



# summer **KICKS**

Kids Incorporating Community Knowledge & Skills



Dear Dallas City of Learning Partners and Community Partners,

Welcome to the 2018 Summer KICKS Conference (Kids Incorporating Community Knowledge & Skills)! The Dallas City of Learning Team and I are extremely honored and humbled to have the Adolphus Hotel host this year's conference, and to have you, our partners, in attendance to share in an exciting and informative experience. Dallas City of Learning strongly believes in the work that you are providing your communities and we appreciate all the work you put into making that work possible and accessible to the youth and

families in your communities. The 2018 Summer KICKS Conference will provide you with the knowledge and skills necessary to make that work more impactful and long-lasting. It is our intent to continually provide you with high quality opportunities such as the Summer KICKS Conference, so that we continue the work to lessen the education gap, and "to make imagination a part of everyday learning" to uplift our youth, our families, and our communities. Thank you for attending and let us KICK off the summer on the right foot.

Regards,  
Byron Sanders  
President & CEO





We believe that all the knowledge and expertise we need to serve our Dallas children is right here in our community. By coming together to share our collective experiences and skills, all community organizations and programs will improve and grow.

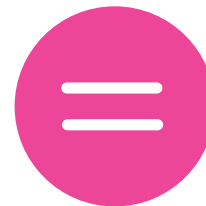
With that theory in mind, Big Thought has brought together a group of presenters that will share best practices, integrated with the latest research in an active hands-on format. From each workshop, you will leave with valuable resources and training tools that you can use with your frontline staff.

In addition to the workshops are three important parts of the day: Breakfast, Lunch and Cocktails! The Networking Breakfast encourages you to meet new friends and recommend table topics you would like to explore. At lunch, join a Peer Exchange Roundtable and together share solutions to such challenges as Staffing, Technology Integration, Teen Retention and more. Finally, end the day with a cocktail and reflect on the experience and make plans for future collaborations.

Finally, we want to thank the Adolphus for sponsoring this event and making today a special one for all the folks who commit to improving the lives of children.

Your Conference Organizers,  
Lisa, Sergio and Shannon

# WORKSHOPS



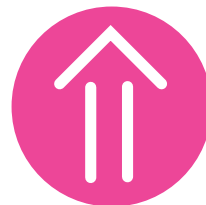
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## Getting to Know Your Neighbors

- Networking Breakfast
- Peer Exchange Roundtable Lunch
- Mixer Reflection

# SCHE DULE

	Ballroom B	Ballroom A	Jones A	Jones B	Jones C	Houston A/B
<b>Breakfast</b> 8:10-8:55	Registration and Networking Breakfast	Neighborhood Resource Initiative Meeting (for NRI recipients only)	Please note that the sessions run on a tight schedue. Please arrive promptly and take phone calls and texts outside of the workshop rooms.			
<b>Session 1</b> 9:00-10:05		FUNding FUNdamentals	Working with Vulnerable Immigrant Children & Families (offered again at 2:30)	Planning and Reflection: a "How To" session	Middle School Revolutionaries Curriculum (offered again at 3:50)	Mindfulness
<b>Session 2</b> 10:10-11:15		I Love to Read Guides and Children's Literature Resource	Language Matters in Racial Equity (offered again at 1:20)	Understanding the Teen Brain: A Work in Progress	Social Emotional Learning Basics (offered again at 1:20)	Teach your staff to write lesson plans
<b>Session 3</b> 11:20-12:25		Exploration Center Resource for K-2	Getting to Know You	Working with Children with Special Needs (offered again at 2:30)	Promote Your Program and Create Badges	Ask-Listen-Encourage
<b>Lunch</b> 12:30-1:15	Peer Roundtables Exchange	Topics for Roundtable Exchanges TBD at Breakfast				
<b>Session 4</b> 1:20-2:25		Exploration Centers Resource for 3rd-5th	Language Matters in Racial Equity	Creative Solutions: Trauma-Informed Youth Program Design	Social Emotional Learning Basics	Summer Reading and Beyond! Working with your Public Library
<b>Session 5</b> 2:30-3:35		Classroom Management 101	Working with Vulnerable Immigrant Children & Families	Working with Children with Special Needs	Using Student/Program Data to Improve Program Access, Engagment and Quality	Family engagement
<b>Break</b> 3:35-3:45		BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
<b>Session 6</b> 3:50-4:55		Spoken Word for Teens at DaVerse Lounge	Emotional Intelligence	Six Dimensions of Quality Teaching and Learning	Middle School Revolutionaries Curriculum	Games, Games, Games for Building Community
<b>Mixer</b> 5:00-5:45	Meet in the foyer outside Ballroom A/B					





SERVING THE  
WHOLE COMMUNITY



### **Working with Vulnerable Immigrant Children & Families**

Presented by Marcela Evans & Carolina Pina, Human Rights Initiative of North Texas

*9:00-10:05 and 2:30-3:35*  
*Room Jones A*

This session will help service leaders understand the complex world of immigration legal protections and how they can best assist vulnerable immigrant families. The session will give an overview of humanitarian legal protections, current issues facing immigrant children and families, and a Know Your Rights component.

### **Language Matters in Racial Equity**

Presented by Jerry L. Hawkins, Director, Dallas Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (D-TRHT)

*10:10-11:15 and 1:20-2:25*  
*Room Jones A*

“Underserved population, at-risk youth, economically disadvantaged, low income”, all words used within the nonprofit sector to describe communities of color. Are you communicating an equitable message to the community you serve or are you further marginalizing your community? Do you present a deficit model of your community or an equitable asset model that funders are moving towards? Begin to develop a racial equity lens for your work that includes a racial equity vocabulary, equitable language usage and a historical context to the social issues that your organization is working to address.

### **Family Engagement**

Presented by Yasmine Lockett, Quality Advisor, Dallas Afterschool

2:30-3:35

*Room Houston A/B*

How are you relating to parents? What techniques are you using to improve parental engagement? In this session, we will dive into a strategy that will take your parent game to the next level. By Speaking, Working, Advertising, and Identifying Goals, you will work through steps that will enhance your program's parental involvement.

### **Working With Children with Special Needs**

Presented by Tiffany Daniels, Founder & Executive Director, The Learning Paradigm

11:20-12:25 and 2:30-3:35

*Room Jones B*

Every child is unique. Children have their own strengths and weaknesses. However, for those children who exhibit challenges related to special needs, it is important for us to understand the root of the behaviors and characteristics we observe. After identifying the challenges, what do we do next? When working with a special needs child who may have behavior concerns, it may become frustrating to the teacher or facilitator on how to address the child's needs. Therefore, we will not only discuss tips and strategies for behavior management, but we will also learn how to modify and provide beneficial accommodations to use in our programs.

### **FUNding FUNdamentals**

Presented by Ashley McIver, Community Philanthropy Officer, Communities Foundation, and LeAnn Binford, Director of Special Projects and New Business, Big Thought

9:00-10:05

*Room Ballroom A*

Knowing what to include on a grant application can be confusing. In this session, attendees will learn how to match their mission statement and program descriptions with grant applications. Using samples and templates, participants will refine grant writing method, timelines and approaches, with tips for what grantors really need to know about your organization.

### **Promote Your Programs and Create Badges**

Presented by Sergio Antonio Garcia, DCOL Program Specialist, Big Thought

11:20-12:25

*Room Jones C*

Learn how the DCOL platform can enhance your programming through outreach and badging. Upload your free or low cost programs on the DCOL platform to reach more families in your neighborhoods through basic marketing and branding. Learn how to create badges as an opportunity to engage the whole family to explore their communities, bring the family together to create fun and free family experiences, take them on a journey of exploration and discovery that aligns with your programming. Bring your laptop!





## SUMMER RESOURCES



### **Middle School REVOLUTIONARIES! Curriculum**

Presented by Evan Cleveland, Master Creative Writing Teaching Artist

*9:00-10:05 and 3:50-4:55*

*Room Jones C*

Revolutionaries! is designed so that everyone in the classroom, teacher and student alike, will be actively engaged in the process of exploration. The goal is to create environments with 21st century skills at the epicenter of learning - like creativity, innovation, flexibility, adaptability, collaboration and communication. As instructors, you'll teach custom lessons in four distinct enrichment areas: performing arts, physical education, design and science. To guide you in the development of your lessons, we will strategically prescribe some of your choices and provide basic ingredients in the form of key terms, a list of revolutionaries in the field, and related resources or "texts".

### **Exploration Centers for K-2**

Presented by Jamesia Leonard and Rebecca Lopez,  
Expert Exploration Trunk Instructors

*11:20-12:25*

*Room Ballroom A*

Discover the inside of an Exploration Trunk. Each trunk (20 different themes) contains books, puzzles, art projects, blocks or other building materials, stuffed animals and much more. For example the Food and Farm trunk includes a mini kinetic sand box for planting a garden, play food for making a store, stamp kits to design your garden layout, blocks to build a ranch with play animals, books about farms, and much more. You will learn how to use the trunks to build creative thinking skills, sharing, communication, and problem solving skills. Once you are trained, you can check out trunks from Big Thought to use in your summer program.

### **Exploration Centers for 3-5th**

Presented by Jamesia Leonard and Rebecca Lopez,  
Expert Exploration Trunk Instructors

*1:20-2:25*  
*Room Ballroom A*

Discover the inside of an Exploration Trunk. Each trunk (20 different themes) contains books, puzzles, art projects, blocks or other building materials, stuffed animals and much more. For example the Human Anatomy trunk includes squishy human body part puzzles, forensic fingerprinting kits, paper skeleton crafts, play-doh dentist drill and fill kits, books about anatomy and much more. You will learn how to use the trunks to build creative thinking skills, sharing, communication, and problem solving skills. Once you are trained, you can check out trunks from Big Thought to use in your summer program.

### **I Love to Read Guides and Children's Literature**

Presented by Rolanda Brigham, Master Teaching Artist and Christina Kelso,  
SEL Site Coordinator, Big Thought

*10:10-11:15*  
*Ballroom A*

I Love to Read is a set of simple activity guides that go with great children's books designed for volunteers to lead. These lessons are ready to download and use. During this session, participants will also be introduced to great new children's literature and discover how to easily integrate reading and books into any lesson.

### **Spoken Word for Teens at DaVerse Lounge**

Presented by Will Richey, Founder of Journeyman Ink and DaVerse Lounge

*3:50-4:55*  
*Room Ballroom A*

The DaVerse Works is designed to stimulate middle and high school youth to share their voices by engaging in spoken word during weekly poetry clubs and culminating spoken word events. During the weekly club meetings, students explore poetry, writing and performance. In this workshop, attendees will walk away with creative writing prompts to use this summer, and ways to connect with the nationally recognized DaVerse Lounge events.

### **Summer Reading and Beyond! Working with your Public Library**

Presented by Melissa Dease, Youth Services Administrator,  
Dallas Public Library

*1:20-2:25*  
*Room Houston A/B*

Learn how to incorporate the Mayor's Summer Reading Challenge into your summer camp. In this session, participants will find out about the many ways Dallas Public Library branches foster learning and discovery beyond reading. Learn best practices for partnering with your local branch and how to take advantage of the opportunities that exist in every corner of the city.





### **Using Student/Program Data to Improve Program Access, Engagement and Quality**

Presented by Dylan Elise Farmer, Project Manager, Center on Research and Evaluation, SMU

*2:30-3:35*

*Room Jones C*

As the backbone to Dallas City of Learning, Big Thought offers a range of support services to program providers within the DCOL network. As a key component of these support services, Big Thought partners with the Center on Research and Evaluation at SMU to collect and share data about programs and program participants. In this session, CORE will share details about the program and student data supports available through DCOL, the assessments and survey tools used by Big Thought and CORE, and how this data can be used to inform program providers and ultimately improve program experiences for learners.

### **Six Dimensions of Quality Teaching and Learning**

Presented by Lela Bell, Instructional Partner, Big Thought

*3:50-4:55*

*Room Jones B*

Big Thought's work developing standards resulted in the creation of the Six Dimensions of Quality Teaching and Learning. We invite you to incorporate the Six Dimensions in your efforts to define quality and encourage you to modify them to make them relevant to your school or organization.

In this session you will learn how to use the assessment tool and how to incorporate the desired outcomes into frontline staff activities. We will look at content and knowledge alongside climate, creative choice-making, dialogue, and other similar elements.

**IMPROVING QUALITY**



### **Ask-Listen-Encourage: A Weikart Youth Works Method**

Presented by Lisa Schmidt, Weikart Methods Certified Trainer and Big Thought Professional Development Director

*11:20-12:25*

*Room Houston A/B*

Ask-Listen-Encourage, is made up of three distinct but interrelated practices designed to support youth workers. The Ask strategy is about asking effective questions and engaging youth in dialogue. Listen is about being attentive to youth when they speak and showing support through empathy. Encourage is about making specific observations about decisions and actions of young people as they work, and encouraging them to succeed without resorting to judgement. Attendees will depart with a workshop outline and handouts they can use to train their front line staff.

### **Teach Your Staff to Write Lesson Plans**

Presented by Lisa Schmidt, Dir. Learning and Professional Development, Big Thought

*10:10-11:15*

*Room Houston A/B*

In this session you will learn step-by-step how to write an engaging lesson plan that will greatly improve your teaching and classroom effectiveness. You will be provided with lesson plan templates and examples. If you are tired of your staff "winging it" every day, this session will teach you how to coach, brainstorm, plan, and execute a great lesson.

### **Planning and Reflection: A "How To" session**

Presented by Meghan Miller, Quality Advisor, Dallas Afterschool and Certified Weikart Trainer

*9:00-10:05*

*Room Jones B*

Planning and Reflection as a method refers to supporting young people and staff through the basic Plan-Do-Reflect learning process focusing on establishing clear, comprehensive plans at the beginning of an activity and reflecting on the results and process after the activity has been completed. In this session you will take away numerous activities and games that facilitate planning and reflection such as Word Webbing, Green Light, Yellow Light, Red Light, and Backwards Planning.

### **Getting to Know You**

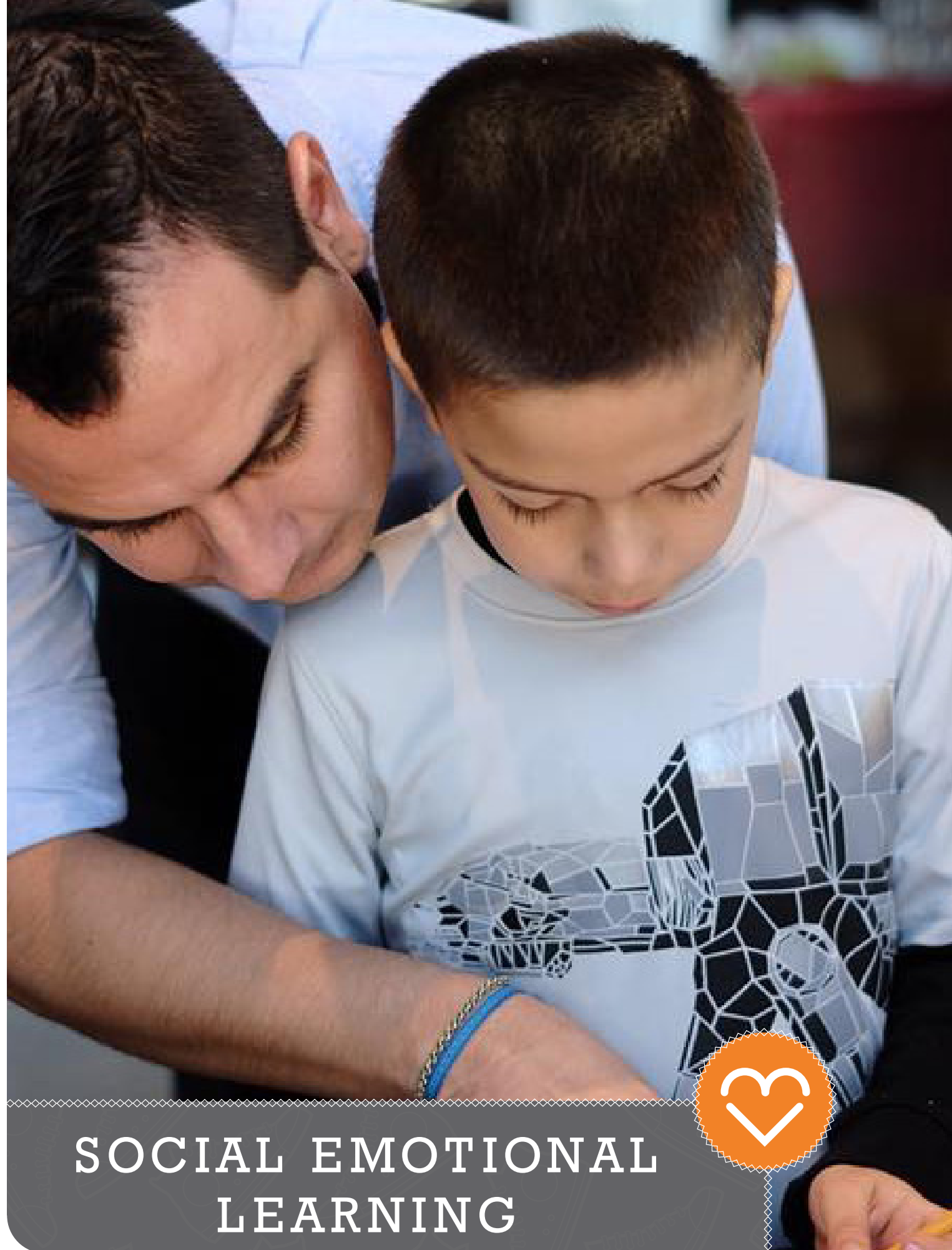
Presented by Armando Banchs, Director of The Fellowship Initiative Sponsored by JPMorgan Chase, Big Thought

*11:20-12:25*

*Room Jones A*

Students learn best in an environment that creates a sense of belonging. You teach best when you know who is in your class, their interests, hobbies and history. In this hands-on session, you will walk away with exercises that promote a healthy and socially accepting environment within your programs and organizations. By getting to know the people who walk through your doors, you learn how to better impact your communities by understanding who they are.





## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

3

### **Games, Games, Games for Building Community**

Presented by Meghan Miller, Quality Advisor, Dallas Afterschool

*3:50-4:55*

*Room Houston A/B*

Learn fun, new strategies to make group management easier. The way staff interact with youth can make a big difference. Learn to actively involve oneself in building community activities, and participating as much as possible with the youth. You will also discover how to deal with group dynamics including power control, youth comfort levels, stage of development of the group, and how to introduce new members to a class. Structured avenues for community building include icebreakers, problem-solving games, and partner activities. Unstructured venues such as transition times are also perfect times for community building to occur.

### **S.E.L. Social Emotional Learning Basics**

Presented by Kristi Flanders, SEL Project Manager, Pamela Lee, SEL Site Coordinator, or Aimee Flato, SEL Site Coordinator, Big Thought

*10:10-11:15 and 1:20-2:25*

*Room Jones C*

Everywhere you look, people are talking about SEL. But what exactly is it? Why is it so important? All major school districts, charter schools and even businesses are adopting SEL competencies. In this session you will learn the basic vocabulary and concepts as well as foundational practices that can easily be taught to your staff. The five major competencies as defined by the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) self-awareness, self-management, relationships, social-awareness and responsible decision making.

### **Classroom Management 101**

Presented by David Colunga, Quality Advisor, Dallas Afterschool

*2:30-3:35, Room Ballroom A*

From setting up the best room configuration to using hand signals, classroom management tips and tricks can transform a class session from a chore to a delight. Learn to craft classroom guidelines and keep children following along. Stop yelling for attention and start using “attention getters” that will teach your students to respect you and your class rules.

### **Emotional Intelligence: RULER Method**

Presented by Eunice Cervantes, Certified RULER trainer, Quality Advisor, Dallas Afterschool

*3:50-4:55, Room Jones A*

This workshop will introduce the concepts of Social Emotional Learning and its effects on youth and adults through “hands-on” activities and SEL best practices. It will make you aware of strategies that build emotional intelligence you may already be implementing without even knowing it. We are going to highlight the nationally recognized RULER framework, an evidence-based approach for integrating social and emotional learning, developed at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence.

### **Mindfulness: How Can This Be Integrated Into Programming**

Presented by Eunice Cervantes, Quality Advisor, Dallas Afterschool and Alyson Wells, SEL Site Coordinator, Big Thought

*9:00-10:05, Room Houston A/B*

What is Mindfulness? Mindfulness is the human ability to be aware of where we are and what we’re doing, and not overly reactive or overwhelmed by what’s going on around us. Mindfulness is about observation without criticism and being compassionate with yourself. In this workshop, attendees will learn stress relief practices, gratitude practices, and other self-management strategies. You will be able to take-away some real world actions that you can use in your life and in your career.

### **Understanding the Teen Brain: A Work in Progress**

Presented by Allison Caldwell, Big Thought Sr. Manager of Youth Development and Jeffery Moffitt, Artistic Director

*10:10-11:15  
Room Jones B*

Over the last few decades, research has indicated that adolescence offers a unique period in brain development different from both early childhood and adulthood. Understanding this period of adolescent development will enable adults working with young people to maximize youths’ social emotional gains, promote positive learning conditions, and prepare teens to launch into adulthood. This session is designed to translate adolescent brain science concepts into daily practice methods for people who work with and support young people.

### **Creative Solutions: Trauma-Informed Youth Program Design**

Presented by Allison Caldwell, Big Thought Sr. Manager of Youth Development and Jeffery Moffitt, Artistic Director

*1:20-2:25  
Room Jones B*

For over 20 years, Creative Solutions has given adjudicated youth opportunities to find their voice, catalyzing their learning through creative engagement and instilling both hope for a better future and the know how to overcome the obstacles of daily life. Using the performing and visual arts, Creative Solutions has developed an original trauma-informed program that has served over 10,000 teenagers in Dallas. In this session, attendees will learn about the specifics of the innovative Creative Solutions trauma informed model, how the model can be replicated in a variety a youth programs, as well as some immediate techniques for promoting empathy, self-awareness and job skills acquisition in young people.





# SPECIAL THANKS



**We build our community through giving.  
At The Adolphus, service to others is one of  
the highest honor and greatest achievements.**

## The Adolphus History:

Since opening in 1912, The Adolphus has served as a Dallas icon and an integral part of the city's history and culture. In its recent restoration, the hotel's storied past is both celebrated and re-imagined, creating a sense of discovery at every turn. The Adolphus was built on Commerce Street as Dallas' first luxury hotel by Adolphus Busch founder of Anheuser Busch. Situated on the original site of City Hall, The Adolphus was modeled after a grand Beaux Arts German castle, with Busch commissioning European craftsmen to create authentic details throughout the building. Under the management of Otto Schubert from 1922–1946, the hotel grew to national prominence, hosting many respected leaders of business, government, and entertainment, including Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, Julia Child, Oscar de la Renta, rock band U2, Babe Ruth, Warren G. Harding, and George H. W. Bush. In 1983, The Adolphus was added to the National Register of Historic Places, and its recent comprehensive restoration celebrates the hotel's rich history and timeless traditions in a modern and memorable way.

In its new iteration, The Adolphus' public areas recall a grand European home — from the atrium living room anchored by antique fireplaces to the convivial workspace lobby where guests can settle in for coffee or cocktails. Adjacent to these spaces are unique new culinary experiences at City Hall Bistro and The French Room Bar and Salon, a warm lounge filled with a salon style installation of thoughtfully curated contemporary art by Texas artists. From re-imagining the traditions of The French Room and our iconic tea service to the resurrection of the original 19th floor ballroom and the addition of new world class amenities — including Spa Adolphus and a beautiful roof top pool — The Adolphus is warm and authentic, re-staking its claim as an intrinsic piece to a vibrant downtown.

### Tauseen Malik

*Hotel General Manager*

### Anthony Cournia

*General Manager  
of Food & Beverage*

### Aaron Kelley

*Executive Assistant Manager*

### Sam Tucker

*Director of Sales and Marketing*

### Amanda McFarland

*Director of Operations*

### Paula Fenner

*Director of Banquets & Catering*

### Caitlin Beveridge

*Director of Marketing*

### Sandy Howe

*Catering Sales Manager*

### Avery Eubanks

*Catering Services Managers*





