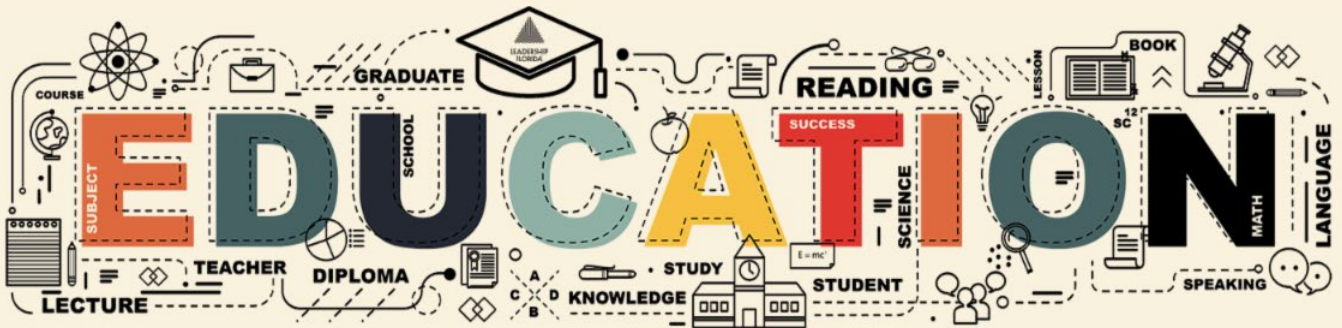


# 3RD ANNUAL GATHERING OF EDUCATION LEADERS FOCUSING ON THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION



VIRTUAL PROGRAM

JUNE 11, 2021



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**REGIONS**



**LEADERSHIP FLORIDA**  
3RD ANNUAL GATHERING OF EDUCATION LEADERS

# PROGRAM AGENDA

Friday, June 11, 2021

1:30 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.

## Welcome

**Wendy Spencer**, (Cornerstone Class 24), President & CEO, Leadership Florida

**Charles Hokanson**, (Cornerstone Class 36, Co-Chair, Education Advisory Committee) Senior Vice President, Community Engagement and Strategic Partnerships, Helios Education Foundation

**Paul Burns**, (Education Class 2; Co-Chair, Education Advisory Committee, Class Co-Chair Education Class 3; Class Chair, Education Class 4), Deputy Chancellor for Education Quality, Florida Department of Education

1:40 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

## Leading Through the Generations

Kim Lear has spent her career studying the different generations and emerging trends as they adapt to our ever-changing world. Her research, insights, and original concepts will help you better understand each generation and have a new appreciation for their unique perspective as they navigate the challenges of today.

**Kim Lear**, Researcher, Published Writer, Corporate Speaker, and the Founder + Content Director, InLay

2:15 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.

## It's Been a Year! Lessons Learned and Opportunities for the Future from the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is reshaping the world as we know it. Understanding the generational dynamics at play helps us fully grasp how our students and the educational system will adapt during this pivotal moment—exploring this topic while amid this once-in-a-generation moment is precisely how leaders can gain critical insight into what's coming next.

Beginning on March 13, 2020, Kim began the creation of a pandemic time capsule. Over the past year, Kim has conducted 250 interviews with people all over the country to hear about their experiences. Her insights include the effectiveness of online learning and virtual meetings, biggest obstacles, and the most surprising silver linings. Forty college students are participating in Kim's 4-year study focused on how this disruption is impacting young adults.

Kim will discuss what she has discovered on the national front while asking our leaders about their experiences within their communities and schools. Kim wants to ensure that the deep expertise of the panelists is tapped into to provide insights to the whole group.



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**Facilitator:**

**Kim Lear**, Researcher, Published Writer, Corporate Speaker, and the Founder + Content Director, InLay

**Panelists:**

**Paul Burns**, (Education Class 2) Deputy Chancellor for Education Quality, Florida Department of Education

**Mandy Clark**, (Education Class 2), President, Impact Florida

**Amy Earl** (Education Class 5), Teacher, IBCP Coordinator, Riverview High School, Sarasota County Schools

**Donald Fennoy** (Executive Class 10), Superintendent of Schools, Palm Beach County

**3:10 p.m. – 3:25 p.m.**

**Q&A**

Attendees will have time to ask Kim Lear and our panelists questions from their presentations. Raise your hand or put your questions in the chat.

**3:25 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.**

**Table Discussions (Breakout Rooms)**

Attendees will separate into several small groups to discuss their successes from this year.

**3:40 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.**

**Break**

**3:50 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Pathways to Success for Florida's Students**

No longer is their one path to success for Florida's students. Today there are many educational opportunities for students when it comes to their future. Our panel will discuss talent development and some of the different paths that students can follow, including career-dual enrollment, college dual enrollment, and career academics.

**Facilitator:**

**Nicole Washington** (Connect Class 7), Principal, Washington Education Strategies

**Panelist:**

**Craig Robinson**, Chief Executive Officer, College Possible

**Kimberly Moore** (Cornerstone Class 33), VP for Workforce Innovation Tallahassee Community College



**LEADERSHIP FLORIDA**  
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4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

**Becoming a Catalyst for Change**

Erin Gruwell is a teacher, an author, and the founder of the Freedom Writers Foundation. By fostering an educational philosophy that values and promotes diversity, Erin transformed her students' lives. She encouraged them to re-think rigid beliefs about themselves and others, reconsider daily decisions, and ultimately re-chart their futures. Erin and her students captured their collective journey in *The Freedom Writers Diary*. Erin founded the Freedom Writers Foundation, where she currently teaches educators worldwide how to implement her innovative lesson plans into their own classrooms. She created the Freedom Writers Methodology, a progressive teaching philosophy, and curricula designed to achieve excellence from all students. Erin continues to fight for equality in education and inspires teachers and students worldwide with her work.

**Erin Gruwell**, Teacher, Author, and Founder of the Freedom Writers Foundation

5:15 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.

**Closing Remarks**

**Charles Hokanson**, (Cornerstone Class 36, Co-Chair, Education Advisory Committee) Senior Vice President, Community Engagement and Strategic Partnerships, Helios Education Foundation

**Paul Burns**, (Education Class 2; Co-Chair, Education Advisory Committee, Class Co-Chair Education Class 3; Class Chair, Education Class 4), Deputy Chancellor for Education Quality, Florida Department of Education

5:20 p.m. – 5:30 p.m

**Adjourn**

Stay with us until the end to complete the program evaluation and for your opportunity to win a new bike!

**Bike Giveaway:**

**Stephen Ponzillo** (Education Class 6), Assistant Vice President & Community Relations Officer, Regions Bank

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Virtual Happy Hour**

Grab your favorite beverage; it is time to relax and have some fun with your classmates. Enjoy this time to catch up with your class!



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## Program Host

### **Charles Hokanson**

#### **Cornerstone Class 36**

*Co-Chair, Education Advisory Committee*

**Senior Vice President, Community Engagement and Strategic Partnerships,  
Helios Education Foundation**

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Charles Hokanson is Senior Vice President, Florida Community Engagement for Helios Education Foundation, where he leads Helios' staff engagement with the community and stakeholders to improve quality, access, and achievement across the birth-16 education continuum.

Mr. Hokanson's career has bridged the worlds of non-profit, private sector, and government policy development and executive management. As President and CEO of Hokanson Consulting Group. Mr. Hokanson provided strategic and public policy advice to non-profits, think tanks, trade associations, and federal and state agency clients. Mr. Hokanson previously served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education at the U.S. Department of Education, as president or executive vice president of three national education reform non-profits, and as professional staff to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and the Workforce. Mr. Hokanson graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford University, earning a BA in History and American Studies and an MA in History, before earning JD and Master of Public Policy degrees at the Harvard Law School and Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

He currently serves as Chairman of the Florida Education Foundation's Board of Directors and sits on the governing boards of the Florida Chamber Foundation, Florida Philanthropic Network, and Hostelling International USA. Mr. Hokanson is also a member of the advisory boards for the Florida College Access Network (serving as Chairman), Florida TaxWatch's Education and Workforce Policy Council (as Vice-Chairman), the Florida College System's Student Success Center, the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations, Leadership Florida Education Advisory Committee (as a Co-Chair), and the Center for Postsecondary Success at Florida State University.



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## Program Host

### **Paul Burns**

#### **Education Class 2**

*Co-Chair, Education Advisory Committee*

*Class Co-Chair, Education Class 3*

*Class Chair, Education Class 4*

#### **Deputy Chancellor for Education Quality, Florida Department of Education**

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Dr. Paul O. Burns earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arkansas and his doctorate in Educational Leadership from Saint Louis University, where his research focused on teacher turnover in the state of Florida. Before beginning his teaching career, Paul lived and studied in France, focusing on second language acquisition. Upon returning to the United States, he started his teaching career as a French teacher in Missouri. He served in numerous school leadership roles in Missouri before moving to Florida in 2014, when he joined the Sarasota County School district as a school leader. In January 2018, Paul joined the Florida Department of Education as the Deputy Chancellor for Educator Quality. His work focuses on improving student learning by ensuring that every Florida teacher and leader is prepared, developed, supported, and supervised by educators who strive to enhance and improve the teaching profession. Paul is a graduate of Leadership Florida Education Class 2, Co-Chair of Education Class 3, Chair Of Education Class 4, and Co-Chair of the Education Advisory Committee.



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# Leading Through the Generations

## Kim Lear

**Researcher, Published Writer, Corporate Speaker, and the Founder + Content Director, InLay**

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Kim Lear is a speaker, writer, strategist, and researcher who explores how emerging trends impact the future of our workforce and marketplace. For the past four years, she has worked with a research and consulting firm studying millennial trends and generational dynamics. She is known for her ability to use a mix of data, storytelling, humor, and actionable takeaways to discuss the trends that most impact the bottom line of organizations.

Kim has keynoted for some of the most renowned companies in the world. She has received rave reviews from clients such as American Express, Best Buy, Cisco Systems, Disney, General Mills, LinkedIn, MasterCard, Wells Fargo, and more. She is also a sought-after expert and has been featured on NPR, as well as in national publications such as The Wall Street Journal, The Huffington Post, and USA Today.

Kim lives and works in Minneapolis, where she is currently running a research initiative to identify how The Experience Economy and The Sharing Economy impact our views on work, consumption, and community. When not delving into the minutia of human behavior, you can find Kim paddle boarding, planning an overseas adventure, or binge-watching Breaking Bad (again).





# It's Been a Year! Lessons Learned and Opportunities for the Future from the COVID-19 Pandemic

## FACILITATOR



**Kim Lear**

*Researcher, Published Writer, Corporate Speaker, and the Founder + Content Director, InLay*

## PANELISTS



**Paul Burns**

*Education Class 2  
Deputy Chancellor  
for Education Quality  
Florida Department  
of Education*



**Mandy Clark**

*Education Class 2  
President  
Impact Florida*



**Amy Earl**

*Education Class 5  
Teacher, IBCP  
Coordinator  
Riverview High  
School  
Sarasota County  
Schools*



**Donald  
Fennoy**

*Executive Class 10  
Superintendent of  
Schools  
Palm Beach County*



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# Mandy Clark

**Education Class 2**

**President, Impact Florida**

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Mandy Clark is the President and co-founder of Impact Florida -- a non-profit organization created to support educational leaders, districts, and teachers with the knowledge and tools they need to ensure that great teaching is consistently in place across Florida. Impact Florida's goal: more equitable opportunities for all students.

Previously, Mandy served as a Senior Policy Officer at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation on the education-focused United States Program Team. During her tenure, Mandy was responsible for managing multi-million-dollar education advocacy portfolios in the states of Florida, Texas, and Colorado, as well as the national portfolios of Business Voice, Multi-State/National Organizations, and Personalized Learning. She also previously served as the National Director of Development at the Foundation for Excellence in Education and formerly as its Director of State and Strategic Initiatives.

Beyond her work in education, Mandy has served in a variety of roles, including fundraising, legislative affairs, communications, and stakeholder engagement in public and private sectors across multiple policy areas.

Mandy holds a B.A. and M.A. in History from Florida State University and resides in Tallahassee, Florida, with her husband Chris and daughter Carmen.



# Amy Earl

## *Education Class 5*

### **Teacher, IBCP Coordinator, Riverview High School, Sarasota County Schools**

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Amy is a full-time educator at Riverview High School in Sarasota, Florida, since 2010. She currently teaches IB Language and Literature and Personal and Professional Skills in the IB Career Program, where she is the IB Career Program Coordinator. She loves being involved on campus with as many students as possible. She has been the Student Activities Director, Varsity cheerleading coach, and Advanced Placement testing coordinator on campus, in addition to her time in the classroom.



Before working at RHS, Amy taught third grade in Hardee County at Wauchula Elementary School. Her student teaching took place in Orange County, Florida. She is a graduate of Sarasota County Schools (K-12) and graduated from UCF with a degree in elementary education and FSU with her master's in special education. Amy earned her doctorate in Instructional Leadership from the American College of Education in 2020. Her research and platforms seek to better understand the expectations and pressures put on classroom teachers and to elevate the teaching profession.

She enjoys spending time outdoors, relaxing with her family somewhere without regular internet access. Amy resides in Sarasota with her husband, Greg, and daughter, Adeline.

# Donald Fennoy

*Executive Class 10*

**Superintendent of Schools, Palm Beach County**

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Dr. Donald E. Fennoy II, a veteran educator who worked his way from elementary school teacher to Superintendent of Schools of the nation's 11th largest school district.

Dr. Fennoy served as the District's Chief Operating Officer since May 2016, overseeing a wide range of District functions, from School Police and School Food Services to Transportation and Planning & Intergovernmental Relations.

Prior to moving to Palm Beach County with his wife and two children, he was Senior Area Superintendent for Fulton County Schools. He served as Executive Director for non-profit New Leaders for New Schools: Maryland. While serving as a high school principal in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, the high school led by Dr. Fennoy received the National School Change Award. This honor is presented annually to six schools in the United States that have demonstrated the greatest academic turnaround in two years.

Dr. Fennoy began his career as an elementary school teacher with Orange County Public Schools, where he also served as an assistant principal. He is a member of the 2015-2016 class of the Broad Academy, part of the Broad Center for the Management of School Systems. Chiefs for Change named him part of their 2017 cohort of the Future Chief program. His alma mater, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University named him among the University's 125 most notable alumni as part of the University's 125th-anniversary gala.

Dr. Fennoy graduated from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University with a degree in Elementary Education. He earned a Master's degree in Educational Leadership and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Administration from the University of Central Florida. He and his wife Kendra are the proud parents of two beautiful children.



# Pathways to Success for Florida's Students

## FACILITATOR



**Nicole Washington**

*Connect Class 7  
Principal,  
Washington Education Strategies*

## PANELISTS



**Craig  
Robinson**

*Chief Executive Officer,  
College Possible*



**Kimberly  
Moore**

**Cornerstone Class 33**  
*VP for Workforce  
Innovation Tallahassee  
Community College*

# Nicole Washington

*Connect Class 7*

**Principal, Washington Education Strategies**

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Nicole Washington, Principal, Washington Education Strategies, is a national education policy advisor focused on integrating work and education to build a stronger talent pipeline in Florida. Nicole is a strategic advisor for clients including executive and legislative policymakers, leaders of education institutions, higher education systems, and national foundations in order to build research-based policies, institutional frameworks, and investments that provide equitable access to high-quality education and careers. She served as higher education advisor to former Governor Rick Scott, associate director of governmental relations for the State University System of Florida, and the Vice-chair for the Education Subcommittee of the 2017-18 Constitution Revision Commission. She now serves on the board of trustees for Florida A&M University and Miami Dade College.



# Craig Robinson

## Chief Executive Officer, College Possible

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Craig joined the College Possible executive leadership team in August 2019. As CEO, he oversees the day-to-day work of running and growing the organization.

A fearless advocate for equity, access, and success in education, Craig has over 20 years of leadership experience and a diverse network. He has built an intimate knowledge of the K-12 and higher education systems through previous tenures as chief strategy officer at Henderson Collegiate Charger Network, chief program officer at the National College Advising Corps, national director of KIPP Through College, at the KIPP Foundation, executive director of KIPP Through College at KIPP NYC, vice president for programs at A Better Chance, director of diversity & multicultural recruitment at Phillips Academy, and program officer at the University of Michigan. He has provided strategic vision alongside founders, executive leaders, and boards—elevating an organization's ability to disseminate promising practices, strengthen partnerships, and increase visibility and recognition.

Craig holds a bachelor's degree in political science and English from Emory University and dual master's degrees in secondary education and education administration from the University of Michigan. The joys of his life are his wife, Dr. Peggy Regis Robinson, and their three children Shiloh, Christian, and Kalea.



# Kimberly Moore

**Cornerstone Class 33**

**VP for Workforce Innovation Tallahassee Community College**

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Kimberly Moore has spent over a decade in the workforce development arena. She currently serves as the Vice President for Workforce Innovation at Tallahassee Community College (TCC). In the position of Vice President, she is responsible for developing strategic solutions that address the needs of employers and those seeking to enter or advance in the workforce. Prior to joining TCC, she served as the Chief Executive Officer of WORKFORCE plus, the regional economic and workforce development body.



Ms. Moore is a 1993 graduate of Tallahassee Community College with an Associate of Arts degree. She continued her education at The Florida State University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice in 1995. In May 2006, she earned her M.B.A from Webster University. She is a proud member of Leadership Tallahassee Class 24 and Leadership Florida Class 33.

In addition to her role at TCC, she continues to give back to her community through service. Note a few of Ms. Moore's many volunteer roles include serving as Chair- Leon County Research Development Authority, Vice-Chair of Florida A&M University Board of Trustees, Vice-Chair of the Economic Vitality Leadership Council, Truist/SunTrust Community Advisory Board, and Board of Director for the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce and Wakulla Chamber of Commerce. She has been recognized locally, statewide, and nationally for her service and commitment to excellence with accolades including Tallahassee's Top 26 Women in Business (2007), the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Leadership Pacesetter Award (2009), the Dr. Reginald Rolle Memorial Economic Development Champion of the Year Award (2010), Florida Diversity Council's 2014 Florida's Most Powerful and Influential Woman Award, Tallahassee Woman Magazine's 2016 'Women Who Mean Business' Innovator of the Year Award, 2017 inductee to the Tallahassee Community College's Hall of Fame and 2019 Economic Innovator of the Year.



# Becoming a Catalyst for Change

## Erin Gruwell

**Teacher, Author, and Founder of the Freedom Writers Foundation**

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Erin Gruwell has earned an award-winning reputation for her steadfast commitment to the future of education. Her impact as a teacher attracted Hollywood's attention, and in 2007, Paramount Pictures released *Freedom Writers*, starring two-time Oscar winner Hilary Swank as Erin. The film is based on *The Freedom Writers Diary*, the New York Times Bestseller that chronicles Erin's extraordinary journey with her 150 high school students who dubbed themselves the "Freedom Writers" in homage to the Freedom Riders of the Civil Rights Movement.

By fostering an educational philosophy that values and promotes diversity, Erin transformed her students' lives. She encouraged them to re-think rigid beliefs about themselves and others, reconsider their own daily decisions, and ultimately, re-chart their future. With Erin's support, they chose to forego teenage pregnancy, drugs, and violence in order to become aspiring college students, published authors, and catalysts for change.



Erin founded the Freedom Writers Foundation, where she currently teaches educators worldwide how to implement her innovative lesson plans into their own classrooms. Erin's teaching methods from her time in Room 203 have been published in her powerful call to arms *Teach With Your Heart*, as well as *The Freedom Writers Diary Teacher's Guide*. Erin and teachers she has trained known as "Freedom Writer Teachers" collaborated to write *Teaching Hope*, a book in which stories "from the front lines of education take [the reader] from the anticipation of the first day to the disillusionment, challenges, and triumphs of the school year."

Erin and her students have appeared on numerous television shows, including *Oprah*, *Prime Time Live with Connie Chung*, *Barbara Walters' The View*, and *Good Morning America*. Their story has earned them dozens of awards, most notably the Spirit of Anne Frank Award. Erin Gruwell and the Freedom Writer Teachers also collaborated with Scholastic to create *On the Record*, an innovative reading and writing program. *On the Record* uses the Freedom Writers Methodology to improve students' reading and writing skills, as well as the quality of their lives.

Erin continues to fight for equality in education and inspires teachers and students worldwide with her work. She speaks to schools, churches, clubs, conferences, and various other organizations through live events and video chats. She also leads the 5-day intensive Teacher Institute workshops at the Freedom Writers headquarters in Long Beach, California.

[www.freedomwritersfoundation.org](http://www.freedomwritersfoundation.org)

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