ACTING WHITE
Henry L. Harris, Associate Professor & Department Chairperson, UNC Charlotte, Department of Counseling UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, NC

This presentation will discuss the persistent educational gap that exists between minority and white students. The primary objective is to help attendees understand some of the factors contributing this gap including the often debated subject of “Acting White”.

Ballroom B • Tuesday • 4:30PM – 5 PM • PLU MASTERY TEST

- Please allow 30 minutes to complete your test.
- The Mastery Test must be turned in as you exit.
- Mastery Tests cannot be accepted after the testing period.

Professional Learning Unit Credit - 1 PLU • Guidelines

One Professional Learning Unit (PLU) credit, to be used for Georgia teacher certification renewal, may be earned by conference participants.

PARTICIPANT’S RESPONSIBILITY:
• Submit a signed PLU Prior Approval Form
• Complete the “Personnel Information” section of Form 0224
• Participate in conference sessions for a minimum of ten (10) hours over the four-day conference
• Complete the PLU Mastery Test to demonstrate your mastery of the conference information
• Complete a Confirmation of Hours Attended Form

FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE:
• All PLU Credit Mastery Tests will be evaluated by a conference organizer who is also a Georgia Southern University, College of Education faculty member.

• Each participant whose PLU Credit Evaluation Instrument is evaluated as passing; who has turned in a PLU Prior Approval Form; and who has verified that he/she attended conference sessions for a minimum of ten hours, will be granted one (1) PLU credit and will receive by mail a fully signed Form 0224, Professional Learning Program Completion Record, from Georgia Southern University.

• It will be the responsibility of each participant who earns PLU credit to present the Form 0224 to his/her school system’s central office for processing with the Professional Standards Commission.

FOR QUESTIONS:
During the Conference, contact a conference staff member at the Registration tables.

For questions following the Conference, call 912.478.1755
7:30 – 8:15 AM
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Regency Ballroom • Wednesday • 8:15 AM – 9:15 AM • KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

BREAKING BARRIERS: CONCRETE TOOLS FOR WORKING WITH PEOPLE IN POVERTY
Donna Beegle, Ed.D., National Public Speaker, Discussion Leader, Trainer and Author, Communication Across Barriers, Tigard, OR

How we get our information shapes how we relate to one another and how we experience the world. Many people from lower-class backgrounds get their information verbally, creating an “oral” culture thought process. Many people from middle-upper class backgrounds gain their information from reading, creating a “print” culture thought process. Understanding these different thought processes can improve communication across class barriers and increase success. Opportunities for improving communication and relationships are enormous when these concepts are understood and incorporated into every aspect of the service process.

9:15 AM
JOIN OUR KEYNOTE PRESENTER - DONNA BEEGLE FOR A Q & A SESSION IN THE EXHIBIT AREA

9:15 – 9:45 AM
BREAK

Pick up your WEDNESDAY evaluations now from the Room Monitors!

“The test of the morality of a society is what it does for its children.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“An educated mind is useless without a focused will and dangerous without a loving heart.”

W. J. Deijmann

“If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it.”

William Arthur Ward

“The secret of education is respecting the pupil.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

“I’ve come to the frightening conclusion that I am the decisive element in the classroom. It’s my daily mood that makes the weather. As a teacher, I possess a tremendous power to make a child’s life miserable or joyous. I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration. I can humiliate or humor, hurt or heal. In all situations, it is my response that decides whether a crisis will be escalated or de-escalated and a child humanized or de-humanized.”

Haim Ginott
Neuroscience discoveries have revolutionized our understanding of how the brains of our children learn and grow. In particular, brain research reveals how the specific language used by adults who teach, mentor and counsel youth has a much more profound effect on their development than previously realized. Learn the four powerful “Languages of the Brain” that will transform the lives of the children you serve. Walk away with a new way of talking to youth that builds resilience, promotes intrinsic motivation, enhances cognitive stimulation and creates kaleidoscope thinkers. What you say matters, more than you ever knew!

**Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session**

**MOTIVATING AT-RISK STUDENTS FOR ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL SUCCESS**

• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Barbie K. Reed, CEO, Nurturing Yourself Seminars and Internationally Recognized Communication Expert, Daytona Beach, FL

This highly interactive and stimulating presentation has been designed to help participants develop higher expectations for all youth, especially those who are at risk of failing academically. Through unique strategies, participants will be given skills to evaluate their own behavioral styles so that they can become more effective motivators and supporters for the youth they serve. More young people are entering the juvenile justice system at an alarming rate and for those reasons we must examine the connection between their self esteem, their goals, their hope for the future and the choices they make academically and socially.

**Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session**

**“AT-RISK” OR UNDERSERVED? FOCUSING ON WHAT REALLY MATTERS IN STUDENT LEARNING**

• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Kenneth Williams, Chief Visionary Officer, Unfold the Soul, LLC, Tyrone, GA

*Sponsored in part by Solution Tree*

The questions we ask about educating our youth depend on the lens through which we look. Ken Williams takes us on a journey of reflection, perception and perspective that will shift traditional thinking and change paradigms as it relates to educating struggling learners. Participants will explore the questions that empower our educators to capitalize on the collective expertise and resources that improve student achievement.

**Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session**

**SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPING RESILIENCY AND ADAPTIVE SKILLS FOR STUDENTS AT RISK WITH SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL & BEHAVIORAL CHALLENGES**

*Michael Parr, Professor, and Warnie Richardson, Nipissing University, North Bay, Ontario, Canada*

This presentation outlines strategies for developing academic and Pro-social skills of at risk students with social/emotional/behavioral challenges in traditional, segregated, and juvenile detention classrooms. Reports on effectiveness of these strategies as identified by the presenters, teachers, and self-reports from students themselves will be of benefit to classroom teachers and special education teachers whom work with students at risk because of social/emotional/behavioral concerns.

**Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session**

**JOHNNY’S GAY, SO WHAT? PROTECT HIM TOO!**

*Laura A. Bacon, Assistant Principal, Aiken High School, Aiken, SC*

The objectives of this presentation are to help school leaders understand (1) the impact that peer victimization has on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) youth and (2) what their role is in protecting LGBT youth from peer victimization. Strategies, programs, and policies will be discussed that can help protect LGBT youth from peer victimization. The target audience is school principals, teachers, and guidance counselors.
“DON’T HATE THE PLAYER, HATE THE GAME”—GAMES CHILDREN PLAY
FEATURED SPEAKER: Marc Fomby, BMS, CPS, CEO, FTC Prevention Services, Richland, MS

As role models and decision-makers in the lives of youth, we want to accentuate the positive and provide coping skills for the negative. Adults must realize that youth look at events, situations, and happenings in their lives differently and, therefore, respond accordingly. Many times adults will not understand the urgency a youth has placed on a situation. However, adults must learn to listen to the youth and accept that the youth’s concern is “real” and very important. In this workshop we discuss risk and protective factors for youth with suicidal ideations. We also demonstrate how young people respond to and handle some of the social pressures of today. Participants will learn some of the deadly “games they play” and the coping mechanisms they sometimes choose. We also discuss some key indicators that should raise a red flag for adults when suicidal thoughts, behaviors, and tendencies are suspected.

101 THINGS EVERY GIRL/YOUNG WOMAN OF COLOR SHOULD KNOW: A ROADMAP FOR GIRLS AND THE WOMEN WHO EDUCATE AND SERVE THEM • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Meshelle, Comedienne, Actor, Author, Meshelle, LLC, Baltimore, MD

This session explores the journey of direct service, program development, strategic planning and implementation for girls of color. Four key components, Mind, Body, Spirit, and Life Skills (Other things YOU need to know), are highlighted in this presentation with key direction and advice to assist girls who may be facing challenges navigating the journey from girlhood to womanhood. Environmental, internal and economic variables will be presented to qualify the anecdotes and findings presented. Readings, discussion, hands-on-techniques and intensive question and answer opportunities will prove to be both interactive and informative. Strategies for assuring promising outcomes with the indicated population will be shared, and participants will be encouraged to share follow-up upon returning to programs and institutions.

FIVE CONFERENCE STRANDS

I. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & SCHOOL LEADERSHIP
   Closing the achievement gaps and promoting learning for all students.

II. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS
   Fostering social and emotional skills of all children and youth and enhancing the social climate.

III. SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION
   Preventing violence and ensuring safety for all children and youth.

IV. MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH
   Promoting the mental and physical health of all children and youth.

V. FAMILY & COMMUNITY
   Developing and enhancing family and community support for all children and youth.
**Ballroom D, E, F (Seating Capacity 200) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session**

**A TOWN HALL MEETING: HOW TO REACH YOUNG AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES**

**MODERATOR:** Evelyn Dandy, Professor Emerita, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

**PANELISTS:**

- James Platts, Risers Academy for Young African American Men, Savannah, GA
- Kevin Foard, Instructor, Savannah Regional Youth Detention Center, Savannah, GA
- David C. Miller, Chief Visionary Officer & Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD
- LaMarr Darnell Shields, President & Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD
- Diane Jackson, Spencer Elementary, Savannah, GA
- Aldric Dekle, 21st Century Program, Savannah-Chatham Public Schools, Savannah, GA

Traditional approaches to increasing achievement and success of young Black males are not working. We must change the current pattern where finishing high school is the exception and prison is like a routine. A panel of expert educators and parents discuss how to raise and educate academically successful African American males. Come join our town hall meeting on this important topic.

**THIS DOUBLE-SESSION TOWN HALL MEETING CONTINUES UNTIL 12:30 PM**

An evaluation of the conference’s general sessions will be accessible via nationalyouthatrisk.com or via an email announcement following the conference.

“There is a brilliant child locked inside every student”

*Marva Collins*
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2011**

**9:45 – 11 AM • WEDNESDAY**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session**

**PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS WITH “AT-RISK” YOUTH—THE NEW YORK CITY TRANSFER SCHOOL MODEL**

Thomas McKenna, Principal, Brooklyn Democracy Academy, Brooklyn, NY

New York City is finding success in “recovering” potential drop-outs by creating Transfer High Schools—small, personalized schools with an on-site community based/social service organization in full partnership with the Department of Education staff and leadership.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

**IT’S A JUNGLE OUT THERE: SURVIVING, CONQUERING, AND IMPROVING SCHOOL CLIMATE AND CULTURE.**

Shannon Hervey, Educational Training Consultant, Angela Holcomb, LCSW, Educational Training Consultant; Katina Watts, LMSW, Educational Training Consultant, H4W Didactics, LLC, Atlanta, GA

The objective of this presentation is to increase awareness and understanding of how school climate directly impacts education, and the practical and research-based steps educators can take to address climate deficiencies. Participants will leave with a knowledge base of measures that can improve or enhance climate within their school. This presentation is appropriate for teachers; student support services personnel, and administrators.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

**MORE THAN A GAME: IMPLEMENTING CHESS IN YOUR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Stephen A. Schneider, Director, Championship Chess, Atlanta, GA

Steve Schneider, author, teacher and proponent for scholastic chess, will talk about the positive benefits chess can offer students at risk. He will also introduce the successful methods he has developed to help children learn to play chess. Whether or not you play chess, you can learn successful strategies for implementing chess in your after-school program.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

**RAISING A RADICAL CHILD**

Clarence T. Brown, Principal Partner, The Talking Bout, LLC, Bristow, VA

This presentation is designed for anyone who has influence in the life of a child. Highlighting the fact that we are always creating impact, the speaker will outline simple yet practical steps for bringing purpose, activities, decisions and influencers into full alignment. Focusing on the participant’s interaction style, this workshop will assist individuals with developing a mentoring strategy.

**11 – 11:15 AM BREAK**

**9:45 – 11 AM • WEDNESDAY • BALLROOM A • POSTER PRESENTATION**

**FOSTERING S.W.A.G. (STUDENTS WITH ACADEMIC GAME)**

Christian Pantin, Mathematics Teacher and Michel Mitchell, Transition Coach, Savannah High School, Savannah, GA

The purpose of this poster session is to wake educators of high school urban youth to the myriad of possibilities available to motivate and empower urban youth. Tapping into the reservoirs of hip-hop culture and popular culture gives urban educators the necessary leverage needed to build relationships and bridge gaps between students and teachers. Before urban students begin to care what you think, they must first think that you care. Genuine care and developing relationships are the key ingredients to Fostering S.W.A.G. (Students With Academic Game).

**DEALING WITH YOUTH-AT-RISK**

Johnny Freeman, Principal Muscogee County School District, Columbus, GA

The Rosehill Alternative Center is committed to improving the education and quality of life for young people. Proven strategies will be shared to foster social and emotional skills of our at-risk students through various behavioral interventions.

**DREAMS, GOALS AND HARD WORK: COMPREHENSIVE WORK FORCE VALUES PROGRAM FOR AT RISK YOUTH**

Floyd Thompkins, Chief Executive Officer, Jack Bower Fund Inc, Braxton, GA

This is a presentation highlighting a proven approach for middle school youth. Through interactive experiences, a power point presentation and a sampling of some of the techniques that the Bower Fund has developed for use with its teenagers the conference attendee will come to understand this unique approach through doing, listening and dialogue.

**SAVE ME! HELP ME! I NEED AN INTERVENTION: SAFETY NETS THAT HELP PREVENT FAILURE.**

Shanna Woods, Teacher; Dravieous Hurston-White, Teacher; David Colbert, Guidance counselor, Fort Middle School, Columbus, GA

Students Over-Board!!! In order to survive, you must stay in the boat! Teachers are the life rafts for students who are drowning and are the first line of defense in responding to potential failures in and out of the classroom. There are strategies that can be used to prevent students from going under and allow them to reach above the surface.

**SOCIAL ENGINEERS**

Anita D. Sanders, Assistant Professor of Education, Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, North Carolina and Joshua O. Sanders, Tucson Unified School District, Tucson, Arizona

This proposed poster session will provide strategies, scenarios, and ideas for educators to use to enhance their students social and communication skills. Often times, there is disconnect between what students consider as socially acceptable responses and what the general public perceives as unacceptable. Participants will leave this session with proven strategies and activities to help students select more appropriate responses.

**LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS OF PRINCIPALS WITH SUCCESSFUL HIGH POVERTY HISPANIC STUDENTS**

Shrone Yvette Blackwell, Academic Coach, Georgia Southern University, Ellenwood, GA

Objective: To furnish a description of the leadership characteristics of principals with a high population of Hispanic students, a high rate of poverty, who consistently make AYP. The topics discussed are high standards for student learning, rigorous curriculum, quality instruction, culture of learning and professional behavior, connection to external community, and professional accountability. Target audience: Administrators, Instructional Coaches, Teacher Leaders
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

CHANGE YOUR LANGUAGE, CHANGE THEIR LIVES: WHAT ADULTS CAN SAY DIFFERENTLY TODAY TO TRANSFORM THE TOMORROWS OF OUR YOUTH

FEATURED SPEAKER: Frank Kros, President, The Upside Down Organization, Baltimore, MD

Neuroscience discoveries have revolutionized our understanding of how the brains of our children learn and grow. In particular, brain research reveals how the specific language used by adults who teach, mentor and counsel youth has a much more profound effect on their development than previously realized. Learn the four powerful “Languages of the Brain” that will transform the lives of the children you serve. Walk away with a new way of talking to youth that builds resilience, promotes intrinsic motivation, enhances cognitive stimulation and creates kaleidoscope thinkers. What you say matters, more than you ever knew!

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

MOTIVATING AT-RISK STUDENTS FOR ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL SUCCESS

FEATURED SPEAKER: Barbie K. Reed, CEO, Nurturing Yourself Seminars and Internationally Recognized Communication Expert, Daytona Beach, FL

This highly interactive and stimulating presentation has been designed to help participants develop higher expectations for all youth, especially those who are at risk of failing academically. Through unique strategies, participants will be given skills to evaluate their own behavioral styles so that they can become more effective motivators and supporters for the youth they serve. More young people are entering the juvenile justice system at an alarming rate and for those reasons we must examine the connection between their self esteem, their goals, their hope for the future and the choices they make academically and socially.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

“AT-RISK” OR UNDERSERVED? FOCUSING ON WHAT REALLY MATTERS IN STUDENT LEARNING

FEATURED SPEAKER: Kenneth Williams, Chief Visionary Officer, Unfold the Soul, LLC, Tyrone, GA

Sponsored in part by Solution Tree

The questions we ask about educating our youth depend on the lens through which we look. Ken Williams takes us on a journey of reflection, perception and perspective that will shift traditional thinking and change paradigms as it relates to educating struggling learners. Participants will explore the questions that empower our educators to capitalize on the collective expertise and resources that improve student achievement.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

MULTICULTURAL POETRY TO ENGAGE RELUCTANT LEARNERS

FEATURED SPEAKERS: Buffy Jobe, Teacher, and James McCarter, Assistant Principal, Glynn Middle School, Brunswick, GA

Presenters will address the needs of adolescents and the gaps that exist in schools for diverse learners. Participants will be privy to the performances of middle school students who dramatically interpret poetry as a means to explore their own culture and to develop their language skills. Discussion will include how poetry can be used to engage reluctant learners and to better meet their various needs.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

DEVELOPING POSITIVE TEEN DATING IDENTITIES: A GROUP COUNSELING MODEL FOR ADOLESCENT MALES

Brenda S. Hall, Associate Professor of Counselor Education; and Jamie L. Anderson, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND

This session highlights issues facing male adolescents who are at risk for perpetrating dating violence. The presenters discuss key concepts related to relationship identity, as well as influences related to the propensity for abusive behaviors in intimate partnerships. Specifically, the presenters describe proactive, psycho-educational group counseling strategies and share preliminary outcomes from implementation of the model in a community setting.
**Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

"DON'T HATE THE PLAYER, HATE THE GAME"—GAMES CHILDREN PLAY

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Marc Fomby, BMS, CPS, CEO, FTC Prevention Services, Richland, MS

As role models and decision-makers in the lives of youth we want to accentuate the positive and provide coping skills for the negative. Adults must realize that youth look at events, situations, and happenings in their lives differently and, therefore, respond accordingly. Many times adults will not understand the urgency a youth has placed on a situation. However, adults must learn to listen to the youth and accept that the youth’s concern is “real” and very important. In this workshop we discuss risk and protective factors for youth with suicidal ideations. We also demonstrate how young people respond to and handle some of the social pressures of today. Participants will learn some of the deadly “games they play” and the coping mechanisms they sometimes choose. We also discuss some key indicators that should raise a red flag for adults when suicidal thoughts, behaviors, and tendencies are suspected.

**Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

101 THINGS EVERY GIRL/YOUNG WOMAN OF COLOR SHOULD KNOW: A ROADMAP FOR GIRLS AND THE WOMEN WHO EDUCATE AND SERVE THEM

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Meshelle, Comedienne, Actor, Author, Mechelle, LLC, Baltimore, MD

This session explores the journey of direct service, program development, strategic planning and implementation for girls of color. Four key components, Mind, Body, Spirit, and Life Skills (Other things YOU need to know), are highlighted in this presentation with key direction and advice to assist girls who may be facing challenges navigating the journey from girlhood to womanhood. Environmental, internal and economic variables will be presented to qualify the anecdotes and findings presented. Readings, discussion, hands-on-techniques and intensive question and answer opportunities will prove to be both interactive and informative. Strategies for assuring promising outcomes with the indicated population will be shared, and participants will be encouraged to share follow-up upon returning to programs and institutions.

**Certificate Q & A**

**Q: Where’s My Certificate?**

A: We will be mailing the certificates.

**Q: Where and when will you mail my certificate?**

A: After March 9, log onto nationalyouthatrisk.com and complete a brief online conference evaluation. The last question will allow you to tell us where to send your certificate. We will get them into the mail just as fast as we can. The online evaluation will close on April 15, 2011.

**Q: What if I forget about the evaluation process?**

A: Don’t worry! We will email you a reminder after the conference.
Ballroom D, E, F (Seating Capacity 200) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**A TOWN HALL MEETING: HOW TO REACH YOUNG AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES**

*MODERATOR: Evelyn Dandy, Professor Emerita, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA*

*PANELISTS: James Platts, Risers Academy for Young African American Men, Savannah, GA; Kevin Foard, Instructor, Savannah Regional Youth Detention Center, Savannah, GA; David C. Miller, Chief Visionary Officer & Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD; LaMarc Darnell Shields President & Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD; Diane Jackson, Spencer Elementary, Savannah, GA; Aldric Dekle, 21st Century Program, Savannah-Chatham Public Schools, Savannah, GA*

Traditional approaches to increasing achievement and success of young Black males are not working. We must change the current pattern where finishing high school is the exception and prison is like a routine. A panel of expert educators and parents discuss how to raise and educate academically successful African American males. Come join our town hall meeting on this important topic.

**THIS IS THE CONTINUATION OF THE 9:45 – 11 AM SESSION**

“Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom”

*George Washington Carver*

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

*Helen Keller*

“Be the change that you want to see in the world.”

*Ghandi*

“Children are like wet cement. Whatever falls on them makes an impression.”

*Haim Ginott*

“If you want your children to improve, let them overhear the nice things you say about them to others.”

*Haim Ginott*
Pick up your WEDNESDAY evaluations now from the Room Monitors!

11:15 – 12:30 PM • WEDNESDAY
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

**A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION NATIONALLY APPROVED AT-RISK PROGRAM: THE EXEMPLARY CENTER FOR READING INSTRUCTION**

John J. Hobe, Childhood and Exceptional Student Education, Head, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

Come and learn what effective teachers do with nationally approved teaching strategies for at-risk students. See demonstrations and discuss teaching strategies including providing the time and practices students need to learn while integrating reading, writing, speaking, and listening, and reteaching as needed using positive teaching strategies when students are at different instructional levels.

**Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

**TEACHING CHILDREN OF LOW-INCOME FAMILIES TO READ: A COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM THAT BEATS THE ODDS**

Timothy R. Blair, Professor, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

This presentation will describe an innovative urban community center-university collaborative tutoring program in reading education for both elementary and middle school children of low-income families. Recommendations will be provided for developing in teachers the abilities and dispositions to be successful with children in our diverse classrooms. Target audience: classroom teachers, administrators, and community leaders.

**Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

**CAT CAMP: HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION SUMMER CAMP**

Brian Law, American School Counselors Association (ASCA) President, School Counselor, ASCA/Valdosta City Schools, Valdosta, GA

Nationwide statistics show that transition to high school is one of the most difficult adjustments for students. Valdosta High School has offered CAT CAMP to rising 9th graders for the past five years during the summer with positive results. Students learn about the three R's of High School: Relationships, Rigor and Relevance while learning techniques to make them successful. From “What High School is All About,” study and organizational skills, career planning, extracurricular planning, knowing your school and the educators that care about your success, CAT CAMP prepares students for the Freshman Journey through team building and leadership learning. Led by a school counselor who builds a safe bridge to secondary education, students are more successful. You will learn how to set up your own camp in your school. All files and planning materials will be available for attendees to implement your camp. Let’s go Camping!

**Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

**WHY DO SO MANY STUDENTS STRUGGLE WITH READING? COULD IT BE THAT WE AREN’T TEACHING IT RIGHT?**

Dee Tadlock, Adjunct Faculty, Central Washington University, Shelton, WA

“If we are to obtain results never before achieved, we must expect to employ methods never before attempted.” Learn about a bold, innovative reading intervention program based on theoretical constructs that are incompatible with mainstream thinking. The model explains why so many students have reading problems and offers a plausible and well-researched suggestion for what can be done to eliminate them.

“Children are great imitators. So give them something great to imitate.”

Anonymous
APPLYING AND TEACHING THE 21 LAWS OF LEADERSHIP IN YOUTH PROGRAMS
Christopher Anderson, 4-H Youth Development Specialist, and Lisa M. Dennis, 4-H Youth Development Specialist, University of Maryland Extension, College Park, MD, Princess Anne, MD

“The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership” are easy to learn and yield remarkable results for emerging or seasoned leaders. Apply the laws and watch your personal leadership ability grow. Teach the laws to the youth and adults serving on groups you work with and watch them grow as individuals, and see their ability to lead your programs grow too!

PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS
Jaracus Copes, President/CEO, New Destiny, LLC., Columbia, MD

Partnering with Families for Students’ Success; is a comprehensive and innovative poster session developed to assist participants in developing a holistic understanding of “parental involvement,” provide participants with leadership strategies and professional tools to increase parental involvement and to assist participants in creating more appealing, effective and result oriented programs.

UNDERSTANDING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SKIN TONE
Henry L. Harris, Associate Professor and Counseling Department Chairperson, UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, NC

This poster presentation will address some of the unique challenges faced by students with darker skin. Participants attending this session will: (1) learn more about the historical context of skin tone, (2) understand how skin tone influences self-esteem, and (3) learn about effective empowerment programs.

THIS CONCLUDES THE 22nd ANNUAL NATIONAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE
WE’LL SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!
March 4 – 7, 2012
Youth on the M.O.V.E. (YOTM) is an all inclusive job readiness curriculum offering creative and innovative ways to educate, equip and empower today’s youth to get on the M.O.V.E. (Motivated to Obtain Valuable Employment).

The YOTM curriculum is a non-traditional way of teaching youth the basics for seeking, gaining and maintaining employment. The curriculum consists of:

- How To Overcome Obstacles And Set Goals
- Job Search Resources
- How To Complete An Employment Application
- How To Write Resumes, Cover Letters And Thank You Letters
- Customer Service Skills
- Problem Resolution Skills
- Understanding And Exceeding The Employer’s Expectations
- Interviewing Techniques
- Developing A Back-Up Plan
- What To Do Your First Day On The Job
- How To Keep Your Job

Join the thousands of youth who are on the M.O.V.E.!
For more information please visit our website @ www.ringercenter.net or call us at 678-539-6010 or 1-866-904-3140
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