THE EDUCATION TRUST–WEST

EDUCATION EQUITY FORUM

2018

BRIGHT SPOTS: Prioritizing Equity in School Improvement and Student Success Efforts

SHERATON GRAND SACRAMENTO HOTEL

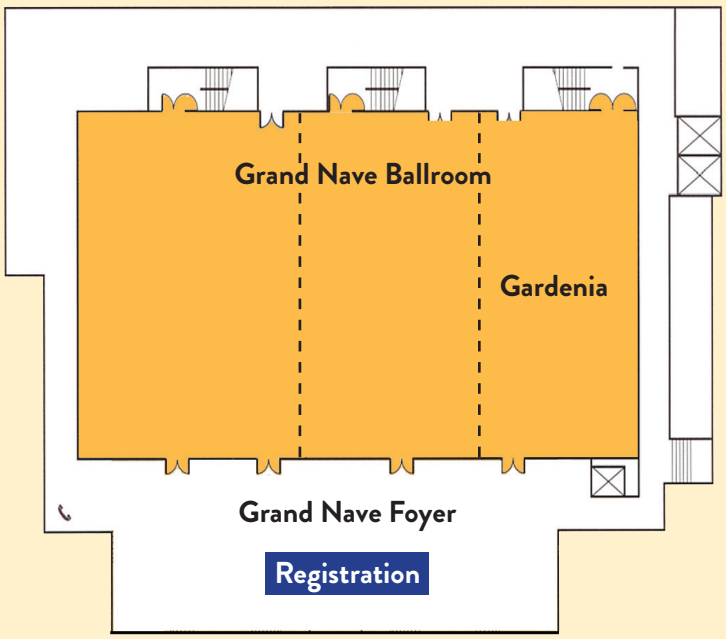
The Education Trust–West

EDUCATION EQUITY FORUM OVERVIEW

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

12:00pm – 7:00pm	REGISTRATION	*Grand Nave Foyer*
2:00pm – 4:30pm	PRE-CONFERENCE MEETINGS	*Beavis Room*
5:00pm – 7:00pm	RECEPTION	*Gardenia Room*

1ST FLOOR



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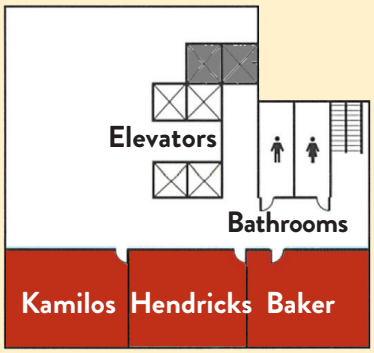

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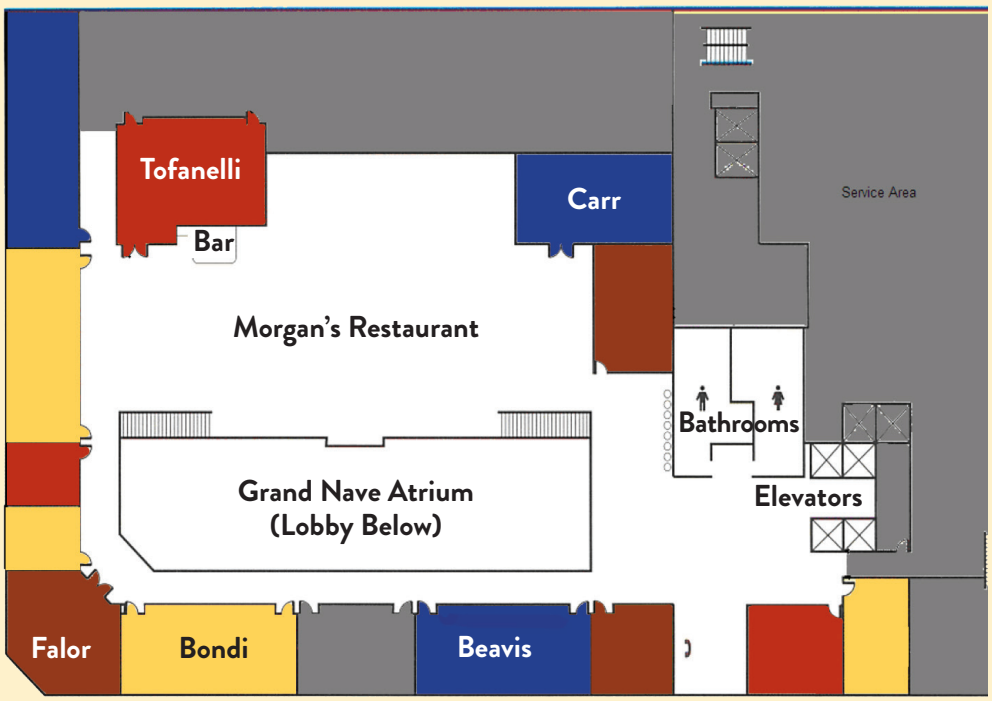

EDUCATION EQUITY FORUM OVERVIEW

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

7:30am – 1:30pm — **REGISTRATION** ..... *Grand Nave Foyer*

7:30am – 8:00am — **BREAKFAST** ..... *Grand Nave Ballroom*

8:00am – 8:10am — **WELCOME** ..... *Grand Nave Ballroom*

8:10am – 8:30am — **OPENING PLENARY: A Story of Educational Justice:**
Where We've Come From and Where We're Going ..... *Grand Nave Ballroom*

8:30am – 9:30am — **MORNING PLENARY:**
Extraordinary Districts and Colleges:
Implementing Equity-Focused Systems Change ..... *Grand Nave Ballroom*

9:30am – 10:00am — **BREAK**

10:00am – 11:30am — **MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

A1: Here and Now:
The Education Civil Rights Issues of Our Time (Town Hall Session) ..... *Gardenia Room*

A2: Advancing Equity: Data & Action Planning for School Improvement ..... *Tofanelli Room*

A3: Money Matters:
Why School Budgets are Squeezed and the Challenges this Poses for Equity ..... *Bondi Room*

A4: Unlocking Learning: Leveraging Math for K-12 English Learner Success ..... *Carr Room*

A5: Nothing About Us Without Us: Student Perspectives on
Higher Education Inequities & Solutions in California ..... *Beavis Room*

A6: Changing the Conversation: Useful Practices to Lead for Equity ..... *Falor Room*

11:30am – 11:45am — **BREAK**

11:45am – 1:00pm — **LUNCH AND BRIGHT SPOT AWARDS** ..... *Grand Nave Ballroom*

1:00pm – 1:15pm — **BREAK**

1:15pm – 2:45pm — **AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

B1: Preview of *Getting Down to Facts II* Research:
Implications for Policy and Equity (Town Hall Session) ..... *Gardenia Room*

B2: Disrupting Inequity: A Framework for Powerful, English Learner
Roadmap-Aligned Educational Opportunities ..... *Kamilos/Hendricks/Baker Rooms*

B3: It Takes a Village: Students, Teachers, and Community Members
Advocating for Educational Change ..... *Bondi Room*

B4: Cultivating Agency and Identity in English Learners:
The Power of NGSS-Aligned Maker Experiences ..... *Carr Room*

B5: Community College Champions:
Bright Spots for Supporting Historically Underserved Students ..... *Falor Room*

B6: Support for All: Shining a Light on Practices to Advance Equity
and Support Students With Disabilities ..... *Beavis Room*

B7: How Do We Get There From Here:
The Role Leadership Plays in Creating Systemic Change ..... *Tofanelli Room*

2:45pm – 3:30pm — **BREAK & NETWORKING TABLES** ..... *Kamilos/Hendricks/Baker Rooms*

3:30pm – 4:30pm — **CLOSING PLENARY: Remediating Racial Illiteracy and Incompetence** ..... *Grand Nave Ballroom*

4:30pm – 5:30pm — **NETWORKING TIME** ..... *Grand Nave Foyer*

Ed Trust—West Staff

The Education Trust–West

Welcome to the 2nd annual Education Trust–West Education Equity Forum!

At Ed Trust—West, we have the privilege of working with partners who are committed to prioritizing equity in California's schools, districts, and colleges. We're awed and inspired by the relentless work educators, faculty, administrators, and community partners are doing to close opportunity and achievement gaps for students of color, low-income students, English learners, and first-generation college students. We're excited to host a convening to highlight these efforts and foster conversation about how we can scale these promising practices. For the second consecutive year, we are bringing together equity-minded education leaders and advocates to converse, connect, and collaborate around how to improve student success, from Pre-K through higher education.

For California, this moment is crucial. This Fall, we will elect new state leaders – including a new Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction – in addition to school board and community college board members in communities up and down the state. There's momentum in the fight for educational justice. Just this year, California adopted the Student Centered Funding Formula at the community college level, giving education leaders resources to prioritize the needs of our most underserved students. The approval of California's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan clears the way for state officials to meaningfully support all K-12 schools and districts, and particularly those most struggling. We celebrate the state's adoption of an English learner roadmap that sets a vision and a course for how we can support all language learners to excel in our schools. These are just a few of many examples of steps California has taken to improve educational opportunities for all students.

Despite this progress, there remains much to be done. The success of California's Black, Brown, low-income, and English learner students will require a stronger, broader community of equity champions committed to dismantling the barriers that have historically limited opportunity. This work requires the collective efforts of education leaders and advocates - our convening provides a staging ground for this fight.

Our goals for the 2018 Education Equity Forum are:

- *To gather and galvanize a network of education equity champions in California.*
- *To bridge practice to policy by connecting K-12 and postsecondary practitioners with advocates and policymakers.*
- *To facilitate sharing and learning of practices that advance college and career readiness for students of color, low-income students, English learners, and other historically marginalized populations.*

If you attended last year's inaugural Forum or other ETW convenings across the state, you may have heard our favorite quote from Bayard Rustin, a civil rights icon and architect of the March on Washington. He stated: "We need, in every community, a group of angelic troublemakers." Our team is honored to connect and collaborate with you now, and hope that this moment is just one of many ways we will stir up some good "trouble" on behalf of California's students.

Onward,
The Ed Trust-West Team

EDUCATION EQUITY FORUM AGENDA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

7:30am – 1:30pm — **ED EQUITY FORUM 2018 REGISTRATION** ..... *Grand Nave Foyer*

7:30am –8:00am — **BREAKFAST** ..... *Grand Nave Ballroom*

8:00am – 8:10am
Grand Nave Ballroom

WELCOME

RYAN J. SMITH
Executive Director
Ed Trust-West
Vice President, *Ed Trust*
@RyanSmithEd

Ryan J. Smith will welcome attendees to the 2nd annual Education Equity Forum, and provide a brief overview of the Forum. Ryan's welcome will give attendees a good picture of what the day will include and what opportunities are on the horizon at the Forum and beyond to connect and collaborate more on education equity.

8:10am – 8:30am
Grand Nave Ballroom

OPENING PLENARY
A Story of Educational Justice: Where We've Come From and Where We're Going

SYLVIA MENDEZ
Civil Rights Activist & Plaintiff in Mendez v. Westminster, historic education civil rights case, & Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient
@sylviafmendez

In 1946, eight years before Brown v. Board, the Mendez v. Westminster case in California brought the issue of school segregation to a tipping point. Gonzalo and Felicitas Mendez, parents of Sylvia Mendez, were part of a group of 5 families who fought against the injustices of the state's segregated school system. Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama in 2011, Ms. Mendez has been dubbed "the girl who changed America" and continues to speak to educators and students about why the stories of our past must not be forgotten in our continuing quest for educational justice. During this powerful opening plenary, hear directly from Ms. Mendez about the power of parent advocates in fighting for equity in education, and how the struggle still continues.

8:30am – 9:30am
Grand Nave Ballroom

MORNING PLENARY:
Extraordinary Districts and Colleges: Implementing Equity-Focused Systems Change

We know that change takes work - but we don't always hear the behind-the-scenes stories about that work. In this session, learn from equity-minded leaders on what they've seen and what they've put in place in schools, districts, and higher education systems to actualize change. Participants will hear examples of what's worked, and what can help with challenges along the path of implementing systemic change.

KARIN CHENOWETH
Writer in Residence
Ed Trust
@karinchenoweth
@edtrust

ELOY OAKLEY
Chancellor
California Community Colleges
@EloyOakley
@CalCommColleges

LAURIE OLSEN, Ph.D.
Founder and Strategic Advisor,
SEAL (Sobrato Early Academic Language) Initiative
@Sobrato_org

JORGE A. AGUILAR, J.D.
Superintendent
Sacramento City School District
@officialSCUSD

9:30am – 10:00am **BREAK**

10:00am – 11:30am **MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

Gardenia Room

A1. HERE AND NOW: The Education Civil Rights Issues of Our Time

The morning continues with an exciting opening plenary featuring a panel of education justice leaders on the civil rights issues they're currently tackling. Learn what's happening to address these issues and infuse equity and urgency into our K-12 and higher education systems, and how you can play even more of a role locally.

ANURIMA BHARGAVA
Founder and President
Anthem of Us
@anurima

ERIC RODRIGUEZ
Vice President
UnidosUS
@UnidosUS

ALEJANDRO CARMONA ANGUIANO
Student
Cosumnes River College
@ChooseCRC

TYRONE HOWARD, Ph.D.
Professor of Education and Founder of the Black Male Institute, *UCLA*
@TyroneCHoward
@BMI_UCLA

Tofanelli Room

A2. ADVANCING EQUITY: Data & Action Planning for School Improvement

Looking to take back tangible ideas for using data to drive action? Attend this breakout to hear from Superintendents and other education leaders who are advancing equity in their districts by using data. Participants in this session will gain an understanding of how systemic changes can happen through equity blueprint action planning and equity audits that identify and remove barriers, and develop early warning and other systems to ensure students are on track to graduate from high school prepared for college.

JOSEPH JOHNSON, Ph.D.
Executive Director
National Center for Urban School Transformation (NCUST)
and **Interim Provost**
San Diego State University
@SDSU
@urbanschools

LINDA MURRAY, Ph.D.
Superintendent-in-Residence
XQ
@XQAmerica

JORGE A. AGUILAR, J.D.
Superintendent
Sacramento City School District
@officialSCUSD

MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ, Ed.D.
Superintendent,
Pajaro Valley Unified School District
@mlrod32
@PajaroValleyUSD

Bondi Room

A3. MONEY MATTERS:
Why School Budgets are Squeezed and the Challenges this Poses for Equity

California school districts are better funded than ever before, but it doesn't always feel that way - in many cases, costs are rising faster than revenues. As districts contend with soaring pension obligations and additional costs related to healthcare, special education, and more, how do they maintain commitments to students and families? In this session, panelists will discuss how districts and stakeholders can work together to protect and improve services for our most vulnerable students in these complex budget times.

XILONIN CRUZ-GONZALEZ
Board Member
Azusa Unified School District
and **Project Director**
Californians Together
@xilonin
@CalTog

STEPHEN MCMAHON
Deputy Superintendent
San José Unified School District
@SanJoseUnified

TARYN ISHIDA
Executive Director
Californians for Justice
@TarynIshida
@Cal4Justice

JASON WILLIS
MODERATOR
Director of Strategy & Performance, Comprehensive School Assistance Program
WestEd
@WestEd

Carr Room

A4. UNLOCKING LEARNING: Leveraging Math for K-12 English Learner Success

California's new content standards in math shift the focus of instruction - but how do we know if student assignments are truly aligned to that shift? In this session, participants will learn about promising practices that advance math learning for English learners, including the importance of crafting high-quality student assignments. Session attendees will learn how to use The Education Trust's Math Assignment Analysis Guide to apply an equity lens to math assignments focused on English learners, and leave with tools and resources to use in their own classrooms, schools, and districts.

RACHEL RUFFALO
Senior Practice Associate
Ed Trust–West
@RachelRuffalo
@EdTrustWest

KEITH DYSARZ
Director of P-12 Practice
Ed Trust
@KDysarz
@EdTrust

Beavis Room

A5. NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US: Student Perspectives on Higher Education Inequities & Solutions in California

Too often, higher education policy and practice are developed without input the most important stakeholder: students. Join us for a moderated panel to hear directly from leaders of the Cal State Student Association who will discuss their bold policy agenda and share their insights about the critical need for student involvement in higher education policy making in order to address the real challenges facing today's college students and close equity gaps in the California State University system.

C. ROB SHORETTE, Ph.D.
MODERATOR
Executive Director
Cal State Student Association (CSSA)
@C_RobShorette
@csustudents

MIA KAGIANAS
President
Cal State Student Association (CSSA)
@csustudents

WILSON HALL
Vice President of University Affairs
Cal State Student Association (CSSA)
@csustudents

PRIMAVERA LEAL MARTINEZ
Civic Engagement Officer
Cal State Student Association (CSSA)
@csustudents

10:00am – 11:30am | **MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS** *continued*

Falor Room | **A6. CHANGING THE CONVERSATION:** Useful Practices to Lead for Equity

LASHAWN ROUTÉ CHATMON
Executive Director
National Equity Project
@LaShawnRChatmon
@equityproject

If we want transformative education experiences for our students, we need to be able to talk collaboratively and authentically. This interactive session will model tools and structures that parent, community, and school leaders can use to facilitate meaningful and productive conversations about racial equity in education.

11:30am – 11:45am | **BREAK**

11:45am – 1:00pm | **LUNCH and BRIGHT SPOT AWARDS**
Grand Nave Ballroom

Ed Trust–West is excited to honor Bright Spot school districts and college campuses that are advancing equity. These honorees demonstrate a commitment to excellence and implement strategies and practices that have led to positive outcomes for students of color, low-income students and English learners.

1:00pm – 1:15pm | **BREAK**

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Gardenia Room

B1: Preview of *Getting Down to Facts II* Research: Implications for Policy and Equity

Getting Down to Facts II, a sweeping set of research studies, due to be released September 17, will present new evidence on what's working and what's not in California schools. Elected officials and state leaders will likely use this evidence to shape their education priorities in the years ahead. This session will host a discussion on what the studies will reveal about equity in California education and will highlight areas where research on education equity must inform statewide policy.

CHRISTOPHER EDLEY, JR., J.D.
President and Co-Founder
The Opportunity Institute
and **Co-Director,** *PACE*
@opportunityorg

CARRIE HAHNEL
Deputy Director, Research and Policy
Ed Trust-West
@CarrieHahnel

ELISHA SMITH ARRILLAGA, Ph.D.
MODERATOR
Deputy Director, Chief of Staff
Ed Trust-West
@ESArrillaga

MICHAL KURLAENDER, Ed.D.
Professor, *UC Davis*
and **Co-Director,** *PACE*
@ucdavis
@edpolicyinca

Kamilos/Hendricks/Baker Room

B2. DISRUPTING INEQUITY:
A Framework for Powerful, English Learner Roadmap-Aligned Educational Opportunities

In this era of the new revolutionary California English Learner Roadmap policy, districts need processes to plan for English learner success. This session provides a brief overview of the EL Roadmap and focuses on how to engage community members through a strategic planning approach. Participants will gain insights on how to design and sustain powerful EL education approaches capable of yielding high levels of biliteracy, academic achievement, and multicultural/global competency. Both processes and tools will be shared, and participants will hear directly from one district about its journey to strengthen support for its EL students.

LAURIE OLSEN, Ph.D.
Founder and Strategic Advisor,
SEAL (Sobrato Early Academic Language) Initiative
@Sobrato_org

FRANCISCA SÁNCHEZ, Ph.D.
CEO & Senior Fellow
Provocative Practice
The Education Trust—West

RAMON ZAVALA, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
Morgan Hill Unified School District
@MHUSD

Bondi Room

B3. IT TAKES A VILLAGE:
Students, Teachers, and Community Members Advocating for Educational Change

How does change happen in a school or across a state? What can we learn from listening to those in communities, fighting for better school systems? In this session participants will have an opportunity to hear students, teachers, and community members discuss and share their journeys as they advocate for change at the local, district, and state levels.

MIGUEL DOMINGUEZ
Director of Youth Programs
Community Coalition
@cocosouthla

FERNANDO MOSQUEDA
High School Senior
John C. Fremont High School
@cocosouthla

BOOTSIE BATTLE-HOLT
Teacher and IB Coordinator
Marina del Rey Middle School
@BBattleHolt

LINDSEY BIRD
Teacher and Language Institute Program Coordinator
Grace M. Davis High School
@LnzyBird

Carr Room

B4. CULTIVATING AGENCY AND IDENTITY IN ENGLISH LEARNERS:
The Power of NGSS-Aligned Maker Experiences

How do we use the latest in innovative learning to advance equity for English learners? This session will cover making, a collaborative and iterative process that has the power to authentically engage ELs while building language proficiency. Participants will engage in an Next Generation Science Standards-aligned maker experience that demonstrates how to provide ELs with opportunities to build identity, agency, and language while deepening content understanding in science.

JENN GUERRERO
EL Program Coordinator
Sonoma County Office of Education
@ELSCOE

ANNA VAN DORDRECHT
Science Coordinator
Sonoma County Office of Education
@Avandordrecht
@SCOESonoma

KELLY MATTERI
ELA/HSS/UDL Coordinator
Sonoma County Office of Education
@KmatteriSCOE
@SCOESonoma

Falor Room

B5: COMMUNITY COLLEGE CHAMPIONS:
Bright Spots for Supporting Historically Underserved Students

J. LUKE WOOD, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Faculty Diversity and Inclusion, and Distinguished Professor of Education
San Diego State University
@DrLukeWood
@SDSU

In this session, participants will learn about the Community College Equity Assessment Lab (CCEAL). This research and practice center partners with colleges and universities across the nation to better understand the experiences and challenges facing underserved students. The center has a litany of resources, tools, and strategies of action that have been developed over time to help institutions advance equity in climates of resistance. Participants will have the opportunity to try out one of the center's tools and conduct an equity root cause analysis.

Beavis Room

B6. SUPPORT FOR ALL:
Shining a Light on Practices to Advance Equity and Support Students With Disabilities

Over half a million students in California receive special education services - are we doing enough to support them equitably? This session will examine strategies for advancing equity for students with disabilities, including English learners who also qualify for Special Education Services. Participants will learn from advocates who represent students with disabilities and partner with and support parents in their engagement with school districts. The session will also give participants a chance to hear from the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence's Director Of Special Education who spearheads statewide initiatives to support students with disabilities.

KARLA ESTRADA, Ph.D.
Director of Special Education
California Collaborative for Educational Excellence
@CCEECA

CHERYL THEIS
Education Advocate
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)
@DREDF

Tofanelli Room

B7. HOW DO WE GET THERE FROM HERE:
The Role Leadership Plays in Creating Systemic Change

How do we scale up "bright spots" to close opportunity and achievement gaps swiftly? This session will provide an opportunity to grapple with that question. Attendees will get to hear from a panel of current and former school, district, and county Administrators and Superintendents who have done the work to understand and implementing best practices centered around equity that close gaps in their own districts and what lessons they learned along the way. Participants will also hear from a leading researcher on the importance of leadership when attempting to create systemic equitable changes for students.

DAVID VERDUGO, Ph.D.
Executive Director
California Association of Latino Superintendents and Administrators
@CALSAfamilia

JACQUELINE PEREZ, Ed.D,
Assistant Superintendent Instructional Support K-12
Riverside Unified School District
@RUSDLink
@jacquelinep001

MICHAEL WATKINS
Superintendent of Schools
Santa Cruz County Office of Education
@suptwatkins

KARIN CHENOWETH
Writer-in-Residence
Ed Trust
@karinchenoweth
@edtrust

2:45pm – 3:30pm BREAK & NETWORKING TABLES
Kamilos/Hendricks/Baker Rooms

During this break, participants will have the opportunity to connect with fellow equity minded advocates on a range of topics:

1. Using quantitative data for education policy analysis, *José Muñoz, Ed Trust–West*
2. Recruiting and retaining teachers of color and bilingual teachers, *Hana Ma, Ed Trust–West*
3. Engaging teachers in advocacy and providing input to policy, *Mayra A. Lara, Ed.D., Ed Trust–West*
4. Increasing college affordability equity in California, *Tyler Wu, Ed Trust–West*
5. Developments in accountability for alternative schools, *Natalie Wheatfall-Lum, Ed Trust–West*
6. Promising practices for advancing math equity for English Learners, *Rachel Ruffalo, Ed Trust–West*
7. Creating K-12 systemic change for college and career readiness: Ed Trust–West's equity audit and blueprint action planning process, *Sarah Feldman, Ed.D., Ed Trust–West*
8. Equity in Motion: Improving instruction through assignment analysis, *Keith Dysarz, Ed Trust*
9. Understanding characteristics of schools that generate positive results for all demographic groups, *Joseph Johnson, Ph.D., NCUST*

3:30pm – 4:30pm
Grand Nave Ballroom

CLOSING PLENARY
Remediating Racial Illiteracy and Incompetence

SHAUN HARPER, Ph.D.
Provost Professor of Education and Business
Clifford and Betty Allen Chair in Urban Leadership
Founder and Executive Director, USC Race and Equity Center
USC
@DrShaunHarper
@USCRaceandEquity

In this closing address, Professor Harper will share insights from his research on the under-preparedness of educators to talk comfortably with each other about race, to correct racial climate issues, and to eliminate racial inequities in K-12 schools, colleges, and universities. He will explain the consequences of employing professionals who lack sufficient preparation to effectively do racial equity work in educational settings. The plenary will conclude with strategies for becoming more racially literate and highly skilled.

4:30pm – 5:30pm
Grand Nave Foyer

NETWORKING TIME

Use this time to connect with fellow equity champions you've met at the Forum and to set up follow-up conversations and action plans.

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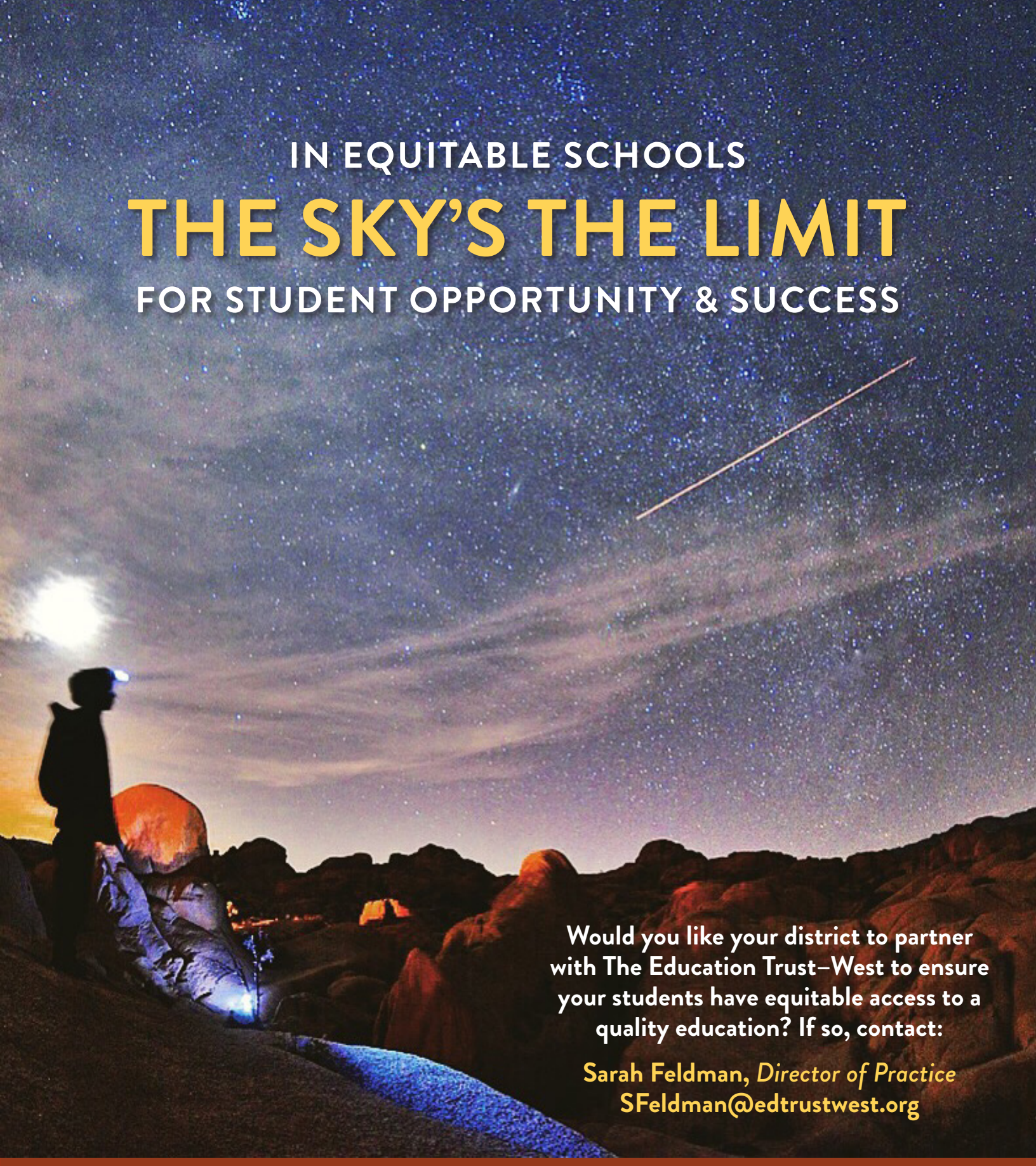

STAY CONNECTED!

Join our email list: www.edtrustwest.org/join

The Education Trust–West

OUR MISSION

The Education Trust–West works for educational justice and the high academic achievement of all students at all levels, Pre-K through college. We expose opportunity and achievement gaps that separate students of color and low-income students from other youth, and we identify and advocate for the strategies that will forever close those gaps.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We appreciate the many educators, faculty members, administrators, campus leaders, and students that took the time to gather for this year's forum. We also thank the many funders who made this year's Forum possible, including Education Leaders of Color, The California Endowment, S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, the California Community Foundation, the College Futures Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Evelyn & Walter Haas Jr. Fund, the William & Flora Hewlett Foundation, The James Irvine Foundation, the Marin Community Foundation, The San Francisco Foundation, the Silver Giving Foundation, The Sobrato Family Foundation, the Walton Family Foundation, The BelleJAR Foundation, Satterberg Foundation, and the Sidney E. Frank Foundation.

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