

Keynote Presenters



Beverly Daniel Tatum, PhD, president emerita of Spelman College, is a clinical psychologist known for both her expertise on race relations and as a thought leader in higher education. The author of several books including the best-selling *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?* and *Other Conversations About Race* and *Can We Talk About Race? and Other Conversations in an Era of School Resegregation*, Tatum speaks on topics of racial identity development, the impact of race in the classroom, and strategies for creating inclusive campus environments. She holds a BA in psychology from Wesleyan University, an MA and a PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan as well as an MA in religious studies from Hartford Seminary. Over the course of her career, she has served as a faculty member at the University of California, Santa Barbara, Westfield State University, and Mount Holyoke College. Tatum is engaged in educational initiatives designed to expand educational opportunity for underserved students and their families, as well as connecting communities across lines of difference in Atlanta.



Ron Clark is known to many as “America’s Educator.” He is the 2000 Disney American Teacher of the Year, a two-time *New York Times* best-selling author, the subject of a television movie, and founder of The Ron Clark Academy, an inner-city school serving students from across metro Atlanta. This non-profit institution is unique for its innovative teaching methods and curriculum based on worldwide travel where, each year, students in grades 6–8 apply in-class lessons to international adventures. Clark is often featured on television, and Oprah Winfrey dubbed him her first “Phenomenal Man.” He is the author of *The Essential 55*, *The Excellent 11*, and *The End of Molasses Classes: Getting Our Kids Unstuck—101 Extraordinary Solutions for Parents and Teachers*. Within his humorous and heartwarming stories, he delivers a message of hope, dedication, and the never-say-never attitude required to achieve goals and dreams.

Highlighted Presenters



Sam Chaltain is a partner at 180 Studio, a global design collaborative dedicated to advancing people’s understanding of the future of learning—and what it requires. Chaltain’s writings have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *USA Today*. A former speechwriter for each of President Obama’s U.S. Secretaries of Education, he is the author or co-author of six books; a co-producer of the PBS documentary film, *180 Days: Hartsville*; and co-creator of the 10-part online film series, *A Year at Mission Hill*. Chaltain holds a master’s degree from the College of William & Mary and an MBA from George Washington University.



Rodney Glasgow is a facilitator in the areas of diversity, equity, and social justice. He is founding member and current chair of the National Association of Independent School’s (NAIS) Annual Student Diversity Leadership Conference. He served as a member of Call-to-Action, the advisory board to the vice president of equity and justice for NAIS and founded the National Diversity Practitioners Institute. He holds a joint degree in Afro-American studies and psychology from Harvard University and a master’s in organization and leadership from Columbia University. Glasgow has been a diversity coordinator, assistant head of upper school, and director of diversity. Glasgow is currently the head of middle school and chief diversity officer at St. Andrew’s Episcopal School in Maryland. For more information, visit www.rodneycastle.com.



Carrie Goldman is the award-winning author of *Bullied: What Every Parent, Teacher, and Kid Needs to Know About Ending the Cycle of Fear*. In 2015, Goldman and actress Chase Masterson created the Pop Culture Hero Coalition to bring together top bullying prevention groups and celebrities to advocate for change. Goldman has written for *The New York Times*, *Psychology Today*, *US News & World Report*, *Huffington Post*, and *Brain Child Magazine*. She received her BS from Northwestern University and her MBA from the Kellogg School of Management. For more information, visit www.carriegoldmanauthor.com.



James Honan is a senior lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He also is a faculty member at the Harvard Kennedy School, co-chair and senior associate director of the Advanced Leadership Initiative at Harvard Kennedy School, as well as educational co-chair of the Institute for Educational Management. Honan serves as a consultant on strategic planning, resource allocation, and performance measurement and management to colleges, universities, schools, foundations, and nonprofit organizations. An author of numerous publications, Honan holds a BA from Marist College, an MA from George Washington University, and an EdM and EdD from Harvard University.



Connie Liu is a mechanical engineering graduate from MIT, I-Lab teacher at the Nueva School (CA), and founder of Project Invent. She has built STEM education programs for the past six years and is passionate about education as a force to empower students with curiosity, creativity, and confidence. Liu is also an engineer and inventor in her own right, focused on designing assistive technologies to empower those with disabilities.



Sylvia Martinez is co-author of *Invent to Learn: Making, Tinkering, and Engineering the Classroom* and advocates for student-centered, project based learning with an emphasis on STEAM. She is the principal advisor to the Stanford University FabLearn Fellows, a group of global educators researching and developing hands-on, minds-on projects and curriculum. She led several nonprofits and headed product development for consumer software, video games, and educational games at several software publishing companies. Martinez started her career designing high frequency receiver systems and software for GPS navigational satellites. She holds a master’s in educational technology and a bachelor’s in electrical engineering. For more information, visit www.sylviamartinez.com.

Highlighted Presenters (continued)



Dave Mochel has taught courses in well-being, leadership, neuroscience, and physics in independent schools for the past 20 years. He founded Applied Attention Coaching and Consulting to help individuals, teams, and organizations focus their attention and energy where it will make the greatest positive difference. Using principles drawn from contemporary research and enduring wisdom, Mochel offers practices that foster peaceful and powerful lives, relationships, and cultures. He has degrees in biology and geology from Williams College, a master's in humanistic and multicultural education from SUNY New Paltz, and a clinical internship in mindfulness-based stress reduction at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center.



Caryn Pass is chair of Venable's education practice and advises schools nationwide on a range of legal issues. Pass establishes policies, procedures, and strategies that promote positive working and learning environments while limiting potential liability exposure. She advises on the proper use of technology and social media, wage and hour compliance, employee and student discipline, admissions, investment and financial issues, FMLA, performance evaluation design, and employee termination. Pass also designs and reviews by-laws and governance policies and works with boards to establish good governance.



Ken Rogers, a trained counselor, is a former faculty member of The Association of Independent Maryland Schools Fellows Program for New Teachers and is currently on the faculty for the ISACS New Teacher Institute and the North Carolina New Teacher Institute. With independent school experience as a teacher, dean, and head of middle school, he is a frequent ISACS and Southern Association of Independent Schools presenter and consultant to independent schools. Rogers is the middle school principal at Charlotte Christian School (NC) and serves on the board of the Teaching Fellows Institute.



John Schumacher (aka Mr. Schu) is a blogger, a lecturer at Rutgers University, and the Ambassador of School Libraries for Scholastic Book Fairs. He served on the following committees: the 2014 Newbery; the Association for Library Service to Children's Children and Technology; the American Association of School Librarian's Best Websites for Teachers and Learning; two readers' choice awards; and, the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature selection. *Library Journal* named him "The Xtreme Librarian" for the high level of exertion—along with some gears and stunts—he uses to get kids reading, and *Instructor Magazine* named him a "Cool Teacher" for redefining what it means to be a teacher-librarian.



Dan St. Romain is passionate about helping educators shift their perspectives on behavior and understand the best ways to provide support given the challenges posed in today's classroom. After receiving a master's in education, he worked in private, residential, and public schools. His work as a self-contained behavior unit teacher, educational diagnostician, and director of a learning resource center has afforded him experience at all levels, in both general and special education settings. His greatest asset lies in his ability to offer rich insight into the connectedness between educational practices and student behavior.



Homa Tavangar is the author of *Growing Up Global: Raising Children to Be At Home in the World* and *The Global Education Toolkit for Elementary Learners* and is co-author of the three book series *Take-Action Guide to World Class Learners* with Yong Zhao. She is co-founder of the Oneness Lab and is series consultant for NBC Sprout Channel's animated children's program, *Nina's World*. Tavangar has served as adviser to Quiet Revolution, Disney Channel, the Pulitzer Center, and a consortium of international schools. Tavangar has been a contributor to *Edutopia*, *National Geographic Edu*, *Huffington Post*, PBS, and *EducationWeek*. She was born in Iran, raised in the Midwest, has lived on four continents, and her heritage includes four world religions. For more information, visit www.growingupglobal.net and www.onenesslab.com.



Lisa Van Gemert shares best practices in education using a combination of neuropsychology, pedagogy, experience, humor, technology, and sheer fun. She has appeared on television including Lifetime's *Child Genius* and is a writer of award-winning lesson plans, *Perfectionism: A Practical Guide to Managing Never Good Enough*, as well as numerous articles on social psychology and pedagogy. A former teacher, administrator, and Youth & Education Ambassador for Mensa, she shares resources for educators and parents on her website www.giftedguru.com and is co-founder with Ian Byrd of the Gifted Guild, a professional community for educators of the gifted.



Timothy D. Walker is an American teacher and writer living in Finland. He has written about his experiences for *Educational Leadership*, *Education Week Teacher*, and on his blog, *Taught by Finland*. While working at a Helsinki school, he completed his teaching practicum and received his master's degree in elementary education from Gordon College. Walker is a contributing writer on education issues for *The Atlantic* and is the author of *Teach Like Finland*.



Jill Walsh, PhD is a researcher and lecturer at Boston University, and an advocate for children. She studies their world, learns from their perspectives, and translates that to help close the generational gap so parents and educators are able to make informed decisions around the digital, social, and emotional health of our kids. Her recent work examines the way that social media and the need to document the self online have altered the paths to adolescent development. Walsh obtained a PhD in sociology from Boston University and earlier earned a master's from Brown University and a BA from Harvard University. Previously, she taught, coached, and mentored high school students at the Noble and Greenough School (MA).



Rosalind Wiseman is an international expert on children, teens, parenting, bullying, and social justice. Her latest best-selling book, *Masterminds & Wingmen*, offers insights into what matters most to boys. She is also the author of *Queen Bees and Wannabes*, the best-selling book that was the basis for the movie *Mean Girls*. Wiseman works with students, educators, parents, counselors, coaches, and administrators to create communities based on the belief that each person has a responsibility to treat self and others with dignity. She was appointed as an advisor to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration and was one of the principal speakers at the White House Summit on Bullying. Wiseman is a consultant for Cartoon Network's Stop Bullying: Speak Up campaign. She has been profiled in *The New York Times*, *People*, and *USA Today*. She is a frequent guest on *The Today Show*, *Anderson Cooper 360*, CNN, *Good Morning America*, and NPR affiliates throughout the country.

