



**NASHVILLE'S VISION  
FOR HOLISTIC YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**



# LEARN ENGAGE DEVELOP

CONFERENCE FOR  
OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME  
PROFESSIONALS

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023  
9:00AM - 6:00PM  
MAIN LIBRARY  
CONFERENCE CENTER  
615 CHURCH STREET  
NASHVILLE, TN 37209

The Nashville After Zone Alliance (NAZA) welcomes you for a day of professional learning and networking. The conference is free and open to all youth development professionals, with sessions for leadership/administrative staff and program staff. Advance registration is required.

REGISTER ONLINE: [www.nashvillez.org/LEDconference](http://www.nashvillez.org/LEDconference)

## Keynote Speaker

Dawn N. Stone, MBA, MA is owner of The Conflict Chick, a consulting company that provides training and development for organizations, corporations, teams, and individuals that specializes in conflict management, communication, storytelling and diversity, equity, and inclusion.



Dawn's 30 years of corporate experience coupled with her MBA in Marketing and MA in Conflict Management has afforded her the opportunity to touch thousands of lives across the US through education and leadership training she provides. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Education from Peabody College at Vanderbilt University in Leadership and Learning In Organizations, where she plans to enhance the organizations and the leaders she serves through curricula, research, and development.

## Schedule of Events

*Individuals may register for any session; morning sessions are tailored to leadership/administrative staff and afternoon sessions are targeted towards front-line/program staff.*

### Morning

Registration	9:00am - 9:30am
Welcome	9:30am - 9:40am
Keynote	9:40am - 10:15am
Session 1	10:20am - 11:20am
Session 2	11:30am - 12:30pm

### Networking & Resource Fair

12:30pm - 2:30pm

### Afternoon

Registration	2:00pm - 3:00pm
Welcome	3:00pm - 3:10pm
Session 1	3:15pm - 4:00pm
Session 2	4:10pm - 4:55pm
Session 3	5:05pm - 5:50pm

## Parking

Parking is available in the Library Garage. Parking is free for the first 90 minutes with validation and \$6/hour thereafter (\$20/full day).

# MORNING SESSION 1: 10:20AM - 11:20AM

## Building Relationships with Schools

Learn strategies to help create, build and maintain healthy relationships between schools and youth program agencies. Participants will be able to learn the best practices of two-way communication skills.



A Chattanooga, Tennessee native, **Kevin McKenzie, Sr.** has worked within several organizations that support youth outreach programs in the Nashville area. Over the last ten years, he has served as a family engagement and restorative practice leader. He is presently a trauma-informed specialist with Tennessee Safe Schools Department for the Metropolitan Nashville Public School district. McKenzie holds a Bachelor of Criminal Justice Administration and a Master of Science in Public Service Management. He plans to graduate with his Doctorate in Education in the Spring of 2023.



## Turning Growth Practices into Engaging Activities

We know that concepts such as “empathy” and “critical thinking” are important. But how do we integrate these concepts into instructive and engaging activities? In this workshop, you will learn tips and strategies for implementing The Vision for Holistic Youth Development by creating activities that youth will love while teaching them the skills they need.

**Benjamin Reese** has been working with youth for 15 years, working in all kinds of roles, from English teacher to camp counselor to drama coach. He is currently the program director for the CASE afterschool program.

## Mindfulness for Well-Being

During this session we will engage in mindful strategies that support calm and focus.

**Dr. Kimberly Taylor-Simmons** is a twenty-year educator. She has a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Trevecca Nazarene University. During her tenure with MNPS she has served as a leader both inside and outside of the classroom. In her current position as a High School Social Emotional Learning Specialist (SEL) for MNPS, she is instrumental in supporting educators with engaging practices, adult self-care and incorporating mindfulness strategies in and out of the classroom.



*Schedule is subject to change.*



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## Using SEL Strategies to Support Our Youth

This workshop is designed to provide practical strategies that can be used to support our youth struggling with trauma, anger management, and growth mindset.

**Rev. Dr. Della P. Bacote** is a Social Emotional Learning Teacher in Metro Nashville Public Schools, teaching students in grades K-4

social awareness, responsible decision-making, self-awareness, self-management, and relationship skills through diverse literature, mindfulness, and yoga. She also serves as the Minister of Congregational Care at the Watson Grove Baptist Church in Nashville. Dr. Bacote earned a Doctor of Education degree from Trevecca Nazarene University and a Master of Divinity from Emory University.

## MORNING SESSION 2: 11:30AM - 12:30PM

### Powered By Youth Voice Findings & Implementation

Join us for an interactive session to learn how to put youth voices and leadership at the forefront of youth development. We will share concrete practices and examples of how NAZA uses the Nashville Vision for Holistic Youth Development to help youth gain skills to thrive, lead and be heard.

**Allie Duke** created *Youth in Action!* while in high school, a youth-led leadership group taking action on issues they care about in Nashville. She first started this work while volunteering at Nations Ministry Center in 2017 tutoring refugee youth. She is currently studying Innovation in Society with a minor in Sustainability at Arizona State University and works as NAZA's Youth Advisor.

**Cole Dugan** works as a Grant Coordinator for NAZA and is a graphic designer at the Greater Nashville Regional Council. They graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 2020.



*Schedule is subject to change.*



## DEI and Belonging in Family Engagement

In the aftermath of the pandemic, engaging families can seem different. Through interactive activities we will realize our personal beliefs around family engagement, discuss the components of family engagement, its importance, and its challenges.

Participants will gain actionable parent engagement strategies.

**Pamela Burgess** is a native of Nashville, TN. She received her Bachelor of Business Administration from Tennessee State University, Master's in Organizational Leadership from Trevecca Nazarene University, and is currently is a Doctoral candidate in the Professional Practice & Organizational Leadership program at Trevecca. She is a former MNPS Elementary School Teacher, served as Manager of the MNPS Parent University Program and Interim Director for Family and Community Engagement, and currently works with MNPS as the Community Engagement Coordinator and DEI Facilitator.

## Making Program Curriculum Fun & Engaging

Explore multiple and varied ways to make afterschool curriculum fun and engaging by incorporating technology, academics, social emotional learning, physical fitness, games, and music.

**Bryan J. Barnett** earned a B.A. in English in 2009 and a M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction in 2013 from Tennessee State University. He is currently working to obtain a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership and Professional Practice from Trevecca Nazarene University. Bryan is employed with Metro Nashville Public Schools as a Truancy Compliance Officer and part-time with the YMCA as a Youth Leader in the Y-Quest after-school program at East Magnet Middle School.



## Using Data to Support English Language Learners

The World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) for English Language Learners (ELLs) provides a level of comprehensive yet approachable information to tailor services to ELLs to support their language development. This session will discuss modes of collaborating with parents of ELLs and ESL Teachers to provide an additional layer of support in OST.



NAZA's Data & Evaluation Manager **Dr. Ezra Howard** has spent most of his career working with language learners, first as a program coordinator through AmeriCorps with after-school programs catering to recent immigrants and then as a K-12 educator. In 2021, Dr. Howard completed dual PhDs with Masaryk University and University of Lisbon.

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# AFTERNOON SESSION 1: 3:15PM - 4:00PM

## Mandatory Reporting

A mandated reporter is a person who, because of their profession, is legally required to report any suspicion of child abuse or neglect to the relevant authorities. These laws are in place to prevent children from being abused and to end any possible abuse or neglect at the earliest possible stage. This workshop will explain this process.



**Jennell Manley** has worked for the Department of Children's Services for over 5 years. She is currently the Training Coordinator at the Child Abuse Hotline. She trains both hotline employees and the community on recognizing signs of child abuse and neglect. She obtained her Bachelor's in Psychology from Austin Peay State University in 2010 and her Masters of Science in School Psychology from Tennessee State University in 2016.

## Restorative Practices



A restorative circle is an approach to repairing harm that has been done within a community. Participants in a restorative circle are encouraged to be open and honest about their perspectives regarding a conflict, how they have been harmed, and how they think others might have been harmed.

A native of Macon, Georgia, **Anthony Hall** has made Nashville home since 1992. Mr. Hall, affectionately known as "T. Hall" throughout the community, graduated with a BA in Sociology from Tennessee State University and completed his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Cumberland University. Anthony has developed, implemented, and engaged in numerous programs for youth as well as the entire family. He is the Vice President of Operations at Why We Can't Wait.

## Behavioral Management

Learn practical and applicable ways to manage behavior and build positive culture in your afterschool program.

**Ashley McEwen Broadnax** is a Nashville native with over 14 years of experience in youth development and education. She received her bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University and her Masters from University of Louisville. Ashley has taught 8th grade science for MNPS and worked as a program coordinator at several youth-focused non-profits. She is the Founder and CEO of Crowns Up Learning.



*Schedule is subject to change.*



## Curating Spaces of Wellness

Participants will engage in a variety of talks and activities geared towards relaxation, mindfulness, self-care, and wellness.

**Jamila J. Walker, MSW** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who specializes in working with adolescents, women, couples, and families, as well as coaching and mentoring the next generation of clinicians and private practice owners. She received a Bachelor of

Science from Tennessee State University in Psychology and Africana Studies in 2001 and a Master of Science in Social Work from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2013.

Jamila is the Owner, Clinical Practice Director, and a therapist at Nashville Emotional Wellness Counseling and an adjunct instructor at the University of Tennessee School of Social Work.

## AFTERNOON SESSION 2: 4:10PM - 4:55PM

### Lesson Plans for Youth Engagement

This workshop is intended to support program staff in creating lesson plans to engage and educate their members. We will discuss how to select a skill focus for activities to create “fun with a purpose”. We will select a hands-on activity and go through it as a group.



**Deana Blount** holds a Bachelor's Degree from Creighton University in Elementary Education with a minor in Spanish and Hispanic Studies. She has experience as a classroom teacher and as an out-of-school professional with Boys & Girls Clubs and Girl Scouts. She currently holds the position of NAZA's Partnerships Manager. Deana is a member of the Urban League of Middle Tennessee Young Professional and currently serves on the executive board as the Civic and Community Engagement Chair.

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## Building Relationships With Youth

Participants will engage in and learn about effective relationship-building strategies to use with students during this interactive workshop.

**Lynn Lavender** has worked in MNPS since 2007. She began her career as a Spanish teacher at McGavock High School, and then worked at Nashville Big Picture High School as a teacher and the Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Lead. Now she serves as a SEL Specialist for elementary schools in MNPS.

## Growing Cognitive Skills Using NPL's Programs

Nashville Public Library is a valuable source of technology, activities, and resources that contribute to the growth in cognitive skills for holistic youth development and lifelong learning. This session will introduce the innovative digital education and Makerspace housed at the library while providing an overview of how Library services can benefit your community, your participants, your families, and your own personal and professional growth.



Studio NPL Manager **Niq Tognoni** has worked in the intersection of technology, arts, and libraries since 2010 as a founding mentor at the Chicago Public Library's YOUmedia teen learning lab. In 2014 he joined NPL to launch the Studio NPL Makerspace, which has since grown across several sites and mobile lab "pop-ups" that bring technology-focused learning opportunities to schools, community centers, and beyond. Niq holds degrees in theater, communication, and library science and serves on a number of national committees and advisory boards for public and academic makerspaces.



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## AFTERNOON SESSSION 3: 5:05PM - 5:50PM

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### Emotional Intelligence and Self-Management

This workshop will help you understand and implement Individual Growth Practices from Nashville's Vision for Holistic Youth Development. We will focus on the practice of Emotional Intelligence and Self-Management: reflecting upon your feelings, desires, thoughts, and behaviors and acting on that reflection to improve cognition and interactions.



**Ashley McEwen Broadnax** has taught 8th grade, worked as a program coordinator at several youth-focused non-profits, and is the Founder and CEO of Crowns Up Learning.

### Dealing With Our Traumas

This presentation will allow you to explore healthy development and the impact of toxic stress or adversity in the life of youth professionals. Participants will learn the importance of mental health awareness and self-care practices.



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