



## PEN 2019

# Educating for Democracy: Navigating the Current and Channeling the Future of Progressive Education

## **PEN 2019: Minneapolis Call for Workshop Proposals! Deadline: March 4, 2019**

Join us in the Twin Cities for the 2019 Progressive Education Network Conference, Surrounded by abundant lakes, ponds and wetlands and by the shore of the Mississippi River, we will re-imagine progressive education for the 21st Century.

The PEN 2019 planning committee is looking for passionate educators who are ready to engage with colleagues from all around the country to introduce, renew, affirm and create progressive practices - creating a mighty current that will transform education. We invite hands-on, energizing, thought provoking, inspiring workshops, roundtables and place-based experiences for the participants and educators converging in this wonderful natural setting in Minneapolis, Minnesota in October 2019.

While we honor the historical sources of progressive philosophy, we want this conference to be a space that co- constructs, elevates and embraces new narratives, reflective of "***respectfully collaborative and critical relationships between students, educators, parents/guardians, and the community.***" What presentations or learning can you share that will enrich the confluence of respect, learning and growing?

Share your thoughts, ideas, practices and questions with other conference attendees as part of your continued growth as an educator, exploring the conference theme of **Educating for Democracy: Navigating the Current and Channeling the Future of Progressive Education.**

# OPTIONS FOR WORKSHOP PROPOSALS

## PROGRAM STREAMS

- **Rising To the Surface:** What are the philosophies, traditions, practices and stories that have not been centered that we must engage with now? Which Progressive Education stories need to be told today and to broader constituencies? We encourage sessions that will amplify past and present voices & experiences in progressive education that take us beyond the traditional canon of progressive education.
- **Navigating the Current:** What is in the waters of progressive practice right now? What historical or contemporary struggles make it difficult to navigate or implement progressive practices in a variety of educational institutions? What promising new streams of thought might buoy progressive education that we have not yet fully explored? These sessions will provide participants with stories, experiences, and practical wisdom for negotiating a variety of challenges and opportunities in progressive education. We encourage sessions that explore areas such as: Wellness; Social & Emotional Learning; Restorative Justice, Equity & Activism; Identity & Allyship.
- **Channeling the Future:** What does the future of progressive education look like? What are the stakes? How do we apply this work to our classrooms and in larger communities? How do we chart new courses in ways that are collaborative, empowering, and inclusive? We encourage sessions that provide participants with: practical, “oars-in” strategies to “do” progressive practice in any school, any classroom, anywhere; visioning strategies for implementing changes; strategies for sustaining the work, even in choppy waters.

## WORKSHOP TYPES

- **FOUR-HOUR PLACE BASED WORKSHOPS  
(THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3rd 8 am- 3 pm)**

**Place based** workshops use the wonderful settings of the Twin Cities and the surrounding area to illustrate the benefits to getting students out into the community to foster democratic and progressive learning, while focusing in on one of the learning strands of the conference.

Your place based workshop should use the environment, local assets, public spaces, buildings or any setting which will enhance the learning for the participants. If you currently use community resources as an element in your classroom or you know how a workshop would benefit from the greater Minneapolis community, this is your workshop!

These workshops will take place on **Thursday, October 3, 2019 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.**, including lunch and transportation time. Planning committee members can help you connect locally as you plan.

- **90 MINUTE WORKSHOPS (FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4-5)**

*Note: If you would like your session to be considered for a combined 2-90 minute session (a total of 180 minutes), please indicate on the form.*

### **CLASSROOM WORKSHOP**

These workshops will be held on the University of Minnesota campus in a more traditional classroom setting. The inspiration for your submission should be how you can best inform and educate fellow educators to navigate the progressive river of education and inspire them to join the current with your transformative lessons and ideas.

### **INTERACTIVE ROUNDTABLE**

These sessions will be held on the University of Minnesota campus. Sessions begin with a presentation by a small group, followed by interactive discussion modules or activities that engage participants in meaningful connections with the topic and each other.

- **“PEN-terest” BOARD GALLERY (SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5th)**

This poster session will be open for display on Saturday, October 5th on the University of Minnesota campus. Create a “Pinterest” style board to share ideas, inspiration, practice with your education colleagues. PEN-terest boards might: highlight experiences that can be replicated or modified in any school setting; invite us to (re)imagine what progressive education looks like; visually lead viewers through a lesson; PEN-terest board makers should plan to be on site with their creations for 30 minutes. Please send a draft/sketch of your idea with the proposal form.

## **NOTES & REMINDERS FOR ALL PROPOSALS:**

- Please try to be inclusive of all school members - including leadership and those not necessarily directing instruction in the classroom. We are expecting educators from a wide variety of schools who serve in a wide variety of roles. Here are groupings to think about as you consider audience:
  - Pre-K-20 Educators (suitable for anyone who works in schools from Early Elementary to College/University)
  - Pre-K-12 (suitable for folks who work in Elementary and Secondary school settings)
  - Early Childhood (Pre-k-K)
  - Elementary (Grades 1-5)
  - Middle School (Grades 6-8)
  - High School (Grades 9-12)
  - College/University
  - School Administrators/School Leaders
  - Educator teams (workshop for 2-4 teachers & administrators from the same school)

## NOTES & REMINDERS, continued

- Proposals should indicate how the session reflects one or more of the program streams (Rising to the Surface, Navigating the Current, Channeling the Future).
- Please focus your proposal on delivering engaging, and interactive workshops that reflect the best of progressive practice. Hands on, experience- based learning with takeaways that can work anywhere are highly encouraged! Let us know the maximum audience that your session could serve.
- You may request a 180 minute session. Please indicate on the Google form.
- Handouts or other print materials are the responsibility of presenters. To eliminate the need for printed materials, please try to make all resources available electronically. If you plan to use a computer and projector (e.g. for PowerPoint or short video clip), or other AV equipment, please indicate on the Google form.

**To submit an idea for a workshop, please complete the Google Form application.**

## **[PEN 2019 Workshop Proposal Form](#)**

**The deadline for completion is Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**