

2019 CTA Equity and Human Rights Conference

Tentative Workshop Descriptions – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

A Dialogue About Race (Parts I & II)

DESCRIPTION COMING SOON

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Reena Doyle
Gail Watts
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am
Saturday 1:45-3:45 pm

A Primer on Privilege

Privilege, oppression, intersectionality, white supremacy. You see these terms all over social media, but you aren't sure what they mean. Maybe you've been told to "check your privilege" and you're wondering why or how? Perhaps you want to talk to others about privilege and its impact on our schools and communities, but you don't know how to start. If any of this describes you or you just want to learn more, then join us for an interactive session on the topic of privilege and how we can begin to address this system of inequity to achieve a more just society.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Lisa Adams
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am

Achieving Proportional Participation

How can African American, Latino and English Learner Status students close the achievement gap with Asian and White students if they are disproportionately sent out of class for low-level misbehaviors? This session should particularly benefit teachers who want to seriously improve their abilities to help ALL students take charge of their classroom climate and significantly decrease discipline problems while increasing academic performances. In this high energy, interactive session, educators will learn culturally responsive strategies to enable students to become responsible participants in their own positive behavior management programs. Research shows that students who are traditionally given disproportionately more referrals and suspensions become significantly more engaged in learning when these techniques and approaches are applied.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Phyllis Hallam
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm

Bargaining for Social Justice

How do we merge our vision for social justice with the good work we do around collective bargaining? This session will explore three questions: 1. How do we excite members to bargain for social justice? 2. What are successful examples of bargaining for social justice? 3. How do we overcome employer opposition to bargaining for social justice? This session should particularly benefit any leader wanting to strengthen our social justice work in a post-Fair Share world.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Telly Tse
John Green
Dates: Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Building Strong Relationships and Home-School Partnerships

This session will provide an overview of how the Institute for Teaching's (IFT) strength-based approach has empowered CTA members to transform their classrooms, their schools and their school communities. Over the last 9 years, IFT grants have provided over 3 Million dollars in resources to fund the passions that our members feel for their work and their students. The IFT awards grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 for classroom or school site projects. This session will particularly benefit teachers who are interested in the Parent/Teacher Home Visit Project and creating stronger home/school partnerships that support students and transform schools.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Anita Benitas
Gretchen Viglione, April Ybara
Dates: Sunday 9:15-10:45am

Bull's-eye! Student Centered Pedagogy

Students Centered Pedagogy is a strength-based approach to meeting all students' needs within the constructs in any classroom. The emphasis is on learning over teaching. In the student-centered classroom, the student literally becomes the center of all the learning experiences derived within and through the classroom environment. Keeping the emphasis on student learning is the best way to ensure effective learning outcomes. The strategies we will explore will help attendees create a more student-centered approach to honing innovative educational practices. In this session we will delve into the strengths-based approach of creating and maintaining a student-centered approach to all classroom educational practices.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Robert Bassett
Al Rabanera
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm
Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Creating Powerful Voices out of Trauma

Moving Students from Hopelessness to Activism: How do we meet the needs of newly arrived immigrant students who come with high levels of trauma? Many are re-traumatized by the migration process and navigating a new school environment. In most cases, it is teachers who come to their rescue. Resilience lessons ease the stress for newly enrolled immigrant students and community action projects help heal and transform their trauma. This session will showcase the program we have created to help students not only be academically successful but find their voice through activism and engagement with their community. This session should particularly benefit ELD/EL teachers as well as coordinators and counselors who interact with immigrant students and/or EL newcomers.

Grade(s): 9 - 12
Presenter(s): Kristine Lesan
Ruth Cebreros
Dates: Sunday 9:15-10:45am

CTA/NEA Member Benefits for You, Your Family, & Your Career

Learn about your numerous exclusive Member Benefits, just one of the advantages of your association membership. Member Benefits staff will provide an overview of almost 50 different programs designed for members to save you and your family time and money, and also help with your finances, insurance protection, professional development and retirement planning. Join the thousands of members enjoying the value of Member Benefits every day!

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Henry Ahn
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm
Sunday 9:15-10:45am

Dismantling the Myth of Meritocracy

Meritocracy is a myth. White supremacy exists. Inequality exists. Oppression exists. Denying so and claiming that “if you just work hard enough, you’ll pull yourself up by your bootstraps” perpetuates oppression, blames the oppressed, and hurts students of color. This session should particularly benefit those ready to work to dismantle this myth – in our classrooms, schools, unions, and society at-large.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Dan Reynolds
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am

Does Your Dress Code Discriminate?

Recent headlines have shown us that students, parents, and teachers are willing to stand up and challenge sexist, racist, and xenophobic school dress codes. Some districts across the state and the nation are attempting to be more inclusive and responsive by updating their policies. Does your dress code discriminate? This session should particularly benefit those who want to discuss problem areas, exemplary policies, and ways we can organize our members, our students, and our communities to make improvements.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Dan Reynolds
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm

Empowering Student Activists

Using the video, OUT OF THE PAST, to explore how social justice activism has led to cultural and political changes in the past, participants will learn about and discuss ways to empower our students to find voice for social justice activism, with a focus on LGBTQIA rights. We will view parts of the video to examine historical LGBTQIA figures and the story of high school students who tried to start a GSA in Utah in the face of right-wing opposition. The stories will serve as a catalyst for activities that engage students in reflecting on their own lives and the possibility of creating social, political and cultural changes at their schools and in the world. This session should particularly benefit GSA/QSA advisers, social studies, language arts and health educators, and counselors or others working with LGBTQIA students and families, and human rights/social justice activists in their unions.

Grade(s): 9 - 12
Presenter(s): Carla Schick
Dates: Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Internalized Homophobia is SO Gay!

Do you suffer from internalized homophobia? Are you sure? How do you know? It’s time to break this cycle of self-hatred if we are really going to be free. How can we expect society to change if we are perpetuating the lies and myths? This workshop encourages LGBTQ+ and Allies to recognize and examine the harmful impact of a lifetime of homophobic / heterosexist messages on their own self-image, as well as their attitudes toward other gay people. Dialogue, activities and skills are offered to challenge internalized homophobia, in our own lives, and in the lives of our students.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): C Scott Miller
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am

"Latin History for Morons"

Participants will engage in a conversation on how a distorted historical pro-European view affects our students in the classroom and in their lives. We will explore what we can do as educators to help support a more correct and honest view of history while also questioning our own internalized perspective. Have we internalized a "White Supremacist" culture? Have our students? If yes, how can we help our students question their ingrained perspectives? Come and engage with fellow colleagues, laugh, and get resources for your classrooms.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Norma Sanchez
Chris Arellano
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am
Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Making Black Lives Matter in Schools

This session should particularly benefit educators, students and communities. We will engage in a strategy-based discussion and presentation on school policies and procedures, curriculum and instruction, building community schools, and how educators and union activists can transform the school system to support Black students. Participants will engage in an in-depth dialogue around the Black Lives Matter movement and their recent national policy statement to support students of color and eradicate the school to prison pipeline in our public school system.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Cecily Myart-Cruz
Erika Jones
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm
Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Males Talking to Males About Feminism

The Me Too Movement, Male Privilege, Mansplaining, and more—join us as we have a transformative dialogue about topics like these. Developing new understandings, we will explore our own experiences, the intersectionality of race, class, gender identity and sexual orientation, and leave empowered to engage in conversations around feminism.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Christopher Brunette
Dan Reynolds
Dates: Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Organizing for Success

In a strong local, the strengths of the diverse members are utilized. Reaching out and involving the membership is valued. Diversity among members and students is viewed as a benefit. There are successful strategies that have been used by chapters to promote cross-cultural understanding among members, among students in the classrooms and their families. These approaches support effective learning environments and greater advocacy for public education. This session will outline ideas and resources for developing on-going equity programs and greater involvement in your chapter.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Rebecca Harper
Monica Guevara Rice
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am
Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm

Our Forgotten Forebears: The Californios

One of the silences we try to remedy as we work for inclusion of all those who have contributed to our history in California is the silence about the Californios. Before 1850, California was part of New Spain and then Mexico. The migrants to California, mostly from Sonora and Sinaloa, created a society far from the capital in Mexico City that looked a lot like current California. In this presentation, our three presenters will discuss the ethnic and linguistic background of the Californios, the marriages between the Californian and immigrants from the U.S., Britain and Germany, and finally, the discrimination these early residents experienced after the American takeover of the Northwestern provinces of Mexico. This session should particularly benefit those who are concerned about those whose voices have been silenced by the dominant culture.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Lynette Nyaggah
Dorothy Reina
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am

Partnership in Equity: Santa Monica-Malibu District & Education Association

DESCRIPTION COMING SOON

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Sarah Braff
Ben Drati, Jacqueline Mora
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm
Sunday 9:15-10:45am

Poetry of Witness, Protest & Healing

Poetry of witness is a distinct type of poetry in which a writer "bears witness" to those things he or she feels must be remembered. Most often, poetry of witness details atrocities or man's inhumanity to man, but sometimes it may express the quieter inner struggles that many humans may experience. Because intolerance is still a world problem, this session should particularly benefit educators to want to take time to express themselves, bear witness to what they see in the classroom, their community, and the nation and world at large. While I will discuss and show examples of poems of witness and protest, this is primarily a writing workshop designed to help all in attendance participate in expression. One does not have to be a writer to participate--in fact, EVERYONE is encouraged to participate

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Lucia Lemieux
Dates: Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Resilient Teacher Workshop

"If you understand that the problems children cause or the challenging behaviors we see in our schools are often times the evidence and result of experiences they are unable to interpret and process with maturity, then you don't want to miss The Resilient Teacher workshop! Our focus is on the strengthening of "ADULT" character traits, communication skills and strategies that can be applied across all school-based relationships that will promote positive behavior in the school environment. This session will particularly benefit classroom teachers, interventionist, administrators, counselors, support professionals, safety/discipline teams, classified staff (i.e security, bus drivers, cafeteria, etc.), mentors, parents and all ADULTs to be "responsibly" engaged in a proven practice of relationships and communication principles that help children and youth develop the necessary skills to overcome and manage life circumstances that may get in the way of positive behavior choices."

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): David Brown
Aisha Blanchard Young
Dates: Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Responding to Bias and Bigotry on Campus

Brave Space, Safe Space: Responding to Bias and Bigotry on Campus From “harmless” jokes to blatantly hostile comments...from preferential treatment to a straight-out discriminatory environment...bias and bigotry occurs on our campuses. Left unchecked, bias and bigotry negatively impact students’ learning environment as well our members working conditions. The goal of this session is to learn how to recognize and interrupt bias and bigotry on campus. Participants will also learn how to become more aware of their own biases and assumptions. Through scenarios and verbal strategies, participants will learn how to effectively recognize and respond to biased remarks and actions in our schools.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Lisa Adams
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm

S.H.E. is Me! A Curriculum for Girls

S.H.E. (Strong, Healthy, & Educated) is Me! A Curriculum for Girls is a group intervention designed to help girls learn and practice strategies that will help tackle the challenges faced in today's world. This session should particularly benefit preteen and teen girls through increasing social competencies including the ability to deal with persuasive peer and media messages.

Grade(s): 9 - 12
Presenter(s): Lisa Pynn
Natasha Kohls
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am
Sunday 9:15-10:45am

Social Emotional Skills for Life

This workshop will demonstrate how to implement Mindfulness and Peer Resolution skills. This session will particularly benefit all stakeholders interested in cultivating a school climate that wants to be better equipped to handle stress and adversity

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Rebecca Cihak
Phe Bach
Dates: Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Social Justice Unionism

This session should particularly benefit leaders who want to learn more about transforming their local from a "bread-and-butter"- focused association into a union focused on social justice advocacy. Via real-world examples, participants will explore effective grassroots member engagement, organizing, and mobilizing strategies which are essential to effecting change in the communities in which we work, and our students live.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Andrew Staiano
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm
Saturday 1:45-3:45pm

Sympathy/Empathy: What's the Difference?

Is it possible to be sympathetic without being empathetic, and vice versa? Scientific studies have investigated the roles that sympathy and empathy play in a social setting. Sympathy and empathy are complex social behaviors that have deep roots in human relationships. Participants will have a clear understanding between sympathy and empathy, including how they developed, what they are used for, and how they influence our understanding of human interactions in today's society. This session should particularly benefit those who are seeking to understand and reach students in school and the classroom.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Phyllis Peters
Dates: Saturday 1:45-3:45pm
Sunday 9:15-10:45am

The Glass is More Than Half Full

Teachers often believe they're engaging in asset ideology when in fact they are acting from a place of deficit thinking about their students' abilities. This presentation seeks to offer a basic theoretical understanding of asset thinking and provide practical application ideas that help teachers move towards equitable classroom practices. This session should particularly benefit teachers who believe in self-reflection and are interested in social justice issues of equity and how their belief systems shape their classroom practices.

Grade(s): 9 - 12
Presenter(s): Dawn Horwath
Dr. Andrea Cota
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm

The Meeting Girls' Needs Initiative

The Meeting Girls' Needs Initiative is a model that supports school partners in elevating the voices and expertise of girls, service providers, and educators to address the needs of girls through research, policy, practice, and programs.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Livier Gutierrez
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm
Sunday 9:15-10:45am

There is a Law... What Now?

Interpreting the law can be cumbersome and frustrating when others create obstacles for full implementation. Find out what's new, how to message around the attacks, and how to become a stronger advocate.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): C Scott Miller
Dates: Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm
Sunday 9:15-10:45am

Universal Declaration of Human Rights in your Classroom

Learn about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and how to make it part of your class curriculum. Presentation includes how the document has been used creatively in an ELD class, as well as when studying literature. This session should particularly benefit those who wish to include social justice issues in their classes and relate activities to the specific needs of their students. Participants will create grade-appropriate lesson plans.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Magret Nunes
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am

Untold Asian American Civil Rights Stories

This session will focus on the untold Asian Americans Civil Rights Stories. Using these stories, the teachers will be able to heighten their awareness of the little-known struggles of Asian Americans and their fight for Civil and Human Rights. We will also illustrate ways in which teachers can encourage their students to collect and document their own stories.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Jenny Chomori
Esther Taira
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am

Using My Privilege to Take Action Against "Isms"

I realize that I have white privilege.... now what?" White educators do not often realize that white privilege heavily influences/affects students of color. Some whites see even the acknowledgement of white privilege as negative or an attack on whiteness, however, this session will explore a "how can I use my white privilege to make positive change" perspective. Participants will explore the identification of white supremacy and the skills to addressing the issues caused by this concept for students of color using their privilege.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Angela Su
Dates: Saturday 1:45-3:45pm
Sunday 9:15-10:45am

White Privilege

White privilege is a complicated and often controversial issue that has gained attention in recent years. Peggy McIntosh's essay is the backbone for the "examination" of privilege in all its guises. This session will define white privilege, how it operates in society, challenge the "level playing field" theory of life, and examine assumptions. Bring your baggage and an open mind. This session will particularly benefit anyone who works in a diverse society.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Sonya Lowe
Jolene Tripp
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am

Why Are Relationships Important in Education?

This session should particularly benefit anyone that works in education. We know that in today's climate, strong relationships are key to everything that we do. We must understand that positive relationships are crucial to the success of our students, parents, colleagues and communities we work within. This session will look at why relationships are so important and ways to begin building those positive relationships right where you are.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Michelle Johnson
Kelly Kohtz
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am
Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm

Women in Power

What is the link between "women" and "power?" Participants will learn about the sources of power and how to use power effectively.

Grade(s): All
Presenter(s): Sandy Thornton
Dates: Saturday 8:15-10:15am
Sunday 9:15-10:45am