

CONFERENCE ON RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Promote, Protect, and Strengthen Public Education: A Joyous Rebellion!
June 29 - July 1 • Portland, Oregon

2025 CRSJ SCREENINGS, SESSIONS, AND DESCRIPTIONS

CRSJ PRE CONFERENCE DAY: June 29, 2025

DAY	TIME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION
2025 CRSJ Film Festival Pre-Session			
June 29, 2025	1:00 PM – 1:35 PM	Putting Films to Work: How to Move People to Action Using Film Mara Henderson, Impact Coordinator Working Films	<p>Have you ever watched a documentary (or any film) that made you feel moved to learn more or take action on a specific issue? Working Films believes that films have the power to educate, shift harmful narratives, connect people across communities, and ultimately move people to action.</p> <p>Film screenings are a highly accessible first step in community education and civic engagement. For example, there are many people who won't come to a city council meeting as their first means of action, but they WILL come to a film screening, especially if there's popcorn or food!</p> <p>In this interactive pre-session, Working Films will share their experiences from over 20 years of using films for change, lift up others' experiences with using film or art in their work, and share key elements of how to organize strategic, intentional, goals-based film screenings that move people to action.</p>
2025 CRSJ Film Screenings & Engagement			
June 29, 2025	1:45 PM – 4:00 PM	Honesty in Education: Banned Together	<p>A diverse cast of visionary teenagers, stirring public protests, private threats, criminal charges, and drama-filled school board meetings: this is the explosive world of Banned Together.</p> <p>The film pulls back the curtain on two of the most controversial issues in America today: book bans and curriculum censorship in public schools. Banned Together follows three students and their adult allies as they fight to reinstate 97 books suddenly pulled from their school libraries. As they evolve from local to national activists – meeting with bestselling/banned authors, politicians, Constitutional experts, and more – the film reveals the dark forces behind the accelerating wave of book bans in the U.S.</p>
June 29, 2025	1:45 PM – 4:00 PM	LGBTQ+ Rights: Disclosure	DISCLOSURE is an unprecedented, eye-opening look at transgender depictions in film and television, revealing how Hollywood simultaneously reflects and manufactures our deepest anxieties about gender. Leading trans thinkers and creatives, including Laverne Cox, Lilly Wachowski, Yance Ford, Mj Rodriguez, Jamie Clayton, and

			<p>Chaz Bono, share their reactions and resistance to some of Hollywood’s most beloved moments. Grappling with films like A Florida Enchantment (1914), Dog Day Afternoon, The Crying Game, and Boys Don’t Cry, and with shows like The Jeffersons, The L-Word, and Pose, they trace a history that is at once dehumanizing, yet also evolving, complex, and sometimes humorous. What emerges is a fascinating story of dynamic interplay between trans representation on screen, society’s beliefs, and the reality of trans lives. Reframing familiar scenes and iconic characters in a new light, director Sam Feder invites viewers to confront unexamined assumptions, and shows how what once captured the American imagination now elicit new feelings. DISCLOSURE provokes a startling revolution in how we see and understand trans people.</p>
June 29, 2025	1:45 PM – 4:00 PM	Housing Crisis: Divisible	<p>This award-winning film provides a detailed look into redlining: what happened, where it came from, who was involved, how it supposedly “ended”, and why the 1968 Fair Housing Act did not actually get rid of redlining or its impact.</p> <p>Told through a combination of expert and personal interviews, Divisible explores how redlining impacted and continues to affect the following topics: white privilege, housing, health, education, economics, the highway system, and the criminal justice system.</p> <p>The nature of Divisible is about educating and making a positive impact in our target communities. That is a human endeavor, rarely accomplished and fully actualized by one person.</p> <p>Therefore, Divisible has always been a collective effort, because it’s not a story that can be told if those who are the focus of it are not in the room as well.</p>
June 29, 2025	1:45 PM – 4:00 PM	Immigration: Immigration Nation, episode 3 and Episode 5 of 6	<p>With unprecedented access to ICE operations, as well as moving portraits of immigrants, this docuseries takes a deep look at US immigration today.</p> <p>Episode 3: “Power of the Vote” US Military veteran César tries to get politicians to ease his undocumented status. He is one of many seeking veterans who despite serving their country, was deported.</p> <p>Episode 5: “The Right Way” Asylum seeker Berta has been held by ICE for 17 months in an attempt to discourage others. As asylum laws get stricter, exiles face greater hardships.</p>
June 29, 2025	1:45 PM – 4:00 PM	Voting Rights: Let the People Decide	<p>Let the People Decide' traces the history of voting rights struggles in the United States from 1960 through the present day. The film draws parallels between the Mississippi voter registration drive of the early 1960's and North Carolina's 'Moral Monday' movement in the present day. A key goal of the film is connecting the dots between the generations to contextualize the current political environment surrounding race and voting. In 3 acts the film will travel across nearly 60 years to show how the current battles over voting are not a new front in the struggle over who gets to vote, but part of a continuing conflict that goes back many decades. Now as then, both sides claim the moral high ground. In the 1960's, race was the clear driving force of the conflict, today the fight is couched in claims of fraud and suppression. Political parties have drawn lines in the sand and this project will present arguments from all sides in order that the film can live up to it's name and 'Let the People Decide.</p>

CRSJ DAY TWO: June 30, 2025

DAY	TIME	TITLE/DESCRIPTION	NOTES
SESSION BLOCK A			
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A01: Anti-Blackness in Organizations: Practices, Behaviors and Antidotes	We receive persistent messages promoting Anti-Black Racism in our institutions. This permeates into our policies, our working groups, treatment, and evaluations of colleagues. This workshop offers practices to identify and unlearn anti-Blackness, center Black liberation, move towards a deep rooted collective liberation that centers and promotes pro-Blackness to infiltrate our workplace.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A02: Authenticity, Rigor, & Impact: Pedagogies of Disruption	Let's explore the connection between freedom dreaming and instructional design. This dynamic workshop dives into the intersection of social justice and education, shifting the focus from surface-level changes to the deeper transformation of how knowledge is constructed. It's not just about diverse books or welcoming spaces—it's about restoring agency to students through HOW they learn. We'll explore instructional strategies that disrupt oppressive learning practices and restore power and ownership to students. By embracing project-based, place-based, and community-based learning, and anti-oppressive practices, we'll explore how to center purpose, unlock authentic learning, and ignite transformative change for students and educators alike.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A03: Black Literacy as Resistance: Power and Defiance	This session explores how Black literacy has historically and contemporarily served as a tool for both survival and defiance in the face of systemic oppression. It will critically examine the role of literacy in fostering political, social, and cultural empowerment within Black communities. From enslaved Africans who risked their lives to read and write, to contemporary Black youth challenging inequities through digital literacies and activism, this session will highlight how literacy acts as a means of reclaiming power and identity. The session aims to build knowledge around critical education justice issues while offering practical strategies to foster literacy as a tool of resistance in their own schools and communities.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A04: Building Narrative Power for Education Justice	In light of the dangerous anti-truth and anti-LGBTQ+ legislation being proposed and passed in states across the country, we need narrative power to win. During this workshop, attendees will discuss what narrative power-building is, what it means for this moment in the education justice movement, and what are the most effective strategies for building narrative power to defeat attacks on public education. Attendees will analyze the current state of the most prevalent narratives that impact their communities, name how narrative power is built in their work, and identify ways to collaborate and strategize across locales and states to push forth an affirmative vision for what education should look and feel like.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A05: Building Pan-Asian Solidarity for A Multi-Racial Democracy	Pan-Asian communities continue to be one of the fastest growing immigrant communities throughout the country. This growth comes at a time of rising White supremacist and White Christian nationalist forces as well as multiple Asian Right-Wing forces internal to AAPI communities. These forces are pushing for authoritarianism by using pan-Asian communities as a wedge against BIPOC communities to reverse progressive gains for racial, education, economic and gender justice. This

			session will discuss how these multiple Right-Wing forces have organized pan-Asians against their self-interest and wedged them against other communities. We will learn about successful strategies to defeat these forces.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A06: Cop Out: How Schools and Police Turn Kids' Data into Disciplinary Action	School districts are updating the school-to-prison and school-to-deportation pipeline through adoption of controversial police surveillance technologies, like facial recognition and predictive policing. These systems introduce dangerous digital pathways for systemic racism to enter the classroom and violate the rights of Black and brown students, among others. This session explores this growing trend and offers space to grapple with the impact of police surveillance on students from marginalized communities. We also offer attendees a sneak preview of a critical digital studies curriculum to use with students.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A07: Counternarratives to Dismantle Fears against Muslim Students and Educators	What are common Muslim myths and perceptions that negatively impact Muslim educators and students? How can we use counternarratives to debunk dominant narratives regarding marginalized groups, such as Muslim educators and students? Participants will learn an example by understanding historical events and data on hate crimes against Muslim educators and students, including relevant terminology, the negative role of the media, dress code, teachers and students who identify (or won't identify) as Muslims, code-switching, and safety concerns in the classrooms. Participants will learn how to develop and write the beginnings of a counternarrative.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A08: Global Dialogue with Education Union Leaders on Racial and Social Justice	<p>The panel will bring together union leaders from various countries to share their experiences in advancing racial and social justice. Participants will discuss challenges and successful campaigns that drive meaningful change, emphasizing the role of education unions in advocating for equity and uplifting marginalized communities. An interactive Q&A will allow attendees to engage with panelists and apply global insights to local initiatives.</p> <p>Participants will gain a deeper understanding of international solidarity in justice efforts, actionable strategies for their communities, and insights into unions' roles in promoting racial and social justice. This dialogue aims to connect global movements and public education at all levels.</p>
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A09: Healing Racial Battle Fatigue and Reconnecting with Joy	Have you ever wondered how dealing with and fighting against racism affect your mental and physical well-being? This workshop creates a healing space for professionals and educators of color in PK-12 and higher education to: 1) learn about racism-related stress, racial battle fatigue, and how your health is impacted, and 2) meditate, journal, and participate in interactive activities to help you intentionally reconnect with joy so you can improve your quality of life and embrace an abundance mindset.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A10: Navigating Institutional Spaces as Sites of Struggle	This session will delve into the dynamics of schools as sites of struggle in the movement for social change. We begin by recognizing deeply embedded stratifications of unequal social power. We will hold space to share experiences of navigating our way through school systems in pursuit of a more just society. We will discuss the importance of adults sharing power with young people and what it looks like to put critical social justice into action in schools. Attendees will be invited to consider the gap that exists between holding values of social justice and the practice of social justice. By studying

			phenomena found in the natural world, we are offered models to community organizing and the opportunity to open the door to emergence.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A11: Real Talk and Real Action: We Need Anti-Ableist Schools	Despite the growing emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion, students with disabilities are left on the periphery of our educational landscape. This session moves us from intention to actively confronting ableist structures. We'll explore how our failure to address these issues perpetuates inequities, explore 6 principles that bridge knowledge gaps, challenge entrenched beliefs, and promote inclusion and belonging. 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. It's time for action. Join the movement of disruptors committed to reshaping our educational ecosystem.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A12: Roots of Identity: Disaporic Experiences of Afro-Latinidad in the US	This session that delves into the rich history of Afro-Latin American communities and their contributions to society. We will examine the lasting effects of the Transatlantic Human Trade through interactive discussions and activities, focusing on significant observances like Afro-Bolivian Day, Afro-Colombian Day, and Emancipation Day. Participants will engage in storytelling, explore monuments honoring enslaved Africans, and discuss the Underground Railroad's connections to Mexico. This session aims to build awareness, capacity, and action for social justice, equipping educators and community members with tools to advocate for inclusivity and equity in education.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A13: Struggles and Belonging Inside and Outside BIPOC Queer Community	Join us for a powerful panel discussion featuring local Queer activists and leaders as they explore the joys, struggles, barriers, and experiences of belonging that are unique to the BIPOC Queer community. Panelists will delve into critical topics, including the impact of anti-LGBTQ+ policies, the high murder rate of Black transgender women, homelessness among LGBTQ+ adults and youth, and the toll of discrimination both within and outside of the LGBTQ+ community. This conversation will also highlight the intersectional impact of race, gender, and sexuality while addressing strategies for overcoming biases, protecting one's energy, and thriving in challenging times.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A14: The Power of Inclusion: Bringing LGBTQ+ History into Our Classrooms	NEA and Making Gay History (MGH) have partnered to introduce teachers and students to LGBTQ+ history through the voices of the people who lived it. Mary Hendra and Eric Marcus will share some of the inspiring stories of "accidental activists" and deliberate change makers who are featured in the Making Gay History podcast and anchor new lessons and accompanying resources created by NEA teachers from across the country through the MGH/NEA Teacher Fellowship (https://makinggayhistory.org/lessons/). The session will feature archival audio excerpts from interviews with Bayard Rustin, Deborah Johnson & Zandra Rolón Amato, Sylvia Rivera and more.
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A15: The Ripple Effect: How Social Determinants Shape Student Health Outcomes	This session will delve into how the social determinants of health (SDOH)—such as access to education, economic stability, and community resources—directly contribute to the racial health disparities experienced by students of color. It will highlight the systemic barriers many students face and examine how schools, educators, and communities can collaborate to address inequities. Attendees will better understand the complex factors that shape student health outcomes and explore solutions to promote equity and justice in school health programs.

June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A16: Trauma Informed Practice for Family Engagement	<p>As education evolves towards a more inclusive and culturally responsive approach, recognizing and addressing the impact of trauma on students and their families has become an important concern for educators and school staff.</p> <p>The workshop aims to provide an overview of trauma informed practices and its connection to family, student engagement, and success. Additionally, it equips participants with culturally sensitive and strength-based practices to support families from diverse backgrounds, including those who are newly arrived from other countries. When educators understand the impact of trauma on academic success, educators can tailor their approaches to accommodate the unique needs of students from diverse backgrounds.</p>
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A17: Understanding and Combating Antisemitism: Myths, Realities, and Effective Responses	<p>Antisemitism is one of the oldest and most persistent forms of prejudice, yet misconceptions about what it is—and what it is not—continue to cloud discussions and hinder effective action. This session aims to provide a clear and comprehensive understanding of antisemitism, exploring its historical roots, modern manifestations, and common misconceptions. Participants will learn how to distinguish between legitimate criticism and antisemitic rhetoric, fostering a more nuanced dialogue. Whether you're an educator, community leader, ally, or simply seeking to deepen your understanding, this session will provide valuable insights and actionable steps to challenge antisemitism and promote inclusivity.</p>
June 30, 2025	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	A18: What Does “Decolonizing” Mean and How Does It Relate to Social Justice?	<p>This workshop offers a dynamic blend of hands-on activities, engaging videos, and small group discussions to delve into social justice topics from the perspective of Indigenous Peoples. We will examine why integrating Indigenous viewpoints is crucial in anti-racism efforts across what is now known as the United States. But how can we achieve this? Participants will engage with thought-provoking questions, such as: What aspects of U.S. history are often overlooked? What do colonization and colonialism truly mean, and why is it important to acknowledge them? How can we work toward decolonization? All activities are adaptable for participants ranging from grade 4 to adults. Join us in this critical exploration of history and justice.</p>
SESSION BLOCK B			
June 30, 2025	10:45 AM – 12:15 PM	B01: Anti-Blackness in Organizations: Practices, Behaviors and Antidotes	<p>We receive persistent messages promoting Anti-Black Racism in our institutions. This permeates into our policies, our working groups, treatment, and evaluations of colleagues. This workshop offers practices to identify and unlearn anti-Blackness, center Black liberation, move towards a deep rooted collective liberation that centers and promotes pro-Blackness to infiltrate our workplace.</p>
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June 30, 2025	10:45 AM – 12:15 PM	B06: Climate Justice: Learning and Growing with our International Partners	Climate change disrupts the learning of over 40 million students per year. Despite being the least responsible for its consequences, climate change is having a impact on young peoples' health, well-being, learning, and security, with the greatest impacts felt by communities of color, indigenous people, girls, and learners with disabilities. In this session, we will hear from partners from UK, New Zealand, and Jamaica in conversation with leaders from Oregon on how they are bringing intersectional, community-oriented solutions to the climate crisis into their classrooms. Together, we will brainstorm strategies to take collective action to ensure climate solutions prioritize the most affected communities.
June 30, 2025	10:45 AM – 12:15 PM	B07: Cop Out: How Schools and Police Turn Kids' Data into Disciplinary Action	School districts are updating the school-to-prison and school-to-deportation pipeline through adoption of controversial police surveillance technologies, like facial recognition and predictive policing. These systems introduce dangerous digital pathways for systemic racism to enter the classroom and violate the rights of Black and brown students, among others. This session explores this growing trend and offers space to grapple with the impact of police surveillance on students from marginalized communities. We also offer attendees a sneak preview of a critical digital studies curriculum to use with students.

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June 30, 2025	10:45 AM – 12:15 PM	B10: Meeting the Moment and Knowing the Rights of Immigrants	From the violent theft of Native land to Jim Crow segregation to MAGA's ascendancy, a powerful few have always tried to control the many by selecting a scapegoat to shame and blame. The MAGA movement harnessed this age-old strategy by vilifying and harming new immigrants to advance their agenda to take away our freedoms. Now that the MAGA movement has secured power, they are trying to strip away Constitutional rights while blurring the lines, rigging the rules, and twisting the narrative. It is important, now more than ever, that everyone knows their rights. This panel discussion will feature experts in immigrant rights to explain what our rights are and how we can continue to hold the current administration accountable.
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SESSION BLOCK C			
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C01: Abolitionist Teaching: From Survive to Thrive	<p>This session explores the principles and practices of abolitionist teaching, a transformative approach that seeks to dismantle systemic inequalities in education and build a more just and equitable learning environment for all students. Grounded in the legacy of abolitionist movements, this teaching philosophy challenges traditional structures that perpetuate racial and social inequities in schools, particularly for Black, Indigenous, and-marginalized students.</p> <p>Participants will learn how abolitionist teaching goes beyond reform, advocating for the complete reconstruction of educational systems. Attendees will also engage with actionable strategies to resist and disrupt oppressive practices.</p>
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C02: Art Walks and Art Activism for Racial and Social Justice	THE PASSIONS PROJECT Racial & Social Justice Racine Art Walk is an immersive photographic installation that invites attendees to engage with a series of powerful portraits that redefine public schools, celebrate passions, and amplify the voices of marginalized communities. The exhibit showcases Racine public school students from historically marginalized communities actively living out their passions. As a collective, it shows the power of public schools. Art activism brings the community together about why we need to defend, and not defund, public schools. This conversation will engage participants in the need for art activism in these times, and how Racine Educators Unified and its community partners has used art for political power.
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C03: Beyond Surviving: Creating Schools Where Trans & Non-Binary Students Thrive	Do you believe that transgender and non-binary students should have all they need to thrive in school? This session is for you! Research has shown that having at least one supportive adult can save a transgender child’s life and with over 550 anti-LGBTQ bills introduced in over 40 states in 2024, our students need us to be educated, affirm their identities, include them in curriculum and disrupt push-back when it comes. Based on the framework from “The Advocate Educator’s Handbook: Creating Schools Where Transgender and Non-Binary Students Thrive” (Jossey-Bass, 2024), participants will dig into the current policy landscape, take a self-assessment, collaborate with peers on relevant scenarios and create an action plan.
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C04: BIPOC Healing and Racial Identity Development	<p>In a world that often seeks to divide us, this workshop offers a space for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) to come together in healing and solidarity. Rooted in our shared experiences of resistance, resilience, and reclamation, this session aims to foster collective healing while building skills to begin cultivating lasting solidarity within our communities.</p> <p>Together, we’ll learn how to amplify our shared power and create stronger bonds within our diverse</p>

			communities, ensuring that healing is not just a personal journey, but a collective one. Whether you're new to the idea of solidarity-building or have been engaging with it for years, this workshop will provide practical tools, cultural insights, and a supportive network of fellow BIPOC individuals.
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C05: Black Parents as Co-creators in Parent Engagement	This session explores how Black parents engage in collaboration and resistance to navigate systemic racism, challenging stereotypes of disengagement and hostility. It highlights how critical awareness shapes advocacy practices, as well as the subsequent emotional toll of dual consciousness, and how Black parents sustain manageable forms of resistance within their everyday lives. The session will provide practical strategies for educators, administrators, and school staff to engage Black families as true collaborators, build culturally responsive environments, and foster healing spaces that support parents.
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C06: But What Do I Say? Confronting Bigotry in School: A Scenario-Based Approach	Communities across the United States report a rise in bigoted extremist activity and anti-democracy movement building. Youth are particularly susceptible to recruitment by anti-democracy groups, and this exposure often manifests first at school. Bigoted rhetoric harms everyone, particularly school and community members who belong to marginalized groups. School staff are in a unique position to recognize and respond when students exhibit bigoted behavior. Doing so takes practice, flexibility, and creativity—all things that teachers are great at. This workshop gathers examples from lived experience, places them in context, and designs interventions that build relationships, compassion and belonging.
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C07: Counternarratives as Tools for Advancing Disability Rights	Counter-storytelling (Solórzano & Yasso, 2002) is a powerful tool to influence state and local policy by bringing to light the ways that racism intersects with other forms of oppression in educational contexts and research. Informed by critical race theory, counter-storytelling incorporates critical orientations to disability and its intersections in this workshop. Educators will be guided in their own counter-storytelling process to examine experiences at the nexus of disability and race, the ways these are shaped by dominant, deficit orientations, as well as how counternarratives can challenge the nexus of racism, ableism, and other forms of marginalization in schooling.
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C08: How to Meet the Moment: Community Organizing and Advocacy	<p>IF YOU REGISTER FOR THIS SESSION, YOU MUST ALSO REGISTER FOR PART 2, SESSION D08</p> <p>This workshop equips participants with tools to harness collective power, build resilient movements, and drive systemic change. We weave strategy, storytelling, and solidarity to address pressing issues. Participants will explore power mapping to identify key decision-makers and leverage points, learn to craft inclusive campaigns through coalition-building, and practice storytelling as advocacy to humanize issues and inspire action.</p> <p>Central to the session is the concept of “meeting the moment”: How do we respond swiftly without sacrificing long-term vision? How do we center marginalized voices while expanding our base? We challenge attendees to reflect on their role in this moment, fostering collaboration over competition.</p>
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C09: Keeping 'Justice' in Restorative Justice Practices	Join us for a thought-provoking session aimed at educators, administrators, and community leaders dedicated to creating equitable and just environments in schools. In this engaging presentation, we will explore the essential role of justice within restorative practices in educational settings. As schools

			<p>increasingly adopt restorative approaches to discipline, it is crucial to keep the justice principles integrated into these practices.</p> <p>Together, we will reaffirm our commitment to justice, ensuring that restorative practices not only repair harm but also uplift and empower our school communities.</p>
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C10: Meeting the Moment: Know Your Rights to Stand Up for LGBTQ+ Justice	<p>Amidst the barrage of attacks, hate, division, and illegal and immoral actions that threaten the LGBTQ+ community and public education, this panel discussion is designed to inform participants about our legal rights and protections as we advocate for LGBTQ+ and education justice. Knowing the legal and legislative landscape will inform when and how we assert our rights while also navigating potential challenges meant to silence our voices and our advocacy.</p>
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C11: Organizing for Power & Justice: Practical Skills for All Leadership Levels	<p>Participants will gain an understanding of organizing tools (1:1 conversations, power mapping, etc.) Attendees will learn about the relationship between organizing, power, and racial and social justice. Designed for all levels and job classifications, educators will have an aha moment and take away something they can implement in their local association and their respective communities. More experienced organizers will learn to begin examining their practice through a racial/social justice lens, gain some tools to bring more joy and union solidarity into their work, and keep local organizing sustainable in the long term.</p>
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C12: Picture Books and Primary Sources: Engaging Students in Honest History	<p>After a brief introduction, teachers will divide into grade level groups, select one picture from those I provide, read it aloud, and brainstorm how it can be incorporated into their curriculum. They will then locate related primary sources and begin planning instructional activities.</p> <p>As a result of this hands-on workshop participants will be able to: 1. Apply Social Justice Standards to their teaching, 2. Use picture books to inspire students of all ages, 3. Find and use primary sources to address US history, and 4. Evaluate the appropriateness of classroom materials through a racial and social justice lens.</p>
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C13: Power of Storytelling: Using Your Authentic Voice to Galvanize and Inspire	<p>Everyone loves a good story, and educators have the stories that can inspire, challenge, transform and transcend. Participants in this session will explore ways to use stories from their personal lived 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 a just and equitable public education that our students deserve.</p>
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C14: Public School Strong Campaign	<p>The Public School Strong campaign is building powerful community-labor partnerships to protect, promote and strengthen public education in this country. Learn where and how the campaign is building statewide school district organizing and leadership training infrastructure to advance a pro-public education agenda.</p> <p>Topics covered include: Building statewide infrastructure to support strong local organizing to support pro-public education school boards; how school district organizing can be connected to state policy campaigns on school vouchers, increasing school funding and the freedom to learn; and organizing and building coalitions of students, families, and community members to support public education unions at all levels.</p>

June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C15: Radical Morning Meeting: Centering Joy & Justice in Classrooms and Beyond	In this workshop, participants are introduced to the Radical Morning Meeting (RMM) framework, which invites educators and organizers to build community while cultivating skills for both joy and justice. After a brief introduction to the Philly Children's Movement, our work, and the development and piloting of the RMM framework, participants will be led through a RMM, which includes individual reflection, small group activities, and reading/watching a text, among other components. In addition, they will learn how RMM aligns with Gholdy Muhammad's "Five Pursuits" (Muhammad, 2020) and will begin planning how they can utilize this framework in their own practice in the classroom and beyond.
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C16: RAPS: Reciprocal Active Pedagogical Strategies	This workshop provides guidance on how to leverage rap as a pedagogical tool for lessons on racial, social, and environmental justice. By creating a classroom environment in which rap is used to both deliver course content and assess acquisition of course content, students participate in a concept known as reciprocal determinism, in which the environment, behaviors, and persons involved in the learning process all influence one another. In addition, by actively participating in the creation and repetition of rap songs alongside their peers, according to a combination of constructivist theory and social learning theory, students improve their self-efficacy, self-regulation, overall knowledge, and drive to solve issues of injustice.
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C17: Rest & Resist: Building Resilience Against Racialized Stress in Education	In this restorative workshop, participants will unpack the concept of racial battle fatigue, helping participants recognize and understand its effects on mental, emotional, and physical health. Using culturally responsive approaches, we will introduce practical strategies to combat racialized stress, including self-affirmation, mindfulness, and techniques rooted in community care. These strategies are not just theoretical but practical and applicable to their daily lives. Participants will be guided in creating a personal Rest Plan—a tool designed to help them identify practices of restoration and resilience they can incorporate regularly to support their well-being amidst the challenges of their work environments.
June 30, 2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	C18: Trouble in Censorville	Presenters are social studies teachers and engaged members who experienced backlash for their efforts to promote just schools and preserve the teaching of factual history. Both were invited to participate in a nationwide project to amplify the stories of educators caught up in the shocking attacks of the latest culture wars. Participants will examine individual stories from the "Trouble in Censorville" book and video testimonials, then interact with an eye-opening compressed timeline which provides historical background and contemporary context for those experiences. This will highlight efforts to preserve our public schools and serve as a reminder that people are listening and eager to help teachers lead the way to a more just society.
SESSION BLOCK D			
June 30, 2025	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM	D01: Abolitionist Teaching: From Survive to Thrive	This session explores the principles and practices of abolitionist teaching, a transformative approach that seeks to dismantle systemic inequalities in education and build a more just and equitable learning environment for all students. Grounded in the legacy of abolitionist movements, this teaching philosophy challenges traditional structures that perpetuate racial and social inequities in schools, particularly for Black, Indigenous, and-marginalized students.

			Participants will learn how abolitionist teaching goes beyond reform, advocating for the complete reconstruction of educational systems. Attendees will also engage with actionable strategies to resist and disrupt oppressive practices.
June 30, 2025	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM	D02: Art Walks and Art Activism for Racial and Social Justice	THE PASSIONS PROJECT Racial & Social Justice Racine Art Walk is an immersive photographic installation that invites attendees to engage with a series of powerful portraits that redefine public schools, celebrate passions, and amplify the voices of marginalized communities. The exhibit showcases Racine public school students from historically marginalized communities actively living out their passions. As a collective, it shows the power of public schools. Art activism brings the community together about why we need to defend, and not defund, public schools. This conversation will engage participants in the need for art activism in these times, and how Racine Educators Unified and its community partners has used art for political power.
June 30, 2025	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM	D03: Beyond Surviving: Creating Schools Where Trans & Non-Binary Students Thrive	Do you believe that transgender and non-binary students should have all they need to thrive in school? This session is for you! Research has shown that having at least one supportive adult can save a transgender child's life and with over 550 anti-LGBTQ bills introduced in over 40 states in 2024, our students need us to be educated, affirm their identities, include them in curriculum and disrupt push-back when it comes. Based on the framework from "The Advocate Educator's Handbook: Creating Schools Where Transgender and Non-Binary Students Thrive" (Jossey-Bass, 2024), participants will dig into the current policy landscape, take a self-assessment, collaborate with peers on relevant scenarios and create an action plan.
June 30, 2025	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM	D04: BIPOC Healing and Racial Identity Development	In a world that often seeks to divide us, this workshop offers a space for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) to come together in healing and solidarity. Rooted in our shared experiences of resistance, resilience, and reclamation, this session aims to foster collective healing while building skills to begin cultivating lasting solidarity within our communities. Together, we'll learn how to amplify our shared power and create stronger bonds within our diverse communities, ensuring that healing is not just a personal journey, but a collective one. Whether you're new to the idea of solidarity-building or have been engaging with it for years, this workshop will provide practical tools, cultural insights, and a supportive network of fellow BIPOC individuals.
June 30, 2025	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM	D05: Black Parents as Co-creators in Parent Engagement	This session explores how Black parents engage in collaboration and resistance to navigate systemic racism, challenging stereotypes of disengagement and hostility. It highlights how critical awareness shapes advocacy practices, as well as the subsequent emotional toll of dual consciousness, and how Black parents sustain manageable forms of resistance within their everyday lives. The session will provide practical strategies for educators, administrators, and school staff to engage Black families as true collaborators, build culturally responsive environments, and foster healing spaces that support parents.
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June 30, 2025	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM	D10: Let’s Get Critical: Preserving Cultural Exploration in Education to Meet the Moment	Now more than ever, the truth needs to be told instead of the revisionist histories that are being forced upon us. However - it is hard to conceptualize what this will look like as numerous blockages are handed down. Panelists will guide participants in learning more about the importance of ethnic studies, provide insight into various areas of study, and process through creative approaches in how curricula has been engaged and administered.
June 30, 2025	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM	D11: Organizing for Power & Justice: Practical Skills for All Leadership Levels	Participants will gain an understanding of organizing tools (1:1 conversations, power mapping, etc.) Attendees will learn about the relationship between organizing, power, and racial and social justice. Designed for all levels and job classifications, educators will have an aha moment and take away something they can implement in their local association and their respective communities. More experienced organizers will learn to begin examining their practice through a racial/social justice lens,

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