

M A Y 2 0 1 7

The Maryland Multicultural Coalition

The State Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education

Message from the President

As this school year comes to a close, I would like to thank our membership as well as those that attended our conference in Howard County for their continued interest and support in our membership.

This year has been a different one for all of us and for our country. The climate in the nation has been a negative one. For years we have told our students how important it is to appreciate our differences, but this year it has become more challenging for our students to understand this given the climate in the country. Our work is more important now than ever. Actually it is just beginning again.

Enjoy your summer. Take time for yourself. Take time to rejuvenate and reflect.

Debbie Misiag

MMC President 2017-2019

*Happy
Summer!*



Contents

Conference Summary	page 2
Jack Epstein Award	page 4
Dr. Martirano Returns to MD	page 5
Things to do this Summer	page 5
By the Numbers	page 6
Teaching Tolerance Resources	page 6-7
Conference Feedback	page 7
Executive Board Election Results	page 7

Save the Date!

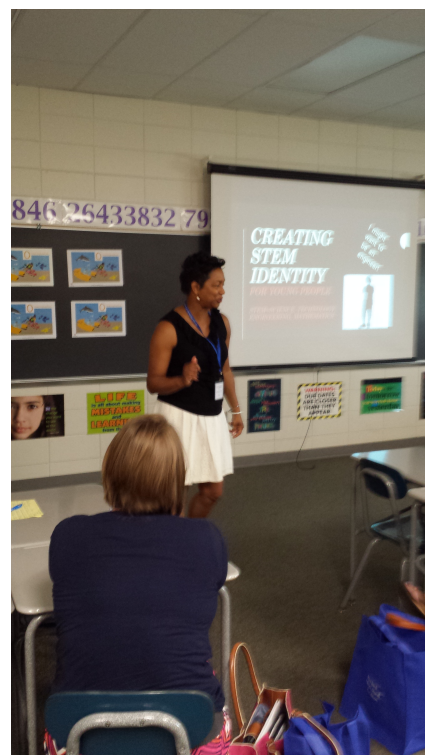
The NAME Conference in Salt Lake City
November 1-5, 2017

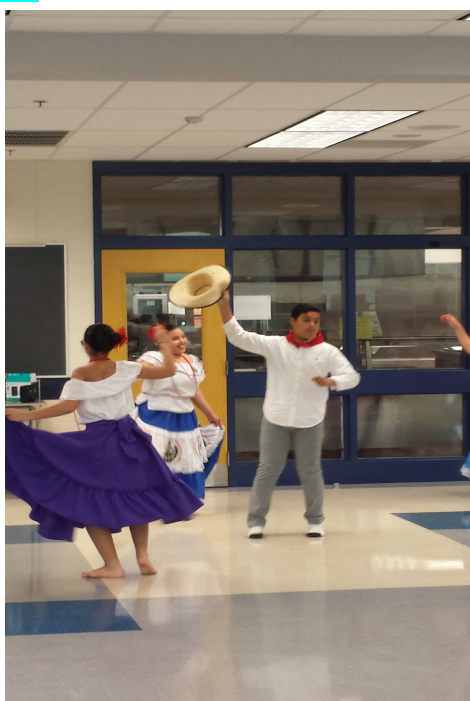
Theme: Re-Imagining Multicultural
Education in Changing Times

Early Registration is now open.

The MMC Annual Conference April 22, 2017 at Marriotts Ridge High School

In Howard County, Maryland was attended by nearly 150 people. There were 15 different vendors and 23 different sessions available for conference attendees to select from. The morning started off with the presentation of the Jack Epstein Award to Joan Scornaienchi followed by the keynote speaker, former West Virginia State Superintendent of School, Dr. Michael Martirano. Dr. Martirano highlighted that we as educators still have a lot of work to do in the area of equity and that decisions should be made with children first, as they should be our priority. The day included young dancers from the Howard County Chinese School and Latin Heritage middle school dancers from Patuxent Valley Middle School. Door prizes were awarded following the luncheon.





(left to right) Cross Cultural Communications Vendor table and Latin Dance Troupe from Patuxent Valley Middle School



(right) Jack Epstein Award Winners Mike Martirano, Linda Shevitz, Joan Scornaienchi and Cathy Price



(left) Student Voice Panel. Students from Howard County Public Schools



Joan Webb Scornaienchi Awarded the Jack Epstein Award at the 2017 MMC

The 2017 recipient of the Jack Epstein Award for Exemplary Commitment to Education that is Multicultural has been a member of NAME since 2009 while she employed by MSDE. During that time she volunteered to mentor inner-city children, and worked on projects examining African American males disproportionality assigned to special education. Currently Joan is the Executive Director of HC DrugFree, a non-profit organization in Howard County, she serves as the county's Substance Misuse Prevention Coordinator and believes that education for prevention must involve the entire community to have an impact. To that end, she has formed successful partnerships with the Howard County Public School System, the PTA Council of Howard County, the Library System, the Police Department, the Department of Fire and Rescue Services and the Korean Society of Maryland.

The challenge she found was that there are large segments of the local population ignored by previous prevention efforts, in particular, the Arabic and Korean communities. For this reason, she created, "In the Know", an education campaign about opioids that is far different from others in Maryland because it is in four languages; English, Spanish, Korean and Arabic. It is also available in many forms; print, electronic, and video which includes HC DrugFree videos with Congressmen Elijah Cummings and other experts, webpages housing everything from local resources to national updates.

Joan was nominated for the 2017 Friends of Education Award and is the 2015 recipient of the Howard County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission's "Living the Dream Award" for her many personal and professional contributions to the community. She won her first Diversity Award at Kent State in 1991 and has devoted her professional career to inclusive education.

It is with honor that the 2017 Jack Epstein Award is awarded to Joan Webb Scornaienchi for her contributions to the state of Maryland and to Howard County.

Dr. Mike Martirano Returns to Maryland and to Howard County

Little did we know that a short two weeks after Dr. Martirano, former State Superintendent of Schools for West Virginia, former St. Mary's County Superintendent, former Administrative Director for Howard County Public Schools and former Principals in Prince Georges' County would be

returning to Howard County Public Schools as Acting Superintendent.

In the May 2, 2017 Baltimore Sun article, Dr. Martirano shared that, " May return to Howard County is like a dream



come true". And that " I always wanted to be the superintendent of Howard County, but the timing just never worked itself out."

The Maryland Multicultural Coalition, would like to provide this past Jack Epstein Award winner a warm welcome back to Maryland and to Howard County Public Schools. We wish you much success during your tenure in Howard County.

Looking for some new places to visit this summer? Try Howard County.

Ellicott City Colored School, Restored

The one room schoolhouse constructed in 1880 as the first school built with County funds for African American children in Howard County, was in use until 1953. It was purchased by the county in 1995 and restored with private and public funds. Located in Ellicott City on Frederick Road, this building has rotating exhibits.

The Heritage Orientation Center

located on Main Street in Ellicott City, includes exhibits from the 18th and 19th century which include milling techniques, the floods of Ellicott Mills and the Ellicott Family.

The Pataspsco Female Institute was the refined academy for females from 1837-1891. Unlike many of the finishing schools at the time, it also had rigorous curriculum including math and science which was a rarity during the Victorian Era. Located on Church Street in Ellicott City, this structure serves as a venue for parties, weddings, concerts, camps and open air theatre.

Visit Historical Ellicott City. It is alive and open for business after the flood of 2016.

**EMBRACING
OUR
DIFFERENCES**

By the Numbers

3% of students in gifted and talented programs are English language learners

800,000 students are enrolled in schools where more than 20 % of teachers have not met certification or licensure requirements. Black, Latino, and American Indian or Alaska Native students are more likely to attend these schools

67% of students with disabilities (who make up 12% of the student population) are placed in seclusion or are physically restrained at school.

3.8 X Black students K-12 are 3.8 times more likely than white students to receive one or more out of school suspensions.

21% Schools in the poorest districts in the US receive 21% fewer funds than their counterparts.

50% + More than half of K-12 Public School Students in the US now come from low-income households

Source: Educational Leadership November 2016 (ASCD)

Teaching Tolerance

Have you visited [teachingtolerance.org](http://www.teachingtolerance.org) lately? There are wonderful resources and they are free. Just register. The website contains articles, lesson plans, blogs, videos and other excellent resources that are current and up-to-date. Take a look. <http://www.teachingtolerance.org>

SCHOOL CLIMATE
RESOURCES



MMC Conference Feedback

Need another reason to attend our conference and/or become a member of the National Association for Multicultural Education? Here is our feedback from participants from the April 22, 2017 conference.

On a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest:
 95% of participants rated 4/5 on the conference overall
 100% rated 4/5 on the keynote speaker
 90% rated 4/5 on the quality of the food
 95% rated 4/5 on the session quality
 90% rated 4/5 on the vendors

Executive Board Elected

Officers for 2017-2018 are:

President- Deborah Misiag

Vice President- Bonnie Brownell

Treasurer – Cathy Price

Secretary- Tracey Durant

Parliamentarian- Rita Robinson

Members at Large- Laurie Namey, Jermaine Ellerbe , Tom Owen



TEACHING TOLERANCE PROJECT RESOURCES

Teaching Tolerance, the ongoing educational project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, develops and provides wide-ranging multicultural resources for educators. All of their resources are provided at no cost to educators, and many can be found online. Their newest guide is *BEST PRACTICES FOR SERVING ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) AND THEIR FAMILIES*. This guide includes recommendations related to Instruction, Classroom Culture, Family and Community Engagement, Policy Checkups, Suggested Anti-bias Strategies for use with ELL students, Monitoring a Language Program Graphic Organizer, and Planning for District-wide Language Access Services.

Some additional resources and guides include *Critical Practices for Anti-Bias Education* and *Perspectives for a Diverse America*. For more information about ordering the project's free resources, contact the **Teaching Tolerance Program** at <http://www.tolerance.org>.

Contact information:

Email: mdmulticultural@gmail.com

Website: mdmc.edublogs.org

Want to see the entire program for the conference?

Go to www.mdmc.edublogs.org

And take a look.