

INVITATION TO EXHIBIT

Dear Colleague,

I invite you to join the National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems (NCCREST) at its second Annual National Forum. On February 7th-9th, 2007, nationally prominent education scholars and reformers will come together for a public dialogue in Washington D.C.

The topic, *Leadership for Equity and Excellence: Transforming Education*, is essential to ensuring that all students have access to high quality learning opportunities. The Forum will be attended by state departments and school districts nationwide, as well as community leaders, professionals, and parents from across the country. It will be the unifying educational event of the year. The conference line up includes four keynote presentations, pre and post conference sessions, awards ceremony, entertainment, and over 95 concurrent sessions.

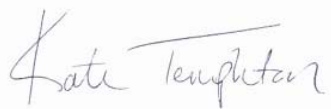
Last year's conference was a huge success. Over 500 participants representing all 50 states came together and concurrent sessions represented the work of 28 states. From the response we had we are expecting to double our participant numbers. Here is some of the feedback we received from last year's participants...

- This is the best conference I've attended in 10 years!
- General education leaders need to attend this conference!
- Consciousness raising!
- The entire conference was excellent!
- I can't believe this is the first conference. Keep up the good work!

NCCREST, a project funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs, provides technical assistance and professional development to close the achievement gap between students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and their peers, and reduce inappropriate referrals to special education. Founded in 2002, NCCREST is the leading national organization in reducing the disproportionate representation of culturally and linguistically diverse students in special education. The project targets improvements in culturally responsive practices, early intervention, literacy, and positive behavioral supports.

I encourage you to consider becoming a conference sponsor and/or exhibitor for this nationally influential Forum.

Thank you,



Kate Templeton
Networking and Communications Coordinator

NATIONAL FORUM OVERVIEW

WHAT

NCCRESt's 2nd Annual National Forum on Disproportionality,
Leadership for Equity and Excellence: Transforming Education.

WHEN

Wednesday, February 7th, 2007 – Friday, February 9th, 2007

Wednesday–Friday, exhibit hall open

Wednesday, pre-conference activities

Thursday-Friday, over 95 concurrent sessions

WHERE

Crystal Gateway Marriott, Washington D.C.

1700 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202 USA

Phone: 1-703-920-3230 Fax: 1-703-271-5212

WHY

- To support states as they continue to monitor and implement changes in local practice and policy to eliminate disproportionality in special education programs and strengthen their implementation of culturally responsive practices;
- To create a venue for state, district, school, advocacy, and higher education personnel to network and share best practices, and;
- To improve knowledge around eliminating disproportionality by connecting with broad reform agendas for literacy, numeracy, technology, universal design, behavioral supports, early interventions, English language learners, teacher quality, leadership, data usage, culturally responsive curricula and instructional practices, pre-referral and referral processes, related services and assessment, family involvement, and student engagement.

WHO

The event is being hosted by the National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems (NCCRESt). We are looking for other sponsors in a variety of fields. There are many options for sponsorship. Participants will include educators, policy makers, advocacy groups, parents and community members representing State Educational Agencies, Local Educational Agencies, and school districts from all 50 states along with keynote speakers, community leaders and families.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

This year's speakers include: Robert Moses, Ph.D., Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, Ed. D., Pedro Noguera, Ph.D., and Sonia Nieto, Ed.D. Last year's keynotes included: Joe Johnson, Peggy McIntosh, Glenn Singleton, Brenda Townsend, and our Principle Investigators: Alfredo Artiles, Beth Harry, Janette Klingner, Elizabeth Kozleski, and Grace Zamora Duran.

LAST YEARS FORUM

For more information on last years forum please visit our website www.nccrest.org and go to the events page "Events 2006". Browse through pictures of the previous conference and download some of powerpoint presentations that were given.

EXHIBITOR ADVANTAGES

LOCATION

The Crystal Gateway Marriott is just minutes from Reagan National Airport and the heart of Washington, D.C. This beautiful and grand Washington DC hotel is situated in thriving Crystal City, which offers hundreds of fine shops and restaurants. Via direct access to Washington's Metrorail system from within the hotel, the entire metropolitan area is open to both business and leisure travelers alike. We have reserved the entire hotel for this event.

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LINKS

Send us your URL and we will create a link directly to your site on our links page on the NCCREST website for one year. Our site receives an average of over 30,000 unique visitors a year nation wide.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Check out page 10 to find out more about sponsorship opportunities. Sponsorship levels have corresponding benefits such as booth space, advertisements, logo placement, and program book acknowledgement. Please feel free to call Kate Templeton with any questions at 303-556-3990 or email her at kate.templeton@cudenver.edu.

THURSDAY RECEPTION

An extra bonus to the National Forum is our reception on Thursday, February 8th from 5-7pm. The exhibit hall will be open for poster sessions and displays while the main ballroom will have a lively reception with light appetizers and beverages. This is a great time to network and promote your company/product. The reception will also include some cultural entertainment and a brief awards ceremony.

ADVERTISEMENT IN CONFERENCE PACKET

Exhibitors will be mentioned in the conference packet but we are also offering discounts to exhibitors on advertisement rates. This exposure will draw people to your table and spread the word about your company. See page 8 for details.

BOOTH EVENTS

You are welcome to sell products, have demos, book signings, giveaways and other approved events.

THE FACTS

TABLE SIZE

You will be provided with a 6' draped table and a chair on carpeted flooring. If you need electrical outlets, internet access or other accommodations please contact Kate Templeton at kate.templeton@cudenver.edu. There will be ample room available for many tables. However, the premier spots, directly in front of the main ballroom, will be given to those who turn in their request forms prior to December 8th, 2006.

TABLE RATE

Table rates range from \$500 for commercial companies to \$250 for a non-profit company. For any small business that has less than 6 employees the rate is \$350. This includes 1 person to work the table all others must pay for registration. For companies sponsoring the Forum the tables are free. For more information on sponsorship see page 10.

TABLE TIME

Exhibit booths open and close at the scheduled times below:

Wednesday, February 7	12:00 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 8	10:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.
Friday, February 9	10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

HOUSING FOR ATTENDEES AND EXHIBITORS

For the most up to date information on hotel accommodations and transportation information visit our website at www.nccrest.org.

OFFICIAL CONTACT PERSON

Kate Templeton is the official contact person for any questions about table displays or sponsorships. Please contact her at 303-556-3990 or kate.templeton@cudenver.edu.

EXHIBITOR SPACE REQUEST FORM

EXHIBIT HALL INFORMATION

We will provide you a 6' draped table and a chair. You will be able to set up your booth at noon on Wednesday, February 7th until 5:30 p.m. February 8th you may set up from 10:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m. February 9th set up times are 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. There will be ample room available for tables. However, the premier spots, directly in front of the main ballroom, will be given out to those who turn in their request forms prior to December 8th, 2006. Please be aware that this space will be open to the public and any valuable equipment or materials should not be left unattended. If you have questions about additional equipment, please contact Kate Templeton at kate.templeton@cudenver.edu

We anticipate up to 1,000 registrants including educators, policy makers, advocacy groups, higher education, researchers, parents and community members representing State Educational Agencies, Local Educational Agencies, and school districts from all 50 states. There will be time set aside for participants to visit the table displays as well as time in between break out sessions throughout the three days, and at the reception on Thursday evening. This will be the leading conference on disproportionality and we expect a great turnout of highly involved individuals.

DIRECTIONS

Please complete the Exhibitor Request form and return with a check or purchase order made payable to NCCREST and addressed to: NCCREST, Attn: Kate Templeton, 1380 Lawrence Street, Suite 625, Denver, CO 80204. If you have any questions or would like to pay with a credit card please call Kate Templeton at 303-556-3990.

CATEGORY (CHECK BOX THAT APPLIES)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsors (FREE) | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit (\$250) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business, 6 or less employees (\$350) | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial (\$500) |

Company Name: _____
 Contact Person: _____
 Email: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Fax: _____

Name of Representative(s) Staff Booth (as it will appear in conference materials):

1. _____
2. _____

Description of Display: _____

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____