



SESSION TITLES	SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
<p>SCREENING 1: A TALE OF THREE CHINATOWNS</p>	<p>A TALE OF THREE CHINATOWNS is a feature-length documentary that explores the survival of urban ethnic neighborhoods. Specifically examining Chinatowns in three American cities, the film looks at the forces altering each community and the challenges that go with them. The film profiles Chinatowns in Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Boston and features the voices of residents, community activists, developers, government officials, and others who have a connection to this ubiquitous neighborhood.</p>
<p>SCREENING 2: CANE FIRE</p>	<p>Cane Fire – a documentary that examines the past and present of the Hawaiian island of Kauai, interweaving four generations of family history, numerous Hollywood productions, and troves of found footage to create a kaleidoscopic portrait of the economic and cultural forces that have cast Indigenous and working-class residents as "extras" in their own story.</p>
<p>SCREENING 3: FOR THE RIGHTS OF ALL: ENDING JIM CROW IN ALASKA</p>	<p>For the Rights of All: Ending Jim Crow in Alaska - Elizabeth Peratrovich, an unassuming Tlingit Indian mother of three, testified before the Alaska Territorial Senate in 1945 and swayed the floor vote with her compelling testimony in favor of the passage of the Anti-Discrimination Act, the first civil rights bill passed in the United States since the Civil War.</p>
<p>SCREENING 4: GUMBO COALITION</p>	<p>Gumbo Coalition - An intimate portrait of two leading civil rights and social justice leaders, Marc Morial, head of the National Urban League, and Janet Murguia, head of UnidosUS, during the tumultuous years of the Trump presidency. The documentary showcases the work of these two organizations fighting for criminal justice reform and changes to our harsh immigration policies through the lens of personal stories that bring home the resulting impacts to our communities and individual lives. The COVID-19 pandemic, the killing of George Floyd, voter suppression, and the 2020 election denial and subsequent attack on the Capitol force both leaders and organizations to go into overdrive in their fight to give voice and agency to all of us as we strive to build a better America. Gumbo Coalition is a timely reminder of the power of people to effect change for the better as we head into the 2024 election.</p>
<p>SCREENING 5: ON THE DIVIDE</p>	<p>On the Divide - McAllen, Texas is the home to the last abortion clinic on the U.S./Mexico border after a wave of shutdowns. Here, three different Latinx/e people's lives converge, despite their differences in their views and values. On the Divide captures an intense and emotional look into what happens when people of color in a conservative state are on the ground, in the trenches at their final frontier for Reproductive Justice.</p>
<p>SCREENING 6: TRANHOOD</p>	<p>Tranhood - this HBO documentary chronicles the lives of four young people and their families as they navigate growing up transgender in America's heartland.</p>

<p>SESSION A1: AAPIS AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT: SWIMMING UPSTREAM TO BUILD SOLIDARITY</p>	<p>Social justice pedagogy is a holistic approach to teaching that enables students to develop a consciousness of injustice in society while empowering them with the knowledge, skills, and tools to collectively work toward justice. An analysis of conceptual frameworks for teacher preparation programs at public universities, private colleges, and community colleges and the Maine Initial Teacher Certification Standards revealed a minimal level of representation of social justice pedagogy. In this session, participants will learn about the implications of the findings of this research. They will also examine recommendations for teacher preparation programs and state-level Departments of Education.</p>
<p>SESSION A2: AN INTRODUCTION TO EQUITABLE EDUCATION FOR NEURODIVERSE LEARNERS</p>	<p>Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) have a long history in the labor movement, but their role and power has often been downplayed and made invisible. The key to the future of the movement hinges on young BIPOC and immigrant leaders and building multi-racial solidarity across communities. This workshop will provide an overview of the history of AAPIs in the labor movement and dive into 30 years of APALA's history in organizing thousands of AAPI workers. Participants will learn about opportunities to get involved with AAPI worker actions going into the 2024 elections.</p>
<p>SESSION A3: ANTISEMITISM, ORGANIZED BIGOTRY, AND WHITE NATIONALIST INFLUENCE IN SCHOOLS</p>	<p>Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) have a long history in the labor movement, but their role and power has often been downplayed and made invisible. The key to the future of the movement hinges on young BIPOC and immigrant leaders and building multi-racial solidarity across communities. This workshop will provide an overview of the history of AAPIs in the labor movement and dive into 30 years of APALA's history in organizing thousands of AAPI workers. Participants will learn about opportunities to get involved with AAPI worker actions going into the 2024 elections.</p>
<p>SESSION A4: ASSETS, STRENGTHS, AND RESILIENCE OF IMMIGRANT STUDENTS</p>	<p>Disability intersects all other marginalized groups. In addition to the stigma of disability, many persons with disabilities encounter multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. Approximately 15% of students served by our members are students with disabilities. Persons with disabilities encounter various forms of ableism on a daily basis. In this session, participants will have the opportunity to learn about the impact of disability. Participants will deepen their understanding of ableism by learning about disability models, the origins and forms of ableism, the impact of bias, and the role of critical dialogue in ending ableism.</p>
<p>SESSION A5: BUILDING RACIALLY JUST SCHOOLS: PRACTICES FOR RESPONDING TO RACIST, ANTI-BLACK RHETORIC</p>	<p>CT STEM Academy is proud to share their community engagement work that supports both students and educators. Since 2011, CT STEM Academy has been at the forefront of engaging underrepresented youth populations in STEM programming in partnership with the local community, school districts, and non-profit agencies. Most recently, CT STEM Academy has founded the CT STEM Educator Leadership Institute to address the ongoing need of a diverse teacher population and providing high quality culturally responsive STEM professional development to educators. Join us to hear about our journey, tips for engaging your community and participate in a fun hands-on STEM activity.</p>

<p>SESSION A6: CENTERING HUMANITY: TEACHING ENSLAVEMENT IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS</p>	<p>Although advances have been made in disability rights and inclusive practices, disability advocates have primarily focused on disability rights without considering those with disabilities who live at the intersection of other marginalized identities. To ensure that our advocacy efforts are not singularly focused, we must consider how we can broaden our efforts to include disability and intersectionality. Disability Justice provides a framework that centers on intersectionality and offers principles to guide our disability advocacy efforts moving forward. Participants will learn about the inequitable distribution of disability; the relationship between bias, disability type, and intersectionality; and how to target these inequities.</p>
<p>SESSION A7: CENTERING QUEER IDENTITY IN A MULTILINGUAL CLASSROOM</p>	<p>Highlighting the work from Affiliate Staff in response to NBI 32, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the LGBTQ+ community and the issues that are critical to providing support and guidance that is not only inclusive and timely, but liberating. This is a session for all people who want to explore the history, appropriate terminology, nationwide issues, and organizing opportunities that will build power for groups that care.</p>
<p>SESSION A8: CHALLENGES WHEN MOVING FROM "TRANSFORMING" TO "DECOLONIZING"</p>	<p>Highlighting the work from Affiliate Staff in response to NBI 32, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the LGBTQ+ community and the issues that are critical to providing support and guidance that is not only inclusive and timely, but liberating. This is a session for all people who want to explore the history, appropriate terminology, nationwide issues, and organizing opportunities that will build power for groups that care.</p>
<p>SESSION A9: COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS: WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? HOW CAN WE HAVE THEM?</p>	<p>There is an urgency for accessible educational materials on the diverse histories and experiences of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI). We have seen a sharp rise in anti-Asian violence and racial, economic and class polarization. This session discusses the AAPI Multimedia Textbook, an ambitious narrative change project initiated by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center that brings together distinguished scholarship, open access technology, and ethnic studies pedagogy to deepen public knowledge about who we are, foster equitable classroom environments, and strengthen students' historical empathy.</p>
<p>SESSION A10: EMPOWERING BIPOC LEADERSHIP: BUILDING PATHWAYS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE</p>	<p>Description: There is an urgency for accessible educational materials on the diverse histories and experiences of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI). We have seen a sharp rise in anti-Asian violence and racial, economic and class polarization. This session discusses the AAPI Multimedia Textbook, an ambitious narrative change project initiated by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center that brings together distinguished scholarship, open access technology, and ethnic studies pedagogy to deepen public knowledge about who we are, foster equitable classroom environments, and strengthen students' historical empathy.</p>

<p>SESSION A11: EMPOWERING EXCELLENCE: STRATEGIES TO RETAIN BLACK EDUCATORS IN THE TEACHING PROFESSION</p>	<p>There is an urgency for accessible educational materials on the diverse histories and experiences of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI). We have seen a sharp rise in anti-Asian violence and racial, economic and class polarization. This session discusses the AAPI Multimedia Textbook, an ambitious narrative change project initiated by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center that brings together distinguished scholarship, open access technology, and ethnic studies pedagogy to deepen public knowledge about who we are, foster equitable classroom environments, and strengthen students' historical empathy.</p>
<p>SESSION A12: EQUITY AND THE RESTORATIVE TRANSFORMATION OF SCHOOLS: GOING BEYOND THEORY TO PRACTICE</p>	<p>This session will seek to educate and build bridges between the diverse communities that make up the NEA. As James Baldwin reminded us: "It is certain, in any case, that ignorance, allied with power, is the most ferocious enemy justice can have." Our session will eschew finger-pointing and "calling out" to focus on the need for a solidified front of American educators to confront anti-public education and racism. Using oppressive "us" and "them" frames only empowers the historical racism that has diminished American Democracy. We need solidarity now more than ever.</p>
<p>SESSION A13: FIRST GENERATION STUDENT TURNED FIRST GENERATION PROFESSIONAL</p>	<p>This session will seek to educate and build bridges between the diverse communities that make up the NEA. As James Baldwin reminded us: "It is certain, in any case, that ignorance, allied with power, is the most ferocious enemy justice can have." Our session will eschew finger-pointing and "calling out" to focus on the need for a solidified front of American educators to confront anti-public education and racism. Using oppressive "us" and "them" frames only empowers the historical racism that has diminished American Democracy. We need solidarity now more than ever.</p>
<p>SESSION A14: HARMONY IN EDUCATION: EQUITY AND JUSTICE FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS</p>	<p>Through attacks on affirmative action, inclusion of LGBTQ+ history in public school curriculum, and criminal justice reforms, White Supremacy Culture (WSC) through Asian Right Wing organizing has impacted progress toward education justice and a more inclusive society. Working-class pan-Asian communities are often overlooked, but they are important groups to organize against WSC. What happens when working-class pan-Asian communities are left out of critical organizing spaces and political moments? What impact does their exclusion have on the progress made by other communities of color? What political education tools do they use to fight anti-Blackness, the Asian Right Wing and WSC?</p>
<p>SESSION A15: INCORPORATING ANTI-RACIST TEACHING AND MULTICULTURALISM IN THE CLASSROOM</p>	<p>Through attacks on affirmative action, inclusion of LGBTQ+ history in public school curriculum, and criminal justice reforms, White Supremacy Culture (WSC) through Asian Right Wing organizing has impacted progress toward education justice and a more inclusive society. Working-class pan-Asian communities are often overlooked, but they are important groups to organize against WSC. What happens when working-class pan-Asian communities are left out of critical organizing spaces and political moments? What impact does their exclusion have on the progress made by other communities of color? What political education tools do they use to fight anti-Blackness, the Asian Right Wing and WSC?</p>

<p>SESSION A16: ITS DEEPER THAN DISNEY: MOANA, EDUCATIONAL EQUITY, AND POLICY</p>	<p>This session will inform educators around the distinct issues faced by LGBTQ+ Asians and Pacific Islander (LGBTQ+API) students, families, and educators, while simultaneously locating those issues in the wider context of school and community health and learning. We will look at how LGBTQ+API educators have been impacted by policies like Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' law; the mental and emotional impacts of anti-LGBTQ legislation, bullying, and family acceptance on API youth, specifically, who face challenges in the wider school communities and in their cultural, linguistic, and religious ones; and strategies to push back and create healthy and healing educational spaces.</p>
<p>SESSION A17: LOUDFORCHANGE: AMPLIFYING STUDENT VOICES, FOSTERING CHANGE</p>	<p>This session will inform educators around the distinct issues faced by LGBTQ+ Asians and Pacific Islander (LGBTQ+API) students, families, and educators, while simultaneously locating those issues in the wider context of school and community health and learning. We will look at how LGBTQ+API educators have been impacted by policies like Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' law; the mental and emotional impacts of anti-LGBTQ legislation, bullying, and family acceptance on API youth, specifically, who face challenges in the wider school communities and in their cultural, linguistic, and religious ones; and strategies to push back and create healthy and healing educational spaces.</p>
<p>SESSION A18: POWER OF STORYTELLING: USING YOUR AUTHENTIC VOICE TO GALVANIZE AND INSPIRE</p>	<p>Our shared learning spaces are a canoe and we voyage our diaspora together. In this session, folx will engage in storytelling processes innate to Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NH/PI) communities, passed down from our elders and ancestors. Throughout the session, facilitators will introduce learners to NH/PI ways of knowing and being. As we navigate NH/PI narratives, participants will increase their cultural-competency around NH/PI issues and gain an understanding of cultural values. Presenters will highlight the impact of our missing narrative on policy and demonstrate how we can amplify the stories that already exist through the NH/PI diaspora.</p>
<p>SESSION A19: RETHINKING DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION</p>	<p>Our shared learning spaces are a canoe and we voyage our diaspora together. In this session, folx will engage in storytelling processes innate to Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NH/PI) communities, passed down from our elders and ancestors. Throughout the session, facilitators will introduce learners to NH/PI ways of knowing and being. As we navigate NH/PI narratives, participants will increase their cultural-competency around NH/PI issues and gain an understanding of cultural values. Presenters will highlight the impact of our missing narrative on policy and demonstrate how we can amplify the stories that already exist through the NH/PI diaspora.</p>

<p>SESSION A20: SCHOOLS, LITERACY, AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS</p>	<p>Illiteracy can result in higher rates and generational cycles of poverty, social isolation, and unemployment. This session will present documentaries on literacy movements in the United States and Latin America, including the Freedom Schools of the Civil Rights Movement, the Freedmen's Bureau Schools for the formerly enslaved, the Cuban National Literacy Campaign, and the legacy of Paolo Freire, author of the groundbreaking education justice book "Pedagogy of the Oppressed." The filmmakers and virtual guests (activists and educators from the films) will engage this audience in a Q&amp;A about the documentaries and discuss the relevance of these literacy movements to public school educators today.</p>
<p>SESSION A21: SOCIAL JUSTICE AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING THROUGH STEM</p>	<p>CT STEM Academy is proud to share their community engagement work that supports both students and educators. Since 2011, CT STEM Academy has been at the forefront of engaging underrepresented youth populations in STEM programming in partnership with the Spanish Community of Wallingford, local school districts and non-profit agencies throughout Connecticut. Most recently, CT STEM Academy has founded the CT STEM Educator Leadership Institute to address the ongoing need of a diverse teacher population and providing high quality culturally responsive STEM professional development to educators. Join us to hear about our journey, tips for beginning your own movement in your community and engage in fun hands-on STEM investigations!</p>
<p>SESSION A22: THE POWER OF INCLUSION: BRINGING LGBTQ+ HISTORY TO OUR CLASSROOMS</p>	<p>In 2023, NEA partnered with Making Gay History (MGH) to bring teachers across the nation together for a Teaching Fellowship which dove into the archives and episodes of the MGH podcast as source material for developing lessons for grades 7-12 (and professional development). Session attendees will be inspired by well-known figures and lesser-known individuals who made LGBTQ+ history, as featured in MGH podcast episodes. Learn from the first cohort of NEA teachers who participated in this official partnership. Explore the lessons now available as a result of this work. Dive into the history, the podcast (<a href="https://makinggayhistory.com/">https://makinggayhistory.com/</a>), and ways to bring these resources to your NEA state and local affiliate.</p>
<p>SESSION A23: THE TRUTH BEHIND ASTROTURF PARENT "EMPOWERMENT" GROUPS</p>	<p>Frequently organizations that appear to be grassroots advocacy organizations are actually fronts for special interest groups that are not acting in the best interests of students, families, and communities. In this session, participants will hear learnings when working as a staff member inside a charter school advocacy organization in St. Louis, MO. Participants will also learn about other astroturf parent groups. Participants will learn valuable skills on how to research and expose the political operatives behind parent groups in their communities and how a pro-public agenda can defeat them.</p>

<p>SESSION A24: THE URGENCY OF NOW: SPREADING JUSTICE IN SCHOOLS AMIDST GROWING RACIAL DIVERSITY</p>	<p>In 2023, NEA partnered with Making Gay History (MGH) to bring teachers across the nation together for a Teaching Fellowship which dove into the archives and episodes of the MGH podcast as source material for developing lessons for grades 7-12 (and professional development). Session attendees will be inspired by well-known figures and lesser-known individuals who made LGBTQ+ history, as featured in MGH podcast episodes. Learn from the first cohort of NEA teachers who participated in this official partnership. Explore the lessons now available as a result of this work. Dive into the history, the podcast (<a href="https://makinggayhistory.com/">https://makinggayhistory.com/</a>), and ways to bring these resources to your NEA state and local affiliate.</p>
<p>SESSION B1: ACCESSIBLE ISSUE ORGANIZING: WIELDING WORKPLACE POWER FOR JUST STUDENT OUTCOMES</p>	<p>Anti-racism requires active engagement to make concrete changes in racial inequities in the world. Task Forces on Anti-Racism work to foster this kind of active and engaged politics of anti-racism by facilitating member discussions and bringing many diverse voices to the table to grapple with how they can strengthen their engagement with anti-racism in their locals, schools and communities. The Taskforce on Anti-racism will support the development of an anti-racist union through deepening member engagement with anti-racism and fostering a collective approach to anti-racism across the union.</p>
<p>SESSION B2: ADVOCACY FOR DISABLED EDUCATORS AND AGAINST ABLEISM IN OUR SCHOOLS</p>	<p>Anti-racism requires active engagement to make concrete changes in racial inequities in the world. Task Forces on Anti-Racism work to foster this kind of active and engaged politics of anti-racism by facilitating member discussions and bringing many diverse voices to the table to grapple with how they can strengthen their engagement with anti-racism in their locals, schools and communities. The Taskforce on Anti-racism will support the development of an anti-racist union through deepening member engagement with anti-racism and fostering a collective approach to anti-racism across the union.</p>
<p>SESSION B3: BUILDING SOLIDARITY FOR BLACK LIVES IN ASIAN COMMUNITIES</p>	<p>Representation matters. It makes students feel seen and respected. While visibility in the media inspires, far-right politicians and corporations have overwhelmingly brought challenges on books and media that feature Black and LGBTQ+ identities to America's public schools. In the 2020 documentary Disclosure, the visibility of transgender identities, including those who are Black, in film is explored. Participants in this session will engage with the documentary, explore how media influences our perceptions of gender and race, as well as how we can increase visibility in our own educational environments despite the dangers.</p>
<p>SESSION B4: COMMUNITY ORGANIZING &amp; SCHOOL BOARDS</p>	<p>Representation matters. It makes students feel seen and respected. While visibility in the media inspires, far-right politicians and corporations have overwhelmingly brought challenges on books and media that feature Black and LGBTQ+ identities to America's public schools. In the 2020 documentary Disclosure, the visibility of transgender identities, including those who are Black, in film is explored. Participants in this session will engage with the documentary, explore how media influences our perceptions of gender and race, as well as how we can increase visibility in our own educational environments despite the dangers.</p>



<p>SESSION B5: COOKING UP CONNECTIONS: RECIPES FOR BUILDING DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION</p>	<p>LGBTQ+ students and educators are finding themselves once again thrust into the spotlight as props in a nationwide culture war. Whereas educators simply want to support their students and live their lives out in the open, they are being intimidated into silence through fear. This session aims to empower educators and inform them of the rights LGBTQ+ educators have in the workplace and how best to advocate for themselves and their students, even when the climate might not be the most supportive.</p>
<p>SESSION B6: CREATING SCHOOLS WHERE TRANSGENDER AND NON-BINARY STUDENTS THRIVE</p>	<p>LGBTQ+ students and educators are finding themselves once again thrust into the spotlight as props in a nationwide culture war. Whereas educators simply want to support their students and live their lives out in the open, they are being intimidated into silence through fear. This session aims to empower educators and inform them of the rights LGBTQ+ educators have in the workplace and how best to advocate for themselves and their students, even when the climate might not be the most supportive.</p>
<p>SESSION B7: EDUCATING WITH PRIDE!</p>	<p>Ethnic Minority Affairs Committees (EMAC) exist at the national, state, and local union levels. They support and advance greater racial diversity and inclusion of educators in the association and provides a platform for minority educators to make their voices heard within the union. State and local EMACs continue to be essential: we demand our educational system honor through action the guarantees provided by our predecessors to be heard and more involved. We invite all educators who would like to establish and strengthen an EMAC at their state or local level.</p>
<p>SESSION B8: EMPOWERING EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE URGENCY OF THE GUN VIOLENCE EPIDEMIC</p>	<p>Ethnic Minority Affairs Committees (EMAC) exist at the national, state, and local union levels. They support and advance greater racial diversity and inclusion of educators in the association and provides a platform for minority educators to make their voices heard within the union. State and local EMACs continue to be essential: we demand our educational system honor through action the guarantees provided by our predecessors to be heard and more involved. We invite all educators who would like to establish and strengthen an EMAC at their state or local level.</p>
<p>SESSION B9: EMPOWERING EDUCATORS: RESPONDING TO EXTREMIST ATTACKS ON INCLUSIVE PRACTICES</p>	<p>Multilingual learners' language skills aren't always recognized in positive ways in different societal settings. Understanding concepts of language orientations (Ruiz, 1984) helps multilingual speakers to avoid internalizing negative outlooks from racialized language experiences. In addition, students can use language orientations to study their classrooms, schools, community(ies), personal beliefs, and ultimately examine the attitudes towards non-dominant languages that they encounter in those settings. With this knowledge, students can take action and propose ways in which their communities can build positive environments that normalize multilingualism and move language justice forward for all communities.</p>



<p>SESSION B10: EMPOWERING MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS THROUGH SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR FACULTY</p>	<p>Multilingual learners' language skills aren't always recognized in positive ways in different societal settings. Understanding concepts of language orientations (Ruiz, 1984) helps multilingual speakers to avoid internalizing negative outlooks from racialized language experiences. In addition, students can use language orientations to study their classrooms, schools, community(ies), personal beliefs, and ultimately examine the attitudes towards non-dominant languages that they encounter in those settings. With this knowledge, students can take action and propose ways in which their communities can build positive environments that normalize multilingualism and move language justice forward for all communities.</p>
<p>SESSION B11: EXPLORING THE IMPACTS OF THE DOBBS DECISION ON MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES</p>	<p>Education Support Professionals that will discuss the ways their values and norms have advanced equity, justice and joy in their schools. Presenters will share ideas, tools and suggestions to create spaces of freedom, which are vital for public education. Speaking up and owning our diversity, sharing our cultures, customs and values and embracing those of others will assist participants in building relationships of mutual respect and understanding in order to engage in racial and cross-cultural conversations with students, families, and communities. This session will be presented in Spanish. Esta sesión es un taller dirigido por dos profesionales del apoyo a la educación que hablarán de cómo sus valores y normas han fomentado la equidad, la justicia y la alegría en sus escuelas. Los ponentes compartirán ideas, herramientas y sugerencias para crear espacios de libertad, los cuales son necesarias para la educación pública. Alzar la voz y asumir nuestra diversidad, compartir nuestras culturas, costumbres y valores y aceptar los de los demás ayudará a los participantes a establecer relaciones de respeto y comprensión mutuos para entablar conversaciones raciales e interculturales con los alumnos, las familias y las comunidades. Esta sesión se presentará en español.</p>
<p>SESSION B12: FIGHTING LEGISLATIVE DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTING ENGLISH LEARNERS FROM ACT 20 (WI)</p>	<p>Education Support Professionals that will discuss the ways their values and norms have advanced equity, justice and joy in their schools. Presenters will share ideas, tools and suggestions to create spaces of freedom, which are vital for public education. Speaking up and owning our diversity, sharing our cultures, customs and values and embracing those of others will assist participants in building relationships of mutual respect and understanding in order to engage in racial and cross-cultural conversations with students, families, and communities. This session will be presented in Spanish. Esta sesión es un taller dirigido por dos profesionales del apoyo a la educación que hablarán de cómo sus valores y normas han fomentado la equidad, la justicia y la alegría en sus escuelas. Los ponentes compartirán ideas, herramientas y sugerencias para crear espacios de libertad, los cuales son necesarias para la educación pública. Alzar la voz y asumir nuestra diversidad, compartir nuestras culturas, costumbres y valores y aceptar los de los demás ayudará a los participantes a establecer relaciones de respeto y comprensión mutuos para entablar conversaciones raciales e interculturales con los alumnos, las familias y las comunidades. Esta sesión se presentará en español.</p>

<p>SESSION B13: FOUNDATIONS AND FUTURES: ADVANCING ETHNIC STUDIES THROUGH AAPI CURRICULA</p>	<p>A dynamic and thought-provoking session that delves into the issues of racial trauma and social justice. Drawing insights from a variety of sources, this workshop offers practical strategies for engaging in anti-racism work. Through interactive exercises and reflective discussions, attendees will learn how to recognize and challenge their own biases, while also gaining valuable tools and resources for promoting healing and taking action for social change. Whether you are a staff, student, educator, or simply someone who is committed to creating a more just and equitable society, we invite you and empower you to take action.</p>
<p>SESSION B14: KNOWING MYSELF TO BETTER CONNECT WITH STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND THE COMMUNITY</p>	<p>A dynamic and thought-provoking session that delves into the issues of racial trauma and social justice. Drawing insights from a variety of sources, this workshop offers practical strategies for engaging in anti-racism work. Through interactive exercises and reflective discussions, attendees will learn how to recognize and challenge their own biases, while also gaining valuable tools and resources for promoting healing and taking action for social change. Whether you are a staff, student, educator, or simply someone who is committed to creating a more just and equitable society, we invite you and empower you to take action.</p>
<p>SESSION B15: POWER IN IMPROVING EDUCATOR DIVERSITY! RESEARCH-BASED STRATEGIES</p>	<p>Research shows students benefit when they have access to diverse educators, yet educators of color leave schools at a higher rate than white educators. This session focuses on lessons gleaned from six school districts across the country that have designed and implemented strategies for improving the recruitment, support, and retention of educators of color. We will start by gaining a better understanding of why educators of color leave schools based on evidence. Participants will consider school/district-focused solutions for better supporting and retaining educators of color and learn how a cohort of district teams across the country are taking a learning sciences approach to addressing educator diversity.</p>
<p>SESSION B16: RACIAL LITERACY CIRCLES: THE HIP-HOP EDITION SOUNDTRACK</p>	<p>Finding Fellowship is an award-winning documentary that explores the unlikely merger of three racially segregated churches, in 1968, in the wake of Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination. A story of community and identity, the film explores how the Black community of Quince Orchard, Maryland, developed post emancipation, through reconstruction and into modern day. As America wrestles with division, this is a story of the possible that shows how we can acknowledge the injustices of our path in order to move forward toward reconciliation.</p>
<p>SESSION B17: REIGNITING EDUCATORS' FIRE THROUGH PROFESSIONAL GROWTH</p>	<p>Finding Fellowship is an award-winning documentary that explores the unlikely merger of three racially segregated churches, in 1968, in the wake of Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination. A story of community and identity, the film explores how the Black community of Quince Orchard, Maryland, developed post emancipation, through reconstruction and into modern day. As America wrestles with division, this is a story of the possible that shows how we can acknowledge the injustices of our path in order to move forward toward reconciliation.</p>
<p>SESSION B18: RJOY - RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COMMUNITY HEALING CIRCLE</p>	<p>This session will include an interactive healing space where participants will partake in a restorative justice healing circle and learn how to share space with others in the process. This will be an opportunity to learn the basic principles of restorative justice, as well as build relationships with individuals with like minds from different parts of the country.</p>

<p>SESSION B19: STORYTELLING: USING THE POWER OF YOUR VOICE, FUELED BY YOUR STORY</p>	<p>Storytelling is the ultimate source of truth and power leading us to feel, connect, and engage with each other. During this session, we'll collaborate, share stories, and plan to use this tool to initiate action, claim power and advocate for our rights. We must build a space where all voices are heard, valued, and celebrated. Through our connections we build on our collective power to change not just our lives but the lives of others – our students and communities. We will celebrate the strength, determination, and triumphs of Black, indigenous, and people of color. We'll collaborate on how to make connections, share the work we are doing and build on our organizing skills, so others see the need to work towards a more just society for all.</p>
<p>SESSION B20: THE ROOTS AND MANIFESTATIONS OF ISLAMOPHOBIA</p>	<p>The Dream Allies Network is a grassroots network of Alhambra and Los Angeles Unified School District educators, students, parents, and community members dedicated to transforming public schools to be safe and inclusive spaces for undocumented, immigrant, and students of color. These programs were developed as the result of an advocacy campaign by social justice minded teachers and professionals from two large Los Angeles County school districts. We will discuss our Network as part of the larger movement for immigrant rights, quality public education, union empowerment, and racial and economic justice.</p>
<p>SESSION B21: TRAUMA INFORMED PRACTICE FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT</p>	<p>The Dream Allies Network is a grassroots network of Alhambra and Los Angeles Unified School District educators, students, parents, and community members dedicated to transforming public schools to be safe and inclusive spaces for undocumented, immigrant, and students of color. These programs were developed as the result of an advocacy campaign by social justice minded teachers and professionals from two large Los Angeles County school districts. We will discuss our Network as part of the larger movement for immigrant rights, quality public education, union empowerment, and racial and economic justice.</p>
<p>SESSION B22: UNSETTLING THE COLONIAL MINDSET: INDIGENIZING CLASSROOMS AND COMMUNITIES</p>	<p>In the year 2043, the U.S. Census Bureau projects that the majority of the U.S. population will be Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). This historic demographic shift is just 20 years away. As educators, parents, and community members, our work to create schools that are inclusive, equitable, and that celebrate the diversity of all students - from race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and more - is more important than ever. Today, our students are the most racially diverse generation in U.S. history. Join this workshop to learn more about creating school communities that embrace all students.</p>
<p>SESSION B23: WALK TOGETHER, CHILDREN, DON'T YOU GET WEARY ...BUT WHAT IF I AM?</p>	<p>In the year 2043, the U.S. Census Bureau projects that the majority of the U.S. population will be Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). This historic demographic shift is just 20 years away. As educators, parents, and community members, our work to create schools that are inclusive, equitable, and that celebrate the diversity of all students - from race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and more - is more important than ever. Today, our students are the most racially diverse generation in U.S. history. Join this workshop to learn more about creating school communities that embrace all students.</p>

<p>SESSION B24: WHO WROTE THE STORY, AND WHO GETS TO TELL IT?</p>	<p>Members of the LGBTQ+ community educate in classrooms across the nation, whether they're "out" or not. But, in this divisive climate in the United States, not all LGBTQ+ educators feel safe or supported inside or outside of the classroom. Join this session to learn how to effectively support, advocate, and uplift LGBTQ+ educators. Through candid conversations, participants will learn best practices and intersectional approaches for implementation and advocacy.</p>
<p>SESSION C1: A PLACE WHERE THEY BELONG: CULTIVATING EXCELLENCE IN BLACK MALE EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS</p>	<p>Members of the LGBTQ+ community educate in classrooms across the nation, whether they're "out" or not. But, in this divisive climate in the United States, not all LGBTQ+ educators feel safe or supported inside or outside of the classroom. Join this session to learn how to effectively support, advocate, and uplift LGBTQ+ educators. Through candid conversations, participants will learn best practices and intersectional approaches for implementation and advocacy.</p>
<p>SESSION C2: AN EXPLORATION INTO SOGI: SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY IN SCHOOLS</p>	<p>Social and emotional learning (SEL) is receiving much-needed attention, but this should not cast restorative and social justice to the side in schools. As educators embark on implementing SEL content in their learning environments, they cannot avoid the realization that injustices and inequity impact students' lives and SEL skills. Using the restorative justice framework, this session will provide information on the cross-section of SEL, race, and social justice. Participants will learn and engage in strategies that incorporate restorative justice into their SEL content which can create spaces for youth agency, social awareness, and social change.</p>
<p>SESSION C3: BARGAINING FOR THE COMMON GOOD</p>	<p>Social and emotional learning (SEL) is receiving much-needed attention, but this should not cast restorative and social justice to the side in schools. As educators embark on implementing SEL content in their learning environments, they cannot avoid the realization that injustices and inequity impact students' lives and SEL skills. Using the restorative justice framework, this session will provide information on the cross-section of SEL, race, and social justice. Participants will learn and engage in strategies that incorporate restorative justice into their SEL content which can create spaces for youth agency, social awareness, and social change.</p>
<p>SESSION C4: BRIDGING WORLDS: INTERSECTIONALITY, DISABILITY, AND CULTURALLY SUSTAINING COLLABORATION</p>	<p>There's a good chance that, if you've attended an NEA event, you've likely heard a land acknowledgement. It's important to offer a land acknowledgement; it's even more important to make it a meaningful expression of your recognition for the lands on which you are a visitor, as well as the Native American/Indigenous stewards of those lands. When we gather, it's a good idea to include a meaningful land acknowledgement. Participants will examine some reasons for offering a land acknowledgement and be offered some suggestions on how to make it meaningful.</p>
<p>SESSION C5: CREATING A RESTORATIVE CULTURE FOR THOSE FURTHEST FROM JUSTICE</p>	<p>There's a good chance that, if you've attended an NEA event, you've likely heard a land acknowledgement. It's important to offer a land acknowledgement; it's even more important to make it a meaningful expression of your recognition for the lands on which you are a visitor, as well as the Native American/Indigenous stewards of those lands. When we gather, it's a good idea to include a meaningful land acknowledgement. Participants will examine some reasons for offering a land acknowledgement and be offered some suggestions on how to make it meaningful.</p>

<p>SESSION C6: DECRIMINALIZING BLACK YOUTH: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS TO DISPROPORTIONATE DISCIPLINE</p>	<p>The relationship between local school boards and educators can be challenging. Strengthening working relationships between the two groups can be highly beneficial to students, families, and staff. When public school boards are well aligned with educators on educational, equity, and child-focused goals, districts operate at their best. In this session, participants will hear from community organizers, school board members, and public leaders about ways that they have overcome barriers between their groups to benefit student well-being and to make their public schools safe, welcoming places for all.</p>
<p>SESSION C7: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES, TRANSFORMING EDUCATION: GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING TO SAVE SCHOOLS</p>	<p>The relationship between local school boards and educators can be challenging. Strengthening working relationships between the two groups can be highly beneficial to students, families, and staff. When public school boards are well aligned with educators on educational, equity, and child-focused goals, districts operate at their best. In this session, participants will hear from community organizers, school board members, and public leaders about ways that they have overcome barriers between their groups to benefit student well-being and to make their public schools safe, welcoming places for all.</p>
<p>SESSION C8: EMPOWERING LGBTQ+ EDUCATORS IN AN EVER-CHANGING LANDSCAPE</p>	<p>This workshop will explore how communities are uniting to support honest, accurate and fully funded public education. Learn how H.E.A.L. (Honest Education, Action &amp; Leadership) Together initiative – led by Race Forward and its partners – is working with its local partners to organize in response to the attacks on equity and honest education. You'll hear organizing lessons from HEAL's Florida partners on how they are working with students, parents, educators and school board members in the face of manufactured culture wars seeking to divide communities.</p>
<p>SESSION C9: EMPOWERING OUR UNIONS: INTENTIONAL ORGANIZING FOR BIPOC MEMBER RECRUITMENT/RETENTION</p>	<p>This workshop will explore how communities are uniting to support honest, accurate and fully funded public education. Learn how H.E.A.L. (Honest Education, Action &amp; Leadership) Together initiative – led by Race Forward and its partners – is working with its local partners to organize in response to the attacks on equity and honest education. You'll hear organizing lessons from HEAL's Florida partners on how they are working with students, parents, educators and school board members in the face of manufactured culture wars seeking to divide communities.</p>
<p>SESSION C10: ESTABLISHING SAFE AND BRAVE SPACE FOR DIFFICULT CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS</p>	<p>In this session, geared toward educators in grades Kindergarten through third grade, participants will gain strategies, resources, and a knowledge base on how to incorporate inclusion, diversity, and acceptance in their everyday teaching.</p>
<p>SESSION C11: FEAR OR NOT: LEADING RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE WORK IN A CULTURE OF FEAR</p>	<p>In this session, geared toward educators in grades Kindergarten through third grade, participants will gain strategies, resources, and a knowledge base on how to incorporate inclusion, diversity, and acceptance in their everyday teaching.</p>
<p>SESSION C12: HIDDEN VOICES: COUNTERNARRATIVES TO DISMANTLE FEARS OF MUSLIM STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS</p>	<p>Literacy and Justice For All approaches the literacy crisis in America from a social justice perspective. Participants will look at literacy instruction as a civil right that is achieved by dissecting, disrupting, and dismantling systems that make becoming literate a cost prohibitive for some. The theory of change aims to equip all child facing adults with the tools necessary to develop a literate being beginning with prenatal care through fifth grade, by constructing a network of community partnerships with the common goal of Literacy and Justice For All.</p>

<p>SESSION C13: IS ASKING YOUR BLACK STUDENTS TO "SIT DOWN" RACIST? EXAMINING CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT</p>	<p>Literacy and Justice For All approaches the literacy crisis in America from a social justice perspective. Participants will look at literacy instruction as a civil right that is achieved by dissecting, disrupting, and dismantling systems that make becoming literate a cost prohibitive for some. The theory of change aims to equip all child facing adults with the tools necessary to develop a literate being beginning with prenatal care through fifth grade, by constructing a network of community partnerships with the common goal of Literacy and Justice For All.</p>
<p>SESSION C14: OMISSION IS VIOLENCE: INDIGENOUS RESEARCH AND SOLUTIONS FOR NATIVE EDUCATION</p>	<p>Join this session to share stories of identity though a lens of interlocking and intersecting cultures as well as negotiations of power, expression, and perception within a community. We will explore beyond problems of race, gender, or sexual orientation with a framework that tells the stories that consider the multiple facets of our identity simultaneously.</p>
<p>SESSION C15: RACELIGHTING: THE GASLIGHTING OF DEIBJ PRACTITIONERS</p>	<p>Join this session to share stories of identity though a lens of interlocking and intersecting cultures as well as negotiations of power, expression, and perception within a community. We will explore beyond problems of race, gender, or sexual orientation with a framework that tells the stories that consider the multiple facets of our identity simultaneously.</p>
<p>SESSION C16: RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: A MUST FOR ALL MEMBER LEADERS</p>	<p>The NEA Leadership Competency Framework has seven domains but not one for Racial and Social Justice. Why is that? Because racial and social justice is embedded in every domain in the framework. This session will explore racial and social justice elements in each of the domains in an effort to help member leaders understand the unique set of competencies that they need to lead in their professions/careers and association. Attend this session to learn how this framework can be a catalyst for a racially and socially just vision of leadership.</p>
<p>SESSION C17: RACIAL BATTLE FATIGUE'S IMPACT ON EDUCATORS AND THEIR FAMILIES</p>	<p>The NIEA Indigenous Empowerment &amp; Resilience Training (KAİROS Blanket Exercise program) is a unique, participatory history lesson — developed in collaboration with Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers, and educators — that fosters truth, understanding, respect, and reconciliation among Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. During this exercise, participants stand and walk on blankets representing the land and into the role of Native peoples experienced during pre-contact, treaty-making, colonization, and resistance. Participants are guided through the exercise by trained facilitators who read the script and assume the roles of European explorers and Indigenous knowledge keepers. The exercise concludes with a debriefing, conducted as a 'talking circle,' during which participants discuss the learning experience, process their feelings, ask questions, share insights, deepen their understanding, and create actionable next steps for their work.</p>

<p>SESSION C18: REAL TALK: WE NEED ANTI-ABLEIST SCHOOLS</p>	<p>Despite the growing emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion, students with disabilities are often left on the periphery of our educational landscape. This session delves into the critical need to move beyond intentions and actively confront ableist structures ingrained in our schools. We'll explore how our failure to address these issues perpetuates inequities and discuss strategies to bridge knowledge gaps, challenge entrenched beliefs, and redefine our educational outcomes through an anti-ableist lens. Join us in this imperative dialogue as we unravel the interconnectedness between dismantling ableism and eradicating racism, steering away from token efforts toward genuine inclusion. Join the movement of disruptors committed to reshaping our educational ecosystem.</p>
<p>SESSION C19: THE A.B.C.'S OF INCLUSION: LOOKING THROUGH A RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE LENS</p>	<p>As our awareness grows, so does our ability to improve. Arthur Chan wisely states, "Diversity is a fact. Equity is a choice. Inclusion is an action. Belonging is an outcome." Let's build bridges with intention, prioritizing inclusion and advocating for racial and social justice. In this session, participants will gain a deeper understanding of relevant terminology related to inclusion, racial and social justice. Furthermore, this session includes various resources, strategies, and an action planning activity for Accessing, Building, and Cultivating a more inclusive environment for all.</p>
<p>SESSION C20: THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF RACIAL EQUITY AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICES</p>	<p>Grounded in Black liberation theology and Black feminist thought, this session will offer us all an opportunity to interrogate what love is, how we have been socialized by it, and how it shapes our capacity to lead change and hold each other with loving accountability within the moment. Ultimately, this session is about reconceptualizing love in ways that help us resist erasure and dehumanization, and defining it in ways that helps us heal. We will interrogate our own social justice practices to ensure that we are not perpetuating oppression, but instead helping ourselves and others discover their power and heal.</p>
<p>SESSION C21: UNDERSTANDING POWER, PRIVILEGE, AND OPPRESSION</p>	<p>Grounded in Black liberation theology and Black feminist thought, this session will offer us all an opportunity to interrogate what love is, how we have been socialized by it, and how it shapes our capacity to lead change and hold each other with loving accountability within the moment. Ultimately, this session is about reconceptualizing love in ways that help us resist erasure and dehumanization, and defining it in ways that helps us heal. We will interrogate our own social justice practices to ensure that we are not perpetuating oppression, but instead helping ourselves and others discover their power and heal.</p>
<p>SESSION C22: VOTING EXTREMISTS OFF BUCKS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS</p>	<p>Social justice and education policy go hand-in-hand. In this session, participants will engage in interactive exercises that introduce the concept of social justice and highlight the connection between social justice issues and education policies. They will then explore the levels and types of social oppression and how those play out in their work settings. The session ends with an introduction to the four social justice principles and an action-planning activity.</p>



SESSION C23: WHY ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER DESI AMERICAN CURRICULA MATTERS AND HOW TO INTEGRATE IT

This workshop will cover the importance of including Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) history in school curricula through exploring the contributions of APIDAs in labor activism; the fight for school integration and citizenship rights; the use of Model Minority Myth as a racial wedge; how the Perpetual Foreigner Stereotype is part of systemic racism; and the intersectionality of APIDAs and other minority communities. Participants will also explore multiple ways to integrate APIDA histories into existing teaching strategies. They will be given opportunities to brainstorm ways to seamlessly include APIDA narratives and to move beyond focusing on heritage months and holidays.