



**2025 Annual Conference**

**Nov 12 - 14**

**Macon, GA**





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# Event Agenda

GSCA 2025 Annual Conference

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## Wednesday, November 12, 2025

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>Pre-Conference Session Attendees Check-In (Additional cost to attend a Pre-Conference Session)</b> Location: Registration Desk
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM	<b>Pre-Conference Session - Ethics - School Counselors Legal Literacy and Ethical Practice</b> Location: Mulberry (100 seats) Speaker: Carolyn Stone
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	<b>Exhibitor Setup</b> Location: Exhibit Hall
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>[CANCELED] Pre-Conference Session - Mosaic of Voices: Building Inclusive Schools Through DEI, Immigration, LGBTQ+, and Disability</b>
9:45 AM - 5:30 PM	<b>Registration / Check-in for Conference Attendees</b> Location: Registration Desk
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Worksetting - High School</b> Location: Maple (250 seats) Speakers: Carol Pizza, Brittney Brisco, Monique Edwards
11:00 AM - 6:30 PM	<b>Exhibits Open</b> Location: Exhibit Hall
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Worksetting - Middle School</b> Location: Elm (50 seats) Speakers: Dr. Twanna White, Jalen Carver
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Worksetting - Graduate Students</b> Location: Pine (40 seats)
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Worksetting - Elementary School</b> Location: Oak (100 seats) Speakers: Premlata Miller, Lauren Butler
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Worksetting - District Leaders</b> Location: Peach (40 seats)
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<b>Lunch Break</b> Location: Exhibit Hall
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<b>[CANCELED] RAMP Office Hours</b> Location: Exhibit Hall
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Rising Together: Advancing Equity to Empower Every Student</b> Location: Oak (100 seats) Speaker: Dr. Lamar Edmonds
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>School Counselors - Helping Students Rule Their Experiences" in Supporting Neurodivergent P-12 Students: A Practical Guide for School Counselors and Teachers</b> Location: Peach (40 seats) Speakers: Dr. Karen Rowland, DeeAnn Clarington

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Being a Girl ROX I- Helping Girls Rule their Own Experiences</b> Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats) Speakers: Morgan McKinnon, Joycelyn Richards
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Being Part of the Machine: The rise of punitive discipline in schools, how it marginalizes students, and how we can advocate for them.</b> Location: Pine (40 seats) Speaker: Matthew Tilley
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Brainwashed: Cortisol, Conflict, and the Keys to Calm</b> Location: Maple (250 seats) Speaker: Steph Jensen
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Career Day Planning and Implementation for All Levels!</b> Location: Grand Salon B (Marriott) (80 seats) Speaker: Dr. Paul Bowie
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Dollar Tree Counseling Hacks</b> Location: Pecan (40 seats) Speaker: Tanya Obaidullah
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Enhancing Practice: Pathways to LPC Licensure for Georgia's School Counselors</b> Location: Magnolia A (Marriott) (100 seats) Speakers: Dr.Tonja Simmons Lee, Tracey Pace
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Males to Men: Helping Young Males Take the Lead in Their Social-Emotional Journey</b> Location: Magnolia BCD (Marriott) (140 seats) Speaker: Baron Warren
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>The Pivotal Role of School Counselors and Other Staff in School-Based Mental Health: Lessons Learned from the Georgia Apex Program</b> Location: Elm (50 seats) Speaker: Natasha De Veauuse Brown
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Urban Trauma; Turning Pain into Privilege</b> Location: Dogwood (50 seats) Speaker: India Trottie
2:15 PM - 4:00 PM	<b>Opening Keynote</b> Location: Ballroom
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM	<b>President's Reception</b> Location: Exhibit Hall
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	<b>Awards Ceremony</b> Location: Magnolia (Marriott)

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## Thursday, November 13, 2025

6:45 AM - 7:30 AM	<b>Yoga</b> Location: Private Dining Room (Marriott)
6:45 AM - 7:30 AM	<b>Boot Camp</b> Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats)
7:45 AM - 8:45 AM	<b>Worksetting - Counselor Educators</b> Location: Exhibit Hall Speaker: Brent Henderson, PhD, LPC, NCC, NCSC
7:45 AM - 8:45 AM	<b>Worksetting Meeting - Graduate Students</b> Location: Exhibit Hall Speaker: TaTanisha Copeland

7:45 AM - 8:45 AM

Affinity Meetings

Location: Exhibit Hall

Affinity Meeting - Charter & Independent School Counselors

7:45 AM - 8:45 AM

Location: Exhibit Hall

Speaker: Tyler Brown

Affinity Meeting - Latinx & Hispanic Counselors

7:45 AM - 8:45 AM

Location: Exhibit Hall

Speaker: Bianca Garcia

Affinity Meeting - LGBTQ+ Counselor

7:45 AM - 8:45 AM

Location: Exhibit Hall

Speaker: Ricardo Lyons-Alvarez

Affinity Meeting - Male Counselors

7:45 AM - 8:45 AM

Location: Ballroom

Speaker: Amari BenLevi

Affinity Meeting - Mentoring

7:45 AM - 8:45 AM

Location: Exhibit Hall

Speakers: Teshia Dula, Matthew Tilley, Merrill Baxley

7:45 AM - 9:00 AM

Hot Breakfast

Location: Exhibit Hall

7:45 AM - 5:00 PM

Exhibits Open

Location: Exhibit Hall

7:45 AM - 5:30 PM

Registration Desk Open

Location: Registration Desk

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

A Student-Led Approach to Opioid and Fentanyl Prevention

Location: Pecan (40 seats)

Speakers: Cammie Rice, Phylicia Hancle

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Bridging the Mental Health Gap Between Professional School Counselors and Clinicians: Strategies for Implementing an Effective School Based Mental Health Program

Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats)

Speakers: Tamika Hibbert, LaVerne Ware

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Dear Black Man, You Are In Danger

Location: Mulberry (100 seats)

Speakers: Jhamarcus Pharaoh, Amari BenLevi

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Decoding the Resilient Brain: Unlocking Strategies for Supporting Students' Emotional Wellbeing

Location: Peach (40 seats)

Speakers: Dr. Juanita Hosch-Martin, Tomeka Stringer

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Demystifying the Enhanced ACT

Location: Elm (50 seats)

Speaker: Chris Lefevre

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Maximizing Community Partnerships for Student Wellness

Location: Pine (40 seats)

Speaker: Amanda Summers

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Rolling Toward Regulation: Board Games as Tools for Executive Functioning Support

Location: Oak (100 seats)

Speaker: Becki Heacox

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

The 27th Annual Book-A-Holics Anonymous: Using Children's Literature for Social, Emotional, and Academic Education

Location: Maple (250 seats)

Speaker: Dr. Nancy Jones

<b>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM</b>	<b>The Counselor's Gambit: Navigating the Generational Chessboard</b> Location: Dogwood (50 seats) Speakers: Wendy Whedon, Tiffany Laberis, Craig Whedon
<b>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM</b>	<b>The Power of Self-Awareness: Helping Students Build Confidence, Connection, and Emotional Intelligence</b> Location: Grand Salon B (Marriott) (80 seats) Speakers: Hattie Hunter, Gifty Boachie
<b>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM</b>	<b>Using Connectedness Data to Foster Belonging Through Staff-Student Engagement, Peer Leadership, and School-Wide Programs</b> Location: Magnolia A (Marriott) (100 seats) Speaker: Sara Kinsey
<b>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM</b>	<b>What Comes Next....for your students</b> Location: Magnolia BCD (Marriott) (140 seats) Speaker: Christopher Bryan
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Let's Talk Middle School</b> Location: Magnolia BCD (Marriott) (140 seats) Speakers: Shaunta Adams, Jacqueline Eppes, Latonya Smiley
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Attendance Intervention Through Wrap Around Services!</b> Location: Mulberry (100 seats) Speakers: Danielle Wilson, Jordan Wilks, Nicole Wilson
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Building Strong Runners: Preparing Students for Successful Transitions and Beyond</b> Location: Elm (50 seats) Speakers: Marcia Teemer, Timica Parker, Monique Edwards
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Building Structure Amongst Chaos - Best Practices and Tips for New Counselors</b> Location: Peach (40 seats) Speakers: Logan Odom, Cynthia Forde
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Career Navigation in Georgia--New Tools for Workforce Readiness</b> Location: Magnolia A (Marriott) (100 seats) Speakers: Scot Lingrell, Mark Peevy
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Escaping Vaping - A Tobacco and Vaping Prevention Program</b> Location: Pine (40 seats) Speaker: Lauren Shamblin
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Reading Between the Lines: Building Bridges Between Counselors and ELA Teachers</b> Location: Grand Salon B (Marriott) (80 seats) Speakers: Cayce Pope, Brandy Judkins
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>S.I.E.P- Sparking Interest in Engineering Pathways</b> Location: Pecan (40 seats) Speakers: Tiffany Hudson, Alexcia Massey, Fredric Johnson
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Tech-Savvy Counseling: Leveraging Digital Tools to Support Student Growth and Well-being</b> Location: Dogwood (50 seats) Speaker: Teshia Dula
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Together We Thrive: Building Bridges Between Schools and Communities</b> Location: Maple (250 seats) Speakers: Shelby Gonzalez, April West, Amy Crapo, Reuben Gresham
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>TRANSforming Times: Supporting Resiliency in LGBTQ Students</b> Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats) Speaker: Ken Jackson
<b>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Using the Arts to Improve Mental Health and Wellbeing in Middle School</b> Location: Oak (100 seats) Speaker: Nicholas Wo

11:15 AM - 11:30 AM	<b>Break with Exhibitors</b> Location: Exhibit Hall
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Belonging in Action: Small Group Strategies for Empowering Middle School Girls through Positive Psychology</b> Location: Elm (50 seats) Speaker: Josselyn Ayala
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Beyond the Language Barrier: Advocating for English Language Learners</b> Location: Magnolia BCD (Marriott) (140 seats) Speakers: Mirna Wynn, Bianca Garcia
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Drum, Draw, Drama, &amp; Dance 2.0: Integrate the Arts into Your School Counseling Program</b> Location: Magnolia A (Marriott) (100 seats) Speaker: Beth Ruff
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Family Engagement with Spanish speaking and ESOL Families</b> Location: Dogwood (50 seats) Speaker: Dr. Clifford Johnson
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Inspiring College Ambitions: The APS-UGA Partnership Advantage</b> Location: Peach (40 seats) Speakers: Maria Grovner, Felicia Lewis
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Revealing the Unseen: Uplifting Students Who Are Experiencing Homelessness to be Seen, Supported, Successful</b> Location: Mulberry (100 seats) Speakers: Nichole Robinson, blanca Torres
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Show, Don't Just Tell: Simple Data Strategies to Promote Your School Counseling Program</b> Location: Grand Salon B (Marriott) (80 seats) Speaker: Betsy Alpert
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Structure in Classroom Guidance: How Using a Quote has Changed My Life</b> Location: Oak (100 seats) Speaker: Cortney Jones
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>The ASCA National Model: A Framework for School Counseling Programs - 5th Edition</b> Location: Maple (250 seats) Speakers: Dianne Andree, Karen Griffith
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Transforming Education Equity Through Communication: The Historic Partnership Between Rockdale County School District and The Dr. Annise Mabry Foundation</b> Location: Pecan (40 seats) Speaker: Annise Mabry, PhD
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>When Counselors and Administrators Collaborate: A Roadmap to Student-Centered Success (Even in Discouraging Times)</b> Location: Pine (40 seats) Speaker: Brittney Brisco
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Who Heals the Healer. Recognizing and Managing Secondary Traumatic Stress</b> Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats) Speaker: Dr. Shae Jones
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	<b>Lunch Break</b> Location: Exhibit Hall
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	<b>RAMP Office Hours</b> Location: Exhibit Hall
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>"Blow The Whistle: Building College and Career Readiness in Middle School"</b> Location: Magnolia A (Marriott) (100 seats) Speakers: Courtney Jordan, Cyntonia "Toni" Carten

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Charting the Course: Mentoring that Elevates!</b> Location: Magnolia BCD (Marriott) (140 seats) Speakers: Shanna Mitchell-Jones, Premlata Miller, Pakisha Reynolds
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Connection Before Correction: Building Relationships to Empower and Intervene</b> Location: Pecan (40 seats) Speaker: Dr. Janelle Brooks
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Crowns &amp; Connections: Partnering to Help Every Student Rule Their Journey</b> Location: Peach (40 seats) Speaker: Jessica Evans
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Empowered and Prepared: Helping Students Rule their Post-Secondary Experience</b> Location: Oak (100 seats) Speaker: Amy Clines
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Empowering Student Voices: Equity-Driven Counseling Practices That Transform School Experiences</b> Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats) Speakers: Cedric Cooks, Chauntice Corbin
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Equipping Educators with Effective Interventions for Students exhibiting Psychosis and other Mood Disorders</b> Location: Maple (250 seats) Speakers: Lavette Oldham, Kea Watson
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Options for Earning a High School Diploma within the Technical College System of Georgia</b> Location: Mulberry (100 seats) Speaker: Joseph Echols
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Ruling Their Realm: Empowering Multilingual Learners through Strategic Support</b> Location: Grand Salon B (Marriott) (80 seats) Speakers: Torrye Isom, Cary Settles, David Lee, Beata Lech
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Second Annual Door Dash: More Fresh Counseling Ideas to Feed Your Program</b> Location: Dogwood (50 seats) Speakers: Rachael Fogleman, Minh Chiavone, Abbie Miller
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Suicidality is on the rise. Help students know how to stay safe for now.</b> Location: Elm (50 seats) Speakers: Laura Spencer, Kimberly Jones
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>From ‘I’m Not Enough’ to ‘I Can’’: Cultivating Hope and Confidence in Students</b> Location: Pine (40 seats) Speaker: Channele Joseph-Nwosu
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM	<b>“From Surviving to Thriving: Empowering Students to Rule Their Path with Intentional Guidance and Bold Partnerships”</b> Location: Oak (100 seats) Speaker: Kennard M Weever
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM	<b>A Year in the Life of a Senior Class Counselor: Guiding Students from August to May through Seminars, College Prep Events, and Family Engagement</b> Location: Mulberry (100 seats) Speaker: Heather Boyle
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM	<b>Beyond Words: Using Expressive Arts to Help Students Rule their Emotional Experiences</b> Location: Magnolia BCD (Marriott) (140 seats) Speakers: Amari BenLevi, Alisha Jordan
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM	<b>BIG Ideas for Small Groups: Strategies for Effective Interventions</b> Location: Grand Salon B (Marriott) (80 seats) Speaker: Danette Jewell



<b>2:45 PM - 3:45 PM</b>	<b>College Advising: Advancing Knowledge, Transforming Lives in a Public High School Setting</b> Location: Dogwood (50 seats) Speakers: Christina Harris, Mackenzie Gilbert
<b>2:45 PM - 3:45 PM</b>	<b>Creating Psychological Safety in Schools: Increasing Organizational Emotional Intelligence for Administrators, School Counselors, Teachers, and Staff</b> Location: Maple (250 seats) Speakers: Carolina Ribeiro, Carrie Nickell, Melissa Rone
<b>2:45 PM - 3:45 PM</b>	<b>Grief Support Activity Toolkit: Activities and interventions for bereaved students</b> Location: Pecan (40 seats) Speaker: Lane Pease
<b>2:45 PM - 3:45 PM</b>	<b>How to be the adult youth deserve in their lives!</b> Location: Magnolia A (Marriott) (100 seats) Speakers: Robyn Smith, Jenny Paveglio
<b>2:45 PM - 3:45 PM</b>	<b>One Counselor, Many Hats: Addressing the Complexities of Solo School Counseling</b> Location: Peach (40 seats) Speaker: Tiffany King
<b>2:45 PM - 3:45 PM</b>	<b>Rule Your Study Game: Study Smart Small Group Intervention</b> Location: Elm (50 seats) Speaker: Barbara Truluck
<b>2:45 PM - 3:45 PM</b>	<b>Ruling Together: The Partnership of School Administrators and School Counselors</b> Location: Pine (40 seats) Speaker: Torri Jackson
<b>2:45 PM - 3:45 PM</b>	<b>Beyond the Classroom: Creative College &amp; Career Activities for Elementary</b> Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats) Speakers: Katie Fields, Cheryl Sewell
<b>3:45 PM - 4:15 PM</b>	<b>Exhibit and Engagement</b> Location: Exhibit Hall
<b>4:15 PM - 5:00 PM</b>	<b>Membership Assembly</b> Location: Ballroom
<b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b>	<b>Leadership Team &amp; PPAC Dinner (invitation only)</b> Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats)
<b>8:00 PM - 11:00 PM</b>	<b>Dance Party</b> Location: Fall Line Station, 567 Plum St, Macon, GA 31201

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## Friday, November 14, 2025

<b>6:45 AM - 7:30 AM</b>	<b>Yoga</b> Location: Private Dining Room (Marriott)
<b>6:45 AM - 7:30 AM</b>	<b>Boot Camp</b> Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats)
<b>7:30 AM - 11:00 AM</b>	<b>Registration Desk Open</b> Location: Registration Desk
<b>7:30 AM - 8:30 AM</b>	<b>Hot Breakfast</b> Location: Ballroom

<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Hey Bro, Let's Talk About College: Encouraging college awareness among our male students by providing opportunities for campus tours and firsthand exposure to college life.</b> Location: Peach (40 seats) Speakers: Jeff Miller, Courtney Bryan, Matthew Taylor
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>AI for Counselors: Lesson planning, tracking, and interventions made simple</b> Location: Maple (250 seats) Speaker: Tracy Clements
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Breaking Barriers: Enriching the Professional Identity of Male School Counseling Students through Supervision</b> Location: Grand Salon B (Marriott) (80 seats) Speakers: Brent Henderson, PhD, LPC, NCC, NCSC, Dr Bobby Gueh
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Career Carnival - Bringing the Thrill Back to Discovering Our Passions</b> Location: Pine (40 seats) Speakers: Robin Mitchell, Lucy Murray
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Hear with your Heart: The Power of Play in Schools!</b> Location: Magnolia A (Marriott) (100 seats) Speakers: Kelly Owen, Michelle Stevens, Mandy Ruddell, Alicia Hayworth
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Helping Students Rule Dual Enrollment: Best Practices to Simplify the Process</b> Location: Mulberry (100 seats) Speaker: Kara Mills Pinckney
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Making A Difference: Inspiring Resilience in Underserved Communities</b> Location: Oak (100 seats) Speaker: Andrew McGee
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Supporting Neurodivergent Students in Schools: Practical Strategies for School Counselors</b> Location: Elm (50 seats) Speaker: Brandi Lewis
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Tapping into the Social and Emotional Learning of Multilingual learners to improve student engagement and Graduation Rate</b> Location: Dogwood (50 seats) Speakers: Jennifer Diaz, Ph.D., LPC, Christopher Martin
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>University System of Georgia Resources and Updates 2025</b> Location: Grand Salon A (Marriott) (80 seats) Speaker: Sarah Wenham
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>What's In a Name?: Navigating Preferred Name Use with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students</b> Location: Pecan (40 seats) Speakers: Elizabeth Lindsey, Tim Plumley
<b>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Empowering Students with Emotional Intelligence: Tools for Building Resilience and Self-Advocacy</b> Location: Magnolia BCD (Marriott) (140 seats) Speaker: Teshia Dula
<b>9:45 AM - 10:15 AM</b>	<b>Region 3 Meeting</b> Location: Magnolia BCD (Marriott) (140 seats) Speakers: Alisha Jordan, Alexcia Massey
<b>9:45 AM - 10:15 AM</b>	<b>Region 4 &amp; 5 Meeting</b> Location: Maple (250 seats) Speakers: Latesha Dixon-Harden, Nakeisha Leitzsey, Sabrina Mincey, Jeanettea Mayle
<b>9:45 AM - 10:15 AM</b>	<b>Region 1 &amp; 2 Meeting</b> Location: Mulberry (100 seats) Speakers: Anna Stutts, Rakia Marcus, Katee Harris

**9:45 AM - 10:15 AM**

**Region 6 & 7 Meeting**

Location: Oak (100 seats)  
Speakers: Dr. Katrina Steele, Chiquita Jones, LaKisha Oliver Mack

**10:30 AM - 11:45 AM**

**Closing Keynote - Harnessing the Power of Pause to Live Your Best Life NOW!**

Location: Ballroom  
Speaker: Dianne Andree

**11:45 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Grab and Go Snacks**