

Full Conference Agenda

grantmakers for education 13th annual conference
october 5-7, 2009 | chicago

BRIEFING BOOK NAVIGATION ICONS

The following icons—linked to specific grantmaking areas of interest—are intended to aid in your selection of concurrent sessions. Look for them throughout the program agenda.



Early education



Innovation



K-12 schooling



Policy/advocacy



Out-of-school time



Craft of grantmaking



Higher education



Case study

MONDAY

October 5

7:30 am – 5:00 pm

(Second Floor near Wellington Foyer)

REGISTRATION

Visit the registration desk to pick up a packet of conference information and sign up for special programs—including the walking tour, site visits and Wednesday convenings.

7:45 – 8:15 am

(Wellington Ballroom)

BREAKFAST

8:15 – 10:15 am

OPENING PLENARY

(Wellington Ballroom)

WELCOME REMARKS

CHRISTINE TEBBEN, *Grantmakers for Education* ■ **PEGGY MUELLER** (GFE Conference Co-Chair), *The Chicago Community Trust* ■ **DANIEL SHOY, JR.** (GFE Conference Co-Chair, and Secretary, GFE Board of Directors, 2009-2010), *Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation*

(T)ED

Introduction: NICHOLAS DONOHUE, *Nellie Mae Education Foundation*

Today's turbulent times require each of us to step outside of our usual roles, think in new ways and break out of traditional solution sets. The economic crisis demands our focused attention to present needs—but it also provides an unprecedented opportunity to pursue far-reaching reforms of our education systems. What fundamental changes must we make to these systems to prepare young people for success in this rapidly evolving world? What new models of learning will prepare them to confront daunting global challenges?

Inspired by TED, the global conference organized around "ideas worth spreading," we've brought together three provocateurs to inspire boldness and creativity as we reconceive our work (see next page):

CONFERENCE AGENDA

The Tyranny of Dead Ideas:

Letting Go of the Old Ways of Thinking to Achieve New Results

What are the "dead ideas" we must discard for better results? Author and provocateur Matt Miller will challenge our long-held assumptions and identify new ways of thinking that, although controversial today, are destined to shape our country going forward.

MATT MILLER, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress

Using the Science of Innovation to Reconceive Education System Design

How can we harness the power of innovation in education, given its high failure rate? Globally-respected innovation expert Larry Keeley will identify ways to dramatically increase success in crafting smarter programs and systems to improve outcomes for all kids.

LARRY KEELEY, Co-Founder and President, Dublin Inc.

Rethinking Learning for the Digital Age:

Preparing Kids for a Future We Can't Imagine

How can technology transform learning today—and how must learning evolve to prepare children for tomorrow's technologies? Researcher and educational innovator Nichole Pinkard will offer strategies for how grantmakers can help our education system prepare children for a digital future.

NICHOLE PINKARD, Director of Innovation, Urban Education Institute, University of Chicago

10:45 – 11:45 am

CONVERSATIONS WITH PLENARY SPEAKERS

Dig deeper into the ideas raised in the (T)ED plenary in question and answer sessions with each of the speakers.

(Buckingham)

CONVERSATION WITH MATT MILLER

Moderator: PEGGY MUELLER, Chicago Community Trust

(Mayfair)

CONVERSATION WITH LARRY KEELEY

Moderator: NELSON GONZALEZ, Stupski Foundation

(Regent 1)

CONVERSATION WITH NICHOLE PINKARD

Moderator: MONICA MARTINEZ, KnowledgeWorks Foundation / New Tech Network

Noon – 1:00 pm

LUNCH ACTIVITIES

(Wellington Ballroom)

NETWORKING LUNCH

Enjoy unstructured time to connect with colleagues over a buffet lunch.



(Governor's Suite)

FOUNDATIONS FOR EDUCATION EXCELLENCE LUNCHEON

Session Organizer: An-Me Chung, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

Foundations for Education Excellence is a national approach to leverage ARRA and foundation funding to help states and districts ensure that students in the U.S. are prepared for success in school, work and life. In cooperation with Secretary Duncan and an advisory board of foundation representatives from local, regional and national foundations, this initiative strives to align local, state and national investments. Come learn more about the initiative, see the new website that serves as an information hub on ARRA and education reform and provide input on how best to leverage ARRA funding to further education goals.

AN-ME CHUNG, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

KEY: To aid in your session selection, the icons appearing to the left of titles refer to the following categories:



Early education



K-12 schooling



Out-of-school time



Higher education

**(Ontario)****BUILDING SYSTEMS FOR COLLEGE ACCESS AND SUCCESS: A PRACTICAL APPROACH****Session Organizer:** Jeanna Keller, *Lumina Foundation for Education*

Systems change is complex. Who are the partners? What are the concrete ways they can work together to improve access to and retention in college? Different stakeholders in the system, including program providers, school district and higher education personnel, advocates and policymakers, can use data in practical ways to create a far more seamless college access and success system. Join us as we share and discuss lessons from prior evaluations of access and success initiatives on how data can be used by different system players to define, improve and connect their work.

VICTORIA DOUGHERTY, *OMG Center for Collaborative Learning* ■ SUSAN STREET, *Public Education Foundation* ■ Moderator: JEANNA KELLER, *Lumina Foundation for Education***(Windsor)****EVALUATION IN OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME:
ASSESSING IMPACT IN AFTER-SCHOOL STEM PROGRAMS****Session Organizer:** Ronald Ottinger, *Noyce Foundation*

A new and innovative evaluation framework for out-of-school science offers important tools for the out-of-school-time field. Join us to discuss key OST science observation and survey tools and to examine the new and instrumental “Framework for Evaluating Impacts of Informal Science Education Projects.” We’ll also highlight a new website that contains a suite of tools for assessing the quality and impact of out-of-school science programs based on a review of the OST and informal science fields.

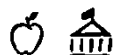
ALAN FRIEDMAN, *Noyce Foundation* ■ GIL NOAM, *Harvard Medical School and McLean Hospital* ■ Moderator: RONALD OTTINGER, *Noyce Foundation***(Mayfair)****GOING BIG: CRITICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR CREATING BOLD,
TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVES****Session Organizer:** Monica Martinez, *KnowledgeWorks Foundation*

Successfully transitioning from an exciting pilot program into a fully-scalable transformational initiative is difficult to achieve. Through this interactive session, participants will be guided through small group discussions and will examine the critical considerations of designing funding initiatives where large-scale impact is the goal. Reflecting on their own organizations’ past, present and future initiatives, participants will consider their efforts in light of these critical considerations. Participants will also learn how these factors have enabled a few pilot schools to become the basis of a statewide initiative in Indiana to invest significantly in a large-scale adoption of the New Technology High School model.

MONICA MARTINEZ, *KnowledgeWorks Foundation / New Tech Network* ■ DAVID SHANE, *LDI, Ltd.* ■ Moderator: MATTHEW WILLIAMS, *KnowledgeWorks Foundation***(Regent 2)****THE K-12 MINDSET GOES THE WAY OF THE EIGHT-TRACK: RETHINKING
POLICIES FOR A POST-SILO REALITY****Session Organizer:** Sara Slaughter, *McCormick Foundation*

As a growing number of K-12 schools add preschool classrooms and as the Obama Administration begins to recognize early education as the starting point for educational success, it is critical to re-think the “K”-12 framework. What can early education learn from the K-12 model and what early education practices can K-12 embed into its system? This session will identify emerging lessons from Illinois in integrating early learning into principal preparation. Participants will also envision public policies and practices that would create a more seamless learning continuum.

BARBARA BOWMAN, *Chicago Public Schools* ■ STEVE TOZER, *University of Illinois at Chicago* ■ Moderator: SARA SLAUGHTER, *McCormick Foundation*



(Consulate 2-3)
ORGANIZING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL REFORM: SCALING UP WHAT WORKS IN THE NEW POLITICAL MOMENT

Session Organizer: *Lori Bezahler, The Edward W. Hazen Foundation*
 In the new American political context there are unique opportunities to influence state and national policies and to mobilize education-organizing groups. Public policy, research and education organizing are strategies that can work in tandem to propel school reform. How can we take “what works” at the individual school level and translate it district-wide and statewide? Join us to consider lessons learned from the PICO organizing network regarding the challenges of innovation and scale, and as we consider the DOE’s plans for partnering with community and faith-based organizations. Participants will also consider these strategies and opportunities within the context of their districts and schools.

PETER GROFF, Center for Faith Based and Community Initiatives ■ GORDON WHITMAN, PICO National Network ■ Moderator: KAVITHA MEDIRATTA, New York Community Trust



(Regent 1)
THE RURAL FACE OF HARDSHIP: COMMUNITY-BASED STRATEGIES FOR RURAL SCHOOL TURNAROUND

Session Organizer: *Christine Doby, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation*
 Rural high-needs districts face many of the same challenges of urban—and some suburban—high-needs school systems. In such districts, community-wide economic stress, poverty, poor nutrition and health, drug use and other factors dramatically inhibit student achievement. In addition, rural high-needs districts face unique challenges related to teacher recruitment, financial stability and both district and school board governance. Join us as we consider how education grantmakers can assist rural high-needs districts in addressing their particular challenges by considering education improvement in the context of the health of the overall community.

JOE BLACK, Southern Bancorp Capital Partners ■ KATHY SMITH, Walton Family Foundation ■ Moderator: CHRISTINE DOBY, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation



(Buckingham)
WHOLE CHILD, WHOLE DAY: SCALING CHICAGO'S COMMUNITY SCHOOLS TO TRANSFORM LEARNING

Session Organizer: *Suzanne Doornbos Kerbow, Polk Bros. Foundation*
 Chicago’s community schools model is integral to President Obama’s and Secretary Duncan’s vision of schools as centers of community. Chicago foundations partnered with Secretary Duncan when he was CEO of the Chicago Public Schools to make community schooling a key focus of his educational improvement strategy, ultimately enabling over 150 of the district’s 600+ schools to become community schools. Join a nonprofit leader, a CPS official and a policy advocate as they discuss comprehensive efforts to equip nonprofits and schools to partner effectively, to institutionalize the community schools strategy at the district level and to secure new sources of public funding to sustain and expand community schools in Illinois.

SUZANNE ARMATO, Federation for Community Schools ■ ERICA HARRIS, Chicago Public Schools ■ MICHELLE ADLER MORRISON, Youth Guidance ■ Moderator: MARK RIGDON, JPMorgan Chase Foundation

2:45 – 3:15 pm

NETWORKING BREAK

3:15 – 4:45 pm CONCURRENT LEARNING SESSIONS



(Regent 2)
FIFTY AFTER FIFTY: A PHILANTHROPIC RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS OF EDUCATING MALES OF COLOR

Session Organizer: *Loren Harris, The Schott Foundation for Public Education*
 After more than 50 years of experimenting with integrated schools, African-American males continue to academically underachieve relative to their

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same-race and same-sex peers. Across the nation, Black male students are over-represented in categories reflecting poor academic achievement and are under-represented in those indicating academic success. Join us as we discuss the successes and challenges of a program in New York City in which leading legal and financial services firms have joined hands with education grantmakers to pilot the Winning Strategies Initiative—an effort to improve Black male representation in the pipeline to higher education.

ROGER BLISSETT, *Royal Branch of Canada* ■ **NICOLE CAMPBELL**, *Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation* ■ **Moderator: LOREN HARRIS**, *The Schott Foundation for Public Education*



(Ontario)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY: RIGHTS, ACCESS & REFORM

Session Organizers: Ingrid Benedict & Elizabeth Lee, *Public Interest Projects*

The economic and social outcomes gained from a college education yield a range of benefits in the lives of individuals, communities and society at large. Yet, a debate continues regarding higher education in the 21st century concerning which students should be awarded access. Some argue that the needs of undocumented students are not a priority of educators and educational institutions, especially in challenging economic times. Others contend that access to in-state tuition—regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, language, culture, economic or immigration status—is a long-term economic strategy that bolsters a state’s economy and allows the United States to become a truly competitive player in the global market. This session will share the strategies, lessons and challenges of two statewide coalitions that bring together unlikely partners to advance educational access for all qualified high school graduates.

JULIE GONZALEZ, *Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition* ■ **MELINDA WIGGINS**, *Student Action with Farmworkers* ■ **Moderator: PHILLIP GONRING**, *Rose Community Foundation*



(Regent 1)

NOT JUST AN ADD-ON: PRE-K CHANGES THE K-12 EDUCATION SYSTEM

Session Organizers: Ruby Takanishi & Fasaha Traylor, *Foundation for Child Development*

The growth of statewide Pre-Kindergarten education efforts poses significant challenges to America’s K-12 education system. Going forward, expectations for education will begin with Pre-K for three- and four-year-olds and will extend through college. Obvious challenges include standard-setting; educator preparation and credentialing; data systems that track student progress from Pre-K through post-secondary; and accountability. Chief among these challenges are how to develop national standards that reflect the fact that Pre-K—not Kindergarten—will be the beginning of our education system, and how we’ll then integrate Pre-K into appropriately-designed state and local data collection systems.

JANINE BACQUIE, *Montgomery County Public Schools* ■ **ELLIOT REGENSTEIN**, *EducationCounsel LLC* ■ **Moderator: FASAHA TRAYLOR**, *Foundation for Child Development*



(Windsor)

REDEFINING ACCESS: EXPANDING POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR ADULT WORKERS

Session Organizer: Whitney Smith, *The Joyce Foundation*

With our nation’s economy weakened, the need for skilled, educated workers is more important than ever. Traditionally overlooked, post-secondary education for low-income, low-skilled adults—mostly at the community college level—may be the most effective way to refuel our nation’s economy and help such workers advance to higher-paying jobs. Join us to explore how four foundations’ (Gates, Joyce, Lumina and Mott) investments are changing the way adults access, finance and successfully acquire post-secondary credentials and degrees.

JACK LITZENBERG, *Charles Stewart Mott Foundation* ■ **NISHA PATEL**, *Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation* ■ **WHITNEY SMITH**, *The Joyce Foundation* ■ **HOLLY ZANVILLE**, *Lumina Foundation for Education* ■ **Moderator: JULIE STRAWN**, *Center for Law and Social Policy*



(Consulate 2-3)

RETHINKING TIME AND LEARNING: INNOVATIONS IN EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Session Organizers: An-Me Chung, *Charles Stewart Mott Foundation* ■ Lynn D'Ambrose, *Nellie Mae Education Foundation* ■ Cyrus Driver, *Ford Foundation* ■ Ben Lummis, *Massachusetts 2020 Foundation*

As schools and communities across America re-imagine where, when and how students learn, innovative uses of time and learning are emerging. Learn how three different initiatives—Massachusetts' Expanded Learning Time Initiative, New York City's Expanded Time Pilot and Elev8 New Mexico—are integrating summer, afterschool, and expanded learning time to create a different school day and year that better prepare students for success. Participants will also gain a deeper understanding of the approaches required to launch significant public policy efforts while exploring the potential role education grantmakers can play in supporting expanded learning opportunities.

JENNIFER DAVIS, *National Center on Time and Learning* ■ **LUCY FRIEDMAN**, *The After-School Corporation* ■ **RENEE PAISANO-TRUJILLO**, *New Mexico Community Foundation* ■ **Moderator: AN-ME CHUNG**, *Charles Stewart Mott Foundation*



(Mayfair)

SCALING GREAT TEACHING: BOLD PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE INSTRUCTION IN THE CORE CURRICULUM

Session Organizers: Peggy Mueller, *The Chicago Community Trust* ■ Gudelia López, *The Chicago Community Trust*

How will urban school districts radically improve the quality of instruction and expectations for learning in order to raise the bar on students' performance to an internationally competitive level? What capacity do educators need to address the learning needs of 21st century students? Using Chicago's multi-year effort to improve instruction in all core curriculum areas, this discussion will explore: (1) what it takes to strengthen capacity in two areas: math/science and social sciences; (2) what intellectual resources are required; and (3) what challenges emerge for partnering universities and other intermediaries, districts, and foundations.

MICHAEL LACH, *Chicago Public Schools* ■ **GUDELIA LÓPEZ**, *The Chicago Community Trust* ■ **DAVID SLAVSKY**, *Loyola University Center for Science and Math Education* ■ **Moderator: PETER MICH**, *McDougal Family Foundation*



(Buckingham)

THE STIMULUS AND BEYOND: SUSTAINING CHANGE IN EDUCATION

Session Organizer: Daniel Leeds, *National Public Education Support Fund*

Education is at the center of both President Obama's economic recovery plan and the Administration's public policy agenda. In light of Secretary Duncan's framing of the stimulus funding as an opportunity for innovation and reform—and not simply as a plug for declining state revenues—many education funders see the next few years as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to transform the American education system. Join us as we examine how the stimulus is helping drive educational change and equity, how state officials and the public view the federal role in education, and how education grantmakers can help support and institutionalize innovative education reforms.

GLYNDA CARR, *Education Voters of New York* ■ **BOB WISE**, *Alliance for Excellent Education* ■ **Moderator: DANIEL LEEDS**, *National Public Education Support Fund*

5:00 – 5:45 pm

INTEREST-BASED GATHERINGS

(Governor's Suite)

Whether you want to engage with colleagues around an area of interest—or came to Chicago with specific learning goals—join us for short but impactful conversations with grantmakers who share your values and interests. For a list of each table's dialogue topic, please check the "conference updates" sheet that accompanies this conference program book.

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Early education



K-12 schooling



Out-of-school time



Higher education

6:00 – 8:00 pm

HOST EVENT

(Meet in hotel lobby; shuttle buses leave from the front entrance beginning at 5:45 pm.)

COCKTAILS, CONVERSATION AND CONNECTING AT THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

With a jazz ensemble from the famed Merit School of Music as the musical backdrop, join us for GFE's evening cocktail reception at The Art Institute of Chicago. Catch up with colleagues over hors d'oeuvres at the Institute's beautiful Grand Staircase, and take time to enjoy the museum's extensive, world-renowned Impressionism and Post-Impressionism collections before venturing out for dinner on the town. *Shuttles will begin departing the hotel at 5:45 pm and will begin returning to the hotel at 7:45 pm.*

CONFERENCE AGENDA

TUESDAY

October 6

7:30 am – 5:00 pm

(Second Floor near Wellington Foyer)
REGISTRATION

8:00 – 8:45 am

(Outside workshop rooms)
BREAKFAST

9:00 – 10:30 am

CONCURRENT LEARNING SESSIONS



(Mayfair)

CLOSING THE COLLEGE GAP: GIVING UNDERSERVED STUDENTS THE CHANCE TO BE PART OF AMERICA'S GRAND PLAN

Session Organizer: Anne Deeter, *Associated Colleges of Illinois*

Partnerships that help the growing number of low-income, minority and first-generation college students earn degrees and join the educated workforce are key to helping America compete in the 21st century. Today only about 34 percent of underserved students graduate from college—and money isn't the only barrier. This session explores the role that private and federal funding plays in stimulating partnerships that promote college success initiatives and will answer key strategy questions to help ensure all students can succeed in college.

GREGORY DARNIEDER, *U.S. Department of Education* ■ **MARGARET DANIELS TYLER**, *Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation* ■ **CINDY DIEHL YANG**, *Associated Colleges of Illinois* ■
Moderator: **GUDELIA LÓPEZ**, *The Chicago Community Trust*



(Buckingham)

OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FOR ALL CHILDREN: STATE AND FEDERAL STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE RESOURCE EQUITY

Session Organizer: John Jackson, *The Schott Foundation for Public Education*

Fifty years after *Brown vs. Board of Education*, equal education is far from a reality for many students, particularly students of color. As education reform moves to the forefront of public debate, now is an important moment to make this “opportunity to learn” a galvanizing force for a basic right. Join us as we focus on leveraging collaborative grantmaking strategies to create public will and public policy change at both the state and federal levels that will hold the stewards of America's resources accountable for providing the resources our children need to succeed.

CYRUS DRIVER, *Ford Foundation* ■ **NICOLE GALLANT**, *The Atlantic Philanthropies* ■
Moderator: **JOHN JACKSON**, *The Schott Foundation for Public Education*



(Ontario)

PEER TO PEER YOUTH ENTERPRISES: YOUNG PEOPLE TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS THROUGH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Session Organizer: Danista Hunte, *Baltimore Community Foundation*

As our nation faces a daunting number of young people dropping out of school, entering gangs and engaging with drugs, one initiative in Baltimore City is combatting this trend by helping older youth actualize their talents and skills. Learn about Baltimore's innovative out-of-school time initiative where nonprofit organizations hire young people to teach/train or share knowledge with other young people about algebra, debate, videography and more, while also learning skills like project and nonprofit management, budgeting, effective communication and leadership.

MICHAELA BROWN, *Baltimore City College High School* ■ **DONASIAH CLAPPERTON**, *Wide Angle Youth Media, Inc.* ■ **CHRIS GOODMAN**, *Morgan State University* ■ **SUSAN HAYMAN**, *Wide Angle Youth Media, Inc.* ■ **Moderator:** **DANISTA HUNTE**, *Baltimore Community Foundation*

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Out-of-school time



Higher education

**(Windsor)****A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO FIELD-BUILDING FOR GRANTMAKERS****Session Organizer:** Anne Stanton, *The James Irvine Foundation*

Education grantmakers are, more frequently, working to build fields of practice through their grantmaking. In this work, assessing progress and deciding on next steps to improve a field is an inherent challenge. Using California's multiple pathways field as an example, the Bridgespan Group created a five-part framework to objectively assess the major elements of a strong field. This session will introduce the framework, apply it to several fields within education and provide attendees with a concrete tool to use in their own grantmaking efforts.

ANNE STANTON, *The James Irvine Foundation* ■ DON HOWARD, *Bridgespan***(Regent 1)****TURNING AROUND FAILING SCHOOLS: OPPORTUNITY AND CHALLENGE IN TIMES OF CRISIS****Session Organizer:** April Chou, *NewSchools Venture Fund*

With more than 5,000 schools predicted to be in restructuring in the 2009-2010 school year, there is increasing interest in strategies that turn around failing schools. Despite this interest, there have been few examples of bold approaches that work in transforming schools. In this interactive session, participants will have the opportunity to learn and ask questions about the successful work of three nonprofits leading the transformation of schools in some of America's most challenging districts. Successful turnaround school operators will present a case study of their work so far, providing an in-depth look into the successes, challenges and lessons learned associated with turning around urban schools.

CRISTINA DE JESUS, *Green Dot Public Schools* ■ SCOTT GORDON, *Mastery Charter Schools* ■ BRIAN SIMS, *Academy for Urban School Leadership* ■ Moderator: JORDAN MERANUS, *NewSchools Venture Fund*

9:00 am – noon

MORNING SITE VISITS

(Meet in hotel lobby; buses depart from front entrance promptly at 9:00 am.)
Each site visit is limited to 25 participants. **Pre-registration is required;** inquire at the conference registration desk regarding availability.

**THE EDUCARE CENTER: A NATIONAL MODEL FOR INVESTING IN OUR YOUNGEST LEARNERS****Host:** SUZANNE DOORNBOS KERBOW, *Polk Bros. Foundation*

In 2000, the Ounce of Prevention Fund opened the nation's first Educare Center on Chicago's South Side to address the growing achievement gap for low-income children. The comprehensive birth-to-five program rapidly established itself as a national model for high-quality early childhood programs, catalyzing a national replication effort. The impact of Educare's model—emphasizing research-based best practices, high-quality instruction (with BA-certified teachers in every classroom) and extensive parental involvement—also relies on its tight integration with policy and systems change efforts. As such, Educare has become a national example of how public-private partnerships can impact programmatic, policy and system change. Join colleagues, advocates and key leaders in the field of early care and education to learn more about this bold initiative.

**PARENT-LED EDUCATION ORGANIZING: THE CHICAGO WAY****Host:** JEFF PINZINO, *Woods Fund of Chicago*

Several neighborhoods in Chicago are seeing gains in local schools by putting parents at the center of the school improvement process. This learning tour will visit the award-winning Logan Square Neighborhood Association (LSNA), developer of the Parent Mentor Program that engages parents as teacher aides in elementary classrooms. LSNA parent leaders have gone on to plan after-hours community schools, student enrichment programs and the Grow

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Your Own Teachers program for aspiring neighborhood educators. Join us for a thoughtful conversation with parent leaders as we discuss this model for parent engagement, and the district-wide and statewide systemic reform efforts based on the Logan Square model.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm

CONCURRENT LEARNING SESSIONS



(Buckingham)

ALTERNATIVE COMPENSATION SYSTEMS: WHAT ARE THEY? WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED? WHAT NEXT?

Session Organizers: Nicholas Donohue, *Nellie Mae Education Foundation* ■ John Luczak, *The Joyce Foundation* ■ Peggy Mueller, *The Chicago Community Trust* ■ Mark Rigdon, *JPMorgan Chase Foundation*

President Obama has made how America's teachers are paid a national conversation. Historically a politically-sensitive conversation, join us as we consider the meaning of various models of teacher compensation—including pay-for-performance, merit pay and alternative compensation—that have been implemented in several districts in recent years. Panelists will provide an overview of the issues and challenges that have surfaced through these implementations and will examine the lessons learned, the roles foundations have played and opportunities going forward, including existing federal support.

PHILLIP GONRING, *Rose Community Foundation* ■ **BRYAN HASSEL**, *Public Impact* ■

Moderator: JOHN LUCZAK, *The Joyce Foundation*



(Consulate 2-3)

ENGAGED PARTNERS: THE ACHIEVING THE DREAM PARTNERSHIP

Session Organizer: *Grantmakers for Education*

Just three years after it began, Achieving the Dream—a nationwide initiative supported by many funders—far surpassed its partners' goals to begin improving the success rates of minority and low-income students in community colleges. But it also struggled with critical questions about next steps. Part of Grantmakers for Education's case study series on effective grantmaking, this seminar will use the Achieving the Dream initiative to help grantmakers of all sizes reflect on the tough work of managing social-change initiatives, ways of involving and getting buy-in from partners with different missions and agendas, and how national and local funders work together. This highly interactive seminar is led by an expert case study instructor. Space is limited to ensure active discussion, and participants will be expected to read a case study in advance. **Pre-registration required.**

JAMES HONAN, *Harvard Graduate School of Education*



(Ontario)

LEVERAGING COLLECTIVE WISDOM: A HAWAIIAN STRATEGY FOR MEETING ADAPTIVE EDUCATION CHALLENGES

Session Organizer: Matthew Lorin, *Harold K. L. Castle Foundation*

Through this highly interactive session, participants will utilize strategies of a Leadership Practice Community. Participants will be invited to address their own challenges as grantmakers and to experience how to leverage the collective wisdom of session attendees. The session's latter portion will show participants how their experience demonstrates the work of the Hawaii Change Leadership Project to transform Hawaii's public schools to focus on 21st century leading and learning.

KAREN AKA, *Academy 21* ■ **BILLI SMITH**, *West Kauai Complex* ■ **TONY WAGNER**, *Harvard Graduate School of Education* ■ **Moderator:** MATTHEW LORIN, *Harold K. L. Castle Foundation*

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**(Mayfair)****SCALING SUCCESSFUL OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME: STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS TO BUILD THE FIELD****Session Organizer:** JANE SUNDIUS, *Open Society Institute–Baltimore*

In partnership with education grantmakers and nonprofit organizations, many of America's communities are seeking strategies to expand access to out-of-school (OST) time programs. At the same time, grantmakers are struggling with how to design/support powerful OST approaches that are also scalable. What does scaling up mean for OST programs and how can we most effectively use philanthropic dollars to promote scale? To address these questions, presenters and participants will discuss the guiding principles used to develop OST infrastructures, the potential benefits of shifting from initiative-based to field-building grantmaking and the changes in outcomes that result from going to scale.

NANCY DEVINE, *The Wallace Foundation* ■ **LUCY FRIEDMAN**, *The After-School Corporation* ■ **JANE SUNDIUS**, *Open Society Institute–Baltimore* ■ **Moderator:** ALAN FRIEDMAN, *Noyce Foundation*

**(Windsor)****THE ROLE OF PHILANTHROPY IN THE DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOLING AND THE CREATION OF LEARNING****Session Organizer:** Gisèle Huff, *Jaquelin Hume Foundation*

The core processes and basic curricular contents of public schooling have remained virtually unchanged for decades—despite the fact that we know so much more about how children both acquire knowledge and, increasingly, build social networks through ground-breaking technologies. While the world has changed dramatically, America's schools have not. Yet during this period of non-change the American public has consistently spent more per pupil each year with essentially flat results. Join us to discuss and discover how hybrid learning environments can reboot learning and revolutionize education in America.

JOHN LOCK, *Pollinate Ventures* ■ **SUSAN PATRICK**, *International Association for K-12 Online Learning* ■ **Moderator:** DEBORAH MCGRIFF, *NewSchools Venture Fund*

**(Regent 1)****WHY THEY DON'T "GET IT": REFRAMING OUR MESSAGING ABOUT EDUCATION****Session Organizer:** José Massó, *Nellie Mae Education Foundation*

Are education grantmakers talking about education and reform efforts in ways that actually resonate? To effect large-scale change, grantmakers must develop a common understanding around how to talk about their work. Groundbreaking evidence-based research reveals many Americans think about education in ways inconsistent with much of the current messaging by education reformers and grantmakers. In an interactive format, participants will gain insight into how people think about education, and will begin to learn how to reframe their own work to maximize the impact of their grantmaking. Participants are encouraged to bring one document (press release, RFP, etc.) that illustrates their current messaging strategy.

SUSAN BALES, *FrameWorks Institute* ■ **JANE FEINBERG**, *FrameWorks Institute* ■ **NATHANIEL KENDALL-TAYLOR**, *FrameWorks Institute* ■ **TIFFANY MANUEL**, *FrameWorks Institute* ■ **Moderator:** JOSÉ MASSÓ, *Nellie Mae Education Foundation*

12:30 – 2:00 pm

PLENARY LUNCHEON**(Wellington Ballroom)****NO SMALL PLANS: TRANSLATING BOLD VISION TO BROAD ACTION****Introduction:** Sandra Treacy, *W. Clement & Jessie V. Stone Foundation*, and Chair, *Grantmakers for Education*

The complex needs of our nation's poorest children defy simple responses. Nearly 20 years ago, Geoffrey Canada hatched a vision for a comprehensive cradle-to-college initiative to dramatically increase opportunities and outcomes for children in a 100-square-block neighborhood in Harlem. The result was the Harlem Children's Zone. Integrating educational, parenting and neighborhood supports, the Harlem Children's Zone stands as one of America's most

CONFERENCE AGENDA

ambitious and important experiments in urban education. Hear from Canada about the need for bold plans that work across silos to address children's needs—and learn what it takes to turn those plans into reality.

GEOFFREY CANADA, President and CEO, Harlem Children's Zone

2:30 – 4:00 pm

CONCURRENT LEARNING SESSIONS



(Mayfair)

BEYOND BEAUTIFUL EXCEPTIONS: CREATING PLATFORMS THAT SCALE INNOVATION TO TRANSFORM SYSTEMS

Session Organizer: Nelson Gonzalez, *Stupski Foundation*

Foundations often hope that disparate efforts will—without much intention—somehow align to transform the education system. We have learned from other places and sectors that system-level transformation requires common platforms that, by defining a few core standards and protocols, unleash innovation. Shared content, IT, network and financial architectures allow many users to shape and extend innovation. Participants in this panel will identify the most critical platform development efforts foundations could support and immediate opportunities for doing so in closer coordination with one another and with the U.S. Department of Education.

MIKE KALAF, Lockheed Martin ■ RAMONA PIERSON, SynapticMash ■ TROY RUEMPING, Teach for America ■ Moderator: NELSON GONZALEZ, Stupski Foundation



(Windsor)

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEADERSHIP: TAKING THE LONG VIEW IN A SHORT-TERM LANDSCAPE

Session Organizer: Barbara Reisman, *Schumann Fund for New Jersey*

Public- and private-sector leaders have been forced to make tough decisions about early education amid deep budget cuts at all levels. Where are those cuts actually taking a toll on vulnerable families? How can grantmakers adjust their philanthropy to protect educational outcomes and maintain momentum for long-term system reform of early childhood systems? National and state leaders will share their stories, explain the rationales behind the hard choices they've had to make and help education grantmakers identify strategies to assist during the current crisis.

MARCIA EGBERT, The George Gund Foundation ■ CARLA THOMPSON, Office of the State Superintendent of Education (District of Columbia) ■ Moderator: GERRIT WESTERVELT, BUILD Initiative



(Buckingham)

INNOVATING ACROSS THE STATE LINE: THE NEW ENGLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL CONSORTIUM

Session Organizer: Charlie Toulmin, *Nellie Mae Education Foundation*

If you think trying to influence policy in one state or community is daunting, come to this session to consider the challenges and the opportunities foundations face in supporting multi-state policy work. The Nellie Mae Education Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are supporting such an effort in New England. In this interactive session, participants will consider: (1) how the foundations-state efforts developed; (2) decision points presented by a changing policy context; and (3) how funders and states constantly and appropriately reassess such an investment.

CASEY COBB, Center for Education Policy Analysis ■ PAUL LEATHER, Rhode Island Department of Education ■ DAVID RUFF, Great Schools Partnership ■ Moderator: CHARLIE TOULMIN, Nellie Mae Education Foundation



(Regent 1)

MATCHMAKER, MATCHMAKER: GRANTMAKERS' ROLE IN FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS THAT LEAD TO POST-SECONDARY SUCCESS

Session Organizer: Emily Froimson, *Jack Kent Cooke Foundation*

The \$2.5 billion grant program in President Obama's budget aimed at improving college-completion rates reflects a shift in national attention from

KEY: To aid in your session selection, the icons appearing to the left of titles refer to the following categories:



Early education



K-12 schooling



Out-of-school time



Higher education

post-secondary access to post-secondary outcomes. In light of this shift, grantmakers have an opportunity to consider their role in promoting higher education outcomes. Recent experience suggests successful programs often leverage the comparative advantages of multiple institutions to promote college success for underserved students. This session will explore innovative partnerships between universities, community colleges, and high schools, and discuss grantmakers' roles in forging such partnerships as a strategy for improving post-secondary outcomes.

NICOLE FARMER HURD, *National College Advising Corps* ■ **MARSHA JAEGER**, *Center for Educational Partnerships* ■ **Moderator: EMILY FROIMSON**, *Jack Kent Cooke Foundation*



(Consulate 2-3)

WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE GREATER IMPACT: THE DONORS' EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE OF NEW YORK CITY

Session Organizer: *Grantmakers for Education*

Since the mid-1990s, constituency-building and advocacy for better public education have grown steadily in New York City, as organizations dedicated to that work have strengthened their internal capacity and increased their reach, visibility and sophistication. A new GFE case study explores how that growth has been fueled by the Donors' Education Collaborative of New York, which pools its members' financial resources and expertise to advance a complex set of shared grantmaking goals. The case study illustrates the importance—and challenges—of the sixth of GFE's eight Principles for Effective Education Grantmaking: leverage, influence and collaboration. Led by an expert case study instructor, this session will probe fundamental questions about how funder collaboration works in practice. **Pre-registration required.**

JAMES HONAN, *Harvard Graduate School of Education*

2:30 – 5:30 pm

AFTERNOON SITE VISITS

Each site visit is limited to 25 participants. **Pre-registration is required;** inquire at the conference registration desk by Monday at 5 pm regarding availability.



CHICAGO'S COMMUNITY SCHOOLS: COLLABORATING TO TRANSFORM EDUCATION

(Bus departs from the front entrance promptly at 2:30 pm.)

Host: *Erica Okezie-Phillips, McCormick Foundation*

Chicago has drawn national acclaim for its community schools that educate the whole child by providing children and their families with free social services and programs addressing children's unmet needs. While CEO of Chicago Public Schools, Arne Duncan helped expand the number of community schools from 10 to 150 in less than five years. Taking community schools to scale, however, has required significant involvement from Chicago's diverse nonprofit and philanthropic communities and a commitment to both coherence and collaboration. On this visit you will see an outstanding example of a community school and meet the educators, nonprofit staff, technical assistance providers and advocates behind the program's success.



RAISING THE BAR FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH AND SCIENCE INSTRUCTION IN CHICAGO

(Gather in the lobby; participants will walk several blocks to the site visit.)

Hosts: *Gudelia López & Peggy Mueller, The Chicago Community Trust*

Teaching and learning that have dramatically higher expectations for all children require intensive efforts at strengthening the knowledge and skills of teachers at a whole-school level as well as putting higher curriculum stakes in the ground. Join us as we meet with middle school math and/or science teachers, district math/science coaches and leaders, and university coaches who are working collaboratively in neighborhood schools to increase the rigor of science and math (including algebra) in 6th through 8th grades. Engage in a conversation with representatives of this effort as they share their many successes and their challenges.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

4:30 – 5:30 pm

MAGNIFICENT MILE WALKING TOUR

Sign up and pay the \$15 fee at the conference registration desk by Monday at 5:00 pm. Meet in hotel lobby for departure.

How did Pine Street—the home of factories, saloons and auto dealerships—become the “Boul Mich,” a shopping mecca for all of North America and beyond? You’ll learn how the Plan of Chicago and the Columbian Exposition inspired Chicago to design a “Paris on the Prairie” and see an eclectic mix of architecture design, from Art Deco to Chicago’s tallest building, on this guided tour.

5:30 – 6:30 pm

FUNDER-SPONSORED RECEPTIONS



(Mayfair)

COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS

Sponsors: *College Spark Washington, The Greater Texas Foundation, The Kresge Foundation and Lumina Foundation for Education*

Join current funders of *Achieving the Dream: Community College Counts* to learn more about the national expansion of this initiative to improve community college student success. Currently operating in more than 100 community colleges in 21 states, *Achieving the Dream* is poised to help us accomplish President Obama’s vision of regaining our status as the world’s best-educated nation. Over cocktails and appetizers, join us for a conversation with colleagues and key national staff.



(Regent 2)

EDUCATION ORGANIZING: WHAT IS THE NEW RESEARCH AND THINKING IN THE FIELD?

Sponsor: *GFE’s Working Group on Education Organizing*

Interested in learning more about community organizing for education reform? Join GFE’s Working Group on Education Organizing at this hosted reception. Network with funders who are seasoned in this work, as well as with those who are exploring this strategy for their portfolio. Marjorie Fine, from the Center for Community Change, will present highlights from the just-published book *Change Philanthropy: Candid Stories of Foundations Maximizing Results Through Social Justice*. Copies of the book will be available. In addition, you will have the opportunity to meet Kavitha Mediratta and hear research highlights from her forthcoming book on education organizing published by Harvard University Press. Come meet other funders and hear more about key initiatives the WGEO has underway; all are welcome.



(Regent 1)

NEW SUMMER FINDINGS ON POLICY, FINANCING AND PROGRAM MODELS

Sponsors: *Nellie Mae Education Foundation, The Wallace Foundation and GFE’s Out-of-School Time Funders Network*

Research pinpoints summer learning loss as a major contributor to achievement gaps, and a growing number of foundations are making access to high-quality, enriching summer programs a core component of their strategic approach. Reception presenters, including Brenda McLaughlin from the National Center for Summer Learning and Kathleen Traphagen of the GFE OST Funders Network, will share new information on policy, promising program models and key themes emerging from in-depth interviews with leading funders.

KEY: To aid in your session selection, the icons appearing to the left of titles refer to the following categories:



Early education



K-12 schooling



Out-of-school time



Higher education

WEDNESDAY

October 7

8:00 – 8:30 am

**(Wellington Ballroom)
BREAKFAST**

Connect with colleagues over breakfast.

8:30 – 10:00 am

CLOSING PLENARY**(Wellington Ballroom)
BENCHMARKING THE FIELD**A brief update on Grantmakers for Education's future activities and highlights from its recent study, *Benchmarking 2009*.**CHRISTINE TEBBEN, *Grantmakers for Education*****AMERICA'S EDUCATION REFORM ROADMAP: DESIGNING SYSTEMS OF EXCELLENCE****Introduction: Terry Mazany, *The Chicago Community Trust***

During his confirmation as President Obama's Secretary of Education, Secretary Duncan identified education as "the most pressing issue facing America," adding that "preparing young people for success in life is not just a moral obligation of society" but also an "economic imperative." As Secretary, he has been honest about the challenges facing American education, bold in his belief about what we can—and must—accomplish to ensure America remains globally competitive, and collaborative in the way in which he is working with education philanthropy to improve educational achievements for all. With a long list of challenges and opportunities facing American education, Secretary Duncan will expand on the Administration's comprehensive roadmap for transforming Pre-K through post-secondary education and speak to the ways that grantmakers, policymakers and educators must work together to build systems of excellence that prepare all children for future success.

SECRETARY ARNE DUNCAN, *U.S. Department of Education*

10:30 am – varied

FEATURED WEDNESDAY CONVENINGS

Pre-registration is required; check at the conference registration desk by 5 pm Monday to see if space is available. See pages 28–32 for complete convening agendas.

(Regent 2)**HIGH LEVERAGE STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS AMERICA'S DROPOUT CRISIS****(Regent 1)****CRITICAL TOPICS IN OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME: AN OPPORTUNITY TO DIVE DEEP WITH COLLEAGUES****(Meet in hotel lobby at 10:15)****21ST CENTURY CREATIVITY: A CONVERSATION BETWEEN EDUCATION FUNDERS AND ARTS FUNDERS****(Meet in hotel lobby at 10:15)****EDUCATION ORGANIZING 201—EDUCATION ORGANIZING IN ACTION: HOW TO BUILD POLITICAL WILL AND CREATE CHANGE NOW****(Mayfair)****INCREASING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT BY INFLUENCING EDUCATION POLICY**

CONFERENCE AGENDA

10:30 am –
12:30 pm



(Regent 2)

HIGH LEVERAGE STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS AMERICA'S DROPOUT CRISIS

Session Organizer: Chris Sturgis, *Youth Transition Funders Group*

Many refer to our national dropout rate as “America’s silent epidemic.” Join us as we engage in peer-to-peer learning that focuses on how to reduce the dropout rate and simultaneously leverage systemic reform. Together we will discuss the strengths and weaknesses of our current strategies, highlight relevant best practices and challenge ourselves to think in new and different ways.

10:30 am

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

CARMEN JAMES LANE, *Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation*

10:45 am

OPEN DISCUSSION: DESIGN CHOICES IN CONSTRUCTING A STRATEGY

The initial design choices we make in strategy development affect the degree to which we can leverage long-term change. We’ll discuss the different frames that can define a problem and purpose, the selection of key assets based on community scans, and choices regarding approaches, resources and leadership.

CANDACE BELL, *William Penn Foundation*

11:30 am

PEER-TO-PEER ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

With experienced grantmakers as guides, we’ll deepen our analysis in two areas. One group will discuss issues and approaches for those newer to grantmaking relating to the dropout crisis; the other will explore challenges and opportunities identified by more experienced grantmakers in this field.

12:15 pm

DESIGNING A DONOR GUIDE ON THE GRADUATION CRISIS

Drawing on our collective experiences, we’ll outline key topics that participants would like to see included in an upcoming donor guide to support our work.

CHRIS STURGIS, *MetisNet*

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Early education



K-12 schooling



Out-of-school time



Higher education

10:30 am –
1:00 pm



(Regent 1)
CRITICAL TOPICS IN OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME: AN OPPORTUNITY TO DIVE DEEP WITH COLLEAGUES

Session Organizer: Kathleen Traphagen, *GFE's Out-of-School Time Network*
Join colleagues for roundtable discussions focused on critical topics in out-of-school time and expanded learning opportunities, which are playing an increasingly central role in improving educational equity for all children and youth. We'll share key ideas and identify steps that funders in general, and GFE's Out-of-School Time Network in particular, can take to advance these efforts.

10:30 am

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND UPDATES ON GFE'S OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME NETWORK

KATHLEEN TRAPHAGEN, *GFE's Out-of-School Time Network*

10:45 am

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

Participants will break out into discussions around the following topics, after which facilitators of each discussion will share critical ideas that emerged with the full group.

Summer Programs: New Strategies to Improve Quality and Access
Facilitators: LYNN D'AMBROSE, *The Nellie Mae Education Foundation* ■ NANCY DEVINE, *The Wallace Foundation* ■ JEFF SUNSHINE, *The David & Lucile Packard Foundation*

Developing Effective Messages: How Can We Better Communicate the Value of Expanded Learning Opportunities to Diverse Stakeholders?
Facilitator: NICOLE GALLANT, *Atlantic Philanthropies*

The Science of Learning: How Can Brain Architecture Research Guide the Design and Assessment of Afterschool and Summer Programs?
Facilitators: ARRON JIRON, *The David & Lucile Packard Foundation* ■ RICHARD ROBERTS, *The Sally and Richard Roberts Coyote Foundation*

Building and Sustaining Quality Community Schools: A Hartford Story
Facilitators: JANE QUINN, *The Children's Aid Society* ■ SARA SNEED, *The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving*

Financing for Sustainability: The Importance of Building Stronger Administrative Management Capacity in Youth-Serving Organizations
Facilitator: HILDA POLANCO, *Fiscal Management Associates*

The Recession's Silver Lining? How One Foundation's Emphasis on Non-Monetary Assistance Is Paying Off for Newark's Youth Development Sector
Facilitator: DALE ANGLIN, *Victoria Foundation*

12:25 pm

MOVING FORWARD & NEXT STEPS

As a full group, we'll consider how GFE's Out-of-School Time Network can help move these conversations forward.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

10:15 am –
1:30 pm



(Meet in hotel lobby at 10:15 to travel to conversation offsite at the Museum of Contemporary Photography)
21ST CENTURY CREATIVITY: A CONVERSATION BETWEEN EDUCATION FUNDERS AND ARTS FUNDERS

Session Organizer: Arnold Aprill, *Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education*, *Grantmakers in the Arts and GFE*

Counterbalancing the arts-free core curriculum movement is a growing effort to provide more classes that specifically nurture “right brain” talents. Long a rallying point for arts education advocates, this national conversation remains fragmented and contentious. Assuming there are strong links between right brain skills and success in the new economy, how should education philanthropy respond? Join us for a roundtable discussion and a group dialogue as we explore these issues and the strategies in the arts and education philanthropy worlds that may be helpful to ensure our children become tomorrow’s innovation leaders.

10:30 am

WELCOME AND CONTEXT

We’ll set the context for discussing 21st century creativity, and developing common language among education funders and arts funders.

ARNOLD APRILL, *Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education* ■ **FRANK BAIOCCHI**, *Polk Bros. Foundation* ■ **SYDNEY SIDWELL**, *Fry Foundation*

10:40 am

“PICTURES ARE MADE, NOT TAKEN”

The manager of education for the Museum of Contemporary Photography will share the story of how the museum, Columbia College Chicago’s Center for Community Arts Partnerships, and Chicago public schools have partnered to support students’ creative explorations, and will reflect on contemporary photography as a powerful example of 21st century creativity.

CORINNE ROSE, *Museum of Contemporary Photography*

11:00 am

CREATIVITY AT THE CLASSROOM, THE SCHOOL, AND THE DISTRICT LEVEL

We’ll break out into three groups to discuss promising practices and challenges in supporting 21st century creativity at the classroom, school, and district level. Each breakout will include a local public school principal, a local teaching artist and a local funder.

Noon

LUNCH: FUNDER AS PHOTOGRAPHER

Enjoy informal conversation with colleagues over lunch—and capture the moment with a Polaroid camera!

12:30 pm

CREATIVITY IN GRANTMAKING

Hear a panel of funders discuss creative approaches to funding creativity in education.

Moderator: **FRANK BAIOCCHI**, *Polk Bros. Foundation*

1:00 pm

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

Reflect on insights, opportunities and common understandings developed by the day’s discussion.

Facilitator: **MARIO ROSSERO**, *Chicago Public Schools*

1:30 pm

ADJOURN

KEY: To aid in your session selection, the icons appearing to the left of titles refer to the following categories:



Early education



K-12 schooling



Out-of-school time



Higher education

10:15 am –
2:00 pm



**(Meet in hotel lobby at 10:15 to travel to conversation offsite at Kenwood Oakland Community Organization)
EDUCATION ORGANIZING 201—EDUCATION ORGANIZING IN ACTION: HOW TO BUILD POLITICAL WILL AND CREATE CHANGE NOW**

Session Organizers: GFE’s Working Group for Education Organizing (WGEO) and Communities for Public Education Reform (CPER)

Chicago is home to some of the nation’s best-established education organizing efforts, providing an ideal opportunity for funders to examine how modest investments in organizing can produce powerful leverage for sustainable change. Join us to see a local organizing effort in action. Learn from and engage with local organizers, leaders and funders in a provocative dialogue on how to improve education outcomes for all students. We’ll consider lessons from three local organizing efforts: Parents and Residents Invested in School and Education; Voices for Youth in Chicago Education; and TARGET Area Development and the Kenwood-Oakland Community Organization.

10:15 am

MEET IN HOTEL LOBBY: BUS DEPARTS

11:00 am

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY GROUP DISCUSSION

How can funders strengthen education organizing as a critical component of their education grantmaking as they seek to improve opportunities and outcomes for children? While some education grantmakers approach potential partners with strategies in hand, others intentionally build a community’s capacity to develop their own reform agenda. We’ll begin with participants sharing their strategies in response to this introductory question.

LORI BEZHLER, Edward W. Hazen Foundation

11:20 am

THE ORGANIZERS’ PERSPECTIVES

What are the effective ways in which funders have helped community organizations to achieve results in education reform? How can funders encourage collaboration by and between community, advocacy, and policy organizations? Hear thoughts on these questions and more from two effective Chicago organizers.

JHAYTAN TRAVIS, Kenwood Oakland Community Organization ■ PATRICIA WATKINS, Target Area DevCorp

11:40 am

ONE FUNDER’S PERSPECTIVE

Discuss with one funder how she developed an education grantmaking portfolio that includes both approaches to education organizing and how these initiatives fit into her organization’s overall education improvement strategy.

ANGELA RUDOLPH, Joyce Foundation

11:50 am

LUNCH AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Over lunch, participants will discuss in small groups both the challenges and benefits of engaging with organizing groups, helping to extract lessons for their own grantmaking.

Facilitator: LORI BEZHLER, Edward Hazen Foundation

12:15 pm

THE CONSTITUENCY GROUPS’ PERSPECTIVES

Since education organizing works on at least two levels—individual transformation as well as systems change—a VOYCE student (Voices of Youth in Chicago Education), a PRISE parent (Parents and Residents Invested in School and Education) and a staff member will discuss efforts to improve the quality of education in their communities.

1:00 pm

CLOSING DISCUSSION

During a time of diminished resources how can existing assets be applied in ways that leverage sustainable and impactful change in educational outcomes? In closing out the session, participants, organizers and presenters will have an opportunity to consider how today’s discussion can be applied to their own work.

Facilitator: CHRISTINE DOBY, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

2:00 pm

BUS ARRIVES AT CONFERENCE HOTEL

CONFERENCE AGENDA

10:30 am –
3:00 pm



(Mayfair)

INCREASING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT BY INFLUENCING EDUCATION POLICY

Session Organizer: Jenna Davis, *GFE's Education Policy Working Group*

With public budgets under extraordinary pressure and philanthropic resources more limited, education grantmakers must be strategic about how they seek to improve outcomes and opportunities. Determining how to influence local, state and federal education policies is essential. At this convening, we'll dialogue with the U.S. Department of Education's Jim Shelton about strategies for scaling innovation in American education, discuss efforts to map education investments in America, examine successes and challenges faced in the receipt and use of ARRA funds to date, and consider ways that funders can help ensure accountability for these investments.

10:30 am

WELCOME: GFE EDUCATION POLICY WORKING GROUP (EPWG)

ADA SANCHEZ, Peppercorn Foundation and EPWG Interim Steering Committee Co-Chair

10:45 am

DIALOGUE: STRATEGIES FOR PUBLIC-PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERSHIPS

Race to the Top, the Investing in Innovation (i3) Fund, and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are significant federal policy initiatives intended to accelerate student achievement. Dialogue with Jim Shelton to learn: how education grantmakers can be most helpful to public policymakers in developing strong education policy; how our philanthropic dollars can help sustain change over time; how public-philanthropic partnerships can leverage new resources; and what challenges and opportunities exist during given today's fast-moving policy climate.

JIM SHELTON, Assistant Deputy Secretary for Innovation & Improvement, U.S. Dept. of Education

Noon

WORKING LUNCHEON: DEVELOPING A GFE AND EDUCATION POLICY WORKING GROUP AGENDA FOR 2010-2011

Building on the earlier conversation with Jim Shelton and themes that emerged throughout the conference, we'll discuss how the policy issues, opportunities and challenges identified might inform the work of GFE and its Education Policy Working Group over the next 18 months—and how the network can be most helpful to you in accomplishing your education policy-focused goals.

1:15 pm

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS: GOING DEEP IN KEY EDUCATION POLICY ISSUES

Participate in a small-group discussion around one of six policy issues (with conversational guides from the EPWG) with colleagues who share the same topical interests. Through these conversations, participants will discuss the front-burner issues around each of these topics and will identify potential programs or discussion topics for the EPWG to develop during the upcoming year.

3:00 pm

ADJOURN

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