

Welcome to the

UNLV | COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION

10TH
ANNUAL
SUMMIT
— ON NEVADA EDUCATION —

Preparing to Succeed

Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024
UNLV Student Union
#NVEdSummit24



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Welcome to the 10th Annual Summit on Nevada Education.

Over the past decade, we've brought together education and mental health professionals, researchers, and community and policy leaders to share innovations, best practices, challenges, and solutions for our community. Whether it was in an all-day plenary session, in a small-group breakout panel discussion, or on our screens during the pandemic, we've gathered to explore challenges, celebrate solutions, and connect over our shared passion for a better Nevada.

Under the umbrella of this year's theme, "Preparing to Succeed," we are highlighting our progress in workforce development, early college programs, mental health, and education policy. We'll also explore efforts to improve outcomes for underserved groups, including Indigenous learners and incarcerated students.

One thing is certain, collaboration is a key ingredient for success. And so I encourage you to forge new connections today and remain open to innovative approaches in education and mental health. I am sure, when we're back to celebrate a second decade of summits, we'll have even more points of pride.

Thank you for joining us today.

In community,

Danica G. Hays, Ph.D.
danica.hays@unlv.edu

The Silver State Schools CU People Over Profit Foundation is exempt from federal income tax under 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3), and is a non-profit organization eligible to receive tax-deductible donations pursuant to the provisions of section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. § 170(c).

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Saturday, November 16

- 7:30 a.m.**.....Registration, Breakfast, and Networking
- 8:30 a.m.**.....Welcome and Opening Remarks (Ballroom)
- 9:15 a.m.**.....Breakout Sessions
Please refer to pages 8-9 for session descriptions and presenter bios.
- Room 208 A
The Future of Work Challenges and The Opportunities That Lie Ahead
Presented by:
Tiffany Taylor-Garner and Melvin Valentine, Jr.
- Room 208 B
Scaling School Mental Health: State and District Perspectives
Presented by:
Jaylene Callister and Kaci Fleetwood
- Room 208 C
Preparing to Succeed: Building K-12 and University Partnerships Through Dual Enrollment
Presented by:
John Hawk and Wendy Hawk
- Room 224
Looking Back. Looking Forward.: A Decade of Ed Policy
Presented by:
Anna Colquitt
- 10:15 a.m.**.....College of Education Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

- 11:15 a.m.**.....Breakout Sessions
Please refer to pages 12-13 for session descriptions and presenter bios.

- Room 208 A
Empowering Future Leaders: Unlocking Success Through the Corporate Work Study Program
Presented by:
Amanda Oddo
- Room 208 B
Crisis Intervention Across Class: Understanding How Social Class Impacts Crisis Intervention & Support Systems in the Classroom
Presented by:
Maddie Clark and Heather Dahl-Jacinto
- Room 208 C
Breaking Free: Serving Students in the Juvenile Justice System
Presented by:
Dan Andrews, Jessica Maloy, and Genevieve Minter
- Room 224
Successes in Serving Indigenous Students
Presented by:
Fredina Drye-Romero

- Noon**.....Keynote Luncheon (Ballroom)
Please refer to page 6 for speaker bio.

Preparing to Succeed
Presented by:
Sean Tory

Take the Summit conversation online!



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Keynote Speaker

Preparing to Succeed

What could happen if we applied a strengths-focused growth mindset to education and mental health? What could we accomplish if we stopped saying "if it works" and started saying "when we succeed? What will it take to get us to success? And, what can we do to get us there? Finish your summit experience with a dose of inspiration and empowerment with community leader Sean Tory.



About the presenter:

Las Vegas native **Sean Tory** has a long-time commitment to serving as a community leader in Southern Nevada. From his years at Canyon Springs Leadership and Law Preparatory Academy through his current role as a co-founder and vice president of King of Jewels, a local non-profit that strives to engage, empower, and encourage young men of color to help them reach their fullest potential. Along the way, he earned a bachelor's degree in human development and family studies at the UNR, and a master's degree in marriage and family therapy from UNLV. But he's not done yet. He's currently pursuing his doctoral degree in curriculum and instruction with a concentration in cultural studies, international education, and multicultural education. Oh, and this is while he's working full-time as a senior management analyst for the City of Las Vegas, serving as lead facilitator of a restorative justice support group known as The Men's Room, and facilitating technology and entrepreneurship workshops for Colin Kaepernick's Know Your Rights Camp.

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Breakout Presenters - Session 1

Room 208 A

The Future of Work Challenges and The Opportunities That Lie Ahead

This presentation will examine the challenges and opportunities in workforce development in Nevada, while highlighting the critical role training and education can play in empowering Nevada's workforce.

About the presenters:



Dr. Tiffany Tyler-Garner is a servant leader committed to transforming the conditions that impact children, families, and communities. She currently spearheads workforce development and social initiatives for the City of Las Vegas. Before joining the city, she worked with the Children's Advocacy Alliance and served as the director of the Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation. Throughout her career, Dr. Tyler-Garner has been a champion for opportunity for Nevada's most vulnerable populations.



As STEM Director at Nevada Partners, **Melvin Valentine, Jr.** brings a unique vision and dedication to advancing educational and economic opportunities for underserved communities. In this role, he has overseen the creation of a \$2 million STEM Center, a project that prepares individuals for the future of work in key areas such as cybersecurity, drones, 3D printing, solar energy, digital marketing, vertical farming, and artificial intelligence.

Room 208 B

Scaling School Mental Health: State and District Perspectives

Join us as we highlight the historical context, current status, and future directions of school mental health throughout Nevada, especially in rural and frontier school districts.

About the presenters:



Las Vegas native **Jaylene Callister** has called rural Nevada for most of her adult life. Her first experience in education was in Ruby Valley's one-room schoolhouse where she fell in love with helping students. She has worked in various positions in Nevada and Utah schools and is currently living her dream as the counselor for Eureka County School District.



In addition to serving on the faculty for UNR's College of Education & Human Development **Kaci Fleetwood** works for the Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities and the Nevada Positive Behavior Interventions and Support Technical Assistance Center. In her current role as the state coordinator for Multi-Tiered Systems of Support in Nevada, where she partners with school district leadership teams.

Room 208 C

Opening Opportunities by Closing Circles: Building K12 and Higher Ed Partnerships

Join Drs. John and Wendi Hawk as they share their 20-year journey of transforming education through dual enrollment, bridging the gap between K-12 and higher education. Discover how innovative partnerships have accelerated college success for thousands of students and gain actionable strategies to elevate your own early college initiatives. Don't miss this chance to learn how you can help prepare students to succeed and lead the future.

About the presenters:



John Hawk is a seasoned educational leader with over 25 years of experience in advancing early college initiatives and expanding dual enrollment programs. As the former chief operations officer at Nevada State High School, he led the education of more than 5,000 students and established nine campuses. Driven by a mission to help others succeed, Dr. Hawk champions personalized learning, leadership development, and innovative K-12 and higher education partnerships.



Wendi Hawk has served as a teacher, administrator, and CEO of a network of early college, charter high schools over the course of 25 years. While under her leadership, the network of schools consistently received exemplary designations from the State of Nevada, and they were repeatedly recognized nationally for increasing student achievement. While implementing a unique system of support, data tracking, and transition focused-curriculum, they provided underserved students access to free college through a non-selective method.

Room 224

Looking Back. Looking Forward.: A Decade of Ed Policy

Did Nevada's funding formula changes improve student outcomes? How does early childhood impact educational and economic futures? What about national education rankings and where Nevada consistently finds itself on those lists? Join us as we take a look back at education policy. We'll celebrate accomplishments, discuss lessons learned, and explore the future outlook of education and mental health funding, legislation, and regulation in Nevada.

About the presenter:



Anna Colquitt, Esq. brings her a rich background in law and education and a commitment to educational advancement to her role as the director of education policy at the Guinn Center for Policy Priorities. After earning her Juris Doctor from the William S. Boyd School of Law, she completed her Ph.D. in educational psychology, where she explored the intersection of education and workforce readiness. She is also actively involved in the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and Kids' Court School.

Hall of Fame

2024 Inaugural Induction

In celebration of the 10th Annual Summit on Nevada Education we are pleased to induct our inaugural class into the UNLV College of Education's Hall of Fame. This honor recognizes individuals whose exceptional contributions in education, mental health, policy leadership, workforce development, and service have made a lasting impact on our communities. These honorees represent the pinnacle of dedication and innovation in the field, and their commitment to excellence continues to inspire positive change in Nevada and beyond. Induction into the Hall of Fame is a tribute to these leaders, showcasing the profound legacy they leave for future generations of educators, advocates, and changemakers. Join us in celebrating our inaugural class' achievements and their commitment to building a brighter, more equitable future for all.



Gary Ackerman's lifetime of extraordinary contributions to Nevada's community is grounded in his partnership with the Grant A Gift Autism Foundation Ackerman Center. For nearly two decades, the center has offered clinical services, support, and vocational programs to over 10,000 individuals with autism and their families. As a third-generation car dealer and philanthropist, he has raised and donated millions through the center in support of Southern Nevada families like his. Ackerman also serves on the UNLV Foundation Board of Trustees and the Nevada Medical Center's advisory council, where he advocates for educational equity and health—imagining a world where people with diverse neurodevelopmental abilities have the support they need to thrive.



Peter Guzman, president of the Latin Chamber of Commerce (LCC) and chairman of the Board of the Public Education Foundation, is a distinguished leader whose impact on Nevada's business and education sectors has been transformative. With over 50 years in Nevada, Guzman has made workforce development and support for the Latinx and minority communities central to his work. Under his leadership, the LCC has become a powerful advocate for business and community advancement, fostering opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs and professionals. His advocacy for equity through the pursuit of education aligns with our college's mission, inspiring many to pursue and reach their goals. Through his unwavering dedication to the community, Guzman exemplifies the values of leadership, service, and inclusivity.



Lisa Morris Hibbler, a distinguished executive and champion for underserved communities, has dedicated her career to fostering social equity, workforce development, and educational advancement in Nevada. With nearly 27 years of service with the City of Las Vegas, Dr. Morris Hibbler played pivotal roles as deputy city manager and chief community services officer, where she led impactful initiatives that bridged city services and education, advocating for early childhood education and universal Pre-K access statewide. Her continued involvement at UNLV and service to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Multicultural Advisory Council and the Nevada Community Foundation board underscore her commitment to mentorship and community advocacy. Now, as the executive director of the Shaquille O'Neal Foundation, Dr. Morris Hibbler shares her wisdom and experience to support and empower communities nationwide.



Wayne Tanaka was a school administrator and Honorary Consul General of Japan in Las Vegas. His teaching career began in the Clark County School District in 1972. He later served as a counselor, dean of students, assistant principal, and principal. Throughout his 28 and a half years as an educator in the Clark County School District, he received numerous awards for his innovative ideas to increase student achievement. He also fostered partnerships with the business community to enhance and supplement his school's programs. He was inducted into Clark County School District's Excellence in Education Hall of Fame. As a tribute to his contributions, an elementary school was named and opened in his honor in 2004.



Former Senator **Joyce Woodhouse** is a lifelong educator and dedicated public servant whose impact on Nevada's education landscape spans over five decades. She began her career as a teacher, and was promoted to principal, and program administrator within the Clark County School District. Her service extended to the Nevada State Senate, where she represented the Senate District 5 and served in key roles, including chair of the Senate Finance Committee. Senator Woodhouse has actively contributed to organizations such as Voices in Voting and the Silver State Schools Credit Union. Her visionary leadership and steadfast commitment to Nevada's educational community have helped shape the state for the better.



Boys & Girls Club of Southern Nevada have been a pillar of support for young people for more than 60 years, providing safe, inclusive, and empowering spaces and programs for youth to realize their full potential. With 13 clubs throughout Southern Nevada, BGCSNV's unwavering commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion drives their mission, ensuring that every child can thrive and contribute positively to the community.

Breakout Presenters - Session 2

Room 208 A

Empowering Future Leaders: Unlocking Success Through the Corporate Work Study Program

Cristo Rey St. Viator's (part of the Cristo Rey Network) Corporate Work Study Program breaks down socioeconomic and cultural barriers that can often inhibit a high school student's success. Learn how this program partners with local employers to place students in professional jobs during the school year, allowing them to gain hands-on experience and transferable skills while contributing to their tuition. In addition, students explore careers they may not have otherwise considered or foster their passion for career paths matching their current interests.



About the presenter:

Amanda Oddo serves as the the director of corporate work study operations and has worked with the Clark County School District, DISCOVERY Children's Museum, and the Archdiocese of Las Vegas. After more than 15 years in education, she is now the director of corporate work study at Cristo Rey St. Viator, where she's experienced how work study programs can break down barriers and open doors for students.

Room 208 B

Crisis Intervention Across Class: Understanding how Social Class Impacts Crisis Intervention & Support Systems in the Classroom

Crisis intervention is a critical skill for teachers who often feel trepidation regarding crisis intervention and how to apply those skills with diverse students. We'll talk about social class myths and barriers and discuss concrete skills to apply with students in the classroom.



About the presenters:

Madeline Clark is an associate professor in the Department of Counselor Education, School Psychology, and Human Services at UNLV where she specializes in mental health, poverty and social class.



Heather Dahl-Jacinto is an associate professor in the Department of Counselor Education, School Psychology, and Human Services at UNLV where she specializes in mental health education and crisis intervention.

Room 208 C

Breaking Free: Serving Students Behind Bars

How can we better serve the educational needs and aspirations of incarcerated individuals? Join a panel of educators as they share challenges for this unique and frequently overlooked student population, including fluctuating political and public support, recruiting educators, and resource constraints. More importantly, you'll learn about the techniques and tools that are working to fund programs, address social and economic disparities, and lower recidivism.



About the presenters:

After two decades in the aerospace industry, **Dan Andrews** changed careers to become a teacher at the high school and community college levels. He now embraces the challenging and rewarding role as a math educator at High Desert State Prison. He holds a B.S. and M.S. in math as well as an M.A. in education.



Jessica Maloy, M.Ed, is a National Board-certified teacher who has taught for 18 years. Her experiences include teaching in Clark County School District middle and high schools and serving as an adjunct instructor for UNLV. She recently transitioned to teaching inmates at High Desert State Prison, where she helps students obtain their high school diplomas. She is passionate about education and is starting her second year as a doctoral student.



Genevieve Minter's teaching career began at the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) in 2015. Seven years later, she began college-level instruction within the Nevada Department of Corrections and has since been promoted to manager of the CSN Prison Education Program. She is passionate about the revolutionary power of education behind bars and the far-reaching effects it has on the broader society.

Room 224

Successes in Serving Indigenous Students

College and career readiness programs are common in Nevada's schools, but American Indian students need more than one-size-fits-all approaches. Learn how the Nevada Department of Education's Native Youth Community Project is preparing middle and high school students for post-secondary success with coaching and community liaisons, academic programming support, and collaborative events for tribal members in Yerington, Hawthorne, and McDermitt.



About the presenter:

Fredina Drye-Romero has been working in education for over twenty years and currently serves as the education programs professional for Indian education at the Nevada Department of Education where she leads state-level teams to improve the academic achievement of American Indian students. Fredina is from the Southern Paiute Tribe and enrolled with her father's tribe, the Kaibab Band of Paiutes in northern Arizona. She has close affiliations to her mother's tribe, the Moapa Band of Paiutes in southern Nevada.

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Undergraduate Apprenticeship [Paraprofessional Pathways Project (PPP)]

Nevada paraprofessionals and school support professionals earn a bachelor's degree while continuing to work full-time in their current position and school.

Graduate Apprenticeship [Accelerated Alternate Route to Licensure (A-ARL)]

Students with bachelor's degrees in non-education fields earn a master's degree while serving as a classroom teacher of record in a Nevada public or charter school.

Adult Rebel Start Academy (Pre-Apprenticeship)

Created for students who need to complete post-secondary general education requirements prior to beginning an apprenticeship, students can earn up to 60 general education credits while working in a Nevada school as a school support professional.

YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Youth Rebel Start Academy (YRSA)

Beginning their junior year of high school, students can get a head start on their bachelor's degree by taking up to 39 credits of dual/concurrent enrollment courses while completing a paid apprenticeship in a school setting.



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We wish to acknowledge and honor the Indigenous communities of this region, and recognize that the university is situated on the traditional homelands of the Nuwuvi, Southern Paiute People. We offer gratitude for the land itself, for those who have stewarded it for generations, and for the opportunity to study, learn, work, and be in community with this land.

Tell us how we did

Complete our post-event survey.



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