

PROGRAM

ALL CHILDREN

OUR FUTURE

CIVIL RIGHTS &
EDUCATION CONFERENCE
MAY 2, 2018

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Registration
10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	<p>Welcoming Remarks Vanita Gupta, President and CEO The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights The Leadership Conference Education Fund</p>
10:20 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.	<p>Keynote Speaker Catherine E. Lhamon, Chair U.S Commission on Civil Rights</p>
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	<p>Concurrent Breakout Sessions #1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Bridging Borders: Children in Immigrant Families (MPR A) At a time when political leaders are talking about mass deportation and walls on the southern border, many parents, educators, and advocates are concerned about how best to protect their children and want to know the responsibilities schools have to keep them safe. On this panel, participants will learn about deportation and immigration policy issues affecting K-12 students and postsecondary students, along with state specific challenges English learners are facing in the classroom. Participants will also learn about immigrant children’s educational rights and how to organize community members.</p> <p>Campus Disconnections: The Student of Color College Experience (Classroom #318) From affirmative action to sexual assault and white supremacy, this panel will explore what it feels like to be a student of color on a college campus, despite sometimes feeling like the masses don’t want you there. The panelists will discuss movements to address these issues of school climate and discuss best practices that universities can employ to create healthy, welcoming, safe campuses for all.</p> <p>Advancing Justice in Schools: Where Do We Go From Here? (MPR B&C) Across the nation, students of color and students with disabilities continue to face higher rates of suspension and expulsion, often for similar and/or minor misbehavior that other children get away with. This session will give participants the opportunity to reflect on the progress of the movement for school discipline reform and learn about alternative and restorative justice practices that are helping to empower students and community members to advance justice in their schools. We will discuss the challenges that students continue to face with the presence of police in their schools and learn about strategies that advocates are using to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline.</p>



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12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:40 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.	<p>Concurrent Breakout Sessions #2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>• Early Childhood Education: Setting up Our Children for Success (MPR A)</p> <p>The movement to expand access to early childhood education has accelerated over the last few decades. At the same time, our nation has grown more diverse. What are the implications of this increasing diversity on our early childhood education policies? How do we ensure that we aren't building an early childhood system that fails children of color, bilingual children, or children with disabilities. On this panel, experts in the field will discuss the state of early childhood education and the policy questions that lie at the center of the debate about how to ensure all children have access to high-quality early childhood education.</p> <p>• Present in the Classroom: Educators of Color and Native Educators on Creating Racial Justice in Education (MPR B&C)</p> <p>Current classroom teachers, school leaders of color and Native educators will share their views on the interpersonal and systemic ways that racism happens in our classrooms and offer their views on the local, state, and national changes needed to create welcoming classrooms that overcome the barriers to success for students and educators of color. Conference attendees will leave with a better understanding of the need for a diverse teacher workforce, the barriers to success teachers of color and Native teachers face, the role that educators can play in local and systemic change, and the ways that advocates can support their success and that of their students.</p> <p>• Queering the Classroom: How the American Education System Can Better Serve LGBTQ Students (Classroom #318)</p> <p>Although LGBTQ rights have made great strides within the last few decades, there remains progress to make, particularly with respect to LGBTQ students' experiences in educational settings. What does classroom / campus life look like for LGBTQ students? What resources are available to them? What can we do as allies to enhance their experience and ensure that they succeed?</p>



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<p>2:50 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.</p>	<p>Concurrent Breakout Sessions #3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>• Parent Advocates: Effectively Engaging Parents to Be at the Forefront (MPR A)</p> <p>Parents are experts in educational equity and must be empowered to be at the forefront of organizing and advocacy. Effective engagement of parents is crucial to increasing the educational achievement of all students. This session will be a discussion of best practices for effective engagement, inclusiveness, and parent leadership in organizing around education issues. We will discuss challenges of parent engagement and strategies that have been most effective in engaging parents.</p> <p>• Resourcing for Excellence: Getting All Our Kids What They Need to Succeed (MPR B&C)</p> <p>The way a school is funded affects everything from the quality and experience of the teachers your child has to the quality of the facilities to the number of books, pencils and erasers in a classroom. For these reasons, civil rights advocates have been trying to address resource and funding inequities for decades, with varying degrees of success. In this session, you will learn more about how schools are funded, how you can impact those funding and resource decisions, some of the legal challenges to systemic reform of school funding, and how some advocates around the country have run campaigns to ensure all children get to attend well-resourced schools.</p> <p>• In Our Own Voices: Welcoming People With Disabilities in All Schools (Classroom #318)</p> <p>Students and graduates will share their stories as students navigating education systems. They will speak to their struggles and triumphs, what works and what doesn't, how policies and laws helped and where they failed, and how conference attendees can work as and with people with disabilities to make every school and campus welcoming and inclusive for all students.</p>
<p>4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Planning for Action</p>
<p>5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Reception</p>



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