

National Partnership for Educational Access 8th Annual Conference
*Connecting the Dots: Engaging Communities to
Support Educational Access and Success*

April 27-29, 2016 • Baltimore, Maryland
Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel

This document is subject to change prior to event.

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM NPEA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Location: Sassafras

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Building an Effective Career Development Program: Leveraging Curriculum, Mentors, and Partners to Increase Post-College Outcomes

- Marianna Tu, *Chief Operation Officer, America Needs You*

Since 2009, America Needs You (ANY) has provided a state of the art, intensive career development, mentorship, professional development, and networking program for first generation college students from low-income households. The goal of ANY is to help these students maintain enrollment in college, obtain prestigious internships, and secure jobs that eventually lead to successful careers. This interactive pre-conference session will address best practices for developing a comprehensive and holistic career readiness curriculum focused on building the hard and soft skills underrepresented students need to succeed in college and beyond. This session will be helpful for anyone wanting to learn more about career readiness and for organizations that wish to ramp up their college and career success programming.

Location: Camden Room

Engaging With Communities to Support Educational Success

- Sherrell Savage, *Manager of Community Engagement, KIPP Baltimore*

Please join us for an in-depth session on best practices and ideas for community engagement and parent engagement in support of educational access and success. You will hear from leaders in the field who have experience with proven strategies. There will be ample time for group discussion and hands-on practice so you can leave ready to try out new techniques in your own schools or programs.

Location: Severn Room

12:00 PM – 5:00 PM SITE VISITS

All site visit participants will meet in the lobby of the Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel at 11:45am on April 27 for a noon departure on the shuttle buses. The buses will return to the hotel after the visits conclude.

OPTION ONE is from 12:00pm to 5:00pm. This visit includes three locations. Please join us for visits to three Baltimore education sites. You will have the opportunity to tour each location, hear from staff and students, network with other site visit attendees, and learn how a program and two schools are supporting and serving underrepresented students. Visits will take place at Bard High School Early College Baltimore, the University of Baltimore, and Higher Achievement Baltimore.

- **Bard High School Early College Baltimore**, which opened in August of 2015, is a four-year public school that offers students the unique opportunity to take a two-year, tuition-free college course of study in the liberal arts and sciences following the 9th and 10th grades. Through the partnership between Bard College and Baltimore City Public Schools, Bard High School Early College Baltimore makes it possible for students to earn both a high school diploma and up to 60 transferable college credits and an Associate in Arts degree from Bard College within four years. This alternative to traditional high school is founded on the belief that many young people are ready and eager to do serious college work starting at age 16 - a belief that Bard College has acted on with great success through its network of public early colleges, founded in 2001.
- **The University of Baltimore** provides innovative education in business, public affairs, the applied liberal arts and sciences, and law to serve the needs of a diverse population in an urban setting. A public university, the University of Baltimore offers excellent teaching and a supportive community for undergraduate, graduate and professional students in an environment distinguished by academic research and public service.
- **Higher Achievement** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping underserved middle-school students, referred to as “scholars”, improve their grades, attendance, and standardized test scores, culminating in acceptance to top high schools in Baltimore. We work with scholars, beginning in 5th grade and staying with them through 8th grade, to provide a rigorous, year-round out-of-school time program, which includes classes in math, science, and reading, elective courses, overnight college visits, and field trips.

OPTION TWO is from 12:00pm to 3:00pm. This visit includes one location. Please join fellow conference attendees on a sit visit to Johns Hopkins University, America’s first research university. You will have the opportunity to tour the campus and learn about the university’s student support services. The group will also have an interactive discussion about how to best prepare students for the selective admissions process as well as introduce the resources recently developed by the Coalition for Access & Affordability.

4:00 PM – 7:30 PM CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
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Conference registration will open prior to the opening welcome reception. Registered conference attendees are invited to pick up a nametag, program, and conference materials during this time. Registration will also be open on Thursday morning and Friday morning of the conference.

Location: TBD

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM CONFERENCE WELCOME RECEPTION

Please join us for our kick-off conference welcome reception. You will have the opportunity to hear from our lead conference Welcome Reception Sponsor T. Rowe Price and network with fellow attendees.

Location: Harborview Ballroom

7:15 PM – 8:45 PM FILM SCREENING: *ALL THE DIFFERENCE*

Please join us for a very special screening of *All The Difference*, a documentary produced by former conference keynote Wes Moore and his mother, Joy Moore. You will have the opportunity to hear from Joy Moore, Executive Producer of *All the Difference* and creator of the *All the Difference Parents Tips*, and Robert Henderson, one of the students featured in the documentary. Mr. Henderson is currently a teacher with DCIS Fairmont Elementary in Denver, Colorado. Ms. Moore and Mr. Henderson will entertain questions from the audience after the documentary concludes.

Location: Loch Raven I & II

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2016

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM BREAKFAST, AFFINITY GROUP DISCUSSIONS, AND REGISTRATION

Connect with your fellow conference attendees over breakfast. You will have the option to participate in affinity group discussions and engage in more structured conversation over breakfast or to network on your own. There will also be a special area in the ballroom designated for first-time conference attendees and new NPEA members.

Location: Chesapeake Ballroom

8:00 AM – 9:45 AM OPENING GENERAL SESSION: ALUMNI AND COUNSELOR PANEL

Welcome:

Karin Elliott, *Executive Director*, National Partnership for Educational Access

Remarks:

TBD

Alumni and Counselor Panel:

Moderator:

Monica E. Butler, *Vice President*, Wells Fargo Bank; *Founding Board President*, Lillie May Carroll Jackson Charter School; and *Alumna*, Roland Park Country School

Panelists:

- Daymond Cooper, *Senior*, Stevenson University (Alumnus, KIPP Baltimore)

- Nicole Yeftich, *College Support Coordinator*, KIPP Baltimore; and *Counselor for Daymond Cooper*
- Chionque Mines, *Senior*, Goucher College (Alumna, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation)
- Marissa Lifshen Steinberger, *Lead Educational Adviser, Young Scholars*, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation; and *Counselor for Chionque Mines*
- TBD
- TBD

Alumni from three NPEA member academic enrichment programs and schools will share their challenges, successes, and experiences on their paths to college and beyond, and discuss how the programs and schools they attended made a difference in their lives and the lives of their families. The alumni will be joined by counselors/mentors who will share perspectives on supporting, guiding, and advocating for the alumni on the path to and through college.

Location: Chesapeake Ballroom

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS

You will have the option to choose from one of the following eight workshop sessions during this time.

***All the Difference* Documentary: Implementation Tips and Tools**

- Marcia Y. Cantarella, *Educator, Author*, “I CAN Finish College: The Overcome Any Obstacle and Get Your Degree Guide”; and *Creator*, “All the Difference Student Handbook” and “The All the Difference Facilitators Guide”
- Robert Henderson, *Student in Documentary*; and *Teacher*, DCIS Fairmont Elementary
- Joy Moore, *Executive Producer*, “All the Difference”; and *Creator*, “All the Difference Parents Tips” and *Mother of Wes Moore*

The PBS Documentary, *All the Difference*, will be released in 2016 as part of the American Graduate Series. The documentary follows two young men from Chicago’s South Side through their college careers and beyond. The challenges they face are common, including high expectations, financial concerns, difficulty adapting to college freedoms, understanding how to make the critical college connections and networks, and how to find work after college. A special curriculum was developed to accompany the documentary with materials to help move the needle for college success for first generation and low-income students, and especially for young men of color. These online, interactive, and comprehensive materials are designed to help students on their college journeys as well as help those who work with and support students. This workshop will explore the curriculum and how it can be used to achieve college success for those struggling to succeed.

Location: Camden Room

Skill Level: All Levels

Improving Advising for First Generation College Students at Independent Schools

- Daymond Cooper, *Alumnus*, KIPP Baltimore
- Elizabeth Hirsch, *Co-Director of College Counseling*, The Park School
- Jennifer Pineau Wilson, *Assistant Director of College Counseling*, McDonogh School
- Nicole Yeftich, *College Support Coordinator*, KIPP Baltimore

First generation college students and their families have unique needs throughout the college

and financial aid application processes. These students' families lack firsthand knowledge about college and financial aid. They often receive substantial need-based funds to attend independent high schools and will require significant financial aid to make college a reality. This session seeks to shine a light on issues faced by first generation college students at independent schools and offer best practices in individual student advising, coordinated programming, and school-wide practices that can strengthen college counseling for these students and their families.

Location: Harborview I

Skill Level: All Levels

First Generation Voices

- Brenda Angulo, *I'm First! Blogger*, Center for Student Opportunity/I'm First
- Carlton Hassell, *I'm First! Blogger*, Center for Student Opportunity/I'm First
- Benjamin Hoertnagl-Pereira, *I'm First! Blogger*, Center for Student Opportunity/I'm First
- Chelsea Jones, *Associate Director of Student Programs*, Center for Student Opportunity/I'm First

Everyone loves the first: the first in flight, first man on the moon, and the first African-American president. There is something special about being first. In fact, thirty percent of entering freshmen in the United States are first generation college students. However, seventy-five percent have not received a bachelor's degree after eight years out of high school. At this session, you will meet an all-star panel of first generation college students attending Baltimore and Washington, D.C. area colleges and universities who will discuss their experiences in college as well as address trends, challenges, and lessons learned through their college selection and application process and persistence to college graduation. The panelists will also introduce a new online campaign for first generation college students to share their stories and inspire the next generation of students who will be the first.

Location: Harborview II

Skill Level: All Levels

How Official SAT Practice Using Khan Academy Delivers Results for All Students

- Tierney Kraft, *Senior Director, SAT Partnerships*, The College Board

This session will provide participants with information about the new SAT as well as shed light on an important collaboration between The College Board and Khan Academy to deliver free world-class SAT practice resources to all students. You will experience firsthand the new tools and features that have been added since the fall of 2015, and be one of the first to hear the latest ways schools and nonprofits are using Official SAT Practice. The presenter will provide resources, practical strategies, and best practices for implementing the Official SAT Practice through Khan Academy.

Location: Loch Raven I

Skill Level: All Levels

Building Stronger Community Ties: Using Community Relationships to Create a More Diverse Staff and Pipeline

- Scott Knox, *Chief Development Officer*, Brooke Charter Schools
- Rachel Kohn, *Director of Talent Recruitment*, Brooke Charter Schools

- Asabe Paloma, *Executive Director*, Institute of the Recruitment of Teachers, Phillips Academy
- Kate Slater, *Recruitment and Admission Programs Specialist*, Phillips Academy

Brooke is a network of three high-performing K-8 charter schools in Boston that provide an academically rigorous education to underserved students. Brooke is especially focused on recruiting and developing diverse talent that is representative of the community it serves. For the past three decades, Phillips Academy's four innovative and entrepreneurial outreach programs – Andover Bread Loaf, PALS, (MS)2, and the IRT – have created opportunities that enrich the lives of underserved and underrepresented student and faculty through diverse partnerships. Among them, the Institute for Recruitment of Teachers (IRT) focuses on addressing the lack of diversity in the nation's teaching faculties by recruiting and supporting a diverse pipeline of candidates to launch careers as teachers, counselors, and administrators in schools, colleges and universities. This workshop will explore the goals and strategies undertaken by Brooke and the IRT network internally and externally to build community partnerships and strategies to create more diverse staff pipelines and ultimately hire and retain more staff members of color.

Location: Loch Raven II

Skill Level: Familiar with the Field

NPEA Data Counts: Exploring Our Collective Impact on College Access and Success

- Roblyn Anderson Brigham, *Managing Partner*, Brigham Nahas Research Associates
- Heather Jenkins, *Director, High School Prep and Academics and Program Evaluation*, Buffalo Prep

In April 2015, the National Partnership for Educational Access (NPEA) launched a data project called NPEA Data Counts. After extensive work with consultants and a pilot project team of NPEA member organizations, NPEA developed a list of ten critical indicators of college access and success for underrepresented students. Designed to provide consistency to the data collection, tracking, and reporting process, NPEA Data Counts seeks to better understand the work of its members at an aggregate level and ultimately support NPEA members and others in providing key services to students leading to success in college and beyond. During the fall of 2015, NPEA organizational members completed a Data Collection Tool providing information on the ten key indicators. This session will provide information about NPEA Data Counts and a summary of findings. You will have the chance to hear from one of the consultants as well as pilot project team members on their experiences and data challenges and successes.

Location: Potomac

Skill Level: All Levels

From Unrest in the Streets to Success in College: What's Working in Baltimore

- Barry Evans, *Outreach Specialist*, Towson University
- Debra Hettleman, *Executive Director*, Building STEPS
- Leah Pemberton, *Program Director*, Building STEPS
- Adonna Robinson, *Personnel Clerk*, Maryland State Department of General Services

More than eighty percent of Building STEPS' mostly low-income, first generation students earn a college degree. Nearly half of these college graduates go on to earn a post baccalaureate degree. Building STEPS' replicable model for college access, persistence, and completion leverages community partnerships to provide a breadth of services and support

for student achievement. Starting with high school juniors, Building STEPS engages parents and guardians, as well as business, institutional, higher education, and philanthropic partners to support educational access and success in a multi-year program that is a roadmap for others. Learn how to create community partnerships with the express goals of college completion and career readiness. An alum, community partner, and staff member will share case studies, best practices, and lessons learned. In spite of seemingly insurmountable obstacles, and as a result of Building STEPS' progressive continuum of programming, Baltimore's students are breaking the cycle of under-education and poverty and so can your students.

Location: Severn I

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

Falling in Love with Data: Creating Organizational Systems and Buy-in for Effective Program Evaluation

- Olivia Nunez, *Director of Community Engagement*, GO Project
- Gayle Villani, *Associate Executive Director*, GO Project

Creating a culture of rigorous program evaluation and data analysis can be challenging. Ongoing analysis of program data can be met with resistance from program teams if the importance and impact of this evaluation and analysis is not clearly articulated. This requires shifting the culture and creating buy-in for all staff. During this session, participants will learn systems and best practices for creating a data-driven team culture. Presenters will discuss how to best track program metrics in order to effectively measure impact as well as how to use evaluation and analysis to tell stories, hold teams accountable to outcomes, and determine program refinements and next steps. By creating a strong culture of evaluation and analysis, programs are best able to serve their clients and articulate their impact to families, supporters, and others.

Location: Severn II & III

Skill Level: Familiar with the Field

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM NETWORKING LUNCH

Please join your colleagues for relaxed networking over lunch. The afternoon Keynote General Session with Shaun R. Harper will take place in the same room following the networking lunch.

Location: Chesapeake Ballroom

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM KEYNOTE GENERAL SESSION

Speaker Introduction:

- TBD

Keynote Speaker:

- Shaun R. Harper, *Executive Director*, Center for the Study of Race and Equity in Education, University of Pennsylvania

Location: Chesapeake Ballroom

You will have the option to choose from one of the following eight workshop sessions during this time.

A Conversation with Shaun Harper

- Shaun R. Harper, *Executive Director*, Center for the Study of Race and Equity in Education, University of Pennsylvania

Please join NPEA keynote Shaun R. Harper for a conversation on his work and research in the areas of race, equity, student outcomes, Black and Latino male student achievement, and more. You will have the opportunity to ask Dr. Harper questions related to his keynote, his new book, *Advancing Black Male Success from Preschool Through Ph.D.*, and more. This is a great opportunity to learn from Dr. Harper in a more intimate setting.

Location: Camden Room

Skill Level: All Levels

To Chill Out or To Grow? Changing the Summer Growth Model for Low-Income Students

- Meggan Kiel, *Director of College and Alumni Support Team*, The Soulsville Charter School

Low-income students are less likely than their more affluent peers to take advantage of programming during summer break, which results in those students being more susceptible to falling behind academically, losing motivation, and even gaining weight. Four summers ago, The Soulsville Charter School shifted away from mandatory school-based academic programming to combat these realities and developed a program to help students change how they viewed their summer break. The College and Alumni Support Team designed a structure for students to apply during the school-year to local and out-of-town summer programs, jobs, volunteer opportunities, camps, and more. The shift in perceptions about summer break in the four summers of required “Summer Growth Experiences” (SGEs) has surpassed the staff’s initial expectations. In this session, the presenter will share observations and lessons learned after four summers, as well as resources created to support the application process and incorporate SGEs into the school’s culture.

Location: Harborview I

Skill Level: All Levels

Is Advertising a Bad Word? A Crash Course in Nonprofit Marketing and Communications

- Rose DiSanto, *Founder and Creative Director*, DiSanto Design
- Sharon Gallagher, *Founder and Principal*, Sage Communications
- Patrick Macomber, *Creative Director*, 160over90

This workshop will offer marketing communications advice delivered by industry experts with deep experience working with nonprofit and education-based organizations. Whether you are a new program looking for start-up guidance, or a seasoned organization with an established marketing department looking to improve your existing strategies, this workshop will offer concrete ideas, suggestions, and resources that will help you achieve your communications goals. This session will provide concrete ideas and takeaways, as well as a list of marketing professionals from across the country all of whom are interested and experienced in working with nonprofit organizations.

Location: Harborview II

Skill Level: All Levels

Communicating Their Stories: Strategies to Help Underrepresented Students Write Powerful College Application and Scholarship Essays

- Valerie Gregory, *Associate Dean of Admission, Director of Outreach*, University of Virginia
- Rebecca Joseph, *Professor*, California State University, Los Angeles; and *College Access Expert, Get Me To College*
- Evan Read, *Educational Advisor*, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
- Calvin Wise, *Senior Associate Director of Admissions*, Johns Hopkins University

In this era of selfies, Instagram, and Snapchat, underrepresented high school students easily share their visual information with others. Yet, they often struggle in sharing their unique stories in college application essays, the top non-academic factor in the admissions process. This session, featuring seasoned admissions officers from Johns Hopkins University and the University of Virginia and experts working with underrepresented students, will address strategies for coaching college applicants to write the most powerful college application and scholarship essays possible. The panelists will also share essay samples and tips for brainstorming, drafting, and editing essays.

Location: Loch Raven I

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

Broadening Scholarship Opportunities for Underrepresented Students

- Yvonne Berumen, *Vice President of Scholarships and Academic Support*, Hispanic Scholarship Fund
- Caroline Harper, *Policy Analyst, American Council of Learned Societies Fellow*, Frederick D. Patterson Research Institute
- Nara Lee, *Manager of Outreach*, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
- Cecilia Marshall, *Managing Director of Scholarship Programs*, Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund
- Glenn Milewski, *Executive Director, Assessments Division*, The College Board
- Amy Weinstein, *Executive Director*, National Scholarship Providers Association

Many underrepresented and low-income students lack awareness of available scholarship opportunities or the local support to apply for them. In this session, you will hear the results of a recent partnership between The College Board and the nation's largest scholarship providers: American Indian Graduate Center and American Indian Graduate Center Scholars (AIGC and AIGCS), Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF), Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF), Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (JKCF), and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). You will also learn about the National Scholarship Providers Association. Presenters will review how this new partnership with The College Board helped their organizations expand their reach to eligible students, and the results from the first year of the partnership.

Location: Loch Raven II

Skill Level: All

Building a Support Network for Students and Families on the Path to College

- Elyse Danckers, *Executive Director*, Waukegan to College

Many school districts and college readiness organizations struggle to develop parent

engagement efforts, especially among families of color. Through intensive, monthly family advising and workshops, Waukegan to College builds strong, trusting relationships with families. This workshop will give practical tips on how parents can be engaged and become valuable partners in helping first generation students get to college. Waukegan to College's hands-on approach helps parents understand how they can become advocates for their children's education and encourages highly motivated parents to become leaders for other parents and in the community.

Location: Potomac

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

From Homeroom to the Board Room: A Model for Student-Centered Community Engagement

- Michael Paz, *Program Associate*, College Prep Program, First Graduate
- Ann Schnuer, *Manager*, College Prep Program, First Graduate

It can be challenging to develop events that serve students' college and career goals while also engaging local individuals and companies. First Graduate has developed a model for community engagement that supports work with students and builds meaningful relationships in the community. Please join this session and learn about how First Graduate works with companies such as AirBnb and LinkedIn to deepen their college and career curriculum while supporting students to be the first in their family to graduate from college well prepared to pursue meaningful careers. Participants will learn about the First Graduate student-centered curriculum for community engagement events. You will walk away with new ideas, a student-centered model for community engagement, and lesson plans you can use to shape your own program.

Location: Severn I

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

Creating Access and Opportunity through Public/Private Partnerships: Achieve, Upward Bound, Noble and Greenough School, and The Middle Grades Partnership

- Edgar DeLeon, *Director*, Upward Bound, Noble and Greenough School
- Nora Dowley-Liebowitz, *Executive Director*, Achieve at Noble and Greenough School
- Wendy Samet, *Executive Director*, The Middle Grades Partnership
- Ben Snyder, *Head of EXCEL*, Noble and Greenough School

Independent schools and private colleges and universities across the country have access to extraordinary resources, both financial and academic. These schools serve the top one percent of students and families, yet many times these schools are located within a few miles of some of the neediest communities in the country. How can these schools and universities work with the larger community to create partnerships to support students beyond institution walls? What should an institution consider before embarking on such partnerships? You will hear from Achieve at Noble and Greenough School and The Middle Grades Partnership, two programs that serve underserved students by working closely with independent schools. This workshop will explore how public partnerships can support equity, access and opportunity for underserved students. The presenters will address capacity building, financial sustainability, leadership development, community partnerships, and evaluation and outcomes.

Location: Severn II & III

Skill Level: Familiar with the Field, Experienced in the Field

3:15 PM – 4:30 PM CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS

You will have the option to choose from one of the following eight workshop sessions during this time.

Working Together for Student Success: How Two National Nonprofits Are Working Locally to Support Underrepresented Students

- Robert Freund, *Program Director*, Pennsylvania College Advising Corps
- Sarah Gomez, *Managing Director*, KIPP Through College, KIPP Philadelphia
- Preston Kilgore, *College Adviser*, Pennsylvania College Advising Corps

This workshop explores how two national nonprofits, College Advising Corps and KIPP, and a liberal arts college, Franklin & Marshall College, work in partnership to increase college-going among first generation, low-income, and underrepresented students in Philadelphia. Franklin & Marshall College is one of 24 partner institutions of the College Advising Corps, a national nonprofit that places over 500 recent college graduates as near-peer college advisers in underserved high schools such as KIPP DuBois Collegiate Academy in Philadelphia. This session will offer perspectives and lessons learned from K-12, higher education, and nonprofits on developing partnerships to eliminate barriers to college.

Location: Camden Room

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

NPEA Talks: Spotlight on STEM

- Christine Dougan, *College Awareness Advisor*, College Success Foundation
- Raul Posas, *Program Manager*, Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington
- Katherine Veach, *Program Manager, Summer Academic Programs*, Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth
- James Boyd White, *Assistant Director, Summer Academic Programs*, Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth
- Daniel Zaharopol, *Executive Director, Bridge to Enter Advanced Mathematics (BEAM)*, The Art of Problem Solving

In this unique session inspired by the style of TED talks, participants will hear innovative presentations from different organizations focusing on STEM-related initiatives and engaging communities in STEM education. All too often, underrepresented students lack exposure to and guidance in these critical subjects. The presenters in this session are committed to making STEM accessible to all students, and in keeping with the community engagement theme of the conference, they are committed to ensuring communities are involved and active participants in the pursuit of positive outcomes for underrepresented students.

Location: Harborview I

Skill Level: All

Connecting Undocumented Students to College Access Opportunities

- Andrea Navarro, *Education Advisor*, American Student Assistance
- Jodi Then, *Senior Education Advisor*, American Student Assistance

While undocumented students face many barriers to college, it is still possible for them to receive a college education. How do we successfully guide undocumented students and their

families through the college admissions and financial aid process in order to maximize their college completion potential? This session will define and explain the varying levels of legal statuses, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) under the guidelines established in 2012, and current state policies regarding financial aid and in-state tuition. The presenters will also analyze the most current resources available to families and college access professionals as well as share how to connect students to these resources.

Location: Harborview II

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

The Door Is Open: Promoting Use of Campus Resources by Underrepresented Students

- Paul Bonitto, *Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions*, National AHANA Recruitment, Boston College
- Phyllis Breland, *Director of Opportunity Programs*, Hamilton College
- Colin Lord, *Director of Enrollment Management and Financial Aid*, Latin School of Chicago
- Diane Scott, *Co-Director of College Placement*, Academy of the Pacific Rim

As professionals, we all know that social capital, or the value of a social network, is key to success in both education and career. However, accessing and utilizing social capital can be challenging for underrepresented students. How do students from non-college backgrounds access the resources and develop the networks that will ensure their success in college and beyond? This workshop will address some of the leading research on what it takes to succeed. Participants will hear stories and experiences from several high school counselors and college professionals with experience working with students as they develop social capital.

Location: Loch Raven I

Skill Level: All

Connecting the Dots: The Grantor/Grantee Relationship

- Sheldon Caplis, *Director of Community Relations*, OneMain Financial
- Megan Hall, *Director*, KIPP Through College
- Mark Procopio, *Director of Development*, KIPP Baltimore
- Jessica Suriano, *Executive Director*, Baltimore Educational Scholarship Trust

As nonprofit organizations and institutions work to ensure financial sustainability, the strength of their relationships with members of the funding community is paramount to their success. While the traditional relationships between a funder and an organization's executive director and development staff are critical, too often the program staff are overlooked as key drivers in building deeper and more meaningful relationships with the funding community. In this workshop, participants will examine the ways in which executive directors and development staff can collaborate with program staff to deepen their relationships internally to maximize external funding opportunities. Hear perspectives from a funder, executive director, development director, and a program director about the essential components of building deep and multi-layered relationships between a grantor and a grantee.

Location: Loch Raven II

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

NPEA Data Counts: Exploring Our Collective Impact on College Access and Success

- Roblyn Anderson Brigham, *Managing Partner*, Brigham Nahas Research Associates
- Sarah Conrad, *Chief Program Officer*, The Steppingstone Foundation

In April 2015, the National Partnership for Educational Access (NPEA) launched a data project called NPEA Data Counts. After extensive work with consultants and a pilot project team of NPEA member organizations, NPEA developed a list of ten critical indicators of college access and success for underrepresented students. Designed to provide consistency to the data collection, tracking, and reporting process, NPEA Data Counts seeks to better understand the work of its members at an aggregate level and ultimately support NPEA members and others in providing key services to students leading to success in college and beyond. During the fall of 2015, NPEA organizational members completed a Data Collection Tool providing information on the ten key indicators. This session will provide information about NPEA Data Counts and a summary of findings. You will have the chance to hear from one of the consultants as well as pilot project team members on their experiences and data challenges and successes.

Location: Potomac

Skill Level: All Levels

Connecting the Dots for Success in Working with Young Men of Color

- Corrina Grijalva, *College and Career Counselor*, Pinole Valley High School
- Sharon Cruz McKinney, *Director of Community Relations and Outreach*, University of La Verne
- Jacqueline Rushing, *Founder and Chief Executive Officer*, Young Scholars Program

The fastest growing populations in the country are minority groups with the lowest levels of male educational attainment. If present levels of education and current population trends hold, the United States will see a decline in the educational attainment of the country as a whole. The goal of ensuring the future global competitiveness of this country cannot be met without the full participation of our nation's young men of color. While there is no button to push to solve the educational challenges facing young men of color, the Young Scholars Program has a history of success with this demographic. This workshop will share experiences and best practices to increase the recruitment, retention, and graduation rates of young men of color and will address training high school counselors and building a network of post-secondary institutional partnerships.

Location: Severn I

Skill Level: Advanced

Moving the Conversation from Access to Success: Creating a College Success Formula

- Alpachino Hogue, *Director, Educational Programs*, LINK Unlimited Scholars
- Khair Sadrud-Din, *College Success Program Manager*, LINK Unlimited Scholars

This workshop will highlight research that illustrates some of the barriers to college success for students, encourage brainstorming and peer exchange around college success work in other organizations, and illustrate how LINK Unlimited Scholars utilized the Gallup-Purdue Index to support their collegiate scholars' success through college graduation. The Gallup-Purdue Index is used as a general framework for defining a successful college experience. This workshop will unpack the various experiences from the Index providing examples and testimonies to illustrate how each factor helps a student make the most of the college years.

Recognizing the college campus is often a microcosm of the realities of society, the presenters will explore potential roadblocks for students of color and offer attendees an opportunity to wrestle with these challenges. The presenters will also address why LINK Unlimited Scholars decided it was important to expand programming through college support and will share a framework for organizations to build their own college success formula.

Location: Severn II & III

Skill Level: All Levels

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM BOOK SIGNING

Please join us for a book signing with keynote speaker Shaun R. Harper.

Location: TBD

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM EDUCATION CHAMPIONS NETWORKING RECEPTION

Please join us for a networking reception and time to connect with your colleagues. You will have the opportunity to visit Education Champion resource tables to learn more about important work supporting underrepresented students.

Location: Chesapeake Gallery II & III

FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2016

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING

Network with other conference participants and discuss what you have learned at the conference so far.

Location: Chesapeake

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM MORNING GENERAL SESSION AND KEYNOTE

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Award for Excellence in Education Access

Presenters:

- Rebecca Cullen, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
- NPEA Advisory Board Member, TBD

Speaker Introduction:

- TBD

Keynote Speaker:

- Karen L. Mapp, *Senior Lecturer on Education, Faculty Director, Education Policy and Management Program, Harvard Graduate School of Education*

Keynote Title: *From Private Citizens to Public Actors: The Development of Parent Leaders through Community Organizing*

Location: Chesapeake Ballroom

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS

You will have the option to choose from one of the following eight workshop sessions during this time.

Txt4Success: Using Text Messaging to Engage Low-Income Students

- Alex Bartz, *National Innovation Pilot Specialist*, Summer Search
- Miranda Palter, *Senior Business Development Associate*, Signal Vine
- Hayley Trost, *Business Development Associate*, Signal Vine

Summer Search has launched personalized counseling by text message to help students going to college. Utilizing the Signal Vine platform, Summer Search “nudges” high school juniors and seniors to complete tasks such as registering for the SAT or completing college and scholarship applications. Summer Search will discuss their texting implementation model, initial struggles, and strategy moving forward. Signal Vine will discuss their technology and research with Dr. Benjamin Castleman and Dr. Lindsay Page, who studied how texting can reduce summer melt and increase matriculation rates, especially for low-income students. Participants will gain an understanding of the technology and how programs can use texting to improve student outcomes.

Location: Camden Room

Skill Level: All Levels

Asset-Based Family Engagement in College Readiness

- Emmanuel Fortune, *Director of College Readiness and Success*, Flamboyant Foundation
- Sanjay Mitchell, *Director of College and Alumni Programs*, Thurgood Marshall Academy Public Charter High School

As a part of Flamboyant Foundation’s approach to family engagement, the presenters believe in viewing families as assets in their child’s preparation for and ultimate success in college. This workshop will focus on best practices for organizations that partner with or coach schools and community based organizations on their engagement of families in the college-going process. An overview of Flamboyant Foundation’s approach to asset-based family engagement will be shared in addition to a featured partnership with Thurgood Marshall Academy who will share best practices and lessons learned from the field.

Location: Harborview I

Skill Level: Advanced

From Information to Action: Summer Learning Research, Policy, and Funding

- Rachel Gwaltney, *Director of Policy and Partnerships*, National Summer Learning Association

How do we make the case for sustaining summer learning? This session will dive into new research on summer learning and how it connects to program outcomes and best practices. Participants will learn about the various federal and state funding sources available for summer and after-school learning programs, and recent and upcoming federal and state policy activity that engages advocates. Participants will discuss how to use research to advocate for their programs and identify key funding and policy opportunities to pursue based on individual program priorities and areas of focus.

Location: Harborview II

Skill Level: Familiar with the Field, Experienced in the Field

Best Practices to Support Homeless Youth in Accessing Higher Education

- Cyekeia Lee, *Director of Higher Education Initiatives*, National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth
- Denise Ross, *Supervisor*, Homeless Education Office, Prince George's County Public Schools

Last year, 1.2 million children and youth attending public schools in the United States experienced homelessness. Of these students, over 56,000 indicated on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) they were homeless while accessing post-secondary programs. Higher education is their best hope for a better life and may be the only chance homeless students have to break cycles of poverty. This session will discuss barriers homeless youth encounter as they access higher education, including completing admissions applications, paying for application and testing fees, applying for federal student aid, securing housing, and more. Lastly, this session will share best practices for how secondary education and higher education professionals can work together to streamline access to higher education for homeless students.

Location: Loch Raven I

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

Boosting Civic Learning to Support College Access and Success

- Sarah Andes, *Director of Programming*, Generation Citizen

In this workshop, participants will consider how civic learning can support their efforts to prepare students for success in college and beyond. Generation Citizen, a national action civics organization, will identify best practices on classroom- and school-levels for promoting student voice, civic instruction, and community engagement, as well as offer a framework for helping educators drive students toward strong civic experiences in their schools. Participants will prioritize opportunities to strengthen their own practices and collectively anticipate and plan around potential challenges to success.

Location: Loch Raven II

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

Connections Beyond The Gates

- Nikki Youngblood Giles, *Director, Academic Success and Enrichment Programs*, Barnard College
- Nyoka Joseph, *Academic Counselor, Academic Success and Enrichment Programs*, Barnard College
- Jason Wolfe, *Associate Director, Academic Success and Enrichment Programs*, Barnard College

With the increasing gap in degree attainment, it is the responsibility of leading institutions of higher education to provide equitable opportunities for students to have access to surrounding communities. The Academic Success and Enrichment Programs at Barnard College partner with some of the most underserved communities in New York City including Washington Heights, Harlem, and the Lower East Side to provide resources and support to students, families, and educators. Presenters in this session will outline the goals, methods of implementation, and funding sources utilized to partner with surrounding communities and make connections beyond college campuses. The session will focus on College Goal New York and STEM Workshops as

examples of two successful community-focused programs.

Location: Potomac

Skill Level: Familiar with the Field

Fostering an Anti-Bias Culture in the Classroom and Beyond

- Khalilah Brann, *Equity Coach*, NYU Center for Strategic Solutions
- Natalie Zwerger, *Director*, NYU Center for Strategic Solutions

In this interactive session, participants will be exposed to how stereotypes and bias can impact relationships, brainstorm ideas to combat their effect, and learn ways to rally a community in an effort to create an anti-bias culture. The presenters will explore how creating and sustaining an anti-bias culture requires intentionality, a shift in mindset, and an unwavering community commitment to confronting inequities. Implicit bias and relationship stereotyping, particularly those that are cross-racial, cross-ethnic, and cross-cultural, can cause educational inequities. This session will explore tools to combat the effect of bias in our schools, including how to develop and foster a community of individuals who are committed to fighting inequities. This session will also offer strategies for community building and protocols for continued reflection and collaboration.

Location: Severn I

Skill Level: All Levels

Equity in Excellence: Teaching for Talent Development

- Jeanne Paynter, *Executive Director*, Talent Program Solutions

Recent research has identified a national crisis that is receiving more and more attention: an “excellence gap,” which denotes an achievement gap that exists at the higher levels of academic performance. Talent Program Solutions will share information on the Talent-Targeted Teaching approach, which is a research-based framework for addressing the “excellence gap” by providing underrepresented students with greater access to challenging learning opportunities designed to develop their unique aptitudes. In this session, educators will learn how they can apply the Talent-Targeted Teaching approach to their own programming and professional development. Lastly, sample lesson modules will address specific “excellence gap” issues in the Baltimore community.

Location: Severn II & III

Skill Level: Familiar with the Field, Experienced in the Field

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS

You will have the option to choose from one of the following eight workshop sessions during this time.

The College-Choice Process: What Latino Parents Need to Know Before, During & After

- Alex Rosero, *Founder*, Amapola

This workshop will focus on the college-choice process, including the three stages that students move through: predisposition, search and choice. Presenter(s) will also showcase academic research findings about Latino parents’ familiarity with “college knowledge” and share challenges, solutions and implications for understanding and promoting this critical information to this key constituency (Latino parents) throughout the k-12 pipeline.

Workshop attendees will reflect on their existing Latino student services and consider ways to enhance their college-access efforts by using the college-choice process framework and develop strategies to engage Latino parents before, during and after key education milestones.

Location: Camden Room

Skill Level: All Levels

Learning by Doing: Fostering Equity for Collaborative Partnerships to Support Student Achievement

- Amanda Bernasconi, Associate Director, Upward Bound, Suffolk University
- Debra Harkins, Associate Professor of Psychology, Suffolk University
- Carmen Veloria, Associate Professor, Sociology Department/Education Studies, Suffolk University

Institutes of higher education are a mecca of resources and services for students of underrepresented populations and their communities. However, too often the capabilities of these institutions are not leveraged collaboratively to achieve the best outcomes. Often times there's a real disconnect between faculty and professional staff and even a greater disconnect with the community-at-large. In 2014, Suffolk University established the Faculty Professional Learning Community (FPLC) to identify and create opportunities and best practices for service-learning in the Suffolk community and foster a positive campus culture that supports student transition, inclusion, and diversity. In this workshop, the presenters will share data, findings, and strategies to support established programs for underrepresented youth seeking to transition to college. They will also share the key steps used to build this mutually beneficial faculty and professional staff partnership, as well as highlight challenges and opportunities that emerged in the process.

Location: Harborview I

Skill Level: All Levels

Storytelling and Social Change: Engaging Students and Teachers as Agents of Education Transformation

- Carol Barash, *Chief Executive Officer*, Story2
- Keith Frome, *Chief Executive Officer*, College Summit
- Cameron Mussar, *Membership Associate*, Students for Education Reform
- Tyler Nakatsu, *Managing Editor and Creative Content Coordinator*, Getting Smart

During this session, the presenters will discuss how students' personal stories can be used as a tool for academic engagement and social change. They will use the research, experience, and stories of panelists to explore how storytelling contributes to students' desire to learn and lead others. Students will discuss how their own stories were shaped through the education process and how storytelling drives community change. Session participants will learn the key elements of successful storytelling and how storytelling can be incorporated into classrooms and college advisory groups to deepen students' community commitments and leadership. Participants will examine students' stories from multiple viewpoints and determine the role they play in students' advancement, advocacy, and achievements in life.

Location: Harborview II

Skill Level: All Levels

Arts Avenues: Successful Strategies for Engaging Communities in Arts Learning

- Carol Bogash, *Vice President of Education and Community Engagement*, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
- Helen Eaton, *Executive Director*, Settlement Music School
- Gavin Farrell, *Executive Director*, Peabody Preparatory
- Adam Johnston, *Community Engagement Manager*, Settlement Music School

The decline of arts education in urban public schools has changed the landscape for arts organizations and the communities they serve. Comprehensive and inclusive programs with proactive strategies for engaging communities are a necessity. In this panel discussion, learn how the Peabody Preparatory of the Johns Hopkins University, The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's OrchKids Program, and the Settlement School of Philadelphia engage pre-K-12 schools and under-resourced communities in expanding arts learning opportunities for urban youth. Through innovative programming and partnerships, organizations of all kinds can build avenues that lead to student success.

Location: Loch Raven I

Skill Level: New to the Field, Familiar with the Field

Supporting Students Preparing for the Redesigned SAT

- Akil Bello, *Director of Strategic Initiatives*, The Princeton Review

Join this session to examine and discuss the changes to the SAT and how they will impact those students who have historically struggled on the test. Drawing on The Princeton Review's extensive research, interactions with students preparing for the test, and experience taking the actual redesigned SAT, the presenter will share and discuss how students, schools, and institutions can implement best practices to maximize test-taker performance. Participants will leave this session with a keen understanding of which changes to the test will matter in student preparation and in college access. Participants will have the chance to share their own experiences in implementing preparation programs, learn about the wide variety of resources to help prepare students, and explore how to provide students with effective preparation solutions for the redesigned SAT.

Location: Loch Raven II

Skill Level: All Levels

Ivy League First Gen Students: Transition, Support, and the Critical Importance of Community

- Jay Davis, *Director, First Year Student Enrichment Program (FYSEP)*, Dartmouth College

Important to any college student's success, a sense of community is all the more critical to undergraduates who are the first in their family to attend college, and certainly to those who attend Ivy League institutions that only recently have focused resources on this population. This workshop will use several case studies to highlight the effectiveness of transition programs for first generation Ivy League students, while also highlighting the exceptional work of "IvyG" -- a student-founded and managed inter-Ivy first generation student undergraduate network that hosted its second annual conference in February 2016 at Harvard University.

Location: Potomac

Skill Level: All Levels

Fulfilling Institutional Missions through Community Partnerships in Early College Initiatives

- John Brenner, *Coordinator of Early College Initiatives*, University of Baltimore
- Frankie Gamber, *Head*, Bard High School Early College Baltimore
- Dumaine Williams, *Principal*, Bard High School Early College Cleveland

Urban universities are a vital component of their environments, often fulfilling institutional missions by meeting the needs of their communities. Similarly, early college high schools in inner cities work with students, families, and community partners to give students, many of whom are first-generation college-bound, a head start on higher education. Traditional and early colleges face serious challenges, and providing access for underserved public school populations is one of them. Fortunately, the urban setting is rife with potential. What sorts of partnerships are available to meet community and institutional needs? What partnerships work well in practice? What is the “bigger picture” of how institutional goals fit with non-profit, student support missions? Early College Initiatives at the University of Baltimore and Bard College's Early Colleges have risen to the challenge by preparing students for college and increasing their options for college access. Hear about these programs and enter a discourse on best practices and potential for growth.

Location: Severn I

Skill Level: Familiar with the Field

Establishing an Effective School-Based Peer Mentoring Program: Considerations and Case Study of Peer Group Connection

- Christine Harris, *Senior National Trainer*, Center for Supportive Schools
- Margo Ross, *Senior Director of Development*, Center for Supportive Schools

This workshop session will present strategies for establishing an effective high school or middle school-based peer mentoring program. The presenters will explore benefits and challenges to school-based peer mentoring and share best practice recommendations for program design and implementation. The Peer Group Connection (PGC) program of the Center for Supportive Schools will be presented as a case study example of an evidence-based model that has been successfully implemented in over 150 schools across the country since 1979. Participants will learn evidence-based practices for developing student mentors who are strongly connected through caring relationships with adults and peers and highly capable of using leadership, academic, social, and emotional skills.

Location: Severn II & III

Skill Level: Familiar with the Field

12:45 PM – 1:30 PM NETWORKING LUNCH
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Please enjoy a networking lunch prior to our closing Keynote General Session. The Closing Keynote General Session with Liz Murray will take place in the same room as lunch.

Location: Chesapeake Ballroom

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM CLOSING KEYNOTE GENERAL SESSION

Keynote Speaker:

- Liz Murray, *Author*, “Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard”

Keynote Title: *From Homeless to Harvard*

Location: Chesapeake Ballroom

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM BOOK SIGNING

Liz Murray is pleased to sign copies of her book immediately following her remarks.

Location: Chesapeake Ballroom Foyer