**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

**5:30 – 7:00 PM** | Evening Welcome Reception @ Kaleidoscope, 2500 Grand Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64108

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

*Located at Plexpod Westport Commons*

**7:30 – 8:30 AM** | Breakfast Opens

**8:30 – 9:15 AM** | Opening Plenary, Keynote Speakers, Main Auditorium (1A)

Learn from the first national survey about perceptions of students, employers, and parents regarding the future of learning—presented only at Rethink ED 2019. As our society experiences a technological revolution that is changing the way our world goes to work, Rethink ED is a community of change agents attempting to rewrite the script on what learning can be from early education to high school design and the postsecondary experience.

**Dr. Vivienne Ming, Socos Labs, Co-Founder**

Frequently featured for her research and inventions in The Financial Times, The Atlantic, Quartz and The New York Times, Dr. Vivienne Ming is a theoretical neuroscientist, entrepreneur, and author. She co-founded Socos Labs, her fifth company, an independent think tank exploring the future of human potential. Dr. Ming launched Socos Labs to combine her varied work with that of other creative experts and expand their impact on global policy issues, both inside companies and throughout our communities. Previously, Vivienne was a visiting scholar at UC Berkeley’s Redwood Center for Theoretical Neuroscience, pursuing her research in cognitive neuroprosthetics. In her free time, Vivienne has invented AI systems to help treat her diabetic son, predict manic episodes in bipolar sufferers weeks in advance, and reunited orphan refugees with extended family members. She sits on the board of numerous companies and nonprofits including StartOut, The Palm Center, Cornerstone Capital, Platypus Institute, Shiftgig, Zoic Capital, and SmartStones.

**Michelle Sadrena Pledger, Ed.D., Center for Research on Equity and Innovation Co-Director, Deeper Learning Hub Director of DEI, High Tech High Graduate School of Education**

Michelle Sadrena Pledger is the Project Co-Director of the Deeper Learning Hub, a national practitioner hub whose mission is to spread deeper learning practices and ensure that more students across the country are achieving deeper learning outcomes. She is co-leading the Share Your Learning Campaign which aims to spread student-centered practices (exhibitions, student led conferences, and presentations of learning) to 5 million students by 2020. At the Center for Research on Equity and Innovation, Michelle serves as a Diversity, Equity, and Integration facilitator and coach. As a faculty member at High Tech High’s Graduate School of Education, she co-teaches the Equity, Diversity, and Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy course in the Teaching Apprentice Program and the Equity, Diversity and Design Principles course in the Master’s Program. She also serves as culturally responsive pedagogy coach for the HTH organization.
Aaron North, Kauffman Foundation, Vice President—Education

Aaron North is the Vice President of Education at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, where he serves as a member of the Foundation's senior leadership team and leads a team of program officers who are funding or researching programs designed to ensure more Kansas City students have access to high-quality education options and opportunities preparing them for life and education after high school.

Prior to joining the Kauffman Foundation, North served as the founding executive director of the Missouri Charter Public School Association (MCPSA). Before leading the startup effort at MCPSA, North worked for the education team at Volunteers of America of Minnesota, as a school resource center director, and in the Minnesota Department of Education's Office of Choice and Innovation. He taught high school English in rural North Carolina as a Teach For America corps member and worked for Andersen Consulting and Sprint PCS prior to his teaching experience. North has helped create or catalyze several education programs in Kansas City, including the Ewing Marion Kauffman School, Kansas City Scholars, and SchoolSmartKC. He is a Pahara-Aspen Fellow and serves as board chair of both Kauffman Scholars, Inc. and the Ewing Marion Kauffman School. North earned a Master of Public Policy from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota and a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Kansas.

9:15 - 9:30 AM | Passing Time

**Part I Class Time: Promising Practice Workshops | 9:30 - 10:45 AM**

*How might we equip students to be effective and active citizens in the future?*

**Dream Big. Explore the World: How VR is Moving the Needle, Room 1B**
Kai Frazier, VR EdTech Founder, Curated x Kai, Board of Directors, Museum Computer Network Entrepreneur In Residence, Kapor Center for Social Impact

Hear from educator turned entrepreneur, Kai Frazier, as she makes the case for the use of classroom virtual reality to create effective and active global citizens. By combining inclusive content, innovative technology, and extensive outreach, Kai is making cultural experiences accessible through VR, enabling students to think critically about their role in the world.

**Build Better Relationships with Restorative Practices, Main Auditorim (1A)**
Annette Lantz-Simmons, M.A., Executive Director, Center for Conflict Resolution

Our relationships can either increase or decrease well-being and success. This workshop will present three basic skills for communication and conflict resolution. Participants will then work together to create an effective and meaningful process to transfer the learning to students. Participants will gain confidence in their ability to teach the skills as well as use the skills themselves.

**Action Civics—The Secret Sauce to Activating Youth Civic Engagement, Room 1C**
Brian Brady, President, Mikva Challenge

Explore the basic principles of Action Civics, a pedagogy that activates and leverages youth voice through project-based learning, authentic democratic experience, and real-world learning. Attendees will get on their “Soapbox” and engage and explore how hands-on civics civic learning creates positive impacts for students, schools, and communities. Reflect upon your instructional practices and current school policies and identify strengths and growth areas. Walk away with customized action civics strategies for your communities.
What would high school be if it were accountable for student’s success after graduation?

**Achieving Real Success Post High School—What Will It Take to Get There?, Room 1N**

*Scott Bess - Head of School, Purdue Polytechnic High School*

What success looks like post high school is different and goes beyond test scores. Collaborate to identify the most important measures of a high school beyond graduation rates and test scores. Participate in a quick design thinking challenge to create a version of high school that provides the best route to get there. Explore what needs to be added or eliminated from the traditional model to achieve success using those measurements.

**Student Voice: Reforming Education and Saving Democracy, Room 1P**

*Ian Coon, Associate Director, Student Voice*

*Justin Sindelar, Director, Marketing, Student Voice*

*Christopher Maximos, Journalism Fellowship Coordinator, Student Voice*

Students are the most numerous stakeholder in education and often the least consulted. As we all look for ways to revolutionize the education experience, students are often excluded from conversations and decisions that directly affect them. In this workshop, participants will learn how student voice, the nation’s largest by-students, for-students 501C3 organization, has been shifting the power dynamic in schools across the nation to give students an equitable seat at the table and effectively enact local change. Our vision is to empower students to feel valued, heard and see themselves as impactful change-agents in the education process in order to produce lifelong, engaged citizens. Specifically, participants will reflect on their lived experiences with school and interactions with young people, learn the concepts and models of student voice, and walk away with tangible tools to better work with young people in their school.

**Using Student Voice as Data to Improve the High School Experience and Postsecondary Success, Room 1Q**

*Regina Pretekin, Postsecondary Lead, Network for College Success University of Chicago*

*Carlos Samaniego, Postsecondary Coach*

The Network for College Success at the University of Chicago has facilitated a collaborative of high school counselors in the Chicago Public Schools since 2010. Over the past nine years, this collaborative focus has evolved from supporting not only the technical work (i.e. college application process) necessary to drive improvement, but also the developmental work necessary to empower students to develop an integrated identity that will lead them to postsecondary success. This session will analyze established and emerging strategies the group is implementing to explore both students and adult mindsets, identity, and values that impact our students’ postsecondary opportunities and success. Learn about school programming at two schools to observe what conditions exist for cultivating student choice to help students be informed and empowered to think critically about their postsecondary selves. This session will include research and case studies of how the NCS is currently piloting a project at two partner schools. We will highlight preliminary data from focus groups of 9th grade students from these schools. Attendees will learn about how Motivational Interviewing supports the development of identity formation and why it being used within NCS community of counselors and college coaches. Attendees will engage in activities that explore how values support and connect to one’s goals. This session will also include storytelling activities to highlight the power of storytelling to build empathy and empower students. There will be activities to explore how developmental experiences can be opportunities for action and reflection that help young people build self-regulation, knowledge and skills, mindsets, and values, and develop agency, integrated identity, and competencies.
How can the postsecondary experience be transformed to best prepare students for life?

**Bringing Stackable Credentials to Real Life, Room 1L**
Jeff Barratt, Education Entrepreneur-In-Residence, Kauffman Foundation
Heather Terenzio, CEO and Founder, Techtonic and Techtonic Academy

Experience a visual representation of stackable credentials to create a solution to address the current growth of industries growth with a greying workforce. You will experience how stackable credentials can help fill an economic gap. For example, today there are tens of thousands of underemployed youth and Veterans who do not have the economic means to attend a software boot camp (which can cost $20,000-$30,000) but have the desire, aptitude, and ability to become software developers. Allow us to guide you through a process that provides students an entrepreneurial mindset while gaining the skills they need to be on the cutting edge of industry.

**Cultivating Thrive: From Content Consumption to Connected Value Creation, Room 1M**
Sasha A. Barab, Professor and Executive Director
Todd Kern, Founder + Partner, 2Revolutions LLC
Adam Rubin, Founder + Partner, 2Revolutions LLC

Imagine a world where unlocking human potential views learning as an owned system that drives learning and personal growth. A system that acknowledges the role of the local ecosystem in co-producing value. A world that emphasizes connected growth with a focus on peers in illuminating relevant application. Join us for the argument for a shift in helping prepare educators into that world.

**Near Peer Advising Tools and Resources, Room 1K**
Meaghan Higgins, Director, Kansas State College Advising Corp

Near peer college advising for high school students creates an "I believe in you" atmosphere, and provides hands on support for students going through the postsecondary planning process. Come work with the Kansas State College Advising Corps so you can learn about near peer advising strategies and resources in order to create your own opportunities leading to students’ postsecondary success.

**10:45 - 11:00 AM | Passing Time**

**11:00 – 11:30 AM | Choose Your Own Connect: Fireside Chat with Keynote Presenters: Dr. Vivienne Ming (Room 1C), Michelle Sadrena Pledger (Room 1M), Aaron North (Room 1N), Workshop Leaders, Playground Exploration**

**11:30 AM – 12:30 PM | Lunch, Playground Exploration, Student Marketplace**

**12:30 – 1:15 PM | Equity Center Design Introduction, Main Auditorium (1A)**

**1:15 - 4:30 PM | Equity Centered Community Design Session, facilitated by Creative Reaction Lab**

**6:30 – 8:30 PM | OPTIONAL | SKOOL–A Youth Led Revolution Followed by a Panel Discussion Facilitated by Education Reimagined *doors open at 6:00 PM. Kansas City Public Library, Plaza Branch, Truman Forum Auditorium | 4801 Main St, Kansas City, MO 64112**

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**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

Located at Plexpod Westport Commons

**8:00 – 9:00 AM | Breakfast Opens**

**Part II Class Time: Promising Practice Workshops | 9:00 – 10:15 AM**
**How might we equip students to be effective and active citizens in the future?**

**Who’s in Control? The Surprising Truths About Youth-Driven Learning, Main Auditorium (1A)**

Mark Murphy, CEO GripTape

“We want to be the drivers of our own learning.” This call to action from teenagers launched GripTape. Over the course of the last three years, we have embarked on dozens of efforts, involving nearly 600 young people. The results have been powerful and surprising. Well, surprising to adults. But not surprising to youth. These early results demand to be seen and heard. More importantly, they are a call for adults to reflect on their well-intentioned actions.

**Fostering Relationships and Building Resilience Through Brain-Based Learning, Room 1B**

Velda McKenzie, Conscious Discipline Certified Instructor, Loving Guidance

What does brain functionality and conflict resolution have in common? Understanding how the brain functions along with the value of self-regulation creates optimal learning conditions. Self-regulations give us an opportunity to respond rather than react to distress or things not going our way. This responsiveness allows us to see conflict as an opportunity to learn and create positive change. This workshop will explore how understanding the brain state model can create a framework to give both adults and children lifelong skills.

**#LifeDataMatters: Developing A Person-Centered Mindset For Student Success, Room 1C**

Marcus Strother, Director, Youth Development, Sacramento City Unified School District

Students are more than quantifiable data points. The most impactful student experiences are often immeasurable challenges, victories, and teachable moments that aren’t found in numbers, but rather in the life experiences of our students. As educators, it is our job to ensure individual stories are heard and acknowledged before we can ever hope to connect with young people in a meaningful way. This is what we refer to as LIFE DATA, it can only be captured in personal experiences, where hope, opportunity and possibility become real for students. This workshop will provide participants with tools, ideas, and concrete examples to switch from a data-focused mindset to a person-focused mindset, in order to create programming in service of the “whole child.”

**What would high school be if it were accountable for student’s success after graduation?**

**Our Most Powerful Tool to Transform Education is Hiding in Corporate America: Leveraging the Agile Mindset to Drive Deeper Learning, Room 1M**

Dr. Trace Pickering, Executive Director, Iowa Big
Nate Adams, Agile Coach and Trainer/Software Architect, The New Bohemian Innovation Collaborative (NewBoCo)

Agile mindset has allowed companies to remain competitive in a world where change is the only constant, demand for continuous evolution of products and services is the de facto expectation, and high-functioning, collaborative teams are must-haves. Agile solves problems and creates opportunity by encouraging small, safe iterations of work with robust feedback. Agile is driving dramatic improvement in schools focused on producing deeper learning and strong agency through authentic projects. Hear directly how Agile is fundamentally changing outcomes for students and teachers by its strong approach to learning. “I am totally vested in Agile and I see gains in students when following Agile principles.” – Mark Matson, Iowa BIG Teacher

**Empowering Students to Design the Future of Education From Their Perspective, Room 1N**

Katie Boody, Founder and CEO, LEANLAB Education
David Muhammad, Manager, Collaborative Partnerships, LEANLAB Education
Katie Kimbrell, Director of Education, Kansas City Startup Foundation

What better way to prepare students for the future than to have them take the reins and design education systems that meet their own needs? LEANLAB Education and KC Startup Foundation will team up to lead a workshop grounded in a deep belief in the untapped leadership potential of our students. Leaning on principles of inquiry based learning and participatory design practices, we’ll be flipping the table in this session, having students lead the design process for how schools really should be preparing students for the uncertainties of the future.

Rethink ED 2019 - Agenda
Using Your Genius Zone to Empower Others, Room 1P
Jorge Sierra, CEO, Jorge A. Sierra & Associates
Ashley Smith, CEO, EduSigner, LLC

Do you know the difference between soil and dirt? They are pretty much the same thing but with very different connotations. When we are fulfilling our purpose as soil, we bring life to situations, connect with people, solve complex problems, shift moods and atmospheres, etc. attracting growth-minded individuals that do the same. When we are operating as dirt, we invite feelings of worthiness because we are displaced from operating in our genius zones. Whether you are a student or a seasoned professional, you are and have always been a genius so let’s uncover your unique zone so that you can shift the lens you use to view your role on any team so that you can operate at your fullest potential. The true test will be to use your genius zone to bring empowerment and healing to others.

How can the postsecondary experience be transformed to best prepare students for life?

What is Your Idea of “Unbound” College for Underserved Adults?, Room 1L
Dennis Littky, President, College Unbound

Imagine a world that has options regardless of your past or present. A world that provides alternatives to community college or other post-secondary options. Now, experience an interactive workshop that will facilitate a dynamic brainstorming session to identify the guidelines of an alternative college where students explore their interests and constructive pathways to success.

Best Fit Coaching, Room 1K
Ashley Marie Anderson, Postsecondary Retention Specialist, Kauffman Scholars
Yolanda Waldon, Educator-In-Residence, Chief Student Officer, SkilledKC

Which do you prefer—being told what to do or making your own decisions? Best fit coaching helps postsecondary students thrive as effective self-advocates who make informed choices throughout their college experience. Come work with the Kauffman Scholars staff and scholarship recipients to inspire your student-driven work and share best practices.

B2E Co-Creation, Room 1Q
Invite Only

10:15 - 10:30 AM | Passing Time

Part III Class Time: Promising Practice Workshops | 10:30 – 11:45 AM

How might we equip students to be effective and active citizens in the future?

Hip-Hop Therapy in Educational Spaces, Room 1B
J.C. Hall, LMSW School Social Worker and Hip-Hop Therapy Studio Program Director, Mott Haven Community High School
Brian Birkeland, MPS School Director of CBO Partnerships

Hip-Hop therapy is a strengths-based, culturally relevant approach to mental health treatment that operationalizes the profound impact of Hip-Hop culture and its potential to promote individual and communal transformation. Experience the extraordinary impact that incorporating this client-centered framework into school-based services is having on a high school in the South Bronx. In addition, explore how providing youth space to utilize a deeply ingrained resource within their communities encourages both cultural and self-affirmation, as well as an authentic avenue through which to become effective agents of social change. Through the simulation of a group discussion and rhyme writing exercise, participants will delve into matters of mental health and consider how therapeutic aspects of Hip-Hop can be integrated into their own educational spaces.
Build Capacity for Family and School Partnerships—ParentCamp, Main Auditorium (1A)
Laura Gilchrist, Vice-President ParentCamp, CEO Kid Champions Consulting, LLC

From the moment you enter the room you find yourself immersed in a new kind of family engagement that builds not just relationships but the CAPACITY for partnerships. Come experience for yourself a gathering designed with the 6 equity-based process conditions (www.dualcapacity.org) – in the form of a ParentCamp. What does family engagement feel like from a circle with open dialogue around voted-on topics – with full autonomy for parents, families, teachers, administrators and community members? Curious? Join me!

Starting Early, Our Future Workforce, Room 1C
Deidre Anderson, CEO, United Inner-City Services

Orientation toward careers in STEM (STEAM) begins long before our children start school. Creating experience, exposure, and education at an early age is exactly what is needed to ensure equitable representation happens later. Our children are far more capable of creating, building and coding. This workshop will give hands-on opportunities to challenge our thinking on ways to excite children, educators and families on ways to start as early as with babies to foster the next generation of engineers, doctors, technologists and scientists.

What would high school be if it were accountable for student’s success after graduation?

Argument Centered Education, Room 1N
Robert Litan, Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution and Former Research VP, Kauffman Foundation
Les Lynn, President and Founder, Argument Centered Education

This workshop will delve into the use of argumentation—specifically teaching assigned material through student-led argumentation and debates in the classroom, where students learn through inquiry into course content, leading them to present and defend certain claims or propositions, while others ask questions and offer competing narratives. Argument-centered instruction (also called evidence-based argumentation) is being used with notable success in Boston and Chicago schools. This workshop will briefly explain what the techniques are, how they can be taught and used by teachers, and how they can improve educational performance and student engagement.

Accelerating Internship Readiness through Real-World Learning in a Future-Ready, Student-Led City Space, Room 1M
Kari Keefe, Executive Director, KC Social Innovation
William Dowdell, Program Director, KC Social Innovation, HireKC

What if we brought internships to the students, and popped up real projects from industry partners inside a super cool space that looks like the future of work to accelerate essential skill development, and provide easy access to opportunity—with equity? The Project Commons launched this past summer as a real-world learning hub centered on equity in order to accelerate internship readiness while delivering authentic, experiential learning in a safe, accessible and modern space, where learning and experiences are personalized for students and employers. The Project Commons envisions a heartbeat of youth collaboration around work-based projects that radically develops local talent through passion and purpose, curiosity, and lifelong learning. The Commons tested its new modality of real-world learning (RWL) through a highly styled, structured 4-week series of integrated and progressive student-led project modules designed to deliver a robust experience that 1. Accelerates work- and internship-readiness, 2. Increases student agency and 3. Creates visible assets for students (portfolio) and the community (space/place).

Envisioning Community-Connected Transformation with Ford NGL, Room 1P
Allie Bateman, Community Relations Director, Ford NGL
Phil Clark, Principal, Belton High School
Stacey Yurkovich, Ed.D., Director of Academies, Belton School District

True educational transformation only occurs when an entire community is invested. How do you build community support and a sense of mutual accountability for student, workforce, and community-wide outcomes? Come experience a taste of the Ford NGL Framework and Ford NGL Roadmap process, which guide a network of communities in the U.S. and U.K. to elevate and sustain the impact of the career academy model in order to advance student, community, and workforce success.
How can the postsecondary experience be transformed to best prepare students for life?

#Nationbuilding: Paul Quinn College and the New Urban College Model, Room 1K
Dr. Christopher Dowdy, Paul Quinn College, Vice President, Academic Affairs

Colleges have dream-big mottos. But what if the problem with college is that it asks us to think too small? What if, instead of shrinking from the problems that shape the lives of most college students, it faced our biggest issues head on? What if we gave our students more than a credential, but a way to fight the poverty that grips so many of their lives? You might turn your football field into an organic farm. You might do away with textbooks entirely. You might become the first Urban Work College in the world. What else can we dream up together? We invite you to come throw yourself into #Nationbuilding -- the way we solve problems in the Quinnite Nation -- and discover how your next could be better than your now.

Social Capital Building, Room 1L
Sonja Shaffer, Director of Programs and Internal Operations, Friends of University Academy

Friends of University Academy works with recent UA graduates to support their success in transitioning into the workforce. Support includes exposure to professional skills building, business etiquette, effective networking, and development of job seeking skills needed for success in the modern economy.

B2E Co-Creation, Room 1Q
Invite Only

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM | Lunch

12:30 – 1:15 PM | Afternoon Gathering, Susana Elizarraraz, 6th grade math teacher at Gladstone Elementary, Main Auditorium (1A)

1:15 – 3:00 PM | Exhibition & Celebration

Join the Rethink ED community in sharing the ideas and interventions the community created during the previous day's session with Creative Reaction Lab. Enjoy treats, check out the playground, pick up something at the Student Marketplace and share your comments and thoughts with the community.