

VIRTUAL 2021 NEA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



March 12-14, 2021

Our Democracy. Our Responsibility. Our Time.
#EdLeaders #NEASummit

NEA MISSION VISION VALUES

Adopted at the 2006 NEA Representative Assembly

The National Education Association

We, the members of the National Education Association of the United States, are the voice of education professionals. Our work is fundamental to the nation, and we accept the profound trust placed in us.

Our Vision

Our vision is a great public school for every student.

Our Mission

Our mission is to advocate for education professionals and to unite our members and the nation to fulfill the promise of public education to prepare every student to succeed in a diverse and interdependent world.

Our Core Values

These principles guide our work and define our mission:

Equal Opportunity. We believe public education is the gateway to opportunity. All students have the human and civil right to a quality public education that develops their potential, independence, and character.

A Just Society. We believe public education is vital to building respect for the worth, dignity, and equality of every individual in our diverse society.

Democracy. We believe public education is the cornerstone of our republic. Public education provides individuals with the skills to be involved, informed, and engaged in our representative democracy.

Professionalism. We believe that the expertise and judgment of education professionals are critical to student success. We maintain the highest professional standards, and we expect the status, compensation, and respect due all professionals.

Partnership. We believe partnerships with parents, families, communities, and other stakeholders are essential to quality public education and student success.

Collective Action. We believe individuals are strengthened when they work together for the common good. As education professionals, we improve both our professional status and the quality of public education when we unite and advocate collectively.



Rebecca "Becky" Pringle
NEA President

“Our Democracy.
Our Responsibility.
Our Time!”

Welcome to NEA's 2021 Leadership Summit!

There is no doubt that each of us will forever remember this time in our nation's history when the world was forced to stop, reevaluate, change, and focus on the things that really matter. While we wait for the new normal—whatever that will be—to arrive in its fullness, we know we will never be the same again.

I also believe these months have shown us that leadership matters more now than it has ever mattered before—in our union and for our nation.

When COVID-19 closed our schools, we saw the leadership and tenacity of public school educators who jumped into virtual environments to ensure their students could continue to learn, launched food kitchens so hungry families could eat, and worked to close the digital divide that even before the pandemic posed obstacles to learning for millions of students.

In November, through the leadership of NEA members, we made phone calls, sent text messages, dropped literature, joined Zoom events, and helped ignite an historic voter turnout that elected Joe Biden and Kamala Harris and made NEA member Dr. Jill Biden our nation's first lady.

Today, we have White House partners who fully support the NEA's mission of reclaiming public education as a common good. The Biden-Harris administration believes in our movement to transform public education into something it was never created to be: a racially and socially just and equitable system that's actually designed to prepare every student—*every single one*—to succeed in a diverse and interdependent world.

We approach the virtual 2021 NEA Leadership Summit carrying with us a theme that has repeatedly served us well during these challenging months: “Our Democracy. Our Responsibility. Our Time.” Now that our treasured democratic principles are in the hands of responsible leaders, we know this is the time for NEA members to lead with even greater power.

At this year's Summit, you will acquire the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that form the core of the NEA Leadership Competency Framework: advocacy, communication, governance and leadership, organizing, and strategy and fiscal health. These competencies will help you to become a stronger practitioner and a stronger leader.

This dynamic experience will challenge you to think expansively about what leadership means for you, set proactive goals for your leadership journey, fill you with new ideas, and prepare you to step fully into your power.

I am thrilled that you are a part of this year's Summit, and I look forward to all of the great work we will do as leaders together.

Rebecca S. Pringle

A Message from the Summit Design Team

Welcome to the first virtual NEA National Leadership Summit! Thank you for dedicating your time to continue our leadership journeys together. As you can imagine, the Summit requires months of pre-planning. Designing a large scale, leadership development training for thousands of educators is challenging, exciting, and requires a lot of work and planning. That's even truer when the entire experience is happening virtually!

As a planning team, we kept the purpose of the Summit at the forefront of our minds as we considered this year's design. We wanted to make sure that you have the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to lead relevant, thriving associations and to lead in your professions.

Our goal was not to replicate, in a virtual setting, an in-person training. Instead, our goal was to emulate the Summit as much as we could. The Summit will continue to deliver quality content. We have worked very hard to make sure that we attend to your social and emotional needs and focus on engagement and connectedness—even given the limitations of technology. We want you to have fun and feel valued.

Because it is a virtual experience, we have truncated the schedule. This means we had to be creative about what we offered this year. That said, you will have opportunities to connect and network with other members from your state and from across the country. You will continue to have an opportunity to build lasting relationships by participating in meetings led by some of NEA's caucus and council leaders. You will also hear from dynamic keynote speakers and NEA's leadership team. We will also continue our focus on fundraising for NEA's Fund for Children and Public Education which helps us elect pro-public education candidates. Plus, the Summit will offer opportunities to win wonderful prizes and have fun.

Throughout the Summit, it will be evident that the NEA Leadership Competency Framework is at the center of our Conference. The framework includes a description of the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that help build stronger practitioners and association leaders. The framework has been updated and now includes a new competency that makes explicit the organization's belief that to be healthy and productive every education leader must develop the capacity for social and emotional intelligence.

For the fourth consecutive year, the Summit will be aligned with the NEA Higher Ed (March 10-12) and NEA-Retired (March 14-16) conferences. The alignment of these experiences has multiple benefits, including increased availability to professional learning and leadership development.

We hope you enjoy the Summit.

Sincerely,
NEA Summit Design Team

NEA Leadership Design Team

Princess Moss, *Chair, NEA Vice President, Virginia*
Dirk Andrews, *NEA Board of Directors, Wyoming*
Sarah Borgman, *President, NEA-Retired Executive Council, Indiana*
Cheryl Bost, *President, Maryland State Education Association*
Enrique Farrera, *NEA Board of Directors, Oregon*
Shelly Krajacic, *NEA Executive Committee, Wisconsin*
Ronald Martin, *President, Wisconsin Education Association Council*
Brent McKim, *President, National Council of Urban Education Associations, Kentucky*
Elizabeth Preval, *NEA Board of Directors, Massachusetts*
DeWayne Sheaffer, *President, National Council for Higher Education, California*
Alexandria Toay, *NEA Board of Directors, Illinois*
Hanna Vaandering, *NEA Executive Committee, Oregon*
Erica Webber-Jones, *President, Mississippi Association of Educators, Mississippi*
HaSheen Wilson, *NEA Board of Directors, Ohio*

TRIBES OF THE INDIAN NATION

Tribes of the Indigenous People within the United States of America



The National Education Association is committed to honoring the spaces that we occupy to advance the work. NEA begins each meeting by acknowledging that we meet on the traditional lands served by indigenous people. NEA honor America's First People and all elders, past, present, and emerging.

Discover your indigenous territories at <https://native-land.ca>

NEA Standards of Conduct

NEA has adopted a Standard of Conduct Policy to ensure that all of our gatherings are welcoming to all and free from discriminatory, harassing or otherwise unacceptable behavior. Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by law will not be tolerated. If you experience any discriminatory or harassing behavior, please email Robert Rodriguez (RRodriguez@nea.org) or Hanna Vaandering (HVaandering@nea.org) to report the incident. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring a positive event for all.

2021 VIRTUAL NATIONAL NEA LEADERSHIP SUMMIT AGENDA

A complete list of meetings and breakout session descriptions are available on nea.org/leadershipsummit.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021

TIME	EVENTS
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Summit Opening Plenary – NEA President Becky Pringle <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth Voice: Mecca, student poet• Keynote Speaker: Nancy MacLean, Professor of History and Public Policy, Duke University
7:00 PM – 7:15 PM	Virtual Intermission
7:15 PM – 8:00 PM	Caucus and Council Leadership Meetings
8:00 PM – 8:10 PM	Virtual Intermission
8:10 PM – 8:40 PM	Two Sessions (simultaneously): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virtual Social Engagement (music and trivia games w/prizes)• Virtual Fireside Chat with Becky Pringle and Nancy MacLean
8:40 PM – 8:50 PM	Virtual Intermission
8:50 PM – 9:00 PM	Day 1 Closing Session (giveaways/prizes) – NEA President Becky Pringle

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2021

TIME	EVENTS
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Virtual Yoga (Live) Session
12:00 PM – 12:55 PM	Saturday Plenary Session – NEA Vice President Princess Moss <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth Voice: Natalie Acosta, Youth Empowered in the Struggle• Keynote Speaker: Dr. Andre Perry, David M. Rubenstein Fellow in the Metropolitan Policy Program, The Brookings Institution
12:55 PM – 1:25 PM	Lunch Break (Duty Free)
1:25 PM – 1:55 PM	Virtual Jazz in the Park <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Music• Trivia Game with prizes
1:55 PM – 2:00 PM	Virtual Intermission
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Breakout Sessions – Block 1

3:00 PM – 3:10 PM	Virtual Intermission
3:10 PM – 4:10 PM	State Connection Time Sessions
4:10 PM – 4:20 PM	Virtual Intermission
4:20 PM – 5:20 PM	Breakout Sessions – Block 2
5:20 PM – 5:30 PM	Virtual Intermission
5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Day 2 Closing Session (giveaways/prizes) – NEA Vice President Princess Moss

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021

TIME	EVENTS
9:30 AM – 9:45 AM	Virtual Workout Session – Triyo Fitness
9:45 AM – 10:00 AM	Virtual Intermission
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Breakout Sessions – Block 3
11:00 AM – 11:05 AM	Virtual Break
11:05 AM – 12:00 PM	Closing Plenary – NEA Secretary-Treasurer Noel Candelaria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Voice: Takeru “TK” Nagayoshi • Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. William Barber, President & Senior Lecturer of Repairers of the Breach, Co-Chair of the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call For Moral Revival

GENERAL INFORMATION

The content of this program book and the Leadership Summit breakout sessions may be subject to changes, so please check the nea.org/leadershipsummit for updates throughout the summit.

STATE PARTNERSHIP FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Summit Design Team and NEA staff have included an opportunity for participants to gather virtually as state teams during the Summit. This session, held on Saturday, creates space for leaders to virtually engage with attendees from their state and build community. It will also help reinforce the Summit's purpose, create networking opportunities, and provide leaders with the time to brainstorm and share ideas for ongoing leadership development after the Summit ends.

► Saturday, March 13, 3:10 pm - 4:10 pm

CAUCUS AND COUNCIL MEETINGS

These virtual meetings provide Summit participants with an opportunity to meet with a caucus or council in an effort to leverage shared interests in building networks, enrich their understanding of NEA priority issues, and conduct other caucus and council business.

► Saturday, March 13, 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm

SUMMIT SOCIAL & ENGAGEMENT

Two simultaneous experiences: Virtual Engagement (music, trivia with prizes); and a Virtual Fireside Chat with Nancy MacLean, author of *Democracy in Chains*, hosted by NEA's president Becky Pringle. These first ever virtual events are designed as an opportunity for Summit participants to engage and enjoy with one another in a relaxed setting of their home allowing them to build the important relationship essential for strong leadership development.

► Friday, March 12, 8:10 pm - 8:40 pm

BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE, AND RESOLUTIONS WEBINAR

A complete recording of the annual Budget, Legislative, and Resolutions webinar is available through the NEA Governance Policy Resources Center at www.nea.org/policyresourcecenter. During the pre-Summit webinar, committee chairs discussed NEA's primary internal policy mechanisms - Strategic Plan and Budget, Federal Legislative program, and Resolutions.

NEA GOVERNANCE POLICY RESOURCE CENTER

Visit us online to find NEA's policy documents. Our Resolutions, Legislative Program, Policy Statements, and the Association's biennial Strategic Plan and Budget are developed with input from NEA members to help advance our strategic goals. They are adopted annually by the NEA Representative Assembly. You'll also find copies of policy documents and background on the standing NEA committees that coordinate the review of and recommended revisions to each of these Association policies.

Finally, the resource center provides NEA members with the opportunity to communicate with committee leaders to ask questions, share ideas, and recommend changes or additions to Association positions and activities. Visit the NEA Policy Resource Center at www.nea.org/policyresourcecenter.

HELP BUILD OUR LEADERSHIP BRAND VIA SOCIAL MEDIA!



Throughout the virtual Summit participants will have an opportunity to learn more about the Summit purpose, review content, and connect with other participants. In addition, the NEA Leadership Development Team is working to claim and own the 'education leader' space across social media platforms. Throughout the Summit, and long after, we will be working to build a stronger presence on Facebook, Twitter and edCommunities. This weekend, and in your reflections about the Summit, we encourage you to use the official Summit hashtags in your posts: #NEASummit and #EdLeaders.

SUMMIT FACEBOOK PAGE and edCOMMUNITIES GROUP (NEA LEADERSHIP SUMMIT ACTIVISTS)

Connect with NEA and other Summit participants through our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/neaedleaders/> and our edCommunities group (NEA Leadership Summit Activists) <https://www.mynea360.org/> to post your experience throughout the weekend.

The NEA Summit Leaders Facebook page is a closed group. The purpose of this group is build an online community for participants who have attended past and future NEA Leadership Summits. Our hope is that the space will serve as a forum for peer learning, personal engagement and provide opportunities to build relationships across boundaries. We invite you to post, comment, and share information, ideas and best practices about how you are developing yourself and others as leaders.

edCommunities Group (NEA Leadership Summit Activists). This group is to provide an online community for activist leaders who have attended past and future NEA Leadership Summits. Our hope is that this space will be a learning community and a forum for peer learning. We will share important content and presentations from the virtual Leadership Summit and invite you to post, comment, and share information, ideas and best practices about how you are developing yourself and others as activist leaders.

PHOTOGRAPHY, AUDIO, VIDEO RECORDINGS

Audio and video recordings will be taking place during the virtual NEA National Leadership Summit for journalistic and NEA marketing purposes. By your presence, you are consenting to the use of your likeness for these stated purposes. If you choose otherwise, please email leadershipsummits@nea.org with a photograph of yourself.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

In 2019, delegates at the NEA Annual Meeting, introduced a new business item, commonly referred to as an NBI, that called on NEA to incorporate mindfulness practices into the design of its national conferences. That NBI was referred to NEA's Conference Alignment Team, which provided guidance to conference planning committees to review each experience and determine if such sessions were feasible and aligned.

► Saturday, March 12, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

► Sunday, March 13, 9:30 am - 9:45 am

This year, the virtual Summit features multiple breakout sessions that amplify the role of self-care in leadership development and activism. Additionally, the Summit will also offer virtual Health and Wellness sessions to participants who want to explore mindfulness and other self-care techniques.

The Saturday session will be led by Tara Lisciandro, a certified yoga instructor and NEA member. On Sunday, get ready for Self-Care Sweat (virtual workout) in the comfort of your own home. This session will be led by Triyo Fitness, award-winning identical triplet fitness trainers Ahmad, Khalil, and Malik Jones.

Prioritize, Activate, Lead (PAL)

What is PAL?

PAL is a dedicated, digital engagement initiative for Summit participants to learn about and make a plan to lead on NEA's organizational priorities. Visit the PAL virtual exhibit booth.

The National Education Association has four priorities:

- ▶ **Early Career Educators** - Sign up to reach out and talk to new educators.
- ▶ **Racial Justice in Education** - Learn what you can do to achieve racial justice in your school and community.
- ▶ **My School, My Voice** - Discover how you and your colleagues can have a voice in the teaching and learning conditions that impact your students' success.

- ▶ **Supporting Professional Excellence** - Sign up to learn about ways to support your professional growth and support student success.

How to participate in PRIORITIZE – ACTIVATE – LEAD (PAL)

- ▶ On the home page of the Virtual Attendee Hub, click the "Exhibitors" tab to visit the virtual exhibit booth for each organizational priority and complete an 'ask'.
- ▶ Think about what you can do at home and jot down notes.
- ▶ Do great work back home for our students!

NEA'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

NEA's mission is to advocate for education professionals and to unite our members and the nation to fulfill the promise of public education to prepare every student to succeed in a diverse and interdependent world.

All students have access to educators who are equipped to apply a race-equity lens to their work and who are prepared to respond to the diverse needs of the school and community.

Every public school has the resources and opportunities that our best public schools have, including culturally and socially responsive instruction.

The voice of all educators - teachers, ESP, higher education faculty and staff - is part of decision-making to ensure student success.

PK-16 systems should include association-led, educator convened professional learning that prepares practitioners to support students to succeed in a diverse and interdependent world. These systems must include peer-to-peer support and opportunities for professional transitions.

STUDENTS

EARLY CAREER EDUCATORS

MY SCHOOL, MY VOICE

Supporting Professional Excellence

RACIAL JUSTICE



The vision for leadership development is to deepen the Association's collective understanding of what it means to be a "NEA leader." The Center for Governance views the development of education activists and leaders as a major strategy for enhancing organizational capacity throughout the NEA enterprise. We will know we've been successful when:

1. NEA has a distinctive leadership brand that defines for educators, and the broader public, what it means to be a leader in the field of education.
2. The NEA Leadership Competency Framework has been adopted and integrated at every level of the Association.
3. The development of leaders is embedded into every action, campaign, conference, convening, program, and project.

The COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the racial and social unrest throughout the United States, further revealed the necessity to provide training opportunities so that NEA members, in fact, all educators, could develop the social and emotional competencies to survive and thrive as practitioners and Association leaders.

Immediately, a group of members were convened to begin the important work of updating the NEA Leadership Competency Framework to ensure that social and emotional intelligence are understood to be core and central to effective leadership and well-being.

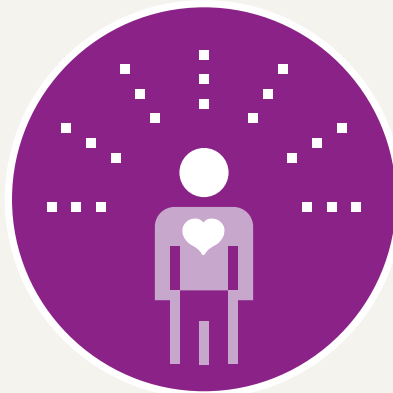
That workgroup, chaired by NEA Executive Committee members Shelly Moore Krajacic and Robert Rodriguez, and led by the Center for Governance Leadership Development Team, completed their work in January. The result is a new, updated framework that now includes a seventh competency domain: Social and Emotional Intelligence.

This new domain will help educators understand the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors that create healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals as well demonstrate the ability to feel and show empathy, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible caring decisions.

These skills are crucial for practitioners and association leaders. When trained and put into practice, the skills have the ability to create a positive ecology in classrooms, campuses, schools, and worksites, and all levels of the association.

The updated NEA Leadership Competency Framework is being unveiled at the 2021 NEA National Leadership Summit.

Social and Emotional Intelligence



LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

NEA Leadership Competency Guide is available online at nea.org/leadershipdevelopment



Where to turn for Leadership Development Resources

www.nea.org/leadershipdevelopment

Log on and find resources and programs through the leadership development resources site to access these and other resources to support you in your leadership journey.

Leadership Competency Self-Assessment(s)

The NEA Leadership Competency Self-Assessments were designed to help NEA leaders identify their own areas of strength, as well as areas where they can improve. Individuals are strongly encouraged to engage the self-assessments as often as they like or need to identify the areas in which they want to grow.

https://neapartnera.learnupon.com/users/sign_in?next=%2Fdashboard

NEA Leadership Development Guide Planning Tool

The Personal Leadership Development Guide (template) is intended for individual educators who are curious about their leadership and are ready to start their journey towards self-awareness to become stronger Association leaders (elected or non-elected) and stronger professionals.

<https://www.nea.org/sites/default/files/2020-08/NEA%20Leadership%20Development%20Guide%20Planning%20Tool.pdf>

Teacher Leadership Competencies

The NEA Teacher Leadership competencies, developed for the Teacher Leadership Institute, are a resource for identification, reflection, guidance, and inspiration for classroom practitioners. The NEA Leadership Competency Framework was used in the development of these competencies which can be used as guideposts for professional growth.

<https://www.nea.org/resource-library/nea-teacher-leadership-competencies-foundational-competencies>

Leadership Development 101: A Foundation Course for Activists and Leaders

This asynchronous, foundational level course is designed to assist educators in understanding the NEA Leadership Competency Framework. Click the link to access the course if you have an account or you can create one.

<https://neapartnera.learnupon.com/users/sign>

Education Support Professional (ESP) Professional Grown Continuum

The PGC serves as a 'map' of how Education Support Professionals (ESP) can grow professionally, by bridging the gap between current practice and a vision for a system of support that recognizes ESP as vital partners in student success. The NEA Leadership Competency Framework serves as a foundation for, and aligns with, the PGC to define the ESP the competencies they need to begin to accelerate their professional growth.

http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/ESP_PGC_digital.pdf

Breakout Sessions

Block 1 • Saturday, March 13, (2:00 PM-3:00 PM EST)



ADVOCACY

**ADV100/
Level: 1,
2, 3**

See Educators Run

NEA's See Educators Run program helps educators learn all they need to know about how to run a successful campaign for public office, including how to prepare to become a candidate, fundraiser, and communicate with voters.

The core components of the See Educators Run program are directly in line with the overall goals and mission of NEA's core competencies in Advocacy and Leadership as it enables participating members to be part of the decision making bodies that discuss, evaluate and pass policies and legislation that affect the lives of students, their families, and the communities in which they live.

This session on the NEA See Educators Run program will present and discuss the core components of the program, criteria for participation, and answer basic questions about running for office.

Presenter: Katrina Mendiola

**ADV101/
Level: 1, 2**

Assessment for Student Learning: Building a Student-Centered Assessment System

In this interactive session, participants will explore opportunities to lift and leverage the voice of educators, students, and parents to create steps that can be taken to improve the system of assessment utilized in their state and district.

Presenter(s): Hanna Vaandering and Mark Jewell

**ADV102/
Level: 1, 2**

Organize! Activate! Let's Protect Public Education in 2021!

As educators and union leaders, we must understand how and why our profession is under attack by understanding those who seek to undermine the guarantee of a public education for our students and silence the collective voices of our members. Our adversaries understand that an educated populace—which can use critical thinking skills and knowledge of their rights and responsibilities as citizens—limits their ability to control the wealth, governance, and economy of our nation. In this session, participants will learn basic organizational strategies, which can be used at the local and state levels, to engage and empower members. Through group work, attendees will learn ways to help members counter the activities of the many, intertwined groups, which use their power to sway public opinion with misleading propaganda that undermines public education and public policy at the state and federal levels in favor of free markets, the privatization of our schools, and the diminishment of unions, retirement programs and retiree benefits.

Presenter(s): Diane Chapman and Carol Schnaiter

**ADV103/
Level: 2, 3**

Diversity and Integration for Student Success: Opportunities and Possibilities

In this session, the president and deputy director of the Poverty and Race Research Action Council will provide a modern definition of authentic integration. They will discuss the reasons school districts should incorporate diversity strategies and how educators can advocate for holistic, student-centered, intentional approaches to integration.

Presenter (s): Gina Chirichigno, Christine DonFrancesco, and Matt Gonzalez



COMMUNICATION

**COM100/
Level: 1**

Hello, Anyone Out There? –Communications Basics

This beginner's guide to effective communications will highlight key tools in the communications toolbox and help you effectively use them. You use communications tools and skills every day as an educator. Learn to use those basic skills and tactics you already know to be an effective communicator.

Presenter: Celeste Busser

- COM101/**
Level: 1, 2 **Power Trifecta—Communicate, Advocate, and Organize to Build Association Power!**
Communication, advocacy, and organizing are like three blades on a helicopter propeller: Put energy into these three actions, to cause the propeller spin and your organization will rise. Ignore any of these three actions, and the propeller will fail and your organization will crash. In this session, we will delve deeply into communication, connect it to advocacy and organizing, and explain how to coordinate work in these three NEA leadership competencies in ways that will strengthen your locals, urbans, or regions. The session will also explore the ways social justice activism, interest-based bargaining, and professional development can create stronger locals. Session participants will also learn how to coordinate their actions and advocacy, how to communicate about them internally and externally, and use those actions and communication to increase membership. This session is for affiliates that have leadership in place and people willing to do the work—no matter the membership level and no matter the experience level of the leadership team. This session will have theory and real life examples that can be adapted to any local, urban, or region.
Presenter: John Havlicek
- COM102/**
Level: 1 **Conquer Your Glossophobia (fear of public speaking)**
Does speaking in public send you into a panic? This session will help you master the fundamentals of being a great public speaker or presenter. Designed for beginners or those looking to polish their speaking and presentation skills, this session will help you build your confidence as a speaker, defeat the “umms,” and feel more confident speaking in front of in-person and virtual audiences.
Presenter(s): Ramona Oliver and Heather Griffin



GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

- GOV100/**
Level: 2, 3 **Daring Leadership Requires Us To Step Into The Arena**
Based on the Dare to Lead™ curriculum, which comes from research conducted by Dr. Brené Brown, and outlined in her book “Dare To Lead,” this session will focus on two skill sets: rumbling with vulnerability and learning to rise. Useful to association leaders at every level, these skills will help leaders advance the goals and missions of their local and of NEA, prepare them to face diverse challenges, and learn from successes, disappointments, and defeats. Participants will leave with an authentic understanding of their advocacy, why they have entered the “arena” and with specific steps to rise after conflict, struggle, and defeat.
Presenter: Kelly Peaks Horner
- GOV101/**
Level: 2, 3 **Summer Leadership Academy: One-Affiliate’s Journey in Growing Educational Leaders**
This session will focus on lessons learned by the Wisconsin Education Association Council (WEAC), which created a robust leadership training program with three levels of training running in conjunction with the Leaders for Just Schools Equity Cohort and the National Board Certification Jump Start Training program (all on one university campus in the middle of summer). Attendees will learn the do’s and don’ts for creating similar programs, how to conduct effective leadership recruitment, how to build strong teams, and more.
Presenter(s): Peggy Wirtz-Olsen, Ron “Duff” Martin, and Lisa Glaser
- GOV102/**
Level: 1 **SEL and the Leadership Journey**
Now, more than ever, education leaders need to learn to navigate the challenges of current crises and change in order to lead healthy and productive lives, and model for others the often overlooked, social and emotional skills of leadership. This session will provide an overview of the NEA Leadership Competency Framework and introduce participants to a new addition, a 7th competency: Social Emotional Intelligence. This interactive workshop will help educators explore ways to deepen their awareness and practice of the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that create healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.
Presenter(s): Katherine Bishop, Clinton Smith, and Benita Moyers
- GOV103/**
Level: 1, 2, 3 **What We Believe: Building Organizational Identity Through Member-Driven, Value-Shared Policies and Positions**
Have you ever wondered why NEA develops resolutions? Curious about how resolutions help advance the organization’s mission, vision, and core values? Resolutions are not merely statements – they are tools the organization uses to capture our member and student voices to set the Association on the path to improving our professions, student success, organizational effectiveness, and systemic change. This foundational session will explore the function of resolutions within the NEA governance structure, the process used to develop them and ensure they are inclusive of all members and constituencies, and how to scale this leadership activity for local affiliates.
Presenter(s): Rachel Stafford and Paul Birkmeier

Breakout Sessions continued

Block 1 • Saturday, March 13, (2:00 PM-3:00 PM EST)



LEADING OUR PROFESSIONS

LOP100/ Professional Learning and Building Relationships with Early Career Educators

Level: 1, 2

In this interactive session, participants will learn professional learning strategies that will help them to build relationships with early-career educators, which will help the new educators to feel valued and willing to stay in the classroom. Using the NEA Leadership Competency Framework, participants will learn strategies which they will be able to take back to their affiliates and use for professional and leadership development and to build relationships with early-career educators.

Presenter(s): Rachael Poppe and Steve Lash

LOP101/ Creating a Member Driven Professional Development Department from the Ground Up!

Level: 1, 2

In this session, learn how the Nevada State Education Association (NSEA) created professional development that could be facilitated statewide. This was an undertaking that five NSEA NBCTs, a local leader, and the assistant executive director planned and implemented. There were many lessons learned along the way. Session attendees will learn how to use the career continuum to lay the roadmap for professional development. Most importantly, session participants will be able to identify how to plan professional development. Most importantly, session participants will be able to identify how to plan professional development for their district, local, or state affiliate using the NEA Leadership Competency Framework.

Presenter(s): Lisa Guzman and Rachel Croft

LOP102/ Starting a Revolution for Teacher Wellness and Social Emotional Learning

Level: 1, 2

In this session, participants will learn about the Alabama Happy Teacher Revolution – a pilot group founded by educator Danna Thomas – which is addressing the departure of teachers from the classroom due to second-hand trauma, low wages, long work hours, moral distress, compassion fatigue and more. Session attendees will experience a mini Happy Teacher Revolution support group meeting and receive mindfulness and social-emotional learning strategies that can be used with fellow educators and students. Session attendees will also receive information that will help them launch similar programs in their areas. Collaborative groups will use a graphic organizer to develop a basic plan for personal learning and professional practice, organizing and implementing opportunities for association members, and advocating for policies, funding and support on the local and state levels.

Presenter(s): Benita Moyers and Danna Thomas

LOP103/ Community Schools: Model Mobilization

Level: 3

This session focuses on bringing community schools to scale in our affiliates. Economies of scale focus on the cost and investment advantage that arises when there is a higher level of production of one good. In this case, the good is a public community school, and the scale is looking at the state level. Learn more about NEA's enterprise-wide work on community schools, assess current efforts and gaps that exists in the implementation and expansion of community schools, and begin the work of strengthening support of community schools and implementing their expansion.

Presenter(s): Eric Brown, Christine Sampson-Clark, and Kyle Serrette

- LOP104/
Level: 1, 2** **Teaching Through a Thriving Lens: A Developmentally Grounded, Intersectional Approach to Student Learning and School Design**
- A challenge in the quest for intersectional equity is the flattening of communities. People often assume that LGBTQ+ communities are white, leaving Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and Asian gender- and sexuality-expansive folks unseen, and young people, who may be still in self-discovery and/or afraid to disclose their identities, particularly neglected. One key challenge is the school environment. GLSEN's 2019 National School Climate Survey learned that 52.4% of LGBTQ+ students heard homophobic remarks and 66.7% heard negative remarks about gender expression from their teachers or other school staff. Indeed, students' experiences in school are largely shaped and controlled by adults - their physical freedoms like when they can move and what activities are considered appropriate; their intellectual agenda like what will be studied and to what extent; and the social norms that govern behavior, including expressions of gender identity and sexual orientation. Adults who have the time and space to tap into their values and to imaginatively redesign their practice are both more energized and more compassionate. Adults who understand young people's developmental needs can make informed decisions about how to support them. As a result, the students who engage with these adults can undertake learning that is developmentally appropriate (identity-affirming, socially mediated, interest-driven, etc.) and facilitated by adults who are excited to partner with them. In this workshop, participants will explore teaching through an intersectional and developmentally grounded thriving lens. We will apply the six dimensions of the Bridge to Thriving Framework® to questions about the self, students, and the learning environment, in order to design toward profound well-being.
- Presenter: Kia Darling-Hammond*
- LOP105/
Level: 1, 2** **Promoting Social Emotional Learning in Digital Environments Powered by Microsoft Education**
- Online learning offers many unique challenges to educators and students. One of these challenges is discovering how educators can continue to support Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) when students are learning from home. How can an online classroom promote the 5 core competencies of SEL (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making)? This session will showcase ideas that help educators address each SEL competency and support their learners. It will be geared toward Level 2 and 3 leaders who engage with others and build reflective practice in their communities.
- Presenter(s): Leaza Silver and Robyn Hrivnatz*
- LOP106/
Level: 3** **Connecting Your Union Digitally with Microsoft Teams**
- Education unions are called on to create and promote a learning culture within their organization, but are often left without an effective platform. Microsoft Teams offers time-saving, and successful collaboration that is proven to reduce email churn and promotes positive member interactions all year long from one communication and learning hub. Within Microsoft Teams, members can share files, have ongoing discussions, share resources, enjoy live meetings, integrate third-party apps and websites, and more. This session will not cover the basics of Microsoft Teams, but instead will be geared toward the Level 3 agenda-driven leader who is ready to implement strategies to positively impact organization capacity.
- Presenter(s): Sonja Delafosse and Kim West*
- LOP107/
Level: 1, 2** **Trauma-Sensitive Discipline Practices: Where Do We Begin?**
- Every day, in every classroom, one in four students is affected by childhood trauma. Whether students display behavior problems, academic difficulties, or a combination of both, all educators must learn how to better understand and meet traumatized students' needs through multi-tiered systems of support. Trauma-sensitive discipline practices also help students focus on repair within relationships, which is integral for health between individuals, and important for entire communities. What are restorative discipline practices? How do they differ from traditional approaches to school discipline? And, where do we begin in our collective shift toward ensuring discipline practices are trauma-sensitive so that we can help all students succeed? Come to this session ready to tackle all of these questions. Leave ready to lead the way for change!
- Presenter: Jen Alexander*

Breakout Sessions continued

Block 1 • Saturday, March 13, (2:00 PM-3:00 PM EST)



ORGANIZING

ORG100/ **New Educator Engagement, Support and Recruitment Campaign**

**Level: 1,
2, 3**

Starting in 2016, NEA, in partnership with state and local affiliates, embarked on a national effort to connect to every new educator in the country to identify the professional supports and resources they need, provide follow up support on those needs and recruit them as a member of their local association. This New Educator Engagement Support and Recruitment Campaign (New Ed) has conducted one-to-one organizing conversations with nearly 100,000 new educators and has been an integral strategy to prevent membership loss in a "post-Janus right-to-work" environment.

Initial one-to-one organizing conversations represents the beginning of a long-term state and local association strategy to engage, support and recruit early-career educators. During this session, participants will gain the foundational knowledge needed to engage with state and local associations efforts as part of the New Ed campaign. We will provide the foundational understanding of the campaign with a focus on why engaging early career educators is important and what the association is doing about it.

This session is designed for local and state leaders who are already committed to learning about the New Ed Campaign, and using the framework to deliver student-centered wins for our members.

Presenter(s): Peter Witzler and Michelle Foisy

ORG101/ **Empower and Equip Your Building Representatives to Act**

Level: 1, 2

This session will provide tools and strategies for leaders to share with building representatives so they have the information they need to lead their schools, committees, and communities. Attendees will learn best practices for creating "10-minute" meetings that will captivate current members and encourage them to continue, and inspire potential members to join.

Presenter(s): Amanda Thompson-Rice and Cherie Feemster

ORG102/ **How to Unlock the Benefits of Membership to Improve Organizing Results**

Level: 1

Research suggests that members who participate in NEA Member Benefit programs and services are more engaged, resulting in an increase in association loyalty.

Join us to learn how easy it is to leverage the buying power of 3 million members to improve your organizing efforts. Presenters will guide participants through practical approaches for positioning and using the benefits of membership to recruit, retain, and engage members. This session will focus on the "Organizing" domain, to reinforce your foundational competency.

There are many benefits to being an NEA member, and one of them is that membership can save members money, by leveraging the value of Member Benefits. This session is appropriate for all members at various levels of leadership and stages of their careers.

Presenter(s): Glenda Jones and Steve Eugene

ORG103/ **Navigating Student Loan Debt**

Level: 1

Student loan debt is now the second category of consumer debt in America today, with \$33,000 as the average amount owed. Due to the educators being lifelong learners, and continuing their education past a Bachelor's Degree, many educators owe (much!) more. During this session we will focus on the three student loan forgiveness programs available from the US Department of Education, the requirement and process of forgiveness, how to prevent being denied forgiveness, and the latest developments on student loans coming out of the CARES Act and the COVID-19 crisis. In addition, NEA Member Benefits has made the "NEA Student Debt Navigator" powered by Savi available at no cost to NEA members for the first year. This tool will analyze members' specific student loan debt and assist with the paperwork process.

Presenter: Sean Mabey

ORG104/
Level: 1,
2, 3

Building Capacity by Leading on Issues that Matter

Being a member of the union means more than signing up. The union creates the capacity to take collective action to lead on issues that matter most to members. Successful issue organizing does not happen by chance, but by preparing, and building yours and others' leadership competency. In this session, we will develop the skills to identify issues and learn how organizing can help build the leadership muscle of activists and leaders in your local.

What are the issues that matter most for members in your local and how can you build your union strength by expanding how you lead? Union leadership can expand the union's capacity by identifying issues that matter and members that can lead the work. Build it and they will come.

Presenter: Linda Manny

ORG105/
Level: 1, 2

Zone 2's Local REJUVENATION Pilot Project: Chicken Soup for Your Local

The NEA Center for Organizing partnered with The Center for Governance and The Center for Communications to create the Local REJUVENATION Pilot Project. The primary purpose of this program is to assist local affiliates that have faced challenges in recent years, that may have lost momentum for some reason, that may be suffering membership loss, or could benefit from some assistance with rebuilding strength and power. In this session, participants will learn about the process and strategies of this year-long pilot project that was designed to focus on organizing and leadership development. Attendees will receive an overview of the 12 modules used to train and develop leaders and potential leaders from a Zone 2 organizational specialist; and key learnings and experiences from the Local REJUVENATION Project will be shared by a local leader. By the end of this session, participants will understand how the REJUVENATION Project can enhance organizational capacity and ensure that the voice of all educators is part of the decision-making to ensure student success.

Presenter(s): Rhonda Thompson and MaryRita Watson



STRATEGY AND FISCAL HEALTH

SFH100/
Level: 1

Resource Development: Grant Writing and Beyond! Part 1

Is your association low on funding but still has lots of needs and big ideas? In Part 1 of a three-part series, this session will help you develop initiatives and explore funding options. Participants will also receive information on NEA grants and resources that can help to build a stronger association.

Presenter(s): Marlin Jeffers and Barbara Hopkins

SFH101/
Level: 1

Where Do My Dues Dollars Go Anyway? - Understanding and Engagement in the NEA Program and Budget

NEA members are at the center of the NEA's program and budget. By incorporating the Association's mission, vision, and core values, along with the assessment of the Associations strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats, and member interests, NEA leadership formulates a strategic plan that supports the needs of members, and supports the long-term financial health of the Association.

Presenter(s): Noel Candelaria, Michael McPherson, and John Wright

EVO 001/
Level: 1,
2, 3

My School, My Voice - Building Equity for the Schools Our Students Deserve

This session will address the concept of "educator voice" and how we use it to build equitable learning spaces that support student success. Attendees will learn ways to engage with colleagues nationwide to maximize the power to promote equity for all students in our schools with families and community leaders. Attendees will participate in facilitated dialogue with peers and about how to use school data, educators' expertise, and your collective voices to achieve wins to strengthen the schools our students deserve.

This session is designed for those new to or familiar with engaging in local policy efforts and is designed for local and state members and leaders who want to connect with colleagues and create action that will address equity and opportunity gaps in schools and districts.

Presenter: Elic Senter

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - ONLY

BOD001/
Level: 3

The RA Delegate ... REMIX

This session will answer the question: How do NEA directors support RA delegates to use their individual voice and local work within the collective voice and national work of the NEA? It will specifically focus on how NEA directors can support and train RA Delegates on their responsibilities as the decision-making body of the Association. This session connects multiple leadership competencies and is designed to move board members from mobilizing and power building to agenda driving. This session is only for members of the NEA Board of Directors.

Presenter(s): Tara Jeane, Brenda Robinson, Daniel Sobczak, Cheryl Mattern, Taunya Jaco, and Shelly Moore Krajacic

Breakout Sessions

Block 2 • Saturday, March 13, (4:20 PM-5:20 PM EST)



ADVOCACY

ADV200/ **Speak Truth to Power: Learn to Influence Elected Officials**

Level: 1, 2

Lobbying is not a dirty word. Rather, it's a necessary action that when handled effectively can provide elected officials with information they need to make better and smarter decisions that impact our professions, students, and schools. Attend this session, learn the tricks of the trade, and feel more empowered to become a strong public education advocate. Join NEA Government Relations leaders and a local educator for this engaging workshop.

Presenter(s): Kim Trinca, Marc Egan, and Reed Bretz

ADV201/ **Assessment for Student Learning: Building a Student-Centered Assessment System**

Level: 1, 2

In this interactive session, participants will explore opportunities to lift and leverage the voice of educators, students, and parents to create steps that can be taken to improve the system of assessment utilized in their state/district.

Presenter(s): Hanna Vaandering and Mark Jewell



COMMUNICATION

COM200/ **Social Media & Advocacy: Putting Platforms to Work**

Level: 1

This session will provide participants with a brief overview of social media platforms that can help engage members, decision-makers, and expand their online presence. Members will learn to use their online presence to help ensure great public schools for every student.

Presenter: Justin Conley

COM201/ **Power Trifecta—Communicate, Advocate, and Organize to Build Association Power!**

Level: 1, 2

Communication, advocacy, and organizing are like three blades on a helicopter propeller: Put energy into these three actions, to cause the propeller spin and your organization will rise. Ignore any of these three actions, and the propeller will fail and your organization will crash. In this session, we will delve deeply into communication, connect it to advocacy and organizing, and explain how to coordinate work in these three NEA leadership competencies in ways that will strengthen your locals, urban, or regions. The session will also explore the ways social justice activism, interest-based bargaining, and professional development can create stronger locals. Session participants will also learn how to coordinate their actions and advocacy, how to communicate about them internally and externally, and use those actions and communication to increase membership. This session is for affiliates that have leadership in place and people willing to do the work—no matter the membership level and no matter the experience level of the leadership team. This session will have theory and real life examples that can be adapted to any local, urban, or region.

Presenter: John Havlicek

COM202/ **NEA National Message (Updated)**

Level: 1, 2

A good message reflects our values and priorities and it resonates with our target audiences. NEA's National Message Frame is research-based and designed to reach, teach and inspire the public and parents to support public education, educators, and the work of our association. We recently updated our message frame to reflect our focus on racial justice in education. This session will provide message and strategy guidance that can help us win support for educator-led ideas and solutions to help focus public attention on creating a country, care system, and economy that works for all our students.

Presenter(s): Erica Seifert and Brian Washington



GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

GOV200/
Level: 2, 3

Daring Leadership Requires Us To Step Into The Arena

Based on the Dare to Lead™ curriculum, which comes from research conducted by Dr. Brené Brown, and outlined in her book "Dare To Lead," this session will focus on two skill sets: rumbling with vulnerability and learning to rise. Useful to association leaders at every level, these skills will help leaders advance the goals and missions of their local and of NEA, prepare them to face diverse challenges, and learn from successes, disappointments, and defeats. Participants will leave with an authentic understanding of their advocacy, why they have entered the "arena" and with specific steps to rise after conflict, struggle, and defeat.

Presenter: Kelly Peaks Horner

GOV201/
Level: 2, 3

Are Your Governing Documents Actually Governing Your Organization?

In a post-Janus era, it is more important than ever for unions to keep all operations above board. Publicly, unions must be transparent and beyond reproach. In this session, participants will be asked to think critically about their governing documents; develop new ideas about how their state or local can be run; and consider how governing documents can become part of that structure. Attendees will also work through the potentially problematic or outdated parts of their governing documents. This session will provide participants with the tools they need to analyze and revise state and local constitutions, bylaws, and rules with an eye towards actual organizational best practices. Geared towards experienced leaders, participants will analyze their organization's current practice and align their governing documents accordingly.

Presenter: Joshua Rubin

GOV202/
Level: 1

SEL and the Leadership Journey

Now, more than ever, education leaders need to learn to navigate challenges of current crises and change in order to lead healthy and productive lives, and model for others the often overlooked, social and emotional skills of leadership. This session will provide an overview of the NEA Leadership Competency Framework and introduce participants to a new addition, a 7th competency: Social Emotional Intelligence. This interactive workshop will help educators explore ways to deepen their awareness and practice of the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that create healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.

Presenter(s): Katherine Bishop, Clinton Smith, and Benita Moyers

GOV203/
Level: 3

Being Vice Presidential—Creating Space to Lead Collaboratively When You Are Not in Charge

In this session, participants will learn to build healthy relationships based on trust, gain an understanding of why clear association and leadership goals matter, and explore ways personal interests can be leveraged into support for the organization's president. Participants will begin by reflecting on why they decided to run for vice president, and they will learn ways to receive and deliver feedback to their leadership teams to ensure success for everyone.

Presenter(s): Marisol Garcia and Sherry Schwanz



LEADING OUR PROFESSIONS

LOP200/
Level: 1, 2

Teaching through a Thriving Lens: An Intersectional Approach to Student Learning and School Design

A challenge in the quest for intersectional equity is the flattening of communities. People often assume that LGBTQ+ communities are white, leaving Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and Asian gender- and sexuality-expansive folks unseen, and young people, who may be still in self-discovery and/or afraid to disclose their identities, particularly neglected. One key challenge is the school environment. GLSEN's 2019 National School Climate Survey learned that 52.4% of LGBTQ+ students heard homophobic remarks and 66.7% heard negative remarks about gender expression from their teachers or other school staff. Indeed, students' experiences in school are largely shaped and controlled by adults - their physical freedoms like when they can move and what activities are considered appropriate; their intellectual agenda like what will be studied and to what extent; and the social norms that govern behavior, including expressions of gender identity and sexual orientation. Adults who have the time and space to tap into their values and to imaginatively redesign their practice are both more energized and more compassionate. Adults who understand young people's developmental needs can make informed decisions about how to support them. As a result, the students who engage with these adults can undertake learning that is developmentally appropriate (identity-affirming, socially mediated, interest-driven, etc.) and facilitated by adults who are excited to partner with them. In this workshop, participants will explore teaching through an intersectional and developmentally grounded thriving lens. We will apply the six dimensions of the Bridge to Thriving Framework© to questions about the self, students, and the learning environment, in order to design toward profound well-being.

Presenter: Kia Darling-Hammond

Breakout Sessions continued

Block 2 • Saturday, March 13, (4:20 PM-5:20 PM EST)

LOP201/ **Advocating for ELL students and their families**

Level: 1

In this session, educators will have the opportunity to practice advocating for ELL students and their families using a step-by-step process that enables them to identify issues and work to bring about change in their school community during uncertain times.

Presenter(s): Rodrigo Rodriguez-Tovar, NBCT and Lori Dodson, NBCT

LOP202/ **Increasing Educator Voice: Opportunities through ESSA and COVID-19**

Level: 1, 2

In this interactive session, participants will utilize the NEA Leadership Competency Framework to explore ways to handle common challenges faced by schools, students, educators, and local affiliates. Attendees will learn how to advocate for equitable policies and conditions that positively impact our profession. Participants will learn how to collaborate with other educators to practice advocacy skills and utilize research to inform decision-making in the development of effective and equitable programs and policy to strengthen our profession during the pandemic and beyond.

Presenter: Pamela West

LOP203/ **National Board State of Mind**

Level: 2, 3

Most all professional careers have board certifying agencies that attest to a practitioner's advanced knowledge and skill. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers such credentials for classroom teachers. A first step in garnering the esteem that the education field deserves involves advocating for teachers to adopt a National Board (state of mind). In this interactive session, participants will unpack the Five Core Propositions of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and work collaboratively to develop professional growth plans that embed each proposition.

Presenter: Kristi Gregoire

LOP204/ **The Assets Are There: Mapping Student Success**

**Level: 1,
2, 3**

All communities have assets and resources. Identifying those assets is critical to supporting student and family needs. We'll discuss Community Asset Mapping as a tool to identify the strengths and resources of communities in order to identify solutions.

Presenter(s): Andy Coons, Amber Park, and Andrea Prejean

LOP205/ **The Power of Empathy in an Unapologetic World**

Level: 1, 2

In this session, participants will self-examine their capacity to empathize with others. Questions that will be considered are: Empathy – What is it? Why should I value it? How do I recognize it? Sometimes what is said is not what is meant and understanding body language is key. Participants will unpack the importance of non-verbal communication and identify components of a two-way communication plan to build positive rapport and trusting relationships.

Presenter(s): Tyree Rivers and Chaka Diop

LOP206/ **Analyzing Inequities Affecting the Learning Environment**

Level: 1, 2

In this interactive session, participants will identify inequities in the educational opportunities available to students, collaborate with other educators to develop examples of equitable access to curriculum and instruction, and reflect on how to have effective conversations around equity. Learn how to utilize the Equity Rubric to analyze instructional practices and develop strategies to ensure that a classroom is safe, affirming of many identities, and student-centered.

Using the NEA Leadership Competency Framework, participants will explore how to lead analysis, reflection, and ongoing development of instructional practices that result in a diverse, inclusive, and socially just learning environment.

Presenter: Andrea Robinson-Tejada



ORGANIZING

**ORG200/
Level: 1,
2, 3**

New Educator Engagement, Support and Recruitment Campaign

Starting in 2016, NEA, in partnership with state and local affiliates, embarked on a national effort to connect to every new educator in the country to identify the professional supports and resources they need, provide follow up support on those needs, and recruit them as a member of their local association. This New Educator Engagement, Support and Recruitment Campaign (New Ed) has conducted one-to-one organizing conversations with nearly 100,000 new educators and has been an integral strategy to prevent membership loss in a “post-Janus right-to-work” environment.

Initial one-to-one organizing conversations represent the beginning of a long-term state and local association strategy to engage, support and recruit early-career educators. During this session, participants will gain the foundational knowledge needed to engage with state and local associations’ efforts as part of the New Ed campaign. We will provide the foundational understanding of the campaign with a focus on why engaging early career educators is important and what the association is doing about it. This session is designed for local and state leaders who are already committed to learning about the New Ed Campaign, and using the framework to deliver student-centered wins for our members.

Presenter(s): Peter Witzler and Michelle Foisy

**ORG201/
Level: 1, 2**

Zone 2’s Local REJUVENATION Pilot Project: Chicken Soup for Your Local

The NEA Center for Organizing partnered with The Center for Governance and The Center for Communications to create the Local REJUVENATION Pilot Project. The primary purpose of this program is to assist local affiliates that have faced challenges in recent years, that may have lost momentum for some reason, that may be suffering membership loss, or could benefit from some assistance with rebuilding strength and power. In this session, participants will learn about the process and strategies of this year-long pilot project that was designed to focus on organizing and leadership development. Attendees will receive an overview of the 12 modules used to train and develop leaders and potential leaders from a Zone 2 organizational specialist; and key learnings and experiences from the Local REJUVENATION Project will be shared by a local leader. By the end of this session, participants will understand how the REJUVENATION Project can enhance organizational capacity and ensure that the voice of all educators is part of the decision-making to ensure student success.

Presenter(s): Rhonda Thompson and MaryRita Watson

**ORG202/
Level: 1, 2**

Empower and Equip Your Building Representatives to Act

This session will provide tools and strategies for leaders to share with building representatives so they have the information they need to lead their schools, committees, and communities. Attendees will learn best practices for creating “10-minute” meetings that will captivate current members and encourage them to continue, and inspire potential members to join.

Presenter(s): Amanda Thompson-Rice and Cherie Feemster



STRATEGY AND FISCAL HEALTH

**SFH200/
Level: 1**

Resource Development: Grant Writing and Beyond! Part 2

In Part 2 of this series, participants will learn how to develop measurable goals that serve as the foundation for a successful work plan. Other topics will include creation of a resource map, budget development, and identification of potential partnerships and non-dues resources.

Presenter(s): Marlin Jeffers and Barbara Hopkins

**SFH201/
Level: 1, 2**

Something Smells Phishy!

Thanks to social media, websites and other digital entities, personal and professional information is more available now than ever before. As a result, anyone who uses a computer is an easy target for phishing. The bad guys are learning about each and every one of us—our interests and activities, who we communicate with, and our activities. They use this information hoping to trick us into providing our credentials, which creates more access to information, and sometimes even tricks us into handing over money—ours or the association’s. The number of schemes is alarming. This session will help attendees identify the red flags that warn of the most popular phishing schemes.

Presenter(s): Susan Hardey and Rose Futchko

Breakout Sessions continued

Block 2 • Saturday, March 13, (4:20 PM-5:20 PM EST)

**SFH202/
Level: 1, 2**

Compliance 101: What Every Leader Must Know About Regulatory Filings and Recordkeeping Requirements

In this session, participants will receive an understanding of legal and compliance requirements, which help to ensure the association is in good standing with federal and state regulators and that the association's reputation remains protected.

Presenter: Kristin Butler

**RSJ002/
Level: 1,
2, 3**

Talking Race: Grounding Our Understanding to Effectively Talk About Race and Racial Justice

Combating institutional racism and advancing racial justice in education and beyond is at the forefront of the NEA's vision to provide a great public school for every student. At the 2015 Representative Assembly, NEA adopted NBI-B, which recognized the role that institutional racism plays in our society, including in our schools. NBI-B directed NEA to spotlight patterns of systemic racism and educational injustice that impact students, and to take action to enhance access and opportunity for all students to have a great education.

We know that if we are to achieve racial justice and equity in our schools and impact the lives of students and educators, we must also examine, assess, and create meaningful change within our association. Our work promotes a vision for public education that advances inclusion, equity, and racial and social justice in our schools and society. Our work must dismantle white supremacy, and ensure that bigotry or discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation, disability or national origin are not part of our classrooms, educational curricula, school policies and discipline practices. We will take action by demanding changes to policies, programs, and practices that condone or ignore unequal treatment of students and hinder their success.

This session is designed for local and state leaders to deepen their understanding of the levels of racism and its impacts on institutions and systems. We will outline why a race equity/justice lens is critical to our work. Activities and tools will be introduced to support the development of a racial analysis as well as basic tools to engage in constructive discussion about race.

Presenter(s): Hilario Benzon, Pam Rios, and Aaron Dorsey

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - ONLY

**BOD002/
Level: 3**

We've All Got Issues: Pick One and Organize!

Do you have a community issue that is close to your heart? Have you noticed similarities or connections between that issue and your association work? This workshop will give you opportunities to make connections, and form an action plan. Your action plan will have the potential to create lasting partnerships, or even change legislation! Members of the NEA Board of Directors will use immigration and homelessness as examples, while navigating the process together. This session is only for members of the NEA Board of Directors.

Presenter(s): Nancy Behe, Enrique Farrera, Tara Flaherty, Mel House, and Elaine Merriweather

Breakout Sessions

Block 3 • Sunday, March 14, (10:00 AM-11:00 AM EST)



ADVOCACY

ADV300/ Level: 1, 2

Organize! Activate! Let's Protect Public Education in 2021!

As educators and union leaders, we must understand how and why our profession is under attack by understanding those who seek to undermine the guarantee of a public education for our students and silence the collective voices of our members. Our adversaries understand that an educated populace—which can use critical thinking skills and knowledge of their rights and responsibilities as citizens—limits their ability to control the wealth, governance, and economy of our nation. In this session, participants will learn basic organizational strategies, which can be used at the local and state levels, to engage and empower members. Through group work, attendees will learn ways to help members counter the activities of the many, intertwined groups, which use their power to sway public opinion with misleading propaganda that undermines public education and public policy at the state and federal levels in favor of free markets, the privatization of our schools, and the diminishment of unions, retirement programs and retiree benefits.

Presenter(s): Diane Chapman and Carol Schnaiter



COMMUNICATION

COM300/ Level: 1, 2

The Power of Storytelling

Everyone loves a good story, and educators have the best stories. Participants in this session will explore ways to use stories from their personal experiences as educators to help advance student success, public education, and education professions. Session participants will gain a deeper understanding of how personal stories have the power to change attitudes, perceptions, behavior, and win support for public education.

Presenter(s): Brenda Alvarez and Mary Ellen Flannery



GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

GOV300/ Level: 2, 3

Are Your Governing Documents Actually Governing Your Organization?

In a post-Janus era, it is more important than ever for unions to keep all operations above board. Publicly, unions must be transparent and beyond reproach. In this session, participants will be asked to think critically about their governing documents; develop new ideas about how their state or local can be run; and consider how governing documents can become part of that structure. Attendees will also work through the potentially problematic or outdated parts of their governing documents. This session will provide participants with the tools they need to analyze and revise state and local constitutions, bylaws, and rules with an eye towards actual organizational best practices. Geared towards experienced leaders, participants will analyze their organization's current practice and align their governing documents accordingly.

Presenter: Joshua Rubin

GOV301/ Level: 1

SEL and the Leadership Journey

Now, more than ever, education leaders need to learn to navigate the challenges of current crises and change in order to lead healthy and productive lives, and model for others the often overlooked, social and emotional skills of leadership. This session will provide an overview of the NEA Leadership Competency Framework and introduce participants to a new addition, a 7th competency: Social Emotional Intelligence. This interactive workshop will help educators explore ways to deepen their awareness and practice of the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that create healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.

Presenter(s): Katherine Bishop, Clinton Smith, and Benita Moyers

Breakout Sessions continued

Block 3 • Sunday, March 14, (10:00 AM-11:00 AM EST)

GOV302/

Level: 3

Being Vice Presidential—Creating Space to Lead Collaboratively When You Are Not in Charge

In this session, participants will learn to build healthy relationships based on trust, gain an understanding of why clear association and leadership goals matter, and explore ways personal interests can be leveraged into support for the organization's president. Participants will begin by reflecting on why they decided to run for vice president, and they will learn ways to receive and deliver feedback to their leadership teams to ensure success for everyone.

Presenter(s): Marisol Garcia and Sherri Schwanz

GOV303/

Level: 3

Why Are We Doing This Event? How Planning and Purpose Can Make Experiences Powerful and Effective

Do you host a training or bring members together for any reason? Do you hold events because "you always have?" In this session, we will create a tool for you to use to assess any event, training, or convening that you host to make sure that you are getting what you need from what you are paying for. The tool will be personalized to your state or local needs.

Presenter(s): Shelly Moore Krajacic and Robert Rodriguez

GOV304/

Level: 1, 2

Navigating Your Leadership Journey

Anybody have a map? In this session, participants will consider their personal leadership development as an ongoing process and how NEA resources can support their leadership journey. We will examine strategic goal setting, identifying strengths, and building and managing strong relationships within teams. Topics will include: tactical and strategic thinking, social-emotional leadership, building a leadership pipeline, values clarification, and managing time as our most valuable asset. Participants will access multiple tools and guides to work independently (or with local teams) and will be able to continue their leadership journey beyond the Summit with the support of our edCommunities group online.

Presenter: Rebekah McIntosh



LEADING OUR PROFESSIONS

LOP300/

Level: 1, 2

Promoting Social Emotional Learning in Synchronous Digital Environments Powered by Microsoft Education

Online learning offers many unique challenges to educators and students. One of these challenges is discovering how educators can continue to support Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) when students are learning from home. How can an online classroom promote the 5 core competencies of SEL (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making)? This session will showcase ideas that help educators address each SEL competency and support their learners. It will be geared toward Level 2 and 3 leaders who engage with others and build reflective practice in their communities.

Presenter(s): Leaza Silver and Robyn Hrivnatz

LOP301/

Level: 3

Connecting Your Union Digitally with Microsoft Teams

Education unions are called on to create and promote a learning culture within their organization, but are often left without an effective platform. Microsoft Teams offers time-saving, and successful collaboration that is proven to reduce email churn and promotes positive member interactions all year long from one communication and learning hub. Within Microsoft Teams, members can share files, have ongoing discussions, share resources, enjoy live meetings, integrate third-party apps and websites, and more. This session will not cover the basics of Microsoft Teams, but instead will be geared toward the Level 3 agenda-driven leader who is ready to implement strategies to positively impact organization capacity.

Presenter(s): Sonja Delafrosse and Kim West

LOP302/

Level: 2, 3

Recognizing the Associations' Role in Improving the Learning of all Students.

In this reflective session, participants will identify experiences and opportunities to enhance leadership skills. Participants will review NEA's support of land acknowledgment, learn about the competency levels, and listen and share examples at each level of the competency progression. Participants will leave the session with many ideas they can implement in their local associations.

Presenter: Juanita (Jany) Ortiz

- LOP303/
Level: 1, 2** **How to Advance Your Bill Through Effective Policy Engagement**
Leading in your profession means advocating, outside of a classroom or worksite, for policies and strategies that positively impact our professions and students. This interactive session will walk participants through an example of how one educator worked to create an advance a bill. Participants will be provided the necessary tools and strategies to identify bill sponsors (policymakers), how to organize and facilitate an effective policy meeting, tips for engaging decision- makers, and tactics that will help garner support for their bill.
Presenter: George Stewart, II
- LOP304/
Level: 1,
2, 3** **Power-Mapping Stakeholders to Initiate Policy Change for Socially Just Learning Environments**
In this interactive session, participants will evaluate an identified need to determine who would be instrumental in initiating a policy change to address this need. Learn how to power-map the stakeholders to determine who can influence and who has the scope of authority to affect policy change. Collaborate with other educators to create an action plan to foster productive partnerships in establishing socially just learning environments. Using the NEA Leadership Competency Framework, participants will explore how affiliates can lead by advocating for policies and strategies that positively impact our profession and the learning of all students.
Presenter: Sandra Skordolas
- LOP305/
Level: 1,
2, 3** **The Assets Are There: Mapping Student Success**
All communities have assets and resources. Identifying those assets is critical to supporting student and family needs. We'll discuss Community Asset Mapping as a tool to identify the strengths and resources of communities in order to identify solutions.
Presenter(s): Andy Coons, Amber Parker, and Andrea Prejean
- LOP306/
Level: 1, 2** **Each One Reach One: Two Stories of Self, One Journey to Leadership**
Start building your leadership capacity within the Association now! And while you're at it, bring a colleague or two, or three along for the journey. By the end of this session, participants will be prepared to maximize the plethora of professional development opportunities available through the Association. Participants will also generate school and district maps to identify and recruit new members to join and become active in the Association.
Presenter(s): Kristi Gregoire and Rakeal Williamson



ORGANIZING

- ORG300/
Level: 1** **Navigating Student Loan Debt**
Student loan debt is now the second category of consumer debt in America today, with \$33,000 as the average amount owed. Due to the educators being lifelong learners, and continuing their education past a Bachelor's Degree, many educators owe (much!) more. During this session we will focus on the three student loan forgiveness programs available from the US Department of Education, the requirement and process of forgiveness, how to prevent being denied forgiveness, and the latest developments on student loans coming out of the CARES Act and the COVID-19 crisis. In addition, NEA Member Benefits has made the "NEA Student Debt Navigator" powered by Savi available at no cost to NEA members for the first year. This tool will analyze members' specific student loan debt and assist with the paperwork process.
Presenter: Aaron Warner
- ORG301/
Level: 1,
2, 3** **Building Capacity by Leading on Issues that Matter**
Being a member of the union means more than signing up. The union creates the capacity to take collection action to lead on issues that matter most to members. Successful issue organizing does not happen by chance, but by preparing, and building yours and others' leadership competency. In this session, we will develop the skills to identify issues and learn how organizing can help build the leadership muscle of activists and leaders in your local.

What are the issues that matter most for members in your local and how can you build your union strength by expanding how you lead? Union leadership can expand the union's capacity by identifying issues that matter and members that can lead the work. Build it and they will come.
Presenter: Linda Manny

Breakout Sessions continued

Block 3 • Sunday, March 14, (10:00 AM-11:00 AM EST)



STRATEGY AND FISCAL HEALTH

SFH300/
Level: 3

Resource Development: Grant Writing and Beyond! Part 3

In part three of Grant Writing and Beyond you will understand and develop aspects of the budget, explore partnership options more in depth, and discover additional options for grant resources.

Presenter(s): Marlin Jeffers and Barbara Hopkins

SFH301/
Level: 1

Fiduciary Responsibilities and Association Policies to Support an Ethical Association Culture

To be good stewards of the association's financial resources and reputations, there are fiduciary responsibilities that all leaders are legally obligated to perform. In this session, participants will learn about the fiduciary responsibilities and explore how ethical conduct, the absence of conflict of interest, and the presence of whistleblower policies and an audit committee help to promote an ethical culture and deter fraud.

Presenter: Doug Taylor

SFH302/
Level: 1, 2

Compliance 101: What Every Leader Must Know About Regulatory Filings and Recordkeeping Requirements

In this session, participants will receive an understanding of legal and compliance requirements, which help to ensure the association is in good standing with federal and state regulators and that the association's reputation remains protected.

Presenter: Kristin Butler

RSJ003/
Level: 1,
2, 3

Talking Race: Grounding Our Understanding to Effectively Talk About Race and Racial Justice

Combating institutional racism and advancing racial justice in education and beyond is at the forefront of the NEA's vision to provide a great public school for every student. At the 2015 Representative Assembly, NEA adopted NBI-B, which recognized the role that institutional racism plays in our society, including in our schools. NBI-B directed NEA to spotlight patterns of systemic racism and educational injustice that impact students, and to take action to enhance access and opportunity for all students to have a great education.

We know that if we are to achieve racial justice and equity in our schools and impact the lives of students and educators, we must also examine, assess, and create meaningful change within our association. Our work promotes a vision for public education that advances inclusion, equity, and racial and social justice in our schools and society. Our work must dismantle white supremacy, and ensure that bigotry or discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation, disability or national origin are not part of our classrooms, educational curricula, school policies and discipline practices. We will take action by demanding changes to policies, programs, and practices that condone or ignore unequal treatment of students and hinder their success.

This session is designed for local and state leaders to deepen their understanding of the levels of racism and its impacts on institutions and systems. We will outline why a race equity/justice lens is critical to our work. Activities and tools will be introduced to support the development of a racial analysis as well as basic tools to engage in constructive discussion about race.

Presenter(s): Hilario Benzon, Pam Rios, and Aaron Dorsey

**EVO003/
Level: 1,
2, 3**

My School, My Voice – Building Equity for the Schools Our Students Deserve

This session will address the concept of “educator voice” and how we use it to build equitable learning spaces that support student success. Attendees will learn ways to engage with colleagues nationwide to maximize the power to promote equity for all students in our schools with families and community leaders. Attendees will participate in facilitated dialogue with peers about how to use school data, educators’ expertise, and your collective voices to achieve wins to strengthen the schools our students deserve.

This session is designed for those new to or familiar with engaging in local policy efforts, and is designed for local and state members and leaders who want to connect with colleagues and create action that will address equity and opportunity gaps in schools and districts.

Presenter: Elic Senter

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - ONLY

**BOD003/
Level: 3**

Leaders, Take Care of Yourself: Work Smarter Not Harder

As a leader in the organization, one of the greatest pitfalls is allowing too much of your time to be consumed by union business. By reflecting on what continues to bring you personal fulfillment, you can create a balance that will allow you to be a stronger and more effective leader. Leaders have a responsibility to model effective ways for members to advocate for themselves. By the end of the session, participants will:

- Develop strategies for self-care;
- Learn to navigate resources to ease the demands of your Association role;
- Empower members to be self-advocates;
- Effectively utilize time management.

This session is only for members of the NEA Board of Directors

Presenter(s): Russell Leone, Robin Brown, Candace Shivers, Anita Kober and Kevin LaDuke

Speaker Bio

Nancy MacLean

William H. Chafe Professor of History and Public Policy at Duke University



Nancy MacLean is the William H. Chafe Professor of History and Public Policy at Duke University, and the award-winning author of several books, including *Behind the Mask of Chivalry: The Making of the Second Ku Klux Klan*; *Freedom is Not Enough: The Opening of the American Workplace*; *The American Women's Movement, 1945-2000: A Brief History with Documents*; and *Debating the American Conservative Movement: 1945 to the Present*. She also served the editor of *Scalawag: A White Southerner's Journey through Segregation to Human Rights Activism*.

Her scholarship has received more than a dozen major prizes and awards, and has been supported by fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Humanities Center, the Russell Sage Foundation, and the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowships Foundation.

Her most recent book, about which she will speak, is *Democracy in Chains: The Deep History of the Radical Right's Stealth Plan for America*. *Booklist* called it "perhaps the best explanation to date of the roots of the political divide that threatens to irrevocably alter American government." *The Guardian* said: "It's the missing chapter: a key to understanding the politics of the past half century." *Democracy in Chains* was a finalist for the National Book Award, and the winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Award in Current Affairs, the Lannan Foundation Cultural Freedom Award, and the Lillian Smith Book Award. *The Nation* magazine named it the "Most Valuable Book" of the year.

Speaker Bio

Dr. Andre Perry

David M. Rubenstein Fellow in the Metropolitan Policy Program, The Brookings Institution



Dr. Andre Perry's research focuses on race and structural inequality, education, and economic inclusion. Of particular note, Perry's recent scholarship at Brookings has analyzed majority-black places and institutions in America, focusing on highlighting valuable assets worthy of increased investment.

Prior to his work at Brookings, Perry has been a founding dean, professor, award-winning journalist, and activist in the field of education. In 2015, Perry served on Louisiana Governor-elect John Bel Edwards's K-12 education transition committee, as well as New Orleans Mayor-elect Mitch Landrieu's transition team as its co-chair for education in 2010.

In 2013, Perry founded the College of Urban Education at Davenport University in Grand Rapids, MI. Preceding his stint in Michigan, he was an associate professor of educational leadership at the University of New Orleans and served as CEO of the Capital One-University of New Orleans Charter Network.

Since 2013, Perry's column on educational equity has appeared in the Hechinger Report, a nonprofit news organization focused on producing in-depth education journalism. Perry also contributes to TheRoot.com and the Washington Post. Perry's views, opinions and educational leadership have been featured on CNN, PBS, National Public Radio, The New Republic and NBC.

Perry's academic writings have concentrated on race, structural inequality, and urban schools. For the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, Perry co-authored *School by School: The Transformation of New Orleans Public Education in "Resilience and Opportunity: Lessons from the U.S. Gulf Coast after Katrina and Rita,"* published by Brookings Institution Press. Perry also co-authored in *"The Transformation of New Orleans Public Schools: Addressing System-Level Problems without a System,"* published by the Data Center of New Orleans. He also co-authored the chapter *Between Public and Private: Politics, Governance, and the New Portfolio Models for Urban School Reform* published on Harvard University Press. Along with the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Perry co-authored the report, *PLACE MATTERS for Health in Orleans Parish: Ensuring Opportunities for Good Health for All.*

A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Perry earned his Ph.D. in education policy and leadership from the University of Maryland College Park.

Speaker Bio

The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II

**President & Senior Lecturer of Repairers of the Breach, Co-Chair of the Poor People's Campaign:
A National Call For Moral Revival**



The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II is the President & Senior Lecturer of Repairers of the Breach, Co-Chair of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call For Moral Revival; Bishop with The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries; Visiting Professor at Union Theological Seminary; Pastor of Greenleaf Christian Church, Disciples of Christ in Goldsboro, North Carolina, and the author of three books: *Revive Us Again: Vision and Action in Moral Organizing*; *The Third Reconstruction: Moral Mondays, Fusion Politics, and The Rise of a New Justice Movement*; and *Forward Together: A Moral Message For The Nation*.

Rev. Dr. Barber is also the architect of the Forward Together Moral Movement that gained national acclaim with its Moral Monday protests at the North Carolina General Assembly in 2013. These weekly actions drew tens of thousands of North Carolinians and other moral witnesses to the state legislature. More than 1,200 peaceful protesters were arrested, handcuffed and jailed. On September 12, 2016 Rev. Dr. Barber led a "Moral Day of Action," the largest coordinated action on state capitals in U.S. history, calling for state governments to embrace a moral public policy agenda. On February 11, 2017, he led the largest moral march in North Carolina state history, with over 80,000 people calling on North Carolina's elected officials to embrace a moral public policy agenda.

A highly sought after speaker, Rev. Dr. Barber has given keynote addresses at hundreds of national and state conferences, including the 2016 Democratic National Convention. He has spoken to a wide variety of audiences including national unions, fraternities and sororities, motorcycle organizations, drug dealer conferences, women's groups, economic policy groups, voting rights advocates, LGBTQ equality and justice groups, environmental and criminal justice groups, small organizing committees of domestic workers, fast food workers, and national gatherings of Christians, Muslims, Jews, and other people of faith.

Rev. Dr. Barber served as president of the North Carolina NAACP, the largest state conference in the South, from 2006 - 2017 and currently sits on the National NAACP Board of Directors. A former Mel King Fellow at MIT, he is currently Visiting Professor of Public Theology and Activism at Union Theological Seminary and is a Senior Fellow at Auburn Seminary. Rev. Dr. Barber is regularly featured in media outlets such as MSNBC, CNN, New York Times, Washington Post, and The Nation Magazine, among others. He is the 2015 recipient of the Puffin Award and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Award, a 2018 MacArthur Foundation genius award recipient, and he is one of the 2019 recipients of the North Carolina Award, the state's highest civilian honor.

RECOGNITIONS

In addition to our keynote speakers, NEA recognizes...

Mecca Verdell, award winning student poet.

Mecca “Meccamorphosis” Verdell is a spoken word artist, a writer. She has performed her work around the country and was a part of the winning team for the 2016 Brave New Voices competition. Mecca has performed at the Kennedy Center as well as the popular local DC venue, Busboys and Poets. She’s a teaching artist for Dewmore in Baltimore, her hometown, where she was 2017’s Youth Literary Ambassador. Mecca has performed several poems for the National Education Association and has many accolades attached to championship slams such as: ‘Southern Fried’ and ‘Texas Grand Slam’. She is a poet on paper and in person; Growing. Learning. Loving.

Natalie Acosta and Voces de la Frontera.

Voces de la Frontera is a membership-based community organization led by low-wage workers, immigrants, and youth whose mission is to protect and expand civil rights and workers’ rights through leadership development, community organizing, and empowerment. The youth arm of Voces de la Frontera is Youth Empowered in the Struggle (YES).

Together, YES and Voces de la Frontera strive to create a world where all people live free of poverty and discrimination, have access to safe, dignified work, a quality education, and health care. One in which immigrants can cross borders with dignity; and human rights are respected; where government is truly “of the people”, and all families thrive.

Takeru “TK” Nagayoshi

Takeru is the 2020 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, and he teaches AP English in New Bedford, MA. As a son of Japanese immigrants and a gay person of color, Takeru leverages his identities to fight for and center equity in his teaching and teacher leadership. A senior Commonwealth Teach Plus fellow, TK has focused on policy around diversifying our schools and supporting leadership roles and opportunities for teachers of color. He has written op-eds on culturally responsive work; helped recruit educators of color through the MA Department of Education; and serves on several state committees, task forces, and advisory boards to fight for equitable and anti-racist policy recommendations. A nationally recognized educator, TK also leads trainings and workshops around the country, ranging on topics from pedagogy, curriculum and content, to education policy and community organizing work. Takeru has received recognitions such as the Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence (2021), Sue Lehmann Excellence in Teacher Leadership Award (2019), Boston University Young Alumni Award (2019), and Sontag Prize in Urban Education (2018). He graduated magna cum laude from Brown University with an honors B.A. in international relations and from Boston University an M.Ed in Curriculum and Teaching.

Marvelless Mark

Marvelless Mark has been helping businesses achieve Rock Star Results for over 20 years. His wisdom from years of sales, small business, and entrepreneurial experience blends in perfect harmony with his success as an international touring entertainer, Las Vegas Headliner, reality TV star, and best-selling author. Mark’s book Opportunity Rocks: Be A Rock Star In Business and Beyond was featured on CBS, NBC, FOX, ABC, USA Today and Small Business Trendsetters.

GIVEAWAYS/SPONSORSHIPS

The National Education Association would also like to thank our co-sponsors for the 2021 NEA National Leadership Summit:

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Thank you for attending the Summit. We have included the prompts and questions below to help you with reflection throughout the virtual experience and after the Summit concludes.

Session Title/Date/Time: _____

Summit Highlights: _____

My intention while participating in the Leadership Summit:

• Powerful Messages _____

• Connections to My Work _____

• What I've learned _____

• Questions I still have _____

• Opinions I have formed _____

Personal Commitment: What will I change or amplify in my work and why?

Leadership competency skills I've used or seen others use or speak to during the Leadership Summit

[illegible]

[illegible]

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

The National Education Association is the nation's largest professional employee organization, representing more than 3 million elementary and secondary teachers, higher education faculty, education support professionals, school administrators, retired educators, students preparing to become teachers, healthcare workers, and public employees. Learn more at www.nea.org.

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A special thanks to all our presenters and the NEA staff in the following centers:

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Center for Great Public Schools

Center for Organizing

Center for Social Justice

Thank you for joining us!

The 2022 NEA National Leadership Summit will be held
March 11-13.

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