



DEEPER *the* **ROOTS**

STRONGER *the* **TREE**

MSAN Student Conference

October 24-27, 2018

Hosted by the Public Schools of Brookline

NOTES



Welcome to Brookline!

When you fight for social justice, people will try to knock you down. They will try to push you aside and take your place. We need to be strong to stand up for what's right.

The strongest trees grow the deepest roots to stand tall and weather the storm. While a branch or two might break, the tree stays strong. Over the next three days, you will have a chance to grow deeper roots and strengthen your tree so that you return home ready to stand for your beliefs. You will also have a chance to spread your roots and create powerful networks with peers across the country. A wide root base is just as important as a deep one.

We are excited to welcome you to the Boston area, where the roots run deep.

We can't wait to see you,

Brookline MSAN Student Conference Team



#MSANRoots

A NOTE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BROOKLINE

On behalf of the Brookline School Committee and the staff and students of the Public Schools of Brookline, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 19th annual MSAN Student Conference. Our conference theme, *Deeper the Roots, Stronger the Tree*, will examine how establishing a strong understanding of history and heritage can help you stand tall in the face of resistance. During the conference, you will hear from speakers who have a wealth of experience and those just beginning their activism journey. You will have opportunities to collaborate with other students from across the country to find common ground and explore ways to make positive change.

We are honored to host this conference and share the range of experiences that Boston has to offer. I look forward to three days of collaboration, learning, and planning to bring real benefits to your home districts.

Dig your roots deep to stand with strength.



Sincerely,

Andrew J. Bott

Superintendent
Public Schools of Brookline

WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT OF MSAN

Dear MSAN Students,

Welcome to the MSAN Student Conference. Your very presence at this conference speaks volumes about your commitment to the important work of helping to close achievement gaps and ensuring access to high-quality education for all.

This year's theme is, *Deeper the Roots, Stronger the Tree*.

As one who has recently returned to his roots in Alexandria, Virginia, after serving as superintendent of Shaker Heights City School District in Ohio, I can tell you that having deep roots in a community is powerful. It is part of what drew me back to my hometown to fulfill a long-held dream of becoming the Superintendent of Alexandria City Public Schools—the school division where I started out as a kindergartner and from where I graduated in 1995.

Throughout your life, you will experience some challenges and upsets—storms, if you will as you conquer the world and strive to attain your life goals. I'm always moved by the sight of trees that remain standing after a major storm when others have fallen. These trees were able to survive, in part, because of their deep roots, which enabled them to bend with forceful winds and holdfast in the midst of the most difficult of circumstances.

As you participate in this conference, I encourage you to grow deep roots like a tree. Engage with fellow participants with your whole heart. Build deep relationships with those who inspire you and can have a positive impact on your life, your school and your community. Take what you learn here and share it with others so that together, you can help those who may face their own storms to grow deep roots as well.



Sincerely,

Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D.

Superintendent
Alexandria City Public Schools

WELCOME FROM MSAN'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello MSAN Scholars and welcome to the 2018 MSAN Student Conference! I am so excited you are here!

For the past 19 years, student leaders from across MSAN high schools (students just like you) have gathered at this annual conference to learn from one another and strategize about how to make schools more meaningful places for learning; places where each student feels they belong and can achieve their goals.

And this year is no different. This year's student conference planning team from Brookline Public Schools has built on this powerful legacy and created an incredible agenda for us. Each speaker has been selected and activity developed in relationship to the conference theme: *Deeper the Roots, Stronger the Tree*. In this theme, I believe each of us is being challenged: challenged to see, really see who we are, in relationship to one another and larger social structures that shape us individually and in our communities; challenged to explore the complexity of our lives and the ways we are both oppressor and oppressed; and challenged to see the depth and breadth of our identities and how they keep us tethered to our work fighting institutionalized racism across our schools.

Over the next few days, as we pause to reflect, as we engage in dialogue, as we discuss the different ideas being presented, I hope we can each take time to let the words of our presenters, the TEDex speakers, and each other wash over you and be incorporated into your thinking. In big and small ways, how might we show courage, be bold, observe, invite, be uncomfortable, be proud, be enough, be brave, and believe that we can and do make a difference in our schools.

Here's to a challenging, reflective, and fun MSAN Student Conference,



**Madeline
Hafner, Ph.D.**

MSAN Executive
Director

Deeper the Roots, Stronger the Tree

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 24, 2018

3:30-5:00 p.m.	Registration – Crowne Plaza Boston Newton	Charles Ballroom Foyer
5:00-5:30 p.m.	Welcome and Greetings	Charles Ballroom
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Charles Ballroom
6:30-8:00 p.m.	Keynote: Clint Smith, writer, teacher, and Harvard Ph.D. Candidate <i>The Danger of Silence</i>	
8:00-9:30 p.m.	Dance Performance by BeHeard World and Icebreakers	Charles Ballroom
8:00-9:30 p.m.	Chaperone Orientation	University
9:30-10:30 p.m.	Introduction of MSAN Districts	Charles Ballroom
10:30-10:45 p.m.	Late Night Snacks	Charles Ballroom
10:45 p.m.	Return to Rooms (lights out at 11:00 p.m.)	

THURSDAY - OCTOBER 25, 2018

7:00-8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Charles Ballroom
8:00-8:30 a.m.	Bus to Campus Visits	
8:30-11:30 a.m.	Campus Visits (MSAN Scholars choose one tour) · Brandeis University, Framingham State University, MIT, Northeastern University, or UMass-Boston	
11:30-12:30 p.m.	Lunch on Campus	
12:30-1:30 p.m.	Bus to Harvard	
1:30-4:30 p.m.	Harvard Campus Visit (all students & chaperones)	
4:30-5:30 p.m.	Return to Hotel	
5:30-6:00 p.m.	Break	
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Dinner and Table Talk	Charles Ballroom
7:00-8:30 p.m.	Keynote: Barbara Love, Professor Emerita of Social Justice Education at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst <i>Roots, Routes, and Race: Enacting Liberation Consciousness in Schools</i>	
8:30-10:00 p.m.	MSAN's Got Talent	Charles Ballroom
10:00-10:30 p.m.	Late Night Snacks	Charles Ballroom
10:30 p.m.	Return to Rooms (lights out at 11:00 p.m.)	

FRIDAY - OCTOBER 26, 2018

7:00-7:45 a.m.	Breakfast	Charles Ballroom
7:45-8:30 a.m.	Bus to Fenway Park	
8:30-10:30 a.m.	Fenway Park Tour and Presentation	
10:30-11:15 a.m.	Return to Hotel	
11:15-12:00 p.m.	Break	
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch and <i>Boston Change Leaders of Color</i> Panel	Charles Ballroom
1:00-5:00 p.m.	Action Planning	Charles Ballroom and University
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Action Planning Wrap Up and Presentations	Charles Ballroom
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Dinner	Charles Ballroom
7:00-8:00 p.m.	Break	
8:00-10:30 p.m.	Dance/Game Room/Study Room	Charles Ballroom
10:00-10:30 p.m.	Ice Cream Sundae Bar	
10:30 p.m.	Return to Rooms (lights out at 11:00 p.m.)	

SATURDAY - OCTOBER 27, 2018

8:00-10:00 a.m.	Breakfast and Closing Reflections	Charles Ballroom
10:00 a.m.	Farewells & Departures	



Conference Expectations and Responsibilities

Congratulations on being selected as a delegate from your school district for the 2018 MSAN Student Conference! You are joining a community of MSAN Scholars from around the country who are working for educational equity in their school districts.

Each year, students just like you help design the MSAN Student Conference. Support their leadership by reviewing the guidelines for behavior, dress code suggestions, and other conference details, below.

PLANNING, PREPARATION, PERFECTION

- Read this document with your chaperones, your family, and the other student delegates from your school district.
- The planning committee has selected several readings for your team to review and reflect on prior to arrival at the conference. These required readings can be downloaded from <http://msan.wceruw.org/conferences/studentConf.html>

DRESS CODE GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS AND CHAPERONES

The suggested dress code guidelines for the conference range from Casual to Business Casual.

BUSINESS CASUAL ATTIRE FOR COLLEGE CAMPUS VISITS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Casual dress shirts, such as button downs or polo shirts. No t-shirts with advertisements or slogans that would not be okay in school.• Skirts, dresses, capris, dress shorts, business casual pants (for example, khakis). Jeans are not recommended.• Wear comfortable shoes for campus visits – extensive walking is required. Flip flops are NOT recommended.
CASUAL ATTIRE FOR ARRIVAL, INTRODUCTIONS, DAYTIME ACTION PLANNING AND EVENING GROUP TIME
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All participants should wear clothing that will allow for comfortable movement.• Shorts or skirts should be mid-thigh or longer. Sheer clothing requires appropriate under-layers. Pants or jeans should fit comfortably; belt loose fitting pants/shorts. Gym shoes are okay.

Please remember to check the weather forecast to ensure you are dressed appropriately. October weather in Boston can be unpredictable and can change very quickly. Rain is a distinct possibility. We will also be touring college campuses, which will require extensive walking. Make sure to wear appropriate footwear (flip flops are not recommended). To request alternate transportation for the campus visit, please contact Connie Showalter at connie.showalter@wisc.edu or (608) 263-1565.



MSAN STUDENT CONFERENCE DELEGATE AGREEMENTS

- MSAN Student Conference delegates agree to use technology appropriately during the conference. DO post appropriate conference updates on social media, and tag @MSANachieve. DON'T use your phone or device in a way that takes away from your experience, the experience of other delegates, or the experience of our guest speakers.
- MSAN Student Conference delegates agree to a strict no alcohol, tobacco, or other drug policy at all MSAN events.
- MSAN Student Conference delegates agree to socialize only in public spaces. Conference delegates are NEVER allowed to socialize in each other's rooms. Outside guests are not permitted at the conference. Family members who attend the conference need to register with MSAN as official conference volunteers.
- MSAN Student Conference delegates agree to cooperate with all reasonable requests made by adults affiliated with the conference.
- MSAN Student Conference delegates agree to comply with reasonable requests made by your/all chaperones or other adults affiliated with the conference.
- MSAN Student Conference delegates agree to follow all curfew rules.
- MSAN Student Conference delegates agree to keep shared spaces (e.g. hallways, stairwells) quiet, and remain with the group at all times.
- **Students are NOT allowed in the fitness center or swimming pool area without their chaperone.**

Did you know that the MSAN website has resources for students? Visit msan.wceruw.org for info on over 50 scholarship opportunities.

MSAN STUDENT CONFERENCE DELEGATES ARE...

MSAN STUDENT CONFERENCE DELEGATES ARE LEADERS

- Express and discuss your ideas, views and opinions.
- Think about how you will use the information you learn when you get home.
- Create a plan of action to implement in your school district.

MSAN STUDENT CONFERENCE DELEGATES ARE DEPENDABLE

- Attend all events and activities.
- Be on time.
- Complete tasks and assignments.
- Stay with chaperones.

MSAN STUDENT CONFERENCE DELEGATES ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR SCHOOLS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

- Represent with pride!
- Wear MSAN name tag at all times.
- Observe rules and curfews.

MSAN STUDENT CONFERENCE DELEGATES ARE COMMUNITY BUILDERS

- Cooperate with others.
- Give, accept, and use feedback effectively.
- Ask questions, network, and share information with peers, adults, and presenters.
- Stay involved and engaged.

MSAN STUDENT CONFERENCE DELEGATES ARE FULL PARTICIPANTS

- Be positive – it's contagious!
- Be flexible.
- Ask questions. Listen. Reflect.



#MSANRoots

Conference Schedule

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9:30-10:30 p.m.	Introduction of MSAN Districts	Charles Ballroom
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10:45 p.m.	Return to Rooms (lights out at 11:00 p.m.)	

Clint Smith is a writer, teacher, and Ph.D. Candidate at Harvard University. He is a 2014 National Poetry Slam champion, a 2017 recipient of the Jerome J. Shestack Prize from the American Poetry Review, and has received fellowships from Cave Canem and the National Science Foundation. His writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *The Paris Review*, *The New Republic* and he has delivered two popular TED Talks, *The Danger of Silence* and *How to Raise a Black Son in America*. His debut collection of poems, *Counting Descent*, was published in 2016 by Write Bloody Publishing. It won the 2017 Literary Award for Best Poetry Book from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and was a finalist for an NAACP Image Award.



Charles Ballroom

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Dr. Barbara Love is Professor Emerita of Social Justice Education at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst where she taught teacher education, multicultural organizational development, and social justice education.

She consults nationally and internationally on organizational and individual empowerment and transformation. Dr. Love has worked closely with schools and school systems, with faculties and administration at colleges and universities throughout the U.S. and with organizations in the business and public sector in North America, the Caribbean, Europe and Africa on issues of diversity and inclusion. She served as Chair of the local School Committee and supported the system in establishing and working toward benchmarks on multiculturalism. She works



from a unique set of assumptions about the nature of humans and the process of personal, organizational and social change which participants have found empowering, enabling and effectively motivating.

Dr. Love is the International Liberation Reference Person for Black People in the International Re-Evaluation Counseling Communities (IRCC). She developed the Black Liberation and Community Development Project as a key forum for examining issues impacting the lives of Black people, as a location for healing the effects of internalized racism, and as an incubator for leadership development among Black People. She works with and leads delegations for United to End Racism (UER), and Sustaining All Life (SAL).

Dr. Love has published widely on social justice and liberation issues such as internalized racism, self-awareness for liberation workers, building alliances for change, and critical liberation theory.

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SATURDAY - OCTOBER 27, 2018

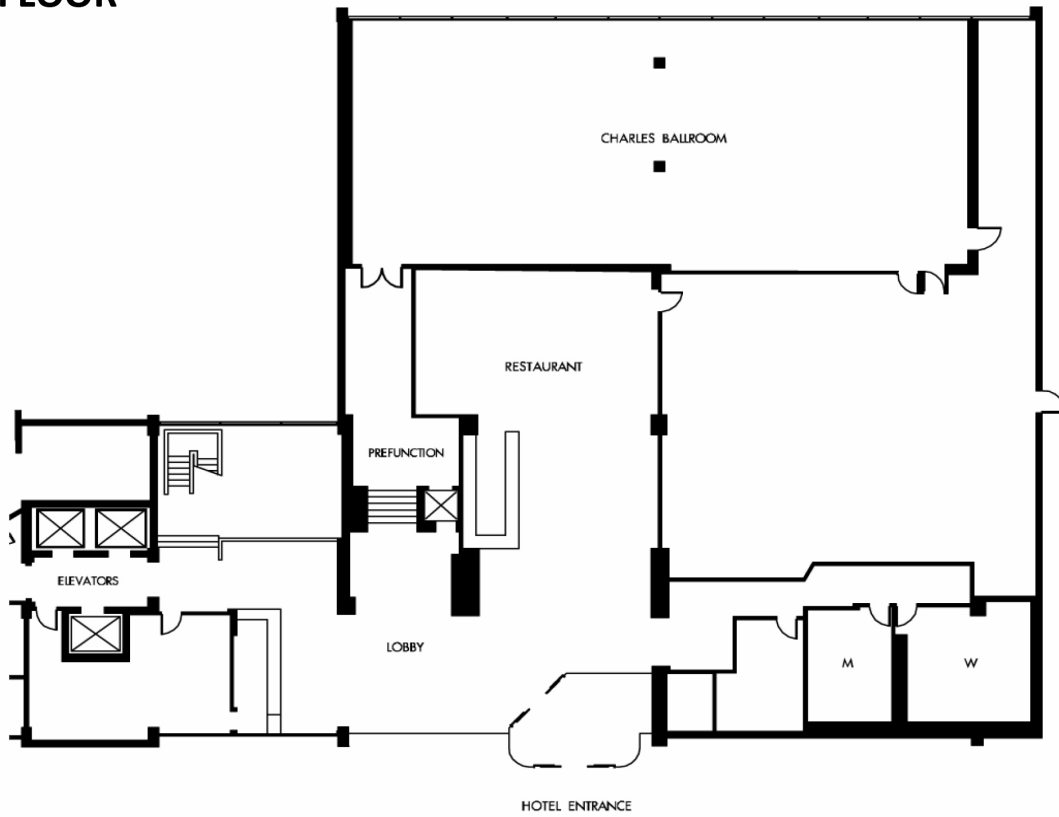
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The 2018 MSAN Student Conference Planning Team Wishes to Thank

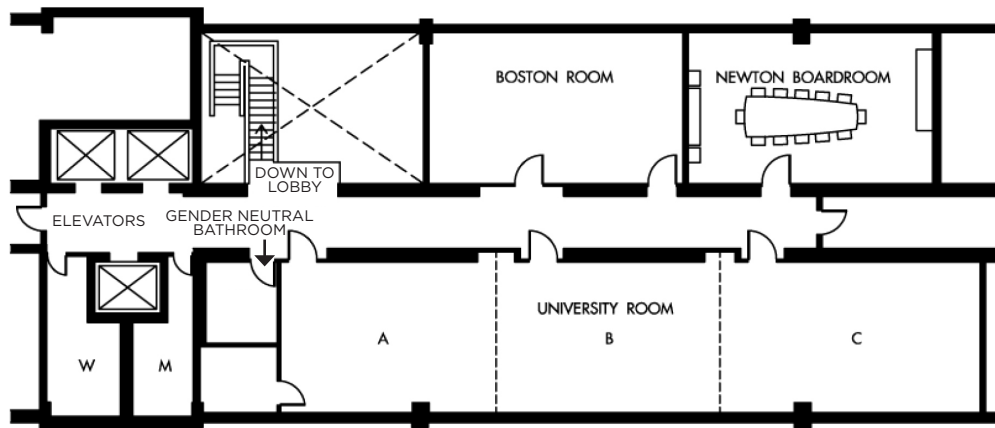
- Brandeis University, Framingham State University, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, and University of Massachusetts-Boston
- Our esteemed speakers and performers: Clint Smith, Dr. Barbara Love, BeHeard World, our Boston Change Leaders of Color Panel, everyone who performed during MSAN's Got Talent, and DJ Nitty.
- The Public Schools of Brookline: Andrew Bott, Superintendent; Betsy Fitzpatrick, Assistant to the Superintendent; Michelle McComisky, Office Manager for the Office of Teaching and Learning; Jenee Uttaro, Brookline High School Dean of Faculty; and all of the wonderful volunteers from the Public Schools of Brookline!
- Other Thanks: Giles Li, Executive Director of the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center; Colleen Coffey, Executive Director of the MetroWest College Planning Collaborative; Sarah Farley and Carter Speers, Boston Red Sox; Audrey Grace, Northeastern University Assistant Director of Institutional Diversity & Inclusion; and Yavilah McCoy, CEO of Dimensions Educational Consulting.

HOTEL MAP

FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



MEZZANINE LEVEL

Be sure to complete your conference evaluation before departing. Thanks!



MINORITY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT NETWORK

MSAN Student Conference Host Districts

2000	Cleveland Heights-University Heights and Shaker Heights City School Districts, OH
2001	Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, MI
2002	Evanston Township High School District 202 and Oak Park & River Forest High School District 200, IL
2003	Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, Chapel Hill, NC
2004	Princeton Public Schools, Princeton, NJ
2005	Cambridge Public Schools, Cambridge, MA
2006	Green Bay Area Public Schools, Green Bay, WI
2007	Arlington Public Schools, Arlington, VA
2008	Madison Metropolitan School District, Madison, WI
2009	Evanston Township High School District 202 and Oak Park & River Forest High School District 200, IL
2010	Bedford Central School District, Mount Kisco, NY
2011	Columbia Public Schools, Columbia, MO
2012	Paradise Valley Unified School District, Phoenix, AZ
2013	Amherst – Pelham Regional Schools, Amherst, MA
2014	Farmington Public Schools, Farmington, MI
2015	Verona Area School District, Verona, WI
2016	Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, Chapel Hill, NC
2017	Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, University Heights, OH
2018	The Public Schools of Brookline, Brookline, MA



MINORITY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT NETWORK

DISCOVER • ENGAGE • CHALLENGE • ACHIEVE

The Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN) is a national coalition of multiracial school districts that have come together to understand and eliminate opportunity/achievement gaps that persist in their schools. Since 1999, MSAN has worked fervently to achieve the parallel goals of closing gaps while ensuring all students achieve to high levels. To this end, districts work collaboratively to conduct and publish research, analyze policies, and share promising practices that support the Network’s mission: ***to understand and change school practices and structures that keep racial opportunity/achievement gaps in place.***

SPECIAL THANKS TO

The MSAN Planning Committee

Gabe McCormick	Director of Professional Development
Erin Blette	Brookline High School Educational Evaluator
Clifton Jones	Brookline High School Guidance Counselor
Mayra Hernandez	Brookline High School Teacher
Amanda Lehman	Brookline High School Teacher
Lizzie Allen	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member
Allie Carew-Lyons	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member
Reece Carew-Lyons	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member
Yama Estime	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member
Lena Harris	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member
Sabrina Pierre	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member
Tiara Ranson	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member
Vishni Samaraweera	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member
Erika Sanchez	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member
Sabrina Zhou	Student and MSAN Planning Committee Member

Wisconsin Center for Education Research

Madeline Hafner	MSAN Executive Director
Connie Showalter	MSAN Outreach Specialist
Shahanna McKinney-Baldon	MSAN Director of Professional Learning
Janet Trembley	Conference Program and Website Development
Bonnie Sullivan	WCER Copy Shop

To learn more about MSAN please visit us online at:

msan.wceruw.org

MSAN Districts

- Alexandria City Public Schools
Alexandria, VA
- Amherst – Pelham Regional Schools
Amherst, MA
- Ann Arbor Public Schools
Ann Arbor, MI
- Arlington Public Schools
Arlington, VA
- Birmingham Public Schools
Birmingham, MI
- The Public Schools of Brookline
Brookline, MA
- Buckeye Elementary School District #33
Buckeye, AZ
- Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools
Chapel Hill, NC
- Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District
University Heights, OH
- East Lansing Public Schools
East Lansing, MI
- Evanston/Skokie Elementary School District 65, Evanston, IL
- Evanston Township High School District 202, Evanston, IL
- Farmington Public Schools
Farmington, MI
- Harrisonburg City Public Schools
Harrisonburg, VA
- Isaac Elementary School District #5
Phoenix, AZ
- La Grange School District 102
La Grange Park, IL
- Madison Metropolitan School District
Madison, WI
- Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District, Middleton, WI
- Niles Township High School District 209
Skokie, IL
- Oak Park Elementary School District 97
Oak Park, IL
- Oak Park and River Forest High School District 200, Oak Park, IL
- Paradise Valley Unified School District
Phoenix, AZ
- Princeton Public Schools
Princeton, NJ
- School District of South Orange & Maplewood, Maplewood, NJ
- Shaker Heights Schools
Shaker Heights, OH
- Sun Prairie Area School District
Sun Prairie, WI
- Verona Area School District
Verona, WI