

77TH NATIONAL SEMINAR



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**77TH NATIONAL
SEMINAR**

THE MIRAGE HOTEL
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

May 29-June 1, 2024



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Education Writers Association

EWA wishes to thank our sponsors and supporters of the 77th EWA National Seminar.

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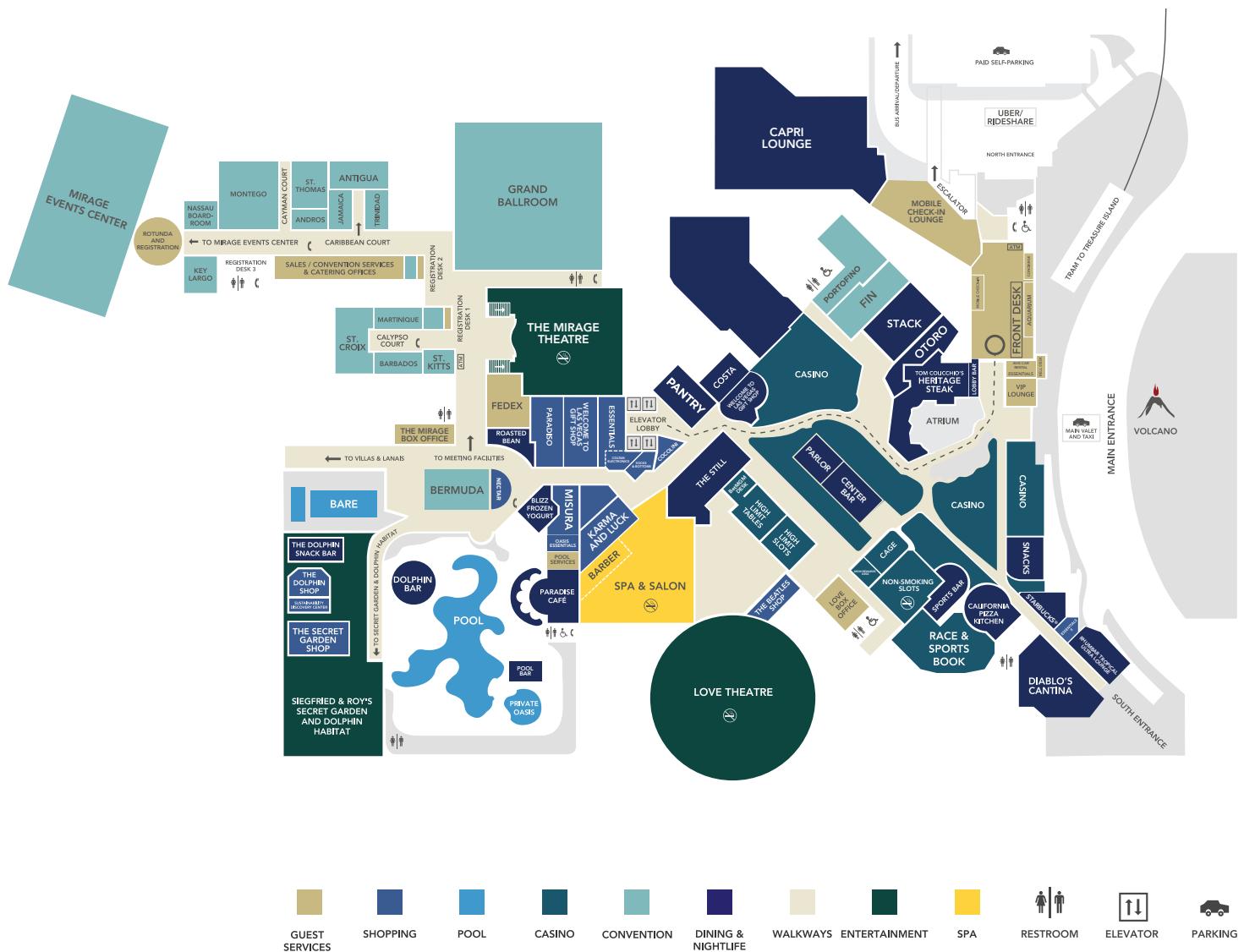
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**EWA
77TH
NATIONAL
SEMINAR**

The Mirage Hotel Map



The Mirage Room Map



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EWA
77TH NATIONAL
SEMINAR

WEDNESDAY
MAY 29

**77th NATIONAL
SEMINAR**

Networking

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

MEMBERS OF COLOR NETWORKING – GRAND BALLROOM E

LGBTQ+ MEMBERS NETWORKING – GRAND BALLROOM D

Registration Open

5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION DESK 1

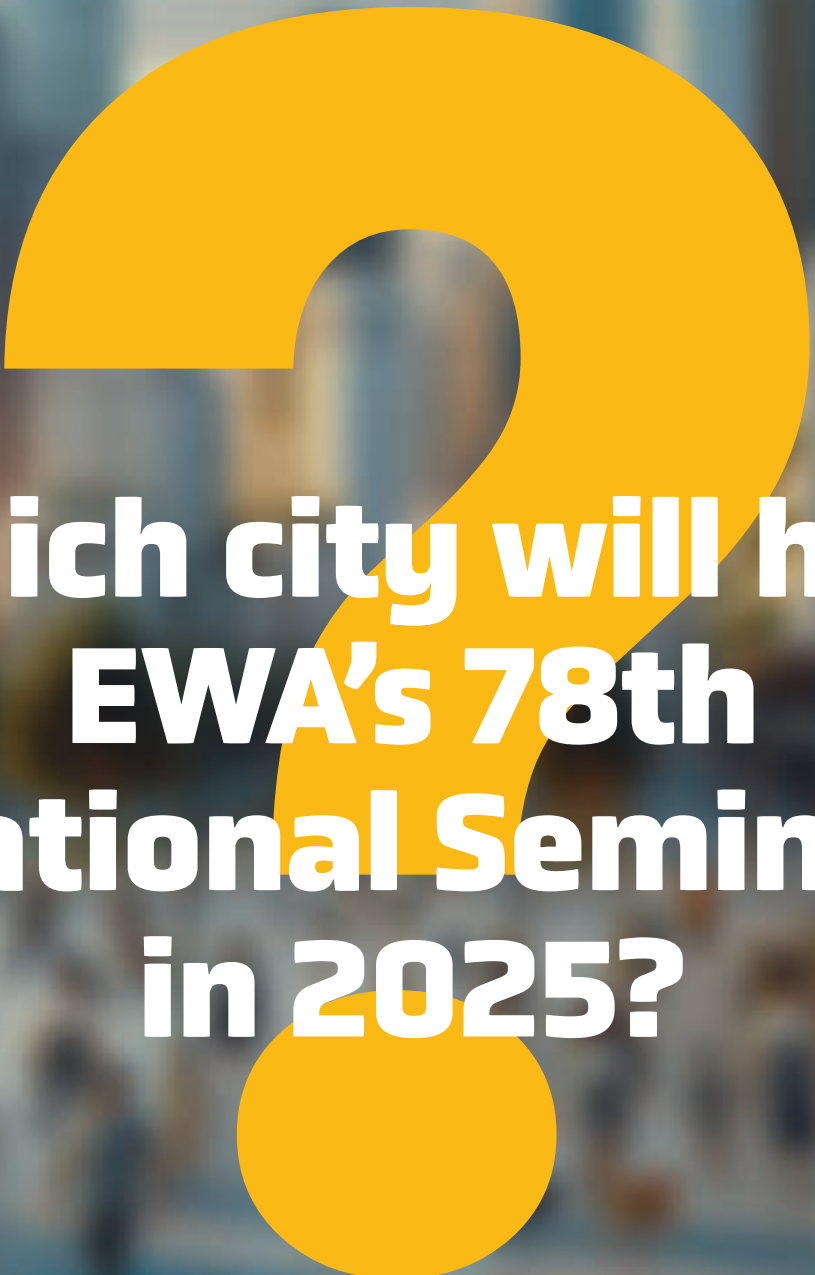
6 p.m. – p.m.

ST. CROIX A & B

Welcome Reception

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The American Federation of Teachers



Which city will host EWA's 78th National Seminar in 2025?



Stay tuned for the big reveal during this year's conference, and **sign up now** for exciting future updates.

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THURSDAY
MAY 30

27th NATIONAL
SEMINAR

REGISTRATION OPEN

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

REGISTRATION DESK 1

BREAKFAST

8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

THE MIRAGE THEATER FOYER

WELCOME ACTIVITIES

8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

GRAND BALLROOM A

Welcome & Kickoff Plenary

Welcome to the 77th EWA National Seminar

Kathy Chow, executive director, *Education Writers Association*

Eva-Marie Ayala, president, Board of Directors, *Education Writers Association*

Youth Voters, Civic Engagement: Public Education's Role

Education and civic engagement, including voting, are inextricably linked. To what extent are public schools meeting their longstanding obligation to develop a new generation of engaged citizens? Youth voters aren't a monolith: Different priorities are motivating women, people of color and the LGBTQ+ community to head to the polls. How can reporters get a better handle on critical demographic groups who have the potential to swing election outcomes, from local races to the presidency?

Sonja Diaz, *University of California, Los Angeles*

Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, *Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE)*

David Griffith, *Thomas B. Fordham Institute*

Shavar Jeffries, *KIPP Foundation*

Dana Goldstein, *The New York Times (moderator)*

THE MIRAGE THEATER FOYER: 10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Sponsored by the California Teachers Association

COFFEE BREAK

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Centering Student Voices in Student Mental Health Coverage

GRAND BALLROOM BC

As the mental health crisis among America's youth continues, the group most central to this issue – youth, themselves – are crucial to coverage. We turn over the mic to two students who host a podcast about student mental health to talk with an expert, a student who is a mental health advocate and a youth media producer about why and how to center student voices in mental health coverage.

Briget Ganske, *PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs*

Areli Rosales, *The Jed Foundation 2024 Student Voice of Mental Health Award recipient*

Laura Erickson-Schroth, *The Jed Foundation*

Bree Campbell, *PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs/'On Our Minds' (moderator)*

James Kim, *PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs/'On Our Minds' (moderator)*

DEI Pushback on Campus

GRAND BALLROOM G

State anti-DEI laws are proliferating, and some colleges are ending diversity initiatives. As a result, students at those schools are seeing a drastic change in support for students and educators from marginalized backgrounds. How will this climate impact new generations of students? Journalists, experts and advocates discuss the DEI pushback on campuses and offer tips to reporters.

J. Brian Charles, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Jonathan Friedman, *PEN America*

Paulette Granberry Russell, *National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education*

Divya Kumar, *Tampa Bay Times (moderator)*

No (Digital) Silver Bullets: Covering the Business of Ed Tech

GRAND BALLROOM E

Amid backlash from how distance learning played out for millions of students during the COVID-19 pandemic, what lessons did educators and researchers learn about the possibilities and limits of ed tech? Where are school districts making big investments or, conversely, pulling back? How can reporters keep better tabs on spending and student outcomes, and evaluate district contracts with an eye toward educational equity?

Morgan Ames, *University of California, Berkeley*

Jun Kim, *Moore Public Schools (Oklahoma)*

Pati Ruiz, *Digital Promise*

Natasha Singer, *The New York Times (moderator)*

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. (cont'd)

What Education Reporters Need to Know About the Legal System

GRAND BALLROOM D

Education reporters frequently need to find, understand and report on civil rights and First Amendment issues at schools – including related lawsuits and federal complaints. Journalists who have used legal documents to inform their reporting discuss where to look for that information and detail what kinds of stories reporters can find and how to understand what they're seeing. Panelists also discuss the ethical issues of covering legal cases involving minors.

Vanessa de León, *Texas Tech University*

Rhodesia McMillian, *The Ohio State University*

Scott Travis, *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*

Melissa Barragán Taboada, *The Boston Globe*
(moderator)

COMMUNITY MEMBER TRACK Reporter Roundtable

BERMUDA A

In a perennially popular session, reporters share insights into what pitches and news capture their attention — and what ones don't.

Daarel Burnette, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Marta Jewson, *The Lens*

Srishti Prabha, *CapRadio*

Janae Hinson, *GMMB* (moderator)

SPONSOR SESSION Exploring the Role of AI in K-12 Entrepreneurship Education

BARBADOS

The rapid evolution of generative artificial intelligence is altering labor market dynamics. Hear about the workforce's AI unreadiness and how the educational and policymaking sectors are slowly adapting to accelerate workforce preparation and set policy on AI application. Learn what policies are needed for a student-centric approach that merges youth entrepreneurship with AI in education and stimulates workforce development. *(Sponsored and organized by Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship.)*

Cody Chang, *Tier One AI Labs*

Ryan Kinser, *Arizona State University*

Tara Phelps, *Next Stage Strategies*

J.D. LaRock, *Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship*
(moderator)

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Lunch

GRAND BALLROOM A

12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM A

Keynote Plenary

Miguel Cardona, *U.S. Department of Education*

Erica L. Green, *The New York Times* (moderator)

REGISTRATION OPEN

1:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION DESK 1

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

BREAK

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Back of the Ballot but Center Stage: Spotlight on School Board Elections

GRAND BALLROOM G

The outcomes of school board races this fall could shake up education policies and priorities at the local level. Amid growing distrust of public officials and decreasing civility in some communities, how does a school board's makeup – including race and political leanings – influence how, what and where students learn? Discover innovative ways to deepen your coverage, from developing a candidate survey to making the most of public records.

Jonathan Collins, *Columbia University*

Mackenzie Mays, *Los Angeles Times*

Krista Torralva, *independent journalist*

Jerry Zremski, *University of Maryland*

Kristen Taketa, *The San Diego Union-Tribune*
(moderator)

Lessons From the Early Childhood Education Beat

BERMUDA A

Interested in covering early childhood education (ECE)? Choose your own adventure at this interactive workshop for journalists. Speakers kick off with "lightning" talks on their areas of expertise. Then, attendees have the opportunity to rotate between several roundtable discussions, where they can workshop stories, attend a mini orientation to the ECE beat, learn to incorporate complex workforce issues into coverage or consult a national expert.

Moriah Balingit, *The Associated Press*

Daisy Nguyen, *KQED*

Casey Peeks, *Center for American Progress*

Emily Tate Sullivan, *EdSurge*

70 Years After Brown: The Persistence of School Segregation

GRAND BALLROOM BC

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, yet many of the nation's schools remain segregated. Experts provide important historical context while grounding this issue in the present, explaining what segregation looks like today, recent legal developments and strategies to address the problem. Learn how school segregation intersects with other issues, such as housing policy and the ban on race-conscious admissions in higher education.

Alejandra Vázquez Baur, *The Century Foundation*

Erica Frankenberg, *Pennsylvania State University*

Janel George, *Georgetown University*

Catherine Carrera, *Chalkbeat Newark* (moderator)

Undocumented Students: The Challenges of Getting to and Through College

GRAND BALLROOM E

Undocumented students face many barriers to accessing higher education. While many states now offer these students in-state tuition and financial aid, they can't access federal aid. Meanwhile, proliferating anti-DEI laws threaten college support for undocumented students, and many now don't have DACA protections. This session explores research on the needs of this diverse group, and details why it's important that lawmakers, colleges and organizations support their access to higher education.

Hyein Lee, *TheDream.US*

Marcela Rodrigues, *The Dallas Morning News*

Daysi Diaz-Strong, *University of Illinois, Chicago*

Sneha Dey, *The Texas Tribune* (moderator)

COMMUNITY MEMBER TRACK

AI and Its Applications for PR Professionals

GRAND BALLROOM D

Artificial intelligence is already being applied in educational contexts, such as teacher lesson planning. But for PR professionals, the possibilities of AI are just beginning to be explored. PR pros and business leaders share ways AI can help in our day-to-day work. What do we need to know to deploy this technology wisely, ethically and safely?

David Hoff, *David J Hoff Communications*

Maureen Kelleher, *FutureEd*

Kevin Tyler, *Collaborative Communications*

Lauren Roth, *Orange County Public Schools (Florida)* (moderator)

SPONSOR SESSION

Voices From America's Classrooms: Three Stories to Watch in 2024 and Beyond

BARBADOS

Join three national education leaders as they dive into three critical issues facing today's educators and students. First, the future is here – AI in the classroom. Then: What's driving the false narrative of the so-called divide among parents, educators, and students? (It's not what you think.) And finally, the politicization of public education and how taking away learning opportunities hurts public students. **(Sponsored and organized by the National Education Association.)**

Yvonne Johnson, *National Parent Teacher Association*

Erin Mote, *InnovateEDU*

Becky Pringle, *National Education Association*

Sequoia Carrillo, *NPR* (moderator)

THE MIRAGE THEATER FOYER: 2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Sponsored by the California Teachers Association

COFFEE BREAK

A Multidimensional Approach to Amplify Positive Change: Reimagining Schools as Vital Public Infrastructure

By Siegel Family Endowment

What opportunities exist for positive change—for our children, families, educators, and communities—when we reimagine schools as vital public infrastructure?

At Siegel Family Endowment, we take a multidimensional approach that views school as the sum of three interconnected parts:

- Physical infrastructure that includes the built environment that enables teaching and learning to happen
- Digital infrastructure that includes all aspects of technology, data, and systems that are used by various actors within the school ecosystem
- Social infrastructure that includes the relationships and connections between the vast array of people who are directly and indirectly part of the school community



While it may at first seem unusual to frame these efforts with the language of infrastructure, viewing the work through the lens of a holistic framework presents a broader opportunity to explore the transformative power of innovations in education, and to imagine ways of pushing them even further to empower and improve entire communities.

In our white paper "Schools as Community Infrastructure" we lay out a vision for how funders can engage community members and leverage their unique positions to propel this work.

We hope that this white paper can act as an invitation to learn, share, partner, and chart how far a multidimensional lens can take us in creating change in education.

Scan the QR Code to Learn More



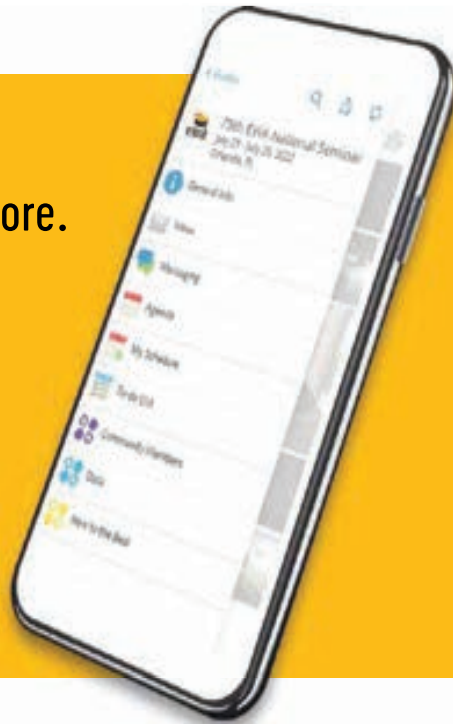


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CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

How to Overcome Typical Challenges on the Ed Beat

BERMUDA A

In a series of roundtables, journalists discuss challenges of getting into classrooms and strategies after getting denied, securing timely access to documents, approaching officials who are hiding and adding student voices. They advise on dangerous or difficult situations, including violent demonstrations, online threats and in-person intimidation. Additionally, speakers share tips on surviving tight deadlines, dealing with difficult editors and refreshing annual education story ideas.

Howard Blume, *Los Angeles Times*

Sequoia Carrillo, *NPR*

Mila Koumpilova, *Chalkbeat Chicago*

Steven Walker, *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*

Larry Gordon, *EdSource* (moderator)

Postsecondary Pathways: Choose Your Own Adventure!

GRAND BALLROOM D

For many students from low-income backgrounds, postsecondary pathways can offer a route to steady careers and social mobility. But who really gets to choose the most profitable pathways, and who's being steered to less-desirable work? This session examines pathways as a question, not just of opportunity but equity, and shares how reporters can evaluate the programs in their communities.

Marty Alvarado, *Jobs for the Future*

Jhone Ebert, *Nevada Department of Education*

Rashid Davis, *Pathways in Technology Early College High School (New York)*

Jamaal Abdul-Alim, *The Conversation* (moderator)

School Political Battles: The Need for Context and Consequences in Coverage

GRAND BALLROOM BC

From partisan school board elections to anti-DEI laws to efforts to limit what students can learn and read, especially about race and LGBTQ+ issues, education reporters are covering issues often driven by political extremism. Journalists who have done in-depth reporting on these battles discuss how to produce fair, accurate and nuanced reports, particularly by investigating the forces behind these efforts, centering students and explaining the consequences of new laws and policies.

Nicole Carr, *independent investigative journalist*

Mike Hixenbaugh, *NBC News*

Laura Pappano, *independent education journalist*

The Language of Disabilities

GRAND BALLROOM G

How do educators talk about disability within education? How can journalists include disability in their reporting, no matter the angle? This session destigmatizes talking about disabilities and provides tools for interacting with sources, educators and policymakers. Speakers provide historical context for “medical” and “social” models of disabilities and discuss how districts and states approach disabilities in schools.

Joyner Emerick, *Minneapolis Public Schools Board of Education*

Angélica Infante-Green, *Rhode Island Department of Education*

Christian McMahon, *Arc of California*

Jennifer LaFleur, *National Center on Disability and Journalism* (moderator)

Using Data to Cover Curriculum

GRAND BALLROOM E

For reporters covering curriculum, it can be frustrating to figure out what teachers use and how. Now, the data is available. RAND offers regular surveys of teachers, principals and superintendents that can inform coverage of curricula. Experts show reporters how to use data while covering curriculum – from social studies to algebra – while journalists provide advice on investigating questions of quality.

Note: Sign up at www.bentobento.info for an interactive exercise during the session.

Kate Brittain, *Kitamba*

Sy Doan, *RAND*

Christopher Peak, *APM Reports*

Holly Korbey, *independent journalist* (moderator)

SPONSOR SESSION

Is It Possible to Stay Elected as a Pro-Charter Democrat?

BARBADOS

Running for elected office as a pro-charter Democrat means navigating the tension between supporting traditional schools while advocating for more seats for underserved youth in high-quality charter schools. What resources do charters need to thrive and serve more Black and brown students, a core Democratic constituency? Gain a nuanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing pro-charter leaders as they navigate education reform.

(Sponsored and organized by the Charter School Growth Fund.)

State Sen. James Coleman, *Colorado State Senate*

Margaret Fortune, *Fortune School*

State Rep. Chris Mathias, *Idaho House of Representatives*

Former Georgia Rep. Alisha Thomas Searcy, *Democrats for Education Reform*

Darryl Cobb, *Charter School Growth Fund* (moderator)

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

BREAK

SESSION

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Developing a Feature Reporting Mindset

Eric Hoover, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

GRAND BALLROOM D

What does it take to create a compelling narrative story? It's not just writing chops. An award-winning writer walks journalists through reporting techniques that can help them become great storytellers.

CAUCUSES AND SMALL-GROUP MEETINGS

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Colleagues with common interests come together in this collection of community-building meetings. Conference participants share tips, discuss challenges and get to know each other.

Children and Families

TRINIDAD A

Journalists network and share resources for expanding coverage of children and families in education reporting.

Marie Holmes, *HuffPost* (facilitator)

Covering Suburban Schools

BARBADOS

This caucus provides reporters with the tools and insights needed to navigate the complexities of suburban education coverage. From demographic shifts to debates over discipline and curriculum reform, dive into the critical issues shaping suburban education.

Dayna Muñiz, *University of Pennsylvania*

Decoteau Irby, *University of Illinois, Chicago*

Benjamin Herold, *independent journalist* (facilitator)

Education Research Cohort

TRINIDAD B

Members of the fall 2023 Reporting with Education Research cohort will gather to discuss lessons learned and challenges ahead.

Jill Barshay, *The Hechinger Report* (co-facilitator)

Denise-Marie Ordway, *The Journalist's Resource* (co-facilitator)

Bridging the Gap: Increasing Latino Journalists' Representation on the Ed Beat

BERMUDA A

This critical, bilingual discussion sheds light on the significant underrepresentation of Latino journalists covering Hispanic communities in education and the far-reaching implications. Open to all conference attendees.

Maritza L. Félix, *Conecta Arizona*

Beatriz Limón, *Arizona Luminaria*

José Martínez, *CBS News Bay Area* (facilitator)

EVENING ACTIVITIES

EWA National Awards for Education Reporting

6 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM A

Reception

6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM A

Category Awards Ceremony

Remarks by Stephen Handel, ECMC Foundation



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FRIDAY
MAY 31

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SEMINAR

REGISTRATION OPEN

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

REGISTRATION DESK 1

BREAKFAST

7:45 a.m. – 9 a.m.

THE MIRAGE THEATER FOYER

BREAKFAST SESSION

8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

Covering Campus Protests

BERMUDA A

A nationwide wave of campus protests erupted this spring, largely driven by concern over widespread suffering in Gaza from Israeli military strikes during the Israel-Hamas war. Several colleges, citing safety concerns, brought in the local police. Colleges plunged into turmoil as thousands were arrested. Student journalists provided on-the-ground coverage. Reporters discuss the student protests, how best to cover them and, come fall, what speech on campus might look like.

Note: Bring your breakfast from The Mirage Theater Foyer.

Maggie Hicks, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Neil Mehta, *The Brown Daily Herald*

Michael Elsen-Rooney, *Chalkbeat New York*

Daarel Burnette, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*
(moderator)

BREAKFAST CAUCUS

8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

Expanding the Beat: Topics in Rural Education

TRINIDAD A

This caucus provides reporters with the tools and insights needed to navigate reporting on rural communities, education and topics that matter to rural audiences. **Note:** Bring your breakfast from The Mirage Theater Foyer.

Samantha Hernandez, *Des Moines Register* (facilitator)

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9 a.m. – 10 a.m.

After X: Social Media for Education Journalists in the Post-Twitter World

GRAND BALLROOM BC

How can reporters find new social media avenues for sourcing, sharing their work and building audience engagement? Two expert journalists share insights, tips and strategies for leveraging a variety of platforms in new and unexpected ways. Reporters leave with a take-home worksheet to strategize their next steps, tailored to their individual needs and audiences.

Nichole Dobo, *The Hechinger Report*

Elite Truong, *American Press Institute*

How Can Schools Best Support New Immigrant Students?

GRAND BALLROOM E

Since last fall, enrollment has increased at many school districts as immigrant students have arrived. Cities like New York, Chicago and Denver are addressing the evolving needs of these newcomers, including mental health and language services. What does genuine support for these children and their families look like? Journalists, experts and researchers discuss financial investments from the state and federal level and share stories reporters should cover about newcomer students.

Alejandra Vázquez Baur, *The Century Foundation*

Hannah Liu, *Center for Law and Social Policy*

Zaidee Stavelly, *EdSource*

Reema Amin, *Chalkbeat Chicago* (moderator)

Involving High School Journalists in Education Coverage

GRAND BALLROOM D

In New York City, the media capital of the world, only about one in four public high schools has a student news outlet. The Bell and Chalkbeat New York are helping to fill the journalism opportunity gap with P.S. Weekly, a student-hosted podcast about local schools. Meet the youth-adult team behind this exciting new reporting model. Learn how they manage the collaboration and get inspired to involve students in your own reporting.

Shoaa Khan, *student journalist*

Taylor McGraw, *The Bell*

Jose Santana, *student journalist*

Alex Zimmerman, *Chalkbeat New York*

Sabrina DuQuesnay, *The Bell* (moderator)

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. (cont'd)

The Equity Work Ahead After the End of Race-Conscious Admissions

GRAND BALLROOM G

It's been a year since the Supreme Court effectively banned colleges from using race-based admissions policies. How are colleges working to diversify their campuses, or how should they? How have students been impacted? Hear from admissions experts, journalists and a recent college graduate about the work ahead at colleges and across the education sector to ensure equal access to higher education for all students.

Rose Arce, *Soledad O'Brien Productions*

David Hawkins, *National Association for College Admission Counseling*

Kedra Ishop, *University of Southern California*

Alphina Kamara, *TeenSHARP*

Liz Willen, *The Hechinger Report* (moderator)

The Evolving and Expanding Role of the School Principal

TRINIDAD A

School leaders have always worn multiple hats. Today, they also must grapple with student behavioral issues, chronic absenteeism, safety concerns and mental health challenges. How has a school leader's role shifted over time to meet evolving student and educator needs? Hear directly from experienced school principals leading the charge.

Michael A. Randolph, *Leesburg High School (Florida)*

Natasha Singer, *The New York Times*

Chris Young, *North Country Union High School (Vermont)*

Olina Banerji, *Education Week* (moderator)

COMMUNITY MEMBER TRACK

What's Hot, What's Not

BERMUDA A

X or Threads? Podcast or op-ed? Press release or brand journalism? Peddle an op-ed or promote a Twitter thread? Is the science of reading still a thing? Does school choice still matter? What about student loans? A perennial National Seminar fave is back. We look at what's in and what's out in today's education communications ecosystem.

Adan Garcia, *Leading Educators*

Gretchen Wright, *WestEd*

Patrick Riccards, *Driving Force Institute for Public Engagement* (moderator)

THE MIRAGE THEATER FOYER: 10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Sponsored by Arnold Ventures

COFFEE BREAK

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Black Girls Matter, Too: Over Punished and Under Supported

BERMUDA A

Contrary to popular reporting, the disparate treatment of Black students is not only racial; it is also gendered. Black girls make up 15% of female students, yet they account for 47% of girls receiving corporal punishment and 43% of those expelled. Experts discuss the unique overlap of race and gender biases Black girls face in schools, ways to support Black girls and how to tell more – and better – Black girls' stories.

Teresa Lawrence Jones, *Glenbard Township High School District 87 (Illinois)*

Sydney McKinney, *National Black Women's Justice Institute*

G'Yanna Perry, *Code Switch: Restorative Justice for Girls of Color*

Venus E. Evans-Winters, *The Ohio State University*

Melinda D. Anderson, *independent journalist* (moderator)

Could Editing Be Your Next Step?

TRINIDAD A

Do you love being a journalist but want to try something beyond beat reporting? Do you want to help other journalists do their best work, drive impact over more stories and shape your publication's coverage and priorities? If you're thinking about making a transition from reporter to editor but aren't sure where to start, this session is for you. Hear advice on growth opportunities and making the leap into management.

Nirvi Shah, *The Hechinger Report*

Eric Stirgus, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

Melissa Barragán Taboada, *The Boston Globe*

Asher Lehrer-Small, *Houston Landing* (moderator)

Decoding the Student Loan Repayment Landscape

GRAND BALLROOM G

After a three-year pause, federal student loan payments are back. But the situation is far from simple: Millions of borrowers have not yet made their first repayment. Who are those borrowers, and why haven't they begun paying off their debt? What is the impact of the Biden administration's new income-driven repayment plan (SAVE)? Reporters and experts share insights that help reporters make sense of all the complicated developments and tell stories that are both accessible and actionable.

Celina Damian, *California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation*

Betsy Mayotte, *The Institute of Student Loan Advisors*

Cory Turner, *NPR*

Alia Wong, *USA TODAY* (moderator)

**ECMC Foundation is pleased to sponsor the
National Awards for Education Reporting.
Congratulations to the winners and finalists!**

ECMC Foundation is a national, private foundation whose North Star goal is to eliminate equity gaps in postsecondary completion by 2040. Our mission is to improve higher education for career success among underserved populations through evidence-based innovation.



www.ecmcfoundation.org

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Calling All Journalists: Apply to Speak at SXSW EDU 2025



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Connect deeper with your community and tackle the world's most critical social issues through the lens of education by being part of the program at SXSW EDU, happening March 3–6, 2025 in Austin, Texas.

Starting **June 25, 2024**, apply to speak in **PanelPicker**, the official online platform that enables the community to propose session ideas. Use this opportunity to share your unique ideas and showcase your expertise to transform the future of teaching and learning.

Stay tuned for more information and sign up for the email newsletter at sxswedu.com/email-hub to receive the latest updates straight to your inbox.

LEARN MORE
sxswedu.com/panelpicker

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (cont'd)

Do's and Don'ts of Covering Trans Issues in Education

GRAND BALLROOM D

Students returned to schools this year to dozens of new anti-LGBTQ+ laws. And increasingly, federal policy interpretations, politicians and school boards have turned an eye toward LGBTQ+ students. What's politics, and what's fact? How do we report the implementation and consequences of new laws? What public records exist? What groups and movements have driven the political work that brought us here? Whose voices are missing, and how do we reach them?

Beth Hawkins, *The 74*

Mike Hixenbaugh, *NBC News*

Justin Myers, *Chicago Sun-Times*

Kae Petrin, *Chalkbeat* (moderator)

How I Did the (School Choice) Story: Homeschooling and Beyond

GRAND BALLROOM BC

Homeschooling, Education Savings Accounts, microschoools and other school choice topics are becoming more prominent in education coverage. What are the best ways to cover them, and what reporting techniques should be used?

Annie Martin, *Orlando Sentinel*

Laura Meckler, *The Washington Post*

Neal Morton, *The Hechinger Report*

Leslie Postal, *Orlando Sentinel*

Meghan Mangrum, *Piedmont Media* (moderator)

STUDENT DATA PRIVACY PART 1 Hacking Into a District: What Reporters Should Know

GRAND BALLROOM E

Clark County School District in Nevada – the nation's fifth-largest district – faced a cyberattack last fall with 200,000 student profiles leaked. Though the security of student data is always at risk, this breach was unique. It involved attempted extortion, hacker contact with local news and muddled communication to families and students. Cyberattacks are often confusing and complex. Experts and reporters offer a guide to how reporters can best cover this and other data privacy issues.

Bill Fitzgerald, *Global Cyber Alliance*

Rocio Hernandez, *The Nevada Independent*

Kathy Moore, *The 74* (moderator)

SPONSOR SESSION**Reporting on a Mass School Shooting in Your Hometown**

BARBADOS

After the Robb Elementary School shooting, journalists at the Uvalde Leader-News reported on the fallout that affected every city institution. Journalists there relied on facts and long-standing relationships to push for transparency. Staff at the Leader-News will discuss their coverage, including how they balanced sensitivity with the need for accountability, why their coverage goals differed from the national media and reporting challenges they faced. **(Sponsored and organized by SXSW EDU.)**

Melissa Federspill, *assistant managing editor***Meghann Garcia**, *managing editor***Craig Garnett**, *owner and publisher***Pete Luna**, *general manager and photojournalist***Megan Hundahl-Streete**, *freelance national news journalist (moderator)*

11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

BREAK

LUNCH CAUCUS

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Journalist Only – LGBTQ+ Reporter Caucus

TRINIDAD A

Journalists with shared and intersectional identities are invited to network, troubleshoot industry issues and build community with others on the education beat. Open to journalist members only. **Note: Bring your lunch from Grand Ballroom A.**

Randy Slovacek, *The Randy Report (facilitator)*

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM A

Awards Announcement Lunch

After lunch, awards will be given out for the EGF Accelerator's Eddie Prize, the Ronald Moskowitz Prize for Outstanding Beat Reporting and the Fred M. Hechinger Grand Prize for Distinguished Education Reporting.

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

BREAK

REGISTRATION OPEN

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION DESK 1

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

A Look at Out-of-School Time and Academic Recovery

GRAND BALLROOM D

Out-of-school time programs, including after-school and summer learning, received unprecedented attention – and funds – in the years following pandemic-era school closures. How far have these programs moved the needle on academic recovery? Will the end of ESSER funds impede progress that's been made thus far?

Kari Denissen Cunnien, *Ignite Afterschool*

Miles Davison, *Northwest Evaluation Association*

Georgia Hall, *National Institute on Out-of-School Time*

Patrick O'Donnell, *independent journalist* (moderator)

How I Did the Story With Student Journalists and Awards Finalists

GRAND BALLROOM G

Student journalism is more critical than ever as schools nationwide face a multitude of issues, including student protests and challenges to curricula and books. College and high school reporters offer on-the-ground coverage of their fellow students, teachers and institutions. Student reporters break down their coverage, discuss the dual experience of being a student and a reporter and offer tips on how best to elevate student voice.

Miles Herszenhorn, *Harvard Crimson*

Jose Santana, *The Bell*

Dasia Williams, *Open Campus*

Jennifer Thomas, *Howard University* (moderator)

Select Shortages to Looming Layoffs: Reporting on the Teacher Workforce

GRAND BALLROOM BC

Teacher shortages continue to be a challenge in certain geographic and subject areas. Turnover rates have fallen, but they still remain above pre-pandemic levels. At the same time, school districts may be forced to conduct layoffs when federal pandemic-relief funds expire. In this session, get a handle on the current state of the teacher workforce, suggestions on storylines to follow and tips for putting trends in context.

Audra DeRidder, *Iron Mountain Public Schools (Michigan)*

Sy Doan, *RAND*

Dan Goldhaber, *American Institutes for Research*

Madeline Will, *Education Week* (moderator)

STUDENT DATA PRIVACY PART 2 Regulating Facial Recognition in Schools

GRAND BALLROOM E

Last fall, the New York Department of Education made national headlines after the state banned the use of facial recognition technology in schools. Meanwhile, technology surveillance companies routinely pitch facial recognition as a security measure for school districts nationwide. What should reporters know when it comes to the use and effectiveness of this technology? Journalists and experts discuss the new landscape of school security, data privacy and how best to report on these issues.

Renee Cheatham, *Lockport New Beginnings Inc.*

Stefanie Coyle, *New York Civil Liberties Union*

Anna Merod, *K-12 Drive* (moderator)

COMMUNITY MEMBER TRACK DEI in Ed: Communications, Public Opinion and the Law – What You Need to Know

BERMUDA A

This session uses a legal and communications lens to examine the current anti-DEI movement and its impact on education. It breaks down new laws shaping education today, highlights the latest in public opinion research and explores how different communities are impacted. Communicators receive a fuller picture of the current narrative and explore concrete messages and strategies for operating in this new climate.

Kamali Burke, *Fenton*

Nicolle Grayson, *EdTrust*

Robert Kim, *Education Law Center*

Erica Parker, *The Harris Poll*

Daria Hall, *Fenton* (moderator)

SPONSOR SESSION Parents as Students Too: 'Raising Up' Stories that Connect Across Beats

BARBADOS

Following a 15-minute screening of a new short film series chronicling the experiences of college students raising kids, a panel of local and national journalists will share insights on covering student parents. This session provides a range of entry points into an under-reported topic that spans many beats – higher ed, early learning, racial equity, reproductive rights and economic mobility – and affects communities across the country. **(Sponsored and organized by Imaginable Futures.)**

Elissa Nadworny, *NPR*

Valeria Olivares, *The Dallas Morning News*

Nirvi Shah, *The Hechinger Report*

Jenn Clark, *Imaginable Futures* (moderator)

THE MIRAGE THEATER FOYER: 2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

COFFEE BREAK

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Covering Education as a Broadcast Journalist

GRAND BALLROOM D

A \$50,000 camera isn't necessary to tell powerful stories. Go beyond sitting, listening and taking notes in this session: Emmy and Edward R. Murrow awards-winning broadcast journalists move around the room, laugh and help you grow. Watch stories with creative video; take out your phone and learn to shoot better video. Plus, learn how GoPros and smartphones can supplement or become the sole camera to create powerful, professional broadcast stories.

Mike Castellucci, *Michigan State University*

Mark Muller, *NBC Universal Local*

Wayne Carter, *NBC 5 News Dallas-Fort Worth*
(moderator)

STUDENT DATA PRIVACY PART 3 How I Did the Story: Diving Into Student Data Privacy

BALLROOM E

AI chatbots, teletherapy apps for students, virtual tutoring services and the College Board all have something in common – and it's not just education. They collect and save data, especially educational technology companies that provide products students use. How can reporters best cover student data privacy? Journalists dive into their reporting and offer tips.

Skylar Rispens, *EdScoop*

Arijit Sen, *CBS News*

Ashley White, *The Acadiana Advocate*

Kathy Moore, *The 74* (moderator)

'I'm Not Good at Math.'

GRAND BALLROOM G

Test scores have dramatically declined in math – far more than in reading – as a result of the pandemic. And parents say they're most worried about whether their kids are learning the subject. A panel of journalists and experts describe what's at stake and offer tips on the best way to cover math education issues, including focusing on equity and how to get beyond the 'math wars.'

Melodie Baker, *Just Equations*

Sharon Lurye, *The Associated Press*

Jo Napolitano, *The 74*

Joe Hong, *Spencer Fellow* (moderator)

What Would Make College Feel Like a Less Risky Bet?

GRAND BALLROOM BC

Surveys continue to show that many Americans question the value of a college degree. What's driving that perception? What are policymakers and colleges doing to make higher education degrees more relevant and affordable? Hear from experts and journalists about the public's perception of college value, what actions by policymakers and colleges might change those views and how students are impacted by those perceptions.

Beth Akers, *American Enterprise Institute*

Sneha Dey, *The Texas Tribune*

Sophie Nguyen, *New America*

Stephen Perez, *California State University, Chico*

Eric Kelderman, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*
(moderator)

SPONSOR SESSION

Rethinking Burnout: Real Solutions to Keep Teachers in the Classroom

BARBADOS

Stories of staffing shortages and job-related stress abound. But hope is emerging as educators reclaim their wellbeing and rejuvenate their passion for teaching. The AFT, in collaboration with Educators Thriving, is tackling burnout by offering tailored personal development programs and empowering educators to define their measures of wellbeing. Hear how this program is making a difference in one district and how it's spreading. (**Sponsored and organized by the American Federation of Teachers.**)

Tiffany Dittrich, *White Bear Lake Area Educators (Minnesota)*

Alison Gillespie, *White Bear Lake Area Schools (Minnesota)*

Tyler Hester, *Educators Thriving*

Fedrick C. Ingram, *AFT, AFL-CIO*

Kristen Griffith, *The Baltimore Banner* (moderator)

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

BREAK

CAUCUSES AND SMALL-GROUP MEETINGS

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Colleagues with common interests come together in this collection of community-building meetings. Conference participants share tips, discuss challenges and get to know each other.

Burnout on the Ed Beat: What It Is, What It Means

GRAND BALLROOM D

Journalists experience a rising rate of burnout. Join us for a discussion on what burnout is, what it isn't and conversation on how the profession can better support journalists facing the syndrome.

Jewél Jackson, *Illinois Answers Project* (co-facilitator)

Naseem Miller, *The Journalist's Resource* (co-facilitator)

Journalist Only – Networking and Connecting: Black Journalist Caucus

BERMUDA A

Journalists with shared and intersectional identities are invited to network, troubleshoot issues in the industry and build community with others on the education beat. Open to journalist members only.

Wayne Carter, *NBC 5 News Dallas-Fort Worth* (facilitator)

Figuring Out Freelance

TRINIDAD A

Interested in freelancing full or part time? Get notes on the business of freelancing in journalism.

CD Davidson-Hiers, *Education Writers Association* (facilitator)

Journalist Only – Caucus: Covering Indigenous Education

TRINIDAD B

This caucus provides reporters with the tools and insights needed to navigate reporting on Indigenous communities, education and topics that matter to Indigenous audiences. Open to journalist members only.

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton, *Tulsa World* (facilitator)

Journalist Only – Networking and Connecting: Asian American Journalist Caucus

BARBADOS

Journalists with shared and intersectional identities are invited to network, troubleshoot issues in the industry and build community with others on the education beat. Open to journalist members only.

Joe Hong, *Spencer Fellow* (facilitator)

EVENING ACTIVITIES

Sponsor Receptions

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

ST. CROIX A

We Are All Math People Happy Hour

SPONSORED BY

The Gates Foundation

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

ST. CROIX B

Networking Reception

SPONSORED BY

Carnegie Corporation of New York

A photograph of a teacher with long dark curly hair leaning over a desk to assist two students. One student, a young woman with glasses and long dark hair, is pointing at a tablet held by another student. The background shows a bright classroom with other students and bookshelves.

We reimagine what's possible every day.

Throughout its rich history, the NEA has supported professional growth and excellence for educators throughout their careers. We are proud to join with Education Writers Association to reimagine education and transform schools to create a nurturing and equitable environment to support student learning and educator professional growth. Visit [nea.org](https://www.nea.org) to learn about NEA and its activities and programs to provide growth opportunities for every educator and support for every student.

SATURDAY
JUNE 1

77TH NATIONAL
SEMINAR

REGISTRATION OPEN

7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

REGISTRATION DESK 1

BREAKFAST

8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

THE MIRAGE THEATER FOYER

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

8 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

GRAND BALLROOM A

SITE VISITS

Clark County Wetlands Park

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Join a guided walk of the 210-acre nature preserve, which includes a wildlife habitat as well as an outdoor classroom for scientific studies and educational programs for all ages. Space is limited. **(7050 Wetlands Park Ln, Las Vegas, NV 89122)**

Microschooling in Nevada

8:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Participants visit the Nevada School of Inquiry, a microschool for grades 6-8, and meet with officials from several microschools in the Las Vegas area. They also have the opportunity to interview parents and students. Coffee and donuts are provided. **(Nevada School of Inquiry, 7375 S. Pecos Rd. Suite 104, Las Vegas)**

DEEP DIVES

9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The Politics of School Funding

GRAND BALLROOM BC

Who crafts a state's school funding formula? Who approves state and district budgets for schools? Who adopts policies and legislation that have financial implications for schools? All of these decisions rest in the hands of elected officials, making school funding an inherently political issue. Learn about the various ways in which politics and school funding intersect, what it means for students and how to cover the impact of these decisions.

Spotlight on School Finance: Breaking Down 7 Key Issues

During this session, experts discuss a wide range of topics at the intersection of school finance and politics. In a series of TED-style talks, reporters learn about pressing school finance issues, including the relationship between district boundary lines and the availability of resources, litigation as a tool for political pressure, the financial impact of private school choice programs and the equity implications of school closures.

Samuel Abrams, *University of Colorado*

Ary Amerikaner, *Brown's Promise*

Derek Black, *University of South Carolina*

Jhone Ebert, *Nevada Department of Education*

Robert Kim, *Education Law Center*

Francis Pearman, *Stanford University*

Michael Petrilli, *Thomas B. Fordham Institute*

Matt Barnum, *The Wall Street Journal* (moderator)

How I Did the (School Finance) Story

An unusually high threshold to pass school bonds, making it nearly impossible for districts to repair or replace their crumbling buildings. A failed effort to establish education savings accounts that cost schools additional funding. A state school funding formula that remains unfair, despite a fix intended to address inequality in the system. Hear from journalists who tackled these stories, including their tips for reporting on how politics affects school funding and the school-level impact.

Alejandro Martínez-Cabrera, *The Texas Tribune*

Camille Phillips, *Texas Public Radio*

Becca Savransky, *Idaho Statesman*

Eric Stirgus, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*
(moderator)

DEEP DIVES

9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Who Is Disappearing From College and Why?

GRAND BALLROOM E

As colleges across the country continue to deal with new challenges – from mounting political pressure to enrollment declines – it's time to re-evaluate who is going to college and who is not. Researchers, journalists, faculty members and other experts discuss changing student demographics, barriers to postsecondary education and the ways in which colleges can better serve all students.

Redefining College: The New Face of College Students

As nearly three quarters of students enrolled in higher education are considered “nontraditional,” it's time to cover that group in a more nuanced way. As the new majority, many of these students left school for a short or extended period of time without graduating and now face competing priorities while pursuing higher education. Journalists, experts and administrators discuss how colleges can better serve adult and returning learners.

Aisha Brown, *Thurgood Marshall College Fund*

Stephen Perez, *California State University, Chico*

Empress Powers, *University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Adam Echelman, *CalMatters* (moderator)

Missing Men on Campuses: Answering the Gender Gap

It is not a secret that college enrollment has seen a decline of men, especially men of color. But why is college not as appealing to men today? How can colleges better support this demographic? Experts, journalists and researchers examine solutions to the gender gap and outline story ideas for reporters to pursue.

Jairon Castellanos-Boteo, *Truckee Meadows Community College*

Adrian Huerta, *University of Southern California*

Wesley Wright, *Open Campus* (moderator)

Two-Generation Solutions

More than a quarter of all undergraduate students are raising dependent children. What systemic barriers prevent pregnant and parenting students from completing college and obtaining a degree? How can universities not only protect student parents' access to postsecondary education, but also support academic and developmental outcomes for their little ones?

Traci Lewis, *The Ohio State University*

Maria Tucker, *Jeremiah Program*

Jennifer Turner, *Institute for Women's Policy Research*

Adam Echelman, *CalMatters* (moderator)

DEEP DIVES

9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Covering Education With an Investigative Lens

GRAND BALLROOM G

The education beat is rich and complex – and loaded with potential investigative stories. The session explores how to make investigative techniques a routine part of your coverage, how to make time for a long-term investigation while dealing with daily requirements and how to find the dollars to finance your project.

Making Investigative Techniques Routine

The best way to uncover wrongdoing, spot patterns and dig out problematic practices is by incorporating investigative methods into your regular practice. Journalists walk through some of the routines you need, including strategies to file FOIAs and review lawsuits.

Erin Einhorn, *independent journalist*

Brandi Kellam, *Virginia Center for Investigative Journalism at WHRO*

Christopher Peak, *APM Reports*

Denise Zapata, *CalMatters* (moderator)

Making Room for a Big Project During the Daily Grind

What are some ways to map out a long-term investigation or project you would like to explore while covering teacher strikes and school board meetings? Journalists describe their stories and how they made the time and got their editors to buy in.

Lily Altavena, *Detroit Free Press*

Molly Minta, *Mississippi Today*

Deanna Pan, *The Boston Globe*

Elliott Robinson, *VPM* (moderator)

Finding Money to Fund the Big Investigation

So you've discovered a questionable expense or practice, but your newsroom doesn't have the funds to cover data crunching, travel or even an extra body to give you some time to focus. Funding is out there – you need to know how and where to apply.

Eric Ferrero, *Fund for Investigative Journalism*

Lunch

THE MIRAGE THEATER FOYER: 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.



Scott Widmeyer

Advocate. Expert. Advisor.

In recognition and appreciation of his influence on education journalism through leadership and service to the Education Writers Association. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to smart storytelling and to our nation's students and educators.

EWA Board of Directors, 2010-2024

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National Awards
for Education Reporting

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SEMINAR

2023 Awards Finalists

BEAT REPORTING

SMALL NEWSROOM

Brian Lopez

The Texas Tribune

Kate McGee

The Texas Tribune & Open Campus

Molly Minta

Mississippi Today & Open Campus

LARGE NEWSROOM

Laura Meckler

The Washington Post

Talia Richman

The Dallas Morning News

Bianca Vázquez Toness

The Associated Press

EDUCATION-ONLY OUTLETS

Beth Hawkins

The 74

Linda Jacobson

The 74

Charlotte West

Open Campus

COLLABORATIONS

Melanie Asmar, Rae Ellen Bichell, Helen Santoro, Jennifer Brown & Tina Griego

Chalkbeat, KFF Health News, Colorado Sun & COLab

Last Resort

Brandi Kellam, Louis Hansen & Gabriel Sandoval

Virginia Center for Investigative Journalism at WHRO & ProPublica Uprooted

Becca Savransky & Asia Fields

Idaho Statesman & ProPublica State of Disrepair: Inside Idaho's Crumbling Schools

DATA REPORTING & VISUALIZATION

Maddie Hanna, Kasturi Pananjady & Jasen Lo

The Philadelphia Inquirer

See How Much Money Your School District Has for Students

Sarah Karp, Nader Issa, Lauren FitzPatrick, Alden Loury, Jesse Howe & Kate Grossman

WBEZ & Chicago Sun-Times Chicago's 50 Closed Schools

Nic Querolo, Danielle Moran & Marie Patino

Bloomberg News

The Economics of Small US Colleges Are Faltering

FEATURES

SMALL NEWSROOM

Jeff Oloizia

Madison Magazine

Is This Just a Drill?

Nirvi Shah

The Hechinger Report

These Would-Be Teachers Graduated into the Pandemic. Will They Stick With Teaching?

Emily Tate Sullivan

EdSurge

Can Educators Afford the American Dream?

LARGE NEWSROOM

Heather Hollingsworth, Carolyn Thompson & Bianca Vázquez Toness

The Associated Press

Intimate Reporting Chronicles a High-Stakes Year for Learning to Read

Kristen Taketa

The San Diego Union-Tribune

A Barrio Logan School Is Building Trust Amid Homelessness, Abuse and Other Trauma

Peter Thomson, Brian Bergstein, David Scharfenberg, Kelly Horan, Heather Hopp-Bruce & Abbi Matheson

The Boston Globe

The Radical, Forgotten Experiment in Educational Integration That Changed My Life

BROADCAST

Elissa Nadworny, Lauren Migaki, Steve Drummond, Claire Harbage & Hanna Palamarenko

NPR

Ukraine Kindergarten

Talia Richman, Chris Benderev & Bethel Habte

The Dallas Morning News & This American Life

See Something, Slay Something

INVESTIGATIVE & PUBLIC SERVICE

SMALL NEWSROOM

Amy DiPierro & Corey Mitchell

Center for Public Integrity
Hidden Toll

Danielle DuClos

Green Bay Press-Gazette
A Teacher, a Sexual Abuse Allegation and a Botched Investigation

Lee V. Gaines

WFYI
Uncounted: Restraint and Seclusion in Indiana Schools

LARGE NEWSROOM

Matt Drange

Business Insider
An Epidemic of Sexual Abuse in Schools: Shoddy Investigations, Quiet Resignations, and a Culture of Secrecy Have Protected Predators, Not Students.

Nicole Noren, T.J. Quinn, William Weinbaum, Rayna Banks, Chris Buckle, Craig T. Lazarus, Cathy Honeywell, Mike Drago & Laura Purtell

ESPN
LISTEN: ESPN investigates Lauren McCluskey's murder

Deanna Pan

The Boston Globe
'What Exactly Is Fair About This?': Great High Schools Aren't Available to All

EDUCATION-ONLY OUTLETS

Kalyn Belsha

Chalkbeat
Too Many Kids: How an Online Tutoring Company Shortchanged Schools

Staff

The Chronicle of Higher Education
DEI Legislation Tracker

Mark Keierleber

The 74
The Hidden Victims of School
Cyberattacks

NEWS

SMALL NEWSROOM

Jessika Harkay

The Connecticut Mirror
Getting a New High School: A Different Story in Two CT Towns

Laura Pappano

The Hechinger Report
The (Mostly) Republican Moms Fighting to Reclaim Their Idaho School District From Conservatives

Anya Slepyan

The Daily Yonder
A 'School-to-Prison Pipeline' Aims to Fill Job Vacancies at Texas' Prisons and Jails

LARGE NEWSROOM

Howard Blume, Mackenzie Mays, Kevin Rector, Laurel Rosenhall, Priscella Vega & Hannah Wiley

Los Angeles Times
Deep Blue California Confronts Red State Education Issues

Cheyenne Mumphy & Juan Lozano

The Associated Press
A Black Student Was Suspended for His Hairstyle. The School Says It Wasn't Discrimination

Marcela Rodrigues & Philip Jankowski

The Dallas Morning News
DEI Dilemma: Inside Texas' Fight to Ban Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Higher Education

BROADCAST

Jenny Brundin, Alison Borden & Hart Van Denburg

Colorado Public Radio
What's Happening in Woodland Park?

Carolyn Peirce, Chris Papst, Ray Rogowski, Jed Gamber, Dwayne Myers & Anthony Durso

Fox45 Baltimore
Behind Closed Doors

Camille Phillips

Texas Public Radio
Golden Pennies: Why Texas School Funding Still Isn't Fair

PODCAST

Ave Carrillo, Christopher Werth, Stephen Rex Brown, Clayton Guse, Jessica Gould & Gina Vosti

WNYC & Gothamist
An NYC Student's Yearslong Struggle to Get Proper Instruction for Dyslexia

Mike Hixenbaugh, Antonia Hylton & Frannie Kelley

NBC News Studios
Grapevine

Iggy Monda, Nina Earnest, Jessica Pupovac, Michael Garofalo, Carly Peruccio, Siona Peterous & Meghan Coyle

Freelance, PRX & Religion of Sports
ROS Presents: Roughhousing

STUDENT JOURNALISM

Bree Campbell, Shoa Khan, Jose Santana

The Bell
Questioning the Status Quo

Emma H. Haidar, Miles J. Herszenhorn, Cam E. Kettles, Nia L. Orakwue & Claire Yuan

The Harvard Crimson
Claudine Gay's Congressional Testimony

Alex Walters

The State News
Reporting on Michigan State's Title IX Office

VISUAL STORYTELLING

Jim Fields, Eamonn Fitzmaurice & Emmeline Zhao

The 74
America's Innovative High Schools

Alec Fischer

Fischr Media
Covid Confessions: Elementary School Students & School Social Workers Share Their Experiences During The Pandemic

Liz Willen, Soledad O'Brien, Rose Arce, Naimah Jabali-Nash, Fazil Khan, Amari Leigh & Tristan Nash

The Hechinger Report, Soledad O'Brien Productions & CBS News
The End of Affirmative Action

EGF ACCELERATOR

2023 EDDIE PRIZE FINALISTS

Gail Cornwall

The Hechinger Report

All You Need Is One Community to Help
Pick You Up: Solutions for Restoring
College Dreams

Eric Hoover

The Chronicle of Higher Education

48 Hours Inside a Student Emergency-
Aid Experiment

Deborah Jian Lee

Esquire & Economic Hardship

Reporting Project

Persecution in the Name of the Lord

EDDIE PRIZE PAST WINNERS

2022

The Enduring Gap

**Camille Phillips, Fernando Ortiz
Jr., Dan Katz & Jacob Rosati**

Texas Public Radio

2021

What the System Requires

Eric Hoover

*The Chronicle for Higher
Education*

2020

A Year Interrupted

Elizabeth Rich & Brooke Saias

Education Week

2019

The Valedictorians Project

**Malcolm Gay, Meghan Irons &
Eric Moskowitz**

The Boston Globe

2018

Minimally Adequate: How South
Carolina's Schools Fail Too Many
Students

**Paul Bowers, Glenn Smith,
Seanna Adcox, Jennifer Berry
Hawes & Thad Moore**

Charleston Post and Courier

2017 (tie)

The Long, Difficult Journey
to College

Eric Hoover

*The Chronicle of Higher
Education*

2017 (tie)

Shadow Class: College
DREAMers in Trump's
America

**Sasha Aslanian, Catherine
Winter, Emily Hanford &
Stephen Smith**

*The APM Reports/American
Public Media*

2016

Education's Broken Promise
to Native Students

Kelly Field

*The Chronicle of Higher
Education*

2015

Higher-Ed Hustle

Michael Vasquez

The Miami Herald

2014

Lower Education

Molly Hensley-Clancy

BuzzFeed

RONALD D. MOSKOWITZ PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING BEAT REPORTING PAST WINNERS

2022

Mike Hixenbaugh

NBC News Digital

2021

Erica L. Green

The New York Times

2020

Bianca Vázquez Toness

The Boston Globe

2019

Sonali Kohli

Los Angeles Times

2018

David Jesse

Detroit Free Press

2017

Bethany Barnes

The Oregonian

2016

Erin Einhorn

Chalkbeat Detroit

2015

Patrick Wall

Chalkbeat New York



The EGF Accelerator is supporting strong leaders in sustainable nonprofits that are working to improve the education and life outcomes for low-income New Yorkers. We offer incubation, advanced leadership development, a remote Fellows program, and fund journalism about educational equity.

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ProPublica and Chicago Tribune

2021

Laura Bauer & Judy Thomas
The Kansas City Star

2020

Ian Shapira
The Washington Post

2019

Jennifer Smith Richards, Jodi Cohen and Lakeidra Chavis
Chicago Tribune/ ProPublica Illinois

2018

Hannah Dreier
ProPublica New York Magazine The New York Times Magazine

2017

John Woodrow Cox
The Washington Post

2016

Brian Rosenthal
Houston Chronicle

2015

Cara Fitzpatrick, Lisa Gartner, and Michael LaForgia
Tampa Bay Times

2014

Nikole Hannah-Jones
ProPublica

2013

Julie Snyder, Ben Calhoun, Alex Kotlowitz, Linda Lutton, Robyn Semien, and Ira Glass
WBEZ / This American Life

2012

David Jackson, Gary Marx, Alex Richards, and Scott Strazzante
Chicago Tribune

2011

Daniel Golden and Oliver Staley
Bloomberg News

2010

Daniel Golden, John Hechinger, and John Lauerman
Bloomberg News

2009

Bob Hohler
The Boston Globe

2008

Blake Morrison and Brad Heath
USA TODAY

2007

Martha Irvine and Robert Tanner
The Associated Press

2006

Jean Rimbach and Kathleen Carroll
The Bergen Record

2005

Linda Lutton, Kati Phillips, and Jonathan Lipman
Daily Southtown

2004

Joshua Benton, Holly Hacker, and Herb Booth
The Dallas Morning News

2003

Christine Willmsen and Maureen O'Hagan
The Seattle Times

2002

Eric Eyre and Scott Finn
Charleston Gazette

2001

Patrick Healy
The Boston Globe

2000

Kenneth Weiss
Los Angeles Times

1999

Tim Simmons
Raleigh News and Observer

1998

Deb Kollars
The Sacramento Bee

1997

Jacques Steinberg
The New York Times

1996

Robert Frahm and Rick Green
The Hartford Courant

1995

Dudley Althaus
Houston Chronicle

1994

Neil A. Borowski, Laura Bruch, Thomas Ferrick, Craig McCoy, Dale Mezzacappa, John Woestendiek, and Martha Woodall
The Philadelphia Inquirer

1993

Stephen Henderson
The Lexington Herald-Leader

1992

Kimberly J. McLarin
The Philadelphia Inquirer

1991

Theresa Churchill, Ron Ingram, and Carol Alexander
Herald & Review (Decatur, Illinois)

1990

Ann Carnahan and Tony Pugh
The Rocky Mountain News

1989

Emily Sachar
New York Newsday

1988

Team of 14 reporters
Chicago Tribune

1987

Emily Sachar
New York Newsday

1986

Ricardo Gandara
Albuquerque Tribune

1985

Janet Groat
Macon Telegraph & Tribune (Georgia)

1984

Cindy Goodaker
The Oakland Press (Pontiac, Michigan)

1983

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Journal Times (Racine, Wisconsin)

1982

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Clarion Ledger (Jackson, Mississippi)

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

1980

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The Daily and Sunday Herald (Arlington Heights, Illinois)

1979

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1978

Stanley Moulton and Laurel Sorenson
Daily Hampshire Gazette

1977

Lou Antosh
Philadelphia Bulletin

1976

James Worsham and Marguerite Del Guidice
The Boston Globe

1975

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Daily Hampshire Gazette (Northampton, Massachusetts)

1974

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Courier Journal (Louisville)

1973

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Detroit Free Press

1972

John Matthews
Washington Star

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Through philanthropic grantmaking to nonprofits like EWA, the Corporation aims to help young people from all backgrounds move from the classroom to meaningful careers, to create greater socioeconomic mobility, and to encourage civic participation in communities nationwide. In this way, our Education program works to support the forces of cohesion that build trust in public institutions, reduce political polarization, and strengthen our democracy.

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REAL SOLUTIONS FOR KIDS & COMMUNITIES

The AFT's Real Solutions for Kids and Communities campaign rejects the toxic attacks against public education in favor of working to strengthen public schools, making real solutions for kids a national priority.

We are addressing learning loss, loneliness and literacy challenges through transformative strategies that can be sustained, integrated and scaled to help children recover and thrive:

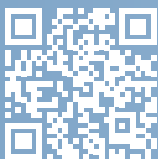
- **Create joyful and confident readers** by partnering with Reading Universe, First Book, WETA and the Barksdale Reading Institute to help teachers access the best evidence-based reading instructional practices and by continuing to give away books. So while others ban books, we will give away 10 million books by July 2024.
- **Expand community schools**, which make schools hubs for kids and families, addressing academics along with mental and physical well-being, food security, and language and career supports for families.
- **Provide all children the opportunity to learn by doing.** Experiential learning engages them in deeper learning and provides them with real-world, real-life skills. Career and technical education, with hands-on experience at its core, prepares students not only for traditional trades but also for in-demand careers in healthcare, information technology, cybersecurity and more.
- **Further care for children's mental health and well-being** by demanding that social media companies protect, not prey on, children. The report "Likes vs. Learning: The Real Cost of Social Media for Schools" outlines a series of recommendations tech companies must use to keep kids safe and protect learning environments.
- **Fight for investments schools need**, so they can recruit, retain and respect the educators and school staff who help kids thrive, offer a well-rounded curriculum, and provide safe, welcoming and well-maintained school buildings.

These strategies will strengthen and improve public education. Together, they are transformative for kids, regardless of their ZIP code.

Public schools unite us. The parents of 90 percent of American children send their kids to public schools. And national polls show that parents overwhelmingly support and trust teachers, and want schools strengthened, not politicized or privatized.

Extremists don't offer a single idea that will improve public schools, because they don't want to strengthen public education, they want to end it—by inserting political divisions, cutting resources and diverting funding from already underfunded public schools through vouchers, despite evidence that vouchers do not improve achievement.

Public schools are the vehicle that anchors our democracy and creates opportunity for our children. The Real Solutions for Kids and Communities campaign is about strengthening those opportunities and helping kids prepare for college, career and life.



Join us in our mission to have a positive impact on children's lives. Explore [AFT.org/RealSolutions](https://www.aft.org/RealSolutions) to discover various ways to get involved, share and learn from success stories about effective programs in communities nationwide, and find more information on great things happening in public schools.



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