



Leaders as Learners: Building the Village Our Children Need

November 7-9, 2023 | Atlanta, GA

[Register Now](#)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023

TIME	EVENT				
9:00 am–4:00 pm	<p>Pre-Conference Sessions</p> <p>Want to get a headstart on the <i>SEL Exchange</i>, or looking for specific implementation strategies and programs? Choose from 26 full-day, morning, or afternoon sessions, including (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flourish: The K-5 Curriculum of the Compassionate Schools Project (full day)• SEL in Project-Based Learning (full day)• Transformative SEL Adult Learning Series: Centering Adults to Transform Student Experience (morning)• Building Trauma-Sensitive Classrooms and Schools: 7 Strategies for Teachers and Administrators (morning)• Embedding Social, Emotional and Cultural Competencies Into a District Preservice Licensure Program (afternoon)• Culturally Affirming SEL, a Racially Conscious Lens (afternoon) <p>Lunch will be provided to all registered pre-conference attendees!</p>				
5:00 pm–8:30 pm	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Cocktail Reception & Kickoff Dinner</th><th>Speakers</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td><p>An Evening of Enlightenment with Jewel and Dr. Tim Shriver</p><p>Kick off the <i>SEL Exchange</i> with multiplatinum recording artist Jewel and CASEL Board Chair Dr. Tim Shriver in a heartfelt dinner conversation on their personal experiences with SEL. U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy will also share recorded remarks on the urgency around SEL and mental wellness, while local Atlanta leaders will offer thoughts about citywide SEL priorities. Then, join CASEL as we celebrate the winners of the 2023 Social and Emotional Learning Leader of the Year (SELLY) Awards.</p></td><td><p>Dr. Tim Shriver Co-founder, CASEL</p><p>Jewel Singer-songwriter, NY Times Best Seller, & Mental Health Expert</p></td></tr></tbody></table>	Cocktail Reception & Kickoff Dinner	Speakers	<p>An Evening of Enlightenment with Jewel and Dr. Tim Shriver</p> <p>Kick off the <i>SEL Exchange</i> with multiplatinum recording artist Jewel and CASEL Board Chair Dr. Tim Shriver in a heartfelt dinner conversation on their personal experiences with SEL. U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy will also share recorded remarks on the urgency around SEL and mental wellness, while local Atlanta leaders will offer thoughts about citywide SEL priorities. Then, join CASEL as we celebrate the winners of the 2023 Social and Emotional Learning Leader of the Year (SELLY) Awards.</p>	<p>Dr. Tim Shriver Co-founder, CASEL</p> <p>Jewel Singer-songwriter, NY Times Best Seller, & Mental Health Expert</p>
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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023

TIME	EVENT	
All Day	SEL Main Street Visit the pulse point of the conference, featuring SEL exhibitors, bookstore, student art gallery, wellness activities, and opportunities to connect and learn.	
7:30 am–8:30 am	Breakfast/Networking	
8:30 am–10:00 am	Opening Plenary	Speakers
	SELebrating 50 years of Hip-Hop Join hip-hop legend and icon Darryl “DMC” McDaniels, of the famed group RUN DMC, as he uses his lyrical expertise to share his personal SEL story. Then experience the timeless power of hip hop with local youth and Dr. Roberto Rivera of the Alliance for the 7th Generation.	Darryl “DMC” McDaniels Co-founder RUN DMC Dr. Roberto Rivera Co-founder Alliance for the 7th Generation
10:00 am–10:30 am	Break/Networking	
10:30 am–12:00 pm	Breakout Session 1	Speakers
	Choose from nearly 300 sessions throughout the <i>SEL Exchange</i> . Options during this time block include (but are not limited to):	
FEATURED SESSION	Tech-Hearted: Discover Practical Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Fostering Student Curiosity, Engagement, and Voice AI isn’t just for robots! Packback CEO Kelsey Behringer and researcher Dr. Thomas Breideband explore how AI can enhance students’ social, emotional, and academic learning.	Kelsey Behringer Packback CEO Dr. Thomas Breideband University of Colorado Boulder



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023

TIME	EVENT	
10:30 am–12:00 pm	Breakout Session 1 (continued)	
FEATURED SESSION	<p>Finding the Magic in Middle School</p> <p>Is middle school actually the worst time of life, or just the worst-understood? Author and educator Chris Balme and CASEL CEO Dr. Aaliyah Samuel discuss the middle school brain and how to support kids during this exciting but challenging time.</p>	<p>Speakers</p> <p>Chris Balme Author and principal</p> <p>Dr. Aaliyah Samuel CASEL CEO</p>
	<p>Schools With Spirit: Nurturing the Inner Lives of Educational Leaders</p> <p>Transform teaching and students’ experiences by nurturing educators’ minds, bodies, and spirits. Linda Lantieri, Aija Simmons, Mychal Mills, and Meena Srinivasan, of Transformative Educational Leadership, share what the research says and how to cultivate our own inner lives.</p>	<p>Linda Lantieri Transformative Educational Leadership</p> <p>Aija Simmons Transformative Educational Leadership</p> <p>Mychal Mills Transformative Educational Leadership</p> <p>Meena Srinivasan Transformative Educational Leadership</p>
	<p>Making Connections: Transformative SEL and Project-Based Learning</p> <p>Watch what happens when you take a Gold Standard school project and infuse identity, agency, belonging, collaborative problem-solving, and curiosity. Join PBLWorks’ James Campbell to discover practical strategies for integrating transformative SEL with project-based learning.</p>	<p>James Campbell PBLWorks</p>
	<p>Reshaping Ecosystems of Learning: Creating Inclusive Environments for All Learners</p> <p>Can organizations actually change adult mindset and practices? Education First’s Ila Deshmukh Towery and Kelly James lead a thought-provoking exploration of research on how organizations use a racial justice lens to shift learning conditions.</p>	<p>Ila Deshmukh Towery Education First</p> <p>Kelly James Education First</p>
12:00 pm–1:00 pm	Lunch provided on SEL Main Street	



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023

TIME	EVENT	
1:00 pm–2:30 pm	Breakout Session 2 Choose from nearly 300 sessions throughout the <i>SEL Exchange</i> . Options during this time block include (but are not limited to):	Speakers
FEATURED SESSION	Navigating the Culture Wars: Using Communications to Move SEL Forward Politics, culture wars & polls, oh my! Get the latest data and expert strategies for communicating about SEL from a place of strength, led by Annie Kim and Hannah Milgrom of communications agency RALLY and Jim Vetter of SEL4US.	Annie Kim RALLY Hannah Milgrom RALLY Jim Vetter SEL4US
FEATURED SESSION	Moving Beyond Competencies: SEL at the Intersection of Racial Justice and Healing Challenge your own notions of SEL by joining Dr. Dena Simmons and her LiberatED colleagues, Miriam Miller and Aileen Mokuria. They'll share a bold SEL vision for honoring every individual's identity and promoting healing and liberation.	Dr. Dena Simmons LiberatED Miriam Miller LiberatED Aileen Mokuria LiberatED
	Empathy Is a Superpower at the Heart of SEL How can we learn to really see ourselves in another person, to feel with them, and to find our shared humanity? R. Keeth Matheny, of SEL Launchpad, leads a highly engaging and interactive workshop to support educators in practicing and teaching empathy.	R. Keeth Matheny SEL Launchpad
	Using our Village to Enhance Adult SEL Across Research, Policy, and Practice Supporting educator well-being has never been more urgent—but our systems aren't always well-coordinated. AIR's Dr. Nick Yoder and Dr. Kimberly Kendziora join Tammy Bolen, Washington state's SEL supervisor, to discuss how practitioners, policymakers, and researchers can work together to support adults.	Dr. Nick Yoder American Institutes for Research (AIR) Dr. Kimberly Kendziora American Institutes for Research (AIR) Tammy Bolen Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction



SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING
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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023

TIME	EVENT	
1:00 pm–2:30 pm	Breakout Session 2 (continued)	Speakers
	Building our MTSS-SEL Village on Changing Soil Education leaders in Fort Worth, Texas, have the blueprint for supporting every child - and they're sharing it here! Dr. Cherie Washington and Kelly Dolan Sapp unveil Fort Worth Independent School District's newly released MTSS Framework and Policy Guidebook and share how it supports quality SEL for adults and students.	Dr. Cherie Washington Fort Worth Independent School District Kelly Dolan Sapp EduSolve
	Special Event	
	SEL Backstage Pass Experience an intimate, face-to-face gathering with our plenary and keynote speakers, along with CASEL board members, during this afternoon dessert reception. (Paid opportunity)	
2:30 pm–3:00 pm	Break/Networking	
3:00 pm–4:30 pm	Breakout Session 3	Speakers
	Choose from nearly 300 sessions throughout the <i>SEL Exchange</i> . Options during this time block include (but are not limited to):	
FEATURED SESSION	How Educators Feel (and How They Want To Feel) Matters Teaching is an emotional rollercoaster! Best-selling author and director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, Dr. Marc Brackett, shares the latest data on how educators are feeling, coping, and how that impacts burnout. Join to learn how school leaders can support the emotional lives of educators.	Dr. Marc Brackett Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023

TIME	EVENT	
3:00 pm–4:30 pm	Breakout Session 3 (continued)	
FEATURED SESSION	88,000 Students Weigh In: Learning and Well-Being After COVID-19 <p>How have student experiences changed in the aftermath of COVID? And which groups are being left behind? Jen Wilka of YouthTruth illuminates what thousands of students shared about their learning, sense of belonging, mental health, and support from adults.</p>	Speakers Jen Wilka YouthTruth
	Taking it to the Next Level: District Partnerships to Advance SEL in After-School and Summer Settings <p>When we've built the village our children need, they'll experience SEL in all of the places they live and learn. Dan Gilbert, Mara Schanfield, Greg MacPherson, Jackie DuPont, Shannon Smith, and Elle Essenmacher dig into what the research says and how to integrate social and emotional skills across in-school and in out-of-school time.</p>	Dan Gilbert Afterschool Alliance Mara Schanfield Search Institute Greg MacPherson Big Thought Jackie DuPont The Opportunity Project Shannon Smith Harmony SEL Elle Essenmacher Harmony SEL
	University-School District Partnerships to Implement SEL and Promote Wellness in Schools <p>Universities + school districts = wellness, equity, and prevention. Get the takeaways from three university-school district partnerships that optimized SEL in elementary, middle, and high schools. With the University of Virginia's Dr. Catherine Bradshaw, Dr. Jessika Bottiani, and Dr. Alexis Harris.</p>	Dr. Catherine Bradshaw University of Virginia Dr. Jessika Bottiani University of Virginia Dr. Alexis Harris University of Virginia
	The Emotionally Literate Learner: Weaving SEL Throughout Reading and Writing Instruction <p>Emotional literacy can transform children's learning! Gain practical, easy-to-adapt strategies to help students identify, manage, empathize, and express emotions throughout reading and writing curricula. With SEL coach Lily Howard Scott.</p>	Lily Howard Scott Bank Street College of Education



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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023

TIME	EVENT	
4:30 pm–5:00 pm	Break/Networking	
5:00 pm–6:30 pm	Toast to Innovation	
	Raise your glass during this cocktail and appetizer reception as you view posters showcasing the cutting-edge work of SEL researchers and practitioners and speak one-on-one with these trailblazers.	
6:30 pm–7:30 pm	Break/Networking (Dinner on your own)	
7:30 pm–9:00 pm	Special Event	Speakers
	Sounds of SEL: An Evening With Jewel Multiplatinum recording artist Jewel shares her life-defining relationship with SEL. Don't miss this private concert, where she'll showcase the hit songs that earned her four Grammy nominations, while sharing the journey of growing up with no running water to thriving under extreme circumstances. To be certain we keep this intimate and personal, tickets and access are limited.	Jewel Singer-songwriter, NY Times Best Seller, & Mental Health Expert



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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

TIME	EVENT	
All Day	SEL Main Street	
	Visit the pulse point of the conference, featuring SEL exhibitors, bookstore, student art gallery, wellness activities, and opportunities to connect and learn.	
8:00 am–9:00 am	Breakfast/Networking	
9:00 am–9:45 am	Opening Plenary	Speakers
	<p>The Science of Adult Transformation to Create Caring Schools</p> <p>Leading researchers dig into how educator well-being and care can transform schools, support youth and families, and create flourishing communities. CASEL co-founder Dr. Mark Greenberg moderates the panel featuring AERA's Outstanding Early Career Scholar Dr. Rebecca Collie, renowned social psychologist Dr. Jason Okonofua, and two-time Fulbright scholar Dr. Robert Roeser.</p>	<p>Dr. Mark Greenberg CREATE chairman</p> <p>Dr. Rebecca Collie University of New South Wales</p> <p>Dr. Robert Roeser Penn State University</p> <p>Dr. Jason Okonofua University of California, Berkeley</p>
9:45 am–10:15 am	Break/Networking	
10:15 am–11:45 am	Breakout Session 4	Speakers
	Choose from nearly 300 sessions throughout the <i>SEL Exchange</i> . Options during this time block include (but are not limited to):	
FEATURED SESSION	Belonging, Community, and a New Vision for Safer Schools	Scarlett Lewis Choose Love Movement
	<p>Concerns about student safety are on the rise - but hardening schools isn't the answer. This can't-miss panel brings together leading experts to explore proactive, SEL-focused approaches to school safety. Moderated by Dr. Aaliyah Samuel, this discussion features Scarlett Lewis of the Choose Love Movement, safety expert Perry Plummer, Bob Runcie of Chiefs for Change, and Katy Neas of the U.S. Department of Education.</p>	<p>Perry Plummer NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management</p> <p>Bob Runcie Chiefs for Change</p> <p>Katy Neas U.S. Department of Education</p> <p>Dr. Aaliyah Samuel CASEL CEO</p>



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

TIME	EVENT	
10:15 am–11:45 am	Breakout Session 4 (continued)	
FEATURED SESSION	Instructional Interactions and Literacy: Supporting Classroom Interactions in SEL Skill Development <p>Is adult SEL a secret ingredient that can help students learn to read? Join David Adams, Dr. Bridget Hamre, and Dr. G. Lawrence Farmer for this interactive exploration of how teachers' SEL skills contribute to literacy development and other important learning outcomes.</p>	Speakers David Adams Urban Assembly Dr. Bridget Hamre Teachstone Dr. G. Lawrence Farmer Fordham University
	Educator Social and Emotional Learning and Unlearning <p>James Baldwin once said, "Children have never been very good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them." University of Virginia Professor Dr. Patricia Jennings will demonstrate how to support student SEL by practicing our own SEL and mindfulness, and share what habits we'll need to unlearn.</p>	Dr. Patricia Jennings University of Virginia Professor
	What Else is True? A Student-Led Experience in Cultivating Resilience <p>Our nervous systems are sending us information, but are we listening? Jennifer Knox from Emory University offers a framework for cultivating greater understanding of resilience through the lenses of self, relationships, and systems by building body literacy and practicing easy-to-learn skills.</p>	Jennifer Knox Emory University
	Blending SEL and Trauma-Informed Practices to Create a Supportive Workplace for Educators <p>Spot staff burnout, practice reflective listening, and build a team that will rejuvenate your staff. SEL consultant Laura Hurwitz and Nicole Weinstein from the Jewish Family and Career Services of Atlanta will share how to bring together SEL and trauma-informed practices to create a positive workplace culture.</p>	Laura Hurwitz SEL consultant Nicole Weinstein Jewish Family and Career Services of Atlanta



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

TIME	EVENT	
11:45 am–12:30 pm	Lunch provided on SEL Main Street	
12:30 pm–2:00 pm	Breakout Session 5 Choose from nearly 300 sessions throughout the <i>SEL Exchange</i> . Options during this time block include (but are not limited to):	Speakers
FEATURED SESSION	Evidence-Based Practice Requires Evidence: Advancing the Science and Practice of SEL Get up to speed on the most critical findings from the latest research on SEL by the 2022 SELLY-award winner Dr. Christina Cipriano of Yale Child Study Center. She'll cut through what we know and what we need to know about SEL, and shed light on the next evolution of SEL evidence.	Dr. Christina Cipriano Yale Child Study Center
FEATURED SESSION	Recentering Youth Thriving What would it take to renew our commitment to public education? What would it look like for a new model of schooling to center learners, families, and community educators? Explore foundational positive youth development research and efforts to refine a community action framework with Karen Pittman of Knowledge to Power Catalysts.	Karen Pittman Knowledge to Power Catalysts
	Effectively Implementing SEL: Insights from Districts' Successes and Setbacks Learn the best practices in SEL implementation from across rural, suburban, and urban districts. AASA's Dr. Sheldon Berman showcases a variety of strategies, programs, and infrastructure supports that have led to better implementation, greater buy-in, and more successful results for students.	Dr. Sheldon Berman AASA



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TIME	EVENT	
12:30 pm–2:00 pm	Breakout Session 5 (continued)	Speakers
	Centering Equity and Social Justice in a Districtwide SEL Program Adoption Process Portland Public Schools is no stranger to innovation, and their process for adopting district wide SEL programs was like none other. District leaders Dr. Jill Bryant, Tracey Brown, Dr. Julie Prindle, and Liz Tracy share how they engaged in a process that brought staff, students, and community partners to the forefront.	Dr. Jill Bryant Portland Public Schools Tracey Brown Portland Public Schools Dr. Julie Prindle Portland Public Schools Liz Tracy Portland Public Schools
	Culturally Relevant SEL for Multilingual Learners: Practical Tools Set multilingual learners up for success! Explore the research and apply tools and strategies that integrate SEL and culturally responsive practices for multilingual learners. With Mindi Teich and Dr. Diane Staehr Fenner from SupportEd.	Mindi Teich SupportEd Dr. Diane Staehr Fenner SupportEd
2:00 pm–2:15 pm	Break/Networking	
2:15 pm–3:00 pm	Closing Plenary	Speakers
	The Future of Education: SEL in the Dawn of Artificial Intelligence What role will SEL play in strengthening our critical human assets as technology advances emerge? Can we harness the power of AI to foster inclusive, relationship-rich classrooms that achieve equitable outcomes? How will we prepare our young people for a future work world shaped by AI? Dr. Kristal Ayres, Lead Educational Strategist supporting the Global Impact team at Google for Education, and AI and SEL expert Dr. Christina Gardner-McCune will offer insights into the potential for AI to bring us closer together. Moderated by Dr. Tim Shriver.	Dr. Kristal Ayre Google for Education Dr. Christina Gardner-McCune University of Florida Dr. Tim Shriver Co-founder, CASEL