Stocking the Helper’s Toolbox: A Skill-Building Extravaganza

- A Unique Conference in a One-of-a-Kind Learning Environment!
- 3 Exceptional Keynote Speakers!
- 55+ Breakout Sessions!
- Featured Speakers!
- Authentic Youth Performances!
- 30-minute Brain Blasts!
- Poverty Simulation!
- The Brain Path!
The 14th Annual National At-Risk Education Network Conference is unique because:

- **SIZE.** We design our conference to be small so participants can engage, interact, experience and network. You can access and interact with every keynoter, presenter, attendee and organizational leader. You’ll return home with resources to immediately help you in your work.

- **LOCATION.** You’ve never seen a learning setting like the TranZed Alliance Conference Center. From the Brain Path to Art Alley to the Multi-Sensory De-escalation Rooms, this environment breaks the mold when it comes to defining what schools could and should look like.

- **PURPOSE.** Find new and better ways to structure the learning experience to meet the needs of all students and especially to help students improve self-regulation and build resilience. That only happens by being exposed to new ideas, new people and new programs. That’s what NAREN does -- it connects you with new thinking about how to improve our success with non-traditional learners.

- **OUTCOME.** Our work is exhilarating, challenging and complex. We need to connect with and be inspired by others on the same journey. NAREN gets participants excited about new possibilities and then equips them with new tools to strengthen impact and transform young lives. You’ll be a better professional after participating in the 2017 NAREN Conference.

- **QUALITY “TOOL-RICH” SESSIONS.** We have a really diverse program including an outstanding 2-day Pre-Conference immersion, 3 inspiring keynotes, two Featured Presenters who are so phenomenal we offer their sessions multiple days at the conference, and an opportunity to hear from students themselves including the amazing “Authoring Action” youth group.

- **“SECRET SAUCE.”** If you are familiar with The Upside Down Organization, The Children’s Guild or Monarch Academy Public Charter Schools, then you know that powerful ideas made practical to help children and youth is what we are about and the “secret sauce” that fuels our growth and success. Join us at NAREN and learn up close how those powerful ideas are created and brought to life.

I promise a transformational experience!

Frank Kros, MSW, JD
Director, NAREN
President, The Upside Down Organization
EVP & COO, The Children’s Guild

NAREN & The TRANZED ALLIANCE

The TranZed Alliance is an organization dedicated to transforming how America cares for and educates its children. The Alliance is needed because the current way we care for and educate children in America does not foster growth and success in all children. The Alliance works to bring about social emotional and academic growth in all children through transforming the way adults who engage with them, think, feel and behave. NAREN, The Upside Down Organization, The Monarch Academies, The Children’s Guild, and TranZed Apprenticeship Services are all members of the TranZed Alliance.

**What is TranZed?** TranZed is shorthand for Transformation Education; an organizational philosophy and operational methodology for managing schools and child-serving organizations.

The TranZed Alliance
www.tranzed.org
ABOUT the TRANZED ALLIANCE CONFERENCE CENTER:

Environments matter to learning.
At the TranZed Alliance Conference Center in Baltimore, you’ll experience a learning environment like no other you have ever seen. Designed on brain-based learning principles, the Conference Center features structures, themes and installations intended to stimulant the brain’s enrichment response. From the Brain Path to the uniquely themed Breakout Rooms, to the Hall of Children, to Transformation Station and Discovery Park, you’ll be immersed in a physical environment specifically created to enhance your learning!
REGISTRATION FORM

To reserve your space at this year’s conference, please complete the Registration Form below and return via mail to: NAREN, 6802 McClean Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21234, via fax to (410) 444-4695, or via email to paul@upsidedownorganization.org. Space is limited and registrations will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. Electronic registration & payment is also available through the NAREN website.

2017 NAREN National Conference
ATTENDEE REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Attendee: ____________________________ Date: __________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________________________
Address Line 2: _______________________________________________________________________
City: ____________________________________ State: __________________  Zip: _______________
Telephone: _______________________________  |  Fax: _____________________________________
Email: ______________________________________________________________________________
School/Organization Name: ____________________________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________________________
Position: ____________________________________________________________________________

☐ NAREN Conference Fee - $395.00 | ☐ Pre-Conference Catalysts of Culture $204.00 w/Conference | $299.00 Pre-Conference Only

Payment Method:  ☐ CHECK - $_______ enclosed  |  ☐ PO #_______ attached
(Note: To register with a credit card, please visit the NAREN website at www.narentranzed.org)

CONFERENCE HOTEL

$119 per night (plus taxes & fees)*
Recommended hotel for NAREN Conference attendees:

Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel
903 Dulaney Valley Road
Towson, MD 21204
Phone: 410-321-7400
Reservations: 888-627-7147
www.sheratonbaltimorenorth.com

Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel is centrally located in Towson, Maryland and is approximately 15 minutes from the TranZed Alliance Conference Center, the site of the 2017 NAREN Conference. The hotel is situated in the heart of the Towson business district, and only 20 minutes from Baltimore’s Inner Harbor, Oriole Park at Camden Yards, Ravens Stadium and a short commute to Washington, DC. Plus, the hotel’s skywalk connects guests directly to the Towson Town Center, one of Maryland’s largest malls.

*Room Block Rate of $119 per night in effect through March 24, 2017 at 5:00 pm

YES, I WANT TO RESERVE A ROOM

Yes, I want to reserve a seat for Wednesday, 4/5
Yes, I want to reserve a seat for Thursday, 4/6
Yes, I want to reserve a seat for Friday, 4/7

CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT

Please visit the NAREN website at www.narentranzed.org to reserve your room or call the hotel directly and mention “NAREN.”

COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE

A complimentary daily shuttle is available to and from the TranZed Conference Center for attendees that are lodging at the Sheraton. The shuttle will make a trip in the morning and a trip in the afternoon and will not be available throughout the day. A separate reservation will be required to ride the shuttle each day and includes round trip. Reservations can be made by clicking below or visiting the NAREN website.
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

WEDNESDAY - APRIL 5

**Listening to My Brain: Why Neuroscience Can Transform At-Risk Education**
8:45-10:00am

**Frank J. Kros, MSW, JD**
Director, NAREN
President, The Upside Down Organization, COO & EVP, The Children's Guild

Neuroscience discoveries have more potential to improve student learning than any other resource available to at-risk educators, counselors, para-professionals and parents. Brain research has provided a deep understanding of how memories are made that guide us to the most effective ways to help students learn and, perhaps more important, reveal the old school instructional strategies we think work but actually obstruct robust memory making. This keynote will help you remake your teaching repertoire and powerfully improve student learning and motivation!

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS** presented by Frank:
- **Poverty Simulation** | 4/5 - 10:15-11:45
- **Mind Management** | 4/6 - 12:30-2:00

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THURSDAY - APRIL 6

**I Take My Fun Seriously... Play, Connect, Reflect and Learn!**
8:45-10:00am

**Scott I. Goldsmith, M.S., LPC**
Owner, Outside of the Box Experiential School Psychologist
Licensed Professional Counselor

Not your typical keynote, this Playnote appeals to the playful spirit in all of us. Benjamin Franklin said, “Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.” This experience will connect the audience through play and foster learning through reflection as a sense of community is created in just 75 minutes!

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS** presented by Scott:
- **Experiential Activities for Enhancing Emotional Intelligence** | 4/6 - 12:30-2:00
- **Activities That Build Community** | 4/7 - 10:15-11:45

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FRIDAY - APRIL 7, 2017

**My Life Almost Killed Me**
8:45-10:00am

**Carl Price**
Speaker, Author, Coach, Mentor

As a person who has been through the foster care system, a cancer survivor, growing up the child of a drug addict and a US Navy veteran, then going to college, working in corporate America and founding his own companies, Carl has a rather unique perspective on turning trauma into triumph. With a focus on trauma informed training, Carl shows how trauma informed strategies are effective and what tools he used to become successful.

**BREAKOUT SESSION** presented by Carl:
**Heroes in Regular Clothing** | 4/7 - 10:15-11:45

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**Authoring Action** is a nonprofit arts and education outreach organization dedicated to developing young people as authors and articulate advocates for social change.

For more information: www.authoringaction.org

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**YOUTH PERFORMANCE**

Two Performances on Wednesday, 4/5!
Breakout Session: 4/5 - 2:15-3:45!

Authoring Action is a group of talented young people who want to communicate directly to you. Harnessing the power of creative writing, spoken word methods, and storytelling through film; Authoring Action engages the minds, hearts and bodies of young people ages 12-18. The goal is to develop them as authors and advocates for social change. You’ll be captivated, intrigued, challenged, persuaded and moved by the skill of these young minds and their powerful use of the written word to compel us toward both new thinking and behavior.
SPECIAL OPENING PERFORMANCE on Day 2!

THURSDAY - APRIL 6

*The Power of Music: Rhythm and the Brain - 8:30-8:45am*

This short opening performance reveals the latest research on how rhythmic music impacts the brain, and can be used to assist young people to regulate their emotion, increase levels of attention and focus, develop social and emotional competencies and improve motor coordination.

Also Available — Breakout Session at 2:15 p.m.!
*Rhythm2Recovery - Music for Social and Emotional Development*

This hands-on workshop provides insight into the multi-award winning Rhythm2Recovery model which combines rhythmic music and cognitive reflection. Participants will participate in activities that develop social and emotional understanding, increase self-esteem and help to regulate emotion, encapsulated within a fun and engaging musical framework.

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP COST

- Registration Rate: $299.00 per person
- SPECIAL Registration Rate for Conference Attendees: $599.00 per person for both

**REGISTER TODAY** through the NAREN website at [www.narentranzed.org](http://www.narentranzed.org)

QUESTIONS: Rob Noble at 410-444-3800 x1207 or nobler@monarchcharter.org

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

A 2-Day Professional Development Immersion Experience

**CATALYSTS of CULTURE**

4/3-4/4

Special Discounted Rate for Conference Participants!

School climate and culture is frequently talked about, universally desired and often mandated by school boards, districts and authorizing agencies. But seldom does anyone provide the specific “how to” guidance that educators and leaders can use to design and implement a genuinely transformational culture.

Monarch Academy Public Charter School built a transformative school culture through strategic choices, thoughtful reflection and the use of specific leadership tools. This powerful culture has produced an exemplary learning environment that cultivates success for all students and staff. This unique immersion experience provides two full days of active learning and engaging with the leaders and students of this amazing school.

Participants in this experience will be empowered to make strategic shifts in their own practice and equipped to design, implement and maintain a transformative school culture. You can “kick-the-tires” by seeing these practices at work in real time in a real school day. You can ask questions, interview staff, students and parents and watch “philosophy” become reality right before your eyes. At Monarch Academy, culture is a real, observable and practical catalyst for powerful, enduring and positive change. **Don’t miss this special opportunity to learn how to build a transformational culture in your school!**

“I’m bursting with excitement after attending your learning experience! I have been a teacher for 20 years and see so many students and families struggle. Thank you for helping so many find success. I loved this opportunity.”

- Christy, Teacher

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**• 3-Day NAREN Conference AND 2-Day “Catalysts of Culture”: $599.00**

**• 2-Day “Catalysts of Culture” ONLY: $299.00**

DOWNLOAD the Pre-Conference Brochure
# Schedule of Events

**WEDNESDAY - APRIL 5, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45 - 8:30</td>
<td>ARRIVAL &amp; BREAKFAST</td>
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<td>11:45 - 12:30</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 - 2:00</td>
<td>Authoring Action - Performance and Group Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15 - 3:45</td>
<td>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</td>
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<td>3:45 - 4:00</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 - 4:35</td>
<td>30-Minute BLAST! Becoming a Mental Health Sleuth (Get our Amazing Take-Home Tool—The Mental Health Matrix!)</td>
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# Schedule of Events

**THURSDAY - APRIL 6, 2017**

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<td><strong>BREAK - Transition to Closing Plenary</strong></td>
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<td>4:00 - 4:35</td>
<td><strong>30-Minute BLAST!</strong></td>
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Schedule of Events
FRIDAY - APRIL 7, 2017

7:45 - 8:30  ARRIVAL & BREAKFAST | Discovery Park
8:30 - 8:45  Welcome from NAREN Director Frank Kros | Discovery Park
8:45 - 10:00  KEYNOTE | Carl M. Price | Discovery Park
10:00 - 10:15  BREAK
10:15 - 11:45  BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Don’t Take The Bait: Understanding, Defusing and Avoiding Power Struggles
  Shauna King
  Room 219

- Living a Stress-Free Life
  Anthony Dallmann-Jones
  Room 104

- Positive Choices 4 Life
  Debbie Yohn
  Room 105

- Walking the Brain Path*
  Frank Kros
  *25 person limit; registration required

- Heroes in Regular Clothing
  Carl Price
  Room 227

- Activities That Build Community
  Scott Goldsmith
  Room 108

- Pull System vs. Push System in Education
  Lyn Bair & Jill Napliwocki
  Room 112

- Virtues: The Language of Hope, Engagement and Well-Being
  Dara Feldman
  Room 220

- Pit Stops: Using Brain Breaks and Brain Based Educational Activities
  Joshua MacNeill, Kathy Van Horn & Brian Dager
  Room 225

11:45 - 12:30  LUNCH & CLOSING SESSION - CONFERENCE CONCLUDES | Discovery Park

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Steve Parese

WEDNESDAY, 4/5 - 10:15-11:45am
Acting Up or Just Acting Out?”
Therapeutically Managing Misbehavior in Schools, Community, and Foster Care

WEDNESDAY, 4/5 - 2:15-3:45pm
“I Don’t Need Anyone!” - An Educator’s Guide to Understanding Childhood Trauma

THURSDAY, 4/6 - 10:15-11:45am
“What’s in YOUR Wallet?”
Acknowledging our Own Issues in Crisis

THURSDAY, 4/6 - 2:15-3:45pm
“I’m Just Not Sure…”
Using Motivational Interviewing (MI) Strategies with Unmotivated Youth

Shauna King

WEDNESDAY, 4/5 - 2:15-3:45pm
Trauma and the Brain: The Developmental Impact of Trauma in Childhood

FRIDAY, 4/7 - 10:15-11:45am
Don’t Take The Bait: Understanding, Defusing and Avoiding Power Struggles

Dr. Steve Parese has been an educator since 1986, teaching and developing programs for populations with special needs in a variety of therapeutic, community, and correctional settings. He has written more than a dozen articles and programs, and has spoken at over 30 national and regional conferences for at-risk youth, ex-offenders, and welfare to work individuals.

Shauna King is a passionate speaker and trainer, who is committed to helping teachers keep their skills sharp. She is so committed to this mission that she founded her own professional development organization to support school culture and climate initiatives such as Cooperative Discipline, PBIS, and Restorative Practices.
### WORKSHOP SESSIONS

**Wednesday - April 5, 2017**  
**10:15am-11:45am**

**“Acting Up or Just Acting Up: Therapeutically Managing Misbehavior in Schools, Community, and Foster Care”**  
*Presented by FEATURED SPEAKER, Steve Parese*  
Educators, staff and parents of challenging children and youth are often called upon to manage distracting, disruptive, or even dangerous problem behaviors. Handling these young-sters can be extremely challenging, especially when the cause is uncertain, and adults react personally rather than professionally to misbehaviors. This extremely practical workshop with Dr. Steve Parese first explores two psychological sources of problem behaviors, separating deliberate acting up from emotional acting out. Next, we discuss the use of firm limits and non-punitive consequences to effectively respond to intentional misbehaviors. Finally, we practice therapeutic interventions for de-escalating highly emotional behav-iors. Attendees receive a helpful follow-up article to summarize the workshop and share with colleagues.

**“Poverty and the Brain: Poverty Simulation”**  
*Presented by Frank Kros*  
Poverty has a synergistic and pervasive negative impact on children’s brains. Research suggests that people think differently and make different decisions under the often overwhelming stress of poverty. Is that true for you? Join a new community and experience how socio-economic status makes you think, feel and perform. You may relate to your students in an entirely different way!

**“Classroom Management for 21st Century Kids, Grades K to 8”**  
*Presented by Chris Kissell*  
Why is it that those kids who drive everyone else nuts turn into well-behaved, cooperative learners when they enter the rooms of certain teachers? What are those teachers doing differently? Attend this workshop to learn their behavior management secrets—practical techniques backed by educational and neuroscientific research, exercise physiology and positive feedback from the students themselves.

**“The Neuroscience of Engagement and Motivation”**  
*Presented by Laurie Ellington*  
This interactive science-based workshop draws on break-throughs in modern neuroscience, providing fresh insights into the biology of engagement - helping educators, counsel-ors, and support professionals support at risk students based on what neuroscience tells us drives human behavior. Participants learn a brain-based framework for increasing engagement and motivation.

**“What’s the Why? Why Trust?”**  
*Presented by Trista Gilpatrick*  
With the every day changes of life, we all face struggles in our home and school environment. It’s not always easy to trust those who change what has gone well. Gain some ideas of how to help lead a school’s faculty and staff in trust and a collaborative culture with everyday change. Topics explored in this workshop include community building (students and teachers), equity, and finding your WHY for doing what you do.

**“The At-Risk Department of an East Harlem High School”**  
*Presented by Jesse Matthews, Terence Joseph, Ben Carballo, & Kendred Smith*  
Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation is the only charter high school in East Harlem, NY. 40% of the students are SPED classified, 85% receive free/reduced lunch, there is a high ELL population, and most come middle schools that have since been shut down. Terence Joseph, Vice Principal, Jesse Matthews, Manager of At-Risk Programs, and staff will be presenting their school’s unique safety net of overlapping programs that supports students with behavioral and academic struggles.

**“It’s Up to You to Prevent Burnout”**  
*Presented by Dawn A. Nichol-Manning*  
This presentation will motivate educators to remain steadfast in their field with zeal and passion. Participants will partake in activities and discussion that will bring forth ideas for them to remain effective and passionate about “teaching.” Educators will be given information on how to take time for themselves by arranging short and long vacations, educational excursions, and mediation rituals that will enhance attitude and behavior towards their approach to their career. Partakers will also learn strategies on how to be inspired as well as inspiring to those they encounter.

**“A Sea Monster Goes to Work — The Power of Student Choice in the Art Studio and Beyond”**  
*Presented by Samantha Jessilonis*  
Through exploration of artifacts and collaborative discussions, participants will consider the benefits of choice-based learning and gain inspiration on how to bring the spirit of choice to all aspects of their own school setting. Participants will be exposed to a choice-based model informed by the Teaching for Artistic Behavior pedagogy.

**“Mindfulness Meditation Tools to Cultivate Peace, Clarity and Resilience in Educators”**  
*Presented by Juliet LeBlanc*  
The Lesley Institute for Trauma Sensitivity (LiTfS) offers a workshop on Mindfulness Meditation. Come learn and practice simple, effective tools that will help you ease stress, improve focus, cultivate strong connections, and alleviate compassion fatigue.

**“Tools for Regulating the Brain From the Bottom Up”**  
*Presented by Kathy VanHorn, Joshua MacNeill & Brian Dager*  
Many schools use relationships and reasoning to help students learn to regulate their emotions, impulses and behaviors. But for students who experienced early adverse childhood experiences, these techniques will not work as well, because their brains need to be regulated from the bottom up. This session will enlarge your toolbox by sharing how to access and activate the lower levels of the brain, helping to promote calmness and regulation for all students. Finding calm and regulating your own brain during times of stress will also be addressed.

(continued on next page)
“Discipline Center: Positive vs. Punitive Approach”  
Presented by Paul Fletcher  
Students will not always make good choices. Sometimes one bad decision can change the course of a child’s education. Once a student is placed at a Discipline Center/Alternative School should we “throw away the key” or should we provide a program that includes components to help rehabilitate the student?

Wednesday - April 5, 2017  
2:15 pm - 3:45 pm

“Trauma and the Brain: The Developmental Impact of Trauma in Childhood”  
Presented by FEATURED SPEAKER, Shauna King  
Key discoveries in neuroscience have revealed a more comprehensive and sophisticated understanding of the impact of trauma on the developing brain. With incredible specificity, scientists have mapped how the experience of trauma in childhood changes the growing brain and predisposes it to psychiatric disorders in adulthood. Trauma produces severe stress in the brain and understanding the specific consequences of trauma on the growing brain can significantly inform interventions and inspire new approaches for treatment.

“I Don’t Need Anyone! - An Educator’s Guide to Understanding Childhood Trauma”  
Presented by FEATURED SPEAKER, Steve Parese  
Many children and youth living in group homes, foster care, or residential treatment have been traumatized by lifetimes of violence, abuse and chronic neglect. Behaviors which appear to be willful defiance or laziness are often symptoms of much deeper issues. While clinical staff generally understand trauma issues, educators, foster parents, and support staff in daily contact with youth often find it difficult to translate trauma-informed care research into everyday practice. This insightful workshop begins with easy-to-understand (although hard to hear) information about the incidence and impact of childhood trauma. Next, we examine two distinct patterns of behavior common to youth who have experienced trauma, and discuss non-clinical interventions for creating safe living and learning environments. Finally, we close with a trauma-informed self-assessment to encourage participants to carefully examine their own strengths and areas for growth. Attendees receive a helpful follow-up article to summarize the workshop and share with colleagues.

“Jack’s Brain, Jill’s Brain: Gender Differences and Why They Matter”  
Presented by Heather Higgins  
This workshop introduces participants to the rapidly emerging research on how the brains of females and males are developmentally, structurally and functionally different. Based on these differences, participants will learn academic approaches customized to the distinctly different learning styles of girls and boys.

“Authoring Action Process: Creative Writing & Engagement”  
Presented by Nathan Ross Freeman  
Authoring Action’s writing to the senses process provides creative writing, spoken word, script writing and presentation exercises that will motivate the student to self develop their reading, writing, literary, speaking and media presentation skills.

“Calming the Storm: Keeping Kids in Public Schools, and Learning, Despite the Chaos in Their Lives”  
Presented by Trina Camarao  
Come find out how we are transforming physical spaces and professional practices to reflect a whole-child approach to elementary education. This workshop will present data, stories and strategies for success. We will focus on tools from one school using The Trauma and Learning Initiative’s Flexible Framework and inquiry approach taught by Lesley’s Institute for Trauma Sensitivity that have transformed a Massachusetts school. Conclusive data demonstrates success in moving away from constant crisis management towards being a dynamic, safe and supportive learning organization. This whole school approach is working for all students because of decreased disruption and increased time on learning. Students are leaving classrooms less frequently, but when necessary they are leaving in more socially accepted ways, and returning more quickly and productively to learning.

“Adapting Your Metric Tools to Your Standard Toolbox”  
Presented by Kristy Mitchell, Kari Moseley, Sue Bowen, & Anika Story  
Have you been trying to fill your toolbox with strategies, only to find that your blueprint measurements were skewed? Come join our construction crew and learn an effective and efficient way to lay solid foundation that will help improve your students’ progress.

“Improve with Improv”  
Presented by Jonathan Monroe  
Standing in front of a crowd can be intimidating for adults, but especially intimidating for our students. Learn professional improvisational comedy techniques to bring back to your office or classroom to help start the path of improving on your public group speaking confidence. In this workshop the presenter shares tools learned in 4 years of improv comedy schooling, performing, and teaching that can help alleviate anxiety levels for many when it comes to public speaking.

“The Art of Kid Whispering”  
Presented by Mark Freado  
This workshop addresses the developing capacity of caregivers to communicate with young people in ways that promote understanding, and trust. The most effective communication skill is listening. The ability to listen beyond and around spoken words using visual and other auditory cues is critical to effectively communicating with young people.

(continued on next page)
“The Art of Regulating Behavior: A Drama Therapy Approach to Expanding Classroom Management Skills”
Presented by Darci Burch & Natasha Anderson-Bryant
Using ENACT’s signature role-play activities, participants will receive turnkey solutions that they can put in use immediately in their classrooms. This creative workshop helps leaders observe and manage behavior in the classroom by using developmental theater games to access and shape group dynamics affecting the rhythm and flow of the classroom.

“Kinesthetic Strategies for Engaging Struggling Students”
Presented by April Miller
Do you struggle with engaging and motivating your students who have had trouble learning key algebraic concepts? Come be inspired by and practice kinesthetic strategies for helping students quickly understand functions, absolute value, square numbers, square roots, graphing, rules of exponents, simplifying fractions, word problems, and much more!

Thursday - April 6, 2017
10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

“What’s in YOUR Wallet? Acknowledging Our Own Issues in Crisis”
Presented by FEATURED SPEAKER, Steve Parese
Troubled children and youth often push problems to the limits, and are expert at pushing buttons on staff as well. As educators, parents, and support staff, we may sometimes find ourselves taking problems too personally, needlessly escalating problems. This eye-opening workshop begins with a review of frustrating youth behaviors and a discussion of five common anger traps for adults. Next, we examine the dynamics of emotional power struggles, exploring the way small problems can sometimes escalate into major crises. We then engage in a thought-provoking exploration of the issues we each may bring to a crisis, and close with a discussion of six insights essential to maintaining a professional perspective in challenging situations. Attendees receive a helpful follow-up article to summarize the workshop and share with colleagues.

“Change Your Language, Change Their Lives: What Adults Can Say Differently Today to Transform the Tomorrows of our Youth”
Presented by Dan Reimers
Neuroscience discoveries have revolutionized our understanding of how the brains of our children learn and grow. In particular, brain research reveals how the specific language used by adults who teach, mentor, counsel and parent youth has a much more profound effect on their development than previously realized. Walk away with a new way of talking to youth that builds resilience, promotes intrinsic motivation, enhances cognitive stimulation and creates kaleidoscope thinkers. What you say matters, more than you ever knew! take a proactive approach to the problem of teen drug and alcohol addiction. The importance of sober youth programs and the absence of teen addiction programs is also discussed during this presentation.

“Discover Your Purpose”
Presented by Anthony Dallmann-Jones
The Purpose Process was invented by Dr. Anthony Dallmann-Jones originally to help at-risk youth self-determine direction in their lives. It was field-tested in numerous schools with great success. A pleasant fall-out was that educators also found it meaningful to develop their own Educational Purpose Statement. Participants will do just that, and then be provided with a blank instrument to duplicate and use with their people back home.

“Teaching Our Kids About Court: Tools for Success”
Presented by Jacque Phillips
This presentation covers school-to-prison pipeline legal issues. Strategies used in Juvenile, Municipal, Family, Immigration and Administrative (Special Education) Courts will be shared. The session goal is to present ways to keep kids who don’t belong in court out of the legal system.

“How Positivity Can Affect the Outcomes in Your Classroom”
Presented by Lynda Thornton
This presentation will focus on the power of positive thinking and how that can produce powerful outcomes in your classroom. Tools will be shared with classroom teachers to allow them to preframe positive thoughts to influence student performance. Academic optimism will be discussed and the effect of academic expectations.

“Good Morning Mission Hill: The Freedom to Teach, the Freedom to Learn”
Presented by Amy Valens & Betsy Caruso
“Good Morning Mission Hill: the Freedom to Teach, the Freedom to Learn” shows an urban public school where academics connect to experiences, empathy and exploration are valued, and children with diverse abilities and backgrounds flourish. The 60-minute film follows the flow of a school year to intimately capture empowered children and staff. Conference attendees will find reverberations of most of the areas being addressed at this year’s conference. The discussion period that follows can delve more deeply into which ever areas most interest the people in the room.

“Bibliotherapy: Nurturing Resiliency Through Story”
Presented by Patricia Crain de Galarce
Engaging literature has the power to teach and heal. Students can grapple with complex emotions while developing the language and tools to deal with trauma and chronic stress through stories. Teachers and librarians can use books to connect with students, give a sense of safety, and emphasize hope.

“Empathy Through Animals: Evidence-Based Outcomes for Empathy Development”
Presented by Jamie Dawson
This presentation describes how animal therapy can be used as an effective tool to engage at-risk youth in evidence-based empathy development, as well as PACTT-accredited vocational training. Graduate research results from case study reviews and aggregate data will be presented to demonstrate that animal therapy increases empathy development in participants.

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“Experiential Activities for Enhancing Emotional Intelligence”
Presented by KEYNOTE SPEAKER, Scott Goldsmith
Experiential counseling utilizes a multimodal approach to promote emotional growth and development. Using engaging, fun activities creates a high level of “buy-in” from the most disengaged students, promoting conversations your groups may otherwise never have. By understanding sequencing, activity set-up and the debriefing process, educators can use this approach immediately!

“Daring to Claim the Sky: Courage Beyond School Walls”
Presented by Andrea Wilson
This is a conversation about the courage needed to rewrite the scripts for children and communities facing socio-economic disadvantages. Narratives from our after school programs will be shared that will remind educators of the obligation to have every single child within a community abundantly encouraged, sufficiently empowered and appropriately educated.

“Mind Management”
Presented by KEYNOTE SPEAKER, Frank Kros
The purpose of this workshop is to share with attendees practical, research-supported techniques for keeping in top mental condition — even under the stresses and challenges of career, family and personal life. Drawn from the latest neuroscience, this session will show attendees how to keep their minds in the best possible shape emotionally, psychologically and spiritually.

“When the Growing Gets Tough, The Tough Dig In: Helping Parents Believe in Their Ability to Parent Instead of Giving Up”
Presented by Shannon Young
Parenting is the toughest job in the world. When parenting get tough we need parents to hang in there and not give up. Learn the results of research on the school elements that impact parental self-efficacy and simple strategies for building parental self-efficacy in a trauma sensitive way.

“Capturing Hearts!”
Presented by Michael Maurer
Life contains defining moments that make an individual who they are today. When hearts are captured, people excel. Relationship building is the essential piece to any situation. Once you know their story, whoever they are in your line of work, they are very hard to dismiss. When you can make a connection with an individual by capturing their heart, great things will be accomplished.

“Infusing Team Building, Mindfulness, and Inquiry to Turbo Boost Student Achievement”
Presented by Heather Carnaghan
All children have a huge potential for critical thinking and reflection. Often, this potential goes untapped because of unseen social barriers within the classroom. This energetic and interactive presentation will help you combat those barriers and make your classroom a welcoming and growth-focused environment. Learn how to build your students’ confidence, sense of belonging, ability to problem solve collaboratively, and reflect deeply on their learning by experiencing a variety of team building, mindfulness, and inquiry initiatives first hand.

“Not Just for Fun! Harness the Power of Group Games and Activities”
Presented by Robert Noble
When a group learns to work together to surpass their goals, the community thrives. Learn how cycles of carefully scaffolded group games and activities, intentional debrief, and goal setting, can support individuals within a group to become more confident as they learn to collaborate and build their problem-solving skills.

“The Science of Resiliency: How Teachers Can Apply it”
Presented by Rhoda Wolle
Life is challenging for so many of our students and many of their obstacles and burdens appear overwhelming. As teachers, the things we say and do impact their academic growth; we can also equip them with the knowledge and skill set needed to develop a resilient character for life. Research is shedding new light on resiliency and grit. This interactive workshop will look at some of the latest studies and provide an opportunity for you to apply this research to the children you are privileged to teach.

“Tough But Fun: Three New Strategies for Actively Engaging Students in Your Classroom”
Presented by Featured Speaker, Steve Parese
This highly interactive workshop (primarily for non-clinical staff) explores the use of MI strategies to change resistant youth. We begin with an examination of five predictable stages of change, defining behaviors and thinking common to each. Next, we contrast traditional persuasive counseling with the more evocative MI approach. Using numerous exercises and examples, we then practice the essential elements of MI: open questions, affirmations, reflections, and summaries. Attendees receive a helpful follow-up article to summarize the workshop and share with colleagues.

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“Cognitive Education: Coaching Youth in Effective Thinking/Learning Strategies”
Presented by Larry Johnson & Portia Walker
The presentation provides concepts in Thinking and Life Skills Coaching. A thinking skills model is utilized to facilitate the workshop. Staff and other child care providers will learn strategies to coach the youth in thinking and learning skills, that when utilized will improve the youth, decision making, problem solving, academics, reasoning ability and more.

“Using Effective Instructional Strategies Across Grades and Subjects”
Presented by Nadia Torney
This seminar reviews the basic principles of instruction and learning styles in the context of research supported strategies for teaching students across grade levels, subjects and disabilities. Principles address grouping, stages of learning, motivation for learning, skill development, communication and functionality.

“Finding Peace Within the Workplace”
Presented by Stephanie Simpson
Mindfulness is an overused and misunderstood word. However, its concept is essential to the development of inner peace and outer effectiveness. By creating a strong inner foundation, one copes with adversity more easily, makes decisions more clearly, and communicates more authentically and effectively. Practitioners are resilient and positive role models.

“Total Participation Techniques”
Presented by Stacey Komsa
Total Participation Techniques are easy, time-saving ways to boost student skill in key areas such as literacy, math, organization, communication, and participation. These strategies, adapted from the book, “Total Participation Techniques,” by Persida and William Himmele, promote higher-order thinking in a way that is encouraging, creative, and fresh.

“Not Your Dad’s Toolbox: Strategies for Coping With Neurotypicals”
Presented by Houston Ward & Lizz Cannon
 Neurotypicals got you down? We’ve got the coping strategies you need! This mother-son duo have combined their life experiences on the Autism spectrum and want to share their coping strategies, successes, and failures with educators who are interested in deepening their understanding of our unique ASD behaviors.

“The Secret Sauce for Student Success...Building Positive Relationships”
Presented by Susan Ciminelli
Why is it so difficult to see growth with at-risk, low-performing students? It could be your class lacks the secret sauce of a strong teacher-student relationship. Multiple research studies indicate academic gains occur when there is a strong, positive bond with low-performing students. Learn specific teacher actions that grow mutual respect and nurtures hope in their students. Understand how the teacher-student relationship is the foundation for motivation and engagement, improving behaviors, fostering student perseverance and giving students the cognitive skills necessary to become critical thinkers.

“Rhythm2Recovery - Music for Social and Emotional Development”
Presented by Simon Faulkner
This hands-on workshop provides insight into the multi-award winning Rhythm2Recovery model which combines rhythmic music and cognitive reflection. Participants will participate in activities that develop social and emotional understanding, increase self-esteem and help to regulate emotion, encapsulated within a fun and engaging musical framework.

Friday - April 7, 2017
10:15am-11:45am

“Don’t Take the Bait: Understanding, Defusing and Avoiding Power Struggles”
Presented by FEATURED SPEAKER, Shauna King
Do you have students who challenge your authority in the classroom? Have you ever found yourself angry and frustrated when students ignore your directions? In this session, participants will examine the messages of this type of “power seeking” behavior and learn respectful ways to address student misbehavior without “taking the bait.”

“Living a Stress-Free Life”
Presented by Anthony Dallmann-Jones
Well, only the dead are stress-free, but the goal is good, right? Dr. Anthony Dallmann-Jones, author of this session’s namesake, will teach strategies you can use RIGHT NOW to reduce stress - as well as techniques you can use the rest of your life when needed (often without anyone knowing). These techniques transfer wonderfully to your kids regardless of their ages. There will be handouts to take home as reminders of the new tools in your stress-free toolbox.

“Powerful Choices 4 Life”
Presented by Debbie Yohn
Come to this exciting innovative workshop and learn about an alternative sentencing program for teens. You will have the opportunity to be 15-18 again and participant in this program developed by Debbie Yohn, RN, BSN, CPP and Laura Corbett Wilt, Chief Juvenile Crimes Division Office of the State’s Attorney’s Office. We integrate brain based activities with learning to change the behavior of teens sent to this program by courts, parents, therapists and other professionals. As a Shock Trauma nurse of almost 30 years, the prevention of injury and death of teens has been a passion of Debbie Yohn. This program is a one-of-a-kind program and you as the "young learner" will be equipped to take this to your communities.

“Walking the Brain Path”
Presented by KEYNOTE SPEAKER Frank Kros
Join us for a walk through the Brain Path — an interactive, 3-D experience that will literally walk you through the human brain and demonstrate how the brain learns, thinks,
remembers and feels. Encounter the Amygdala, touch the Hippocampus and experience what life might be like without a Cerebellum. This experience is limited to 25 participants and registration is required.

“Heroes in Regular Clothing”
Presented by KEYNOTE SPEAKER, Carl Price
This workshop will explore how “regular” people influence the lives of children in foster care. Foster parents, social workers, CPS and others who help the child do not always have access to the child’s past or present experience. When entering the foster care system, the child may age out, run away or return to their biological family. The presenter speaks to those silent heroes who do not stand up and take credit for the time, effort and care dedicated to the child. Carl speaks on those private conversations that occur with caregivers and foster care children that have the longest lasting impact but receive no acknowledgment of the effort and time they invested. Carl holds these invaluable moments in high correlation to his success today, and the importance of working with children through a trauma focused perspective.

“Activities that Build Community”
Presented by KEYNOTE SPEAKER, Scott Goldsmith
A positive school and classroom climate are essential ingredients to building a community that fosters emotional, social and academic growth and development. Join us for a gaggle of fun activities that you can use to engage your students in building connections and creating a safe and welcoming environment for all.

“Pull System vs. Push System in Education”
Presented by Lyn Bair & Jill Napiwocki
Engaging students in their own education is not always easy. Do you pull-in, letting students dictate the direction of school, or push-out educational opportunities that data prove best? Bridges High School staff presenters Lyn & Jill share their blend of teaching and observational techniques that include both choice (pull) and building skills (push).

“Virtues: The Language of Hope, Engagement and Well-Being”
Presented by Dara Feldman
In this highly engaging session you will refresh and gladden your spirit, connect with yourself and others. You will be able to apply the tools, strategies and techniques immediately, at home and at school, which will empower you to stay on purpose and keep making a significant contribution to humanity.

“Pit Stops: Using Brain Breaks and Brain-Based Educational Activities”
Presented by Joshua MacNeill, Kathy Van Horn & Brian Dager
This workshop explores the need to use targeted brain breaks and brain based educational activities in the classroom. Participants will be supplied with several practical activities to take back with them as well as the necessary knowledge to develop their own targeted classroom activities.

CEUs & Certificate of Attendance

CEUs
Category 1 Social Work CEUs are available for all sessions. If you would like to be awarded these CEUs, please pick up an informational packet at registration OR at the Business Center on the lower level. Please follow the instructions exactly as written and be sure to leave your completed packet in the designated box in the Business Center at the end of the conference. Note that CEUs will not be available after the conference.

Certificate of Attendance
Everyone will be issued a Certificate of Attendance. Certificates can be picked up in the main lobby registration area on Friday, 4/7 between the hours of 10:00am and 1:00 pm. Daily participants can also pick their certificate up in the lobby registration area after 3:30 pm on Wednesday, 4/5 & Thursday, 4/6.

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“Wow! The NAREN conference was a great 3 days. From the minute I walked in on day 1 to the very end as I complete this evaluation, I have felt inspired and experienced a climate of warmth, positivity and authenticity. Each workshop I’ve attended has made me think about my craft, my students, and most of all, MADE ME WANT TO DO BETTER!”

Nikki, 2016 Conference Participant

REGISTRATION RATES

NAREN CONFERENCE:
Full Conference Registration - $395.00
Daily Rate - $130.00

NAREN PRE-CONFERENCE:
Pre-Conference w/Conference Registration: $599.00

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