


AGENDA | NEBRASKA'S ELO INNOVATION INVITATIONAL

DAY 1: TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023

8:00-8:45 AM	Check-in and Breakfast , Banquet Hall	
8:45-9:15 AM Banquet Hall	OPENING PLENARY: Innovations in ELO – Mindsets and Practices During his career, Dr. Tony Smith has been Illinois Superintendent of Education, Superintendent of two California Districts, President of an education foundation and importantly for our discussion, the Deputy Superintendent of Innovation for the San Diego County Office of Education. Tony believes that Innovation can be a key driver in creating equitable education systems rooted in expanding opportunities for all youth. In this opening keynote, Tony will help us root our conversation in the mindsets we bring to our work and how innovation can help unleash talent in afterschool programs across the state. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Tony Smith, <i>Whyspeople</i>	
9:15-9:30 AM	Break	
9:30-10:15 AM SESSION 1: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS		
 Critical Conversation #1: What does Innovation in ELO Mean to You? Room A1-2 What does Innovation in ELO programs mean to you? How can we create the most dynamic, engaging learning spaces that youth seek out and thrive in? This discussion will explore how we can develop an Innovation Mindset to take full advantage of the unique opportunities in ELO programs and provide youth with the supports they need to thrive. Dr. Tony Smith, <i>Whyspeople</i> Jeff Cole, <i>Beyond School Bells</i>		Innovations in Environmental Programming Room A3 Come learn about, share, and brainstorm innovative programming ideas in environmental education. Presenters will share about innovations in environmental art and cultural programming, the mission of Go Beyond, and the potential of using environmental civics to teach students about Nebraska's ecosystems. Ian Kimmer, <i>Go Beyond</i> Alison Cloet, <i>Center for Great Plains Studies, UNL</i> Kent Day, <i>Civic Nebraska</i>
Making Connections Between the School Day and Afterschool Room B1-2 MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support), PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports), and SEBL (Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Learning) are all frameworks commonly used within schools during the school day. Come learn about what these frameworks are and how they apply to working with students in afterschool programs. Emily Arkfeld, Jill Guenther, and Mackenzie Riedel, <i>Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families & Schools</i>		Innovations in STEM Programming Room B3 Learn from the North Platte and Oakland-Craig Afterschool Program Directors about how they have kept quality STEM programming going through challenges such as the pandemic, staffing shortages, and staff turn-around through meaningful state partners and an innovative high school staffing model. Alana Pearson, <i>Oakland-Craig Bright Knights Afterschool Program</i> Carrie Lienemann and Delana Humphreys, <i>North Platte Kids Klub</i>
Play: Linking Early Childhood and School-Aged Learning Banquet Hall In this presentation, play will be explored as a critical and too often overlooked factor in youth development and consequently, in ELO programming. Dr. Raikes and her colleagues will talk about the research base and brain science behind play-based learning practices, sharing examples of high-quality play experiences for children of all ages. Dr. Helen Raikes, <i>Willa Cather Professor Emeritus and UNL Child Development Institute</i> Michelle Decker, <i>Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Junior Jays Kids Care Program</i> Miki Montgomery and Mollie von Kampen <i>Ruth Staples Child Development Program, UNL</i>		

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DAY 1: TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023

10:15-10:30 AM Break	
10:30-11:15 AM SESSION 2: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS	
<p>Building Youth Empowered Food Systems Room A1-2</p> <p>Nebraska program leaders will showcase three ways to implement food systems programming: outdoor gardens, classroom grow towers, and container farming. Each method aims to connect varying levels of food systems with opportunities to engage students of all ages in at least one model of a food system.</p> <p>Sara Martin, <i>School District 145 Foundation for Education</i> Courtney Shreve, <i>Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation</i> Cleopatra Babor and Alexis Hansen, <i>BSB Freight Farm</i></p>	<p>Family Engagement—Bringing STEM Learning to Nebraska Homes Room A3</p> <p>In this interactive workshop, we will show how STEM take home backpacks can be used as a STEM family engagement strategy and to assist in developing STEM identity in youth. We will have sample backpacks for participants to explore and will talk about expansion efforts via both NE Extension and the National Centers for Families Learning.</p> <p>Ann O'Connor, <i>Nebraska 4-H Extension</i></p>
<p>The Power of Relationships: Supporting the Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Needs of ALL Students Room B1-2</p> <p>Create a safe, supportive environment for all students to thrive in afterschool by learning more about the five SEBL competencies: self-awareness, self-management, relationship skills, social awareness, and responsible decision-making). Learn how to daily embed these practices within afterschool programming.</p> <p>Emily Arkfeld, Jill Guenther, and Mackenzie Riedel, <i>Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families & Schools</i></p>	<p>Beyond School Bells College & Career Readiness Toolkit Room B3</p> <p>BSB's new College and Career Readiness Toolkit is a comprehensive guide to help middle and high school out-of-school-time programs get focused on building 21st century skills and supporting young people as they navigate through the complex world of planning for their advanced education and careers.</p> <p>Lorena Hernandez, <i>Vivayic</i></p>
<p>Walk 2 Unlock Nebraska Banquet Hall</p> <p>Come along for an "Amazing Race" through our Walk 2 Unlock NE Program, a balanced whole-child curriculum for grades K-8 that engages both body and mind! This program teaches about agriculture, nature, historical, and science-based content along one of four Nebraska trails and features an interactive map to track your progress!</p> <p>Erika Wibbels, <i>Nebraska Department of Education Healthy Schools Program</i> Megan Crawford, <i>Super Kids Club</i> Graeme Eaglesham, <i>Future Kids</i></p>	
11:15-11:45 AM Break	
<p>11:45 AM-12:45 PM Banquet Hall</p>	<p>LUNCH KEYNOTE</p> <p>Conversation with Commissioners: The Pandemic's Impact on Education – Lessons Learned and Opportunities for ELO</p> <p>In this conversation between the two Education Commissioners - Dr. Blomstedt (NE) and Dr. Smith (Illinois) and facilitated by NCCFF's Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, Dr. Marquisha Frost, we will discuss how the pandemic impacted education in NE, what lessons were learned, and how ELO programs can position themselves to help address emerging and future needs in all Nebraska communities.</p> <p>Speakers: Dr. Tony Smith and Dr. Matt Blomstedt Moderator: Dr. Marquisha Frost</p>
12:45-1:00 PM Break	

AGENDA | NEBRASKA'S ELO INNOVATION INVITATIONAL

DAY 1: TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023

1:00-1:45 PM SESSION 3: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

Sustainability = Evaluation + Marketing + Storytelling Part 1* | Room A1-3

This workshop will begin with a dynamic afterschool story built from program and national data. Participants will walk through each component of the story including data collection, marketing, putting the story together, pitching to funders, and how to tie the components together to support sustainable funding streams for ELO programs. Participants will leave with a one-pager they will create throughout the session that they can use in their programs, and for those attending the state capitol tour the next day, share with their legislators. The session will end with a policy update about important legislation impacting afterschool. *This is a four-part workshop that will span sessions 4-6. Please plan to stay for the full time (1:00-4:45 PM).

Brenda Weyers, *Nebraska Children and Families Foundation (NCFE)* | **Joel Bramhall**, *Cardinal Community Learning Centers – Crete Public Schools* | **Dr. Teresa Wanser-Ernst**, *Cultural Competence Center* | **Connie Duncan**, *NCFE*

Family Engagement: A Parent-Led Conversation

Room B1-2

In this conversation-based workshop hosted by three parents and community connectors, you will explore some critical questions about meaningful family engagement in afterschool. Let's reimagine together what family engagement could look like!

Ruth Sorilla, **Corey Rumann**, and, **Stephanie Schmidt**

How Invention-Based Summer Programs Engage

Students and Create a Community of Learners | Room B3

Experience the basics of invention education and explore the power of creativity. Learn how to incorporate an Innovation Mindset into all activities with a focus on how to create a summer program where teachers, parents, and students "invent" a different learning experience.

Andrea Dulac, *National Inventors Hall of Fame*
Susanne Cramer, *Omaha Public Schools*

Cultivate an Environment for Reading | Room C

Linked2Literacy and their community partners provide ownership of literacy materials to the underserved and believes representation matters. Discuss the importance of increasing literacy engagement outside the school day and how afterschool has a role.

Kimberly Fix, *Linked2Literacy*

1:45-2:00 PM Break

2:00-2:45 PM SESSION 4: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

Sustainability = Evaluation + Marketing + Storytelling Part 2* | Room A1-3

*This is a four-part workshop that will span sessions 4-6. Please plan to stay for the full time (1:00-4:45 PM). See session 3 for description.

Youth as Interpreters | Room B1-2

Bilingual students often serve as interpreters for their families, but the potential to engage them as formal interpreters is often untapped. This session will explore the needs, potential, and opportunities to engage high school students as interpreters in afterschool programs.

Mariana Muñoz de Schell, *Nebraska Children and Families Foundation* | **Jodi-Renee Girón**, *First Five Nebraska*

Reading is Magic: Support Lifelong Learners

through Book Clubs | Room B3

Through innovative and engaging book clubs, Ashley weaves together a unique experience that blends literacy, life skills, well-being, and youth voice. Learn how your program could use book clubs to help develop curious, confident readers and leaders in your community.

Ashley Larson, *Book Club Unplugged*

★ Critical Conversation #2: Robots, Drones and AI, Oh My! | Room C

In this conversation-based workshop, you will explore the fast-moving world of using afterschool programs to introduce youth to new and emerging technologies. This session focuses on state and national competitions for robotics, engineering, and STEM.

Brandy Schulze, *Nebraska 4-H Extension*

Get Creative – Implementing Everyday Visual Arts into Your Programs | Room D

Arts in afterschool programming is essential as students have limited artistic opportunities during the school day. Learn about how you can implement visual arts into your program year-round through inexpensive, creative and engaging makerspace art clubs.

Julie Boyle, *Nebraska 4-H Extension*

2:45-3:00 PM Break

AGENDA | NEBRASKA'S ELO INNOVATION INVITATIONAL

DAY 1: TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023

3:00-3:45 PM SESSION 5: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

Sustainability = Evaluation + Marketing + Storytelling Part 3* | Room A1-3

*This is a four-part workshop that will span sessions 4-6. Please plan to stay for the full time (1:00-4:45 PM). See session 3 for description.

Youth Engagement Through Sports & Esports

Room B1-2

Let's get kids physically active in afterschool! Future Kids is Nebraska's largest afterschool sports program and is excited to share how they use sports as a vehicle to get kids active and engaged statewide.

Graeme Eaglesham, *Future Kids*

Click2Engineering – No Cost PD to Enhance ELO Engineering Practices | Room B3

Learn about Click2Engineering, the latest addition to the growing Click suite of PD resources developed by UNL Extension. Participants will gain an understanding of how to use this tool to enhance STEM activities in your ELO programs.

Dr. Sandra Wever Frerichs, **Dr. Rebecca Swanson**, and **Ann O'Connor**, *Nebraska 4-H Extension*

It's the Small Things: Creating Connection in Your Programs | Room C

While implementing quality programming is essential, too often we overlook the relationships and daily interactions that make all the difference for students. Come discuss "focusing on the small things" to build greater connection and purpose for students in your programs.

Jennifer Jones and **Katie Christiansen**, *Beyond School Bells*

3:45-4:00 PM Break

4:00-4:45 PM SESSION 6: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

Sustainability = Evaluation + Marketing + Storytelling Part 4: Policy and Legislative Update* | Room A1-3

As a wrap-up of this workshop series, BSB staff and former Senator Adam Morfeld will provide a policy update and discussion on important legislation impacting afterschool. *All are welcome to join this session, even if you have not attended the parts 1-3 of this workshop series.

Youth as Educators: Nurturing the Next Generation | Room B1-2

Staffing an afterschool or summer program is a challenge across the state. In this workshop, you'll learn why a high school staffing model makes sense and hear from a program director and high school staff about their experience utilizing this model.

Mary Molliconi, **Dawson Stolpe**, and **Sarah Springer**, *Edgerton Explorit Center*

Using Mizzen by Mott to Provide Free Support for Your ELO Program | Room B3

Staff from Mizzen by Mott will walk participants through an overview of this free national resource which provides ELO programs with support for practical items like tracking attendance as well as access to curriculum and professional development tips.

National Mizzen Outreach Team

Cultivating an Entrepreneurial Mindset

Room C

Overwhelmed by all the buzz about entrepreneurship programming in afterschool? It is less complicated than it sounds! Come learn about the importance of developing an entrepreneurial mindset through fun, hands-on activities and programming.

Molly Brandt, *Nebraska 4-H Extension*

Using the Metaverse to Enhance ELO Programming | Banquet Hall

During this hands-on session, participants will don VR Googles to explore cities around the world. Learn how VR can be used to enhance a CityBuild 2040 experience, as well as other educational experiences in ELO programs.

Keenan Page, *Nebraska Children and Families Foundation*

4:45-6:00 PM Break

6:00-8:00 PM YOUTH VOICE DINNER AND RECEPTION

Banquet Hall

ELO programs work best when youth want to be involved. Join us for dinner, then learn about the interactive Youth Voice Brainstorming Sessions that happened across the state and what youth want to see more of in their programs. We will walk through our own interactive brainstorming session facilitated by UNL Honors students and Beyond School Bells staff.

Zoe Zingler, *UNL Honors Student* | **Kelly Palacios**, *Lexington Afterschool Program*

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

8:00-8:45 AM	Check-in and Breakfast , Banquet Hall	
8:45-9:15 AM Banquet Hall	OPENING PLENARY: Cultivating Youth Purpose <p>Humans have always been interested in finding purpose in life. Longstanding theories about purpose as a virtue for living the “good life” continuously inspire creative investigations into its role in everyday functioning and experience. Research on purpose shows measurable, positive impacts on health, wellbeing, and adjustment. Accumulating evidence of the benefits of purpose has outpaced consideration of its role in the lives of youth. In this talk, Dr. Burrow will review what is known about youth purpose, its benefits, and point to actionable strategies stakeholders can enact to cultivate more of it in our youth.</p> <p>Keynote Speaker: <i>Dr. Anthony Burrow, Cornell University</i></p>	
9:15-9:30 AM	Break	
9:30-10:15 AM SESSION 1: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS		
Youth Purpose Development and the Role of ELO Educators* Room A1-2 <p>Research suggests that developing a sense of purpose is of great benefit to youth. Nevertheless, the cultivation of a sense of purpose may seem like a nebulous task. In this workshop, we will explore the science of youth purpose development with the goal of equipping out-of-school time educators with knowledge of evidenced-based approaches to support youth purpose development. *This workshop is offered during sessions 1 and 2. Choose one.</p> <p><i>Chris Davis, PhD Student at Cornell University</i></p>		STEM Pathways – From Hands-On to Online Room A3 <p>This session will kick-off with a discussion of the importance of building STEM skills to solve critical problems. Then, Cell Collective will share their new educational project where K-12 educators can use customized lessons to guide students to build models, design experiments and interpret data using systems thinking processes.</p> <p>Jeff Cole, Beyond School Bells Dr. Charles Martin and Dr. Marie Martin, Cell Collective</p>
Community Schools 101: Building Community Schools One Idea at a Time Room B1-2 <p>Community Schools create safe, supportive and stimulating environments promoting student success, strong families, and vibrant communities. But how do you create a community school? This workshop will provide a general overview and simulate the steps to assess, address, and advance partnerships to develop community schools.</p> <p><i>Joe DiConstanzo, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation</i></p>		Idea to Pitch: Entrepreneurship Programming for All Grade Levels Room B3 <p>Learn about the Idea to Pitch Program, where students grow their entrepreneurial mindsets and skills. Elementary and secondary students identify opportunities to creatively solve problems, develop their solution into a business, and pitch the idea.</p> <p>Scott Mann, Venture Lab</p>
Implementing Theater Arts in Afterschool & Summer Programs Room C <p>Get your students engaged in the fine arts with help from Theater Arts for Kids. Learn the basics about set-up and implementation of theater programming for your afterschool and summer program.</p> <p><i>Leah Arington, Theater Arts for Kids</i></p>		Build Your Future with CityBuild 2040* Banquet Hall <p>UNL Honors students will lead a hands-on build-out of what our Nebraska cities and towns may look like 20 years from now using the free Beyond School Bells CityBuild 2040 curriculum. *This workshop is offered during all 5 sessions today. Choose one.</p> <p>Lauren Clark, Beyond School Bells UNL Honors Students</p>

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DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

10:15-10:30 AM Break	
10:30-11:15 AM SESSION 2: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS	
<p>Youth Purpose Development and the Role of ELO Educators* Room A1-2</p> <p>Research suggests that developing a sense of purpose is of great benefit to youth. Nevertheless, the cultivation of a sense of purpose may seem like a nebulous task. In this workshop, we will explore the science of youth purpose development with the goal of equipping out-of-school time educators with knowledge of evidenced-based approaches to support youth purpose development.</p> <p>*This workshop is offered during sessions 1 and 2. Choose one.</p> <p>Chris Davis, <i>PhD Student at Cornell University</i></p>	<p>Summer of Youth – New ESSER III Grant Opportunity B1-2</p> <p>Participants will get an early look at a new grant program to enhance and expand summer learning that uses student input as its north star. NDE is soliciting applications from ESSER III identified districts for funding to initiate new or expand existing summer programs. Beyond School Bells will be leveraging this Federal funding with private dollars to expand the depth and scope of selected projects.</p> <p>Jan Handa, <i>Nebraska Department of Education</i> Jeff Cole and Stephanie Vadnais, <i>Beyond School Bells</i></p>
<p>Forming A More Perfect Union* Room A3</p> <p>Afterschool programs are in a unique position to empower youth be positive change agents in their communities and to foster civic engagement. Learn more about this K-12 grade-banded multi-category curriculum playlist that guides youth to engage in their community.</p> <p>*This workshop is offered during sessions 2 and 3. Choose one.</p> <p>Kent Day, <i>Civic Nebraska</i></p>	<p>Connecting with Your For-Profit Community Room B3</p> <p>Join Firespring to learn and discuss why it is important to connect with your for-profit community, how to identify the right business leaders and how to incorporate storytelling in those conversations. You will work on building your script for these conversations and gain the confidence you need.</p> <p>Kiersten Hill and Chessa Clay, <i>Firespring</i></p>
<p>Innovations in Family Engagement Room C</p> <p>Learn from experts in family engagement about innovative approaches to creating and implementing family engagement plans. Discuss how these approaches can be modified and applied to different out-of-school time experiences happening across the state.</p> <p>Dr. Alison O'Toole, <i>Beyond School Bells</i> Joe DiConstanzo, <i>Nebraska Children and Families Foundation</i> Ann O'Connor, <i>Nebraska 4-H Extension</i> Brian Welch, <i>Nebraska Department of Education</i></p>	<p>Build Your Future with CityBuild 2040* Banquet Hall</p> <p>*This workshop is offered during all 5 sessions today. Choose one. See session 1 for description.</p>
11:15-11:45 AM Break	
11:45 AM-12:45 PM	LUNCH DISCUSSION
Banquet Hall	Of Boys and Men
12:45-1:00 PM Break	

AGENDA | NEBRASKA'S ELO INNOVATION INVITATIONAL

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

1:00-1:45 PM SESSION 3: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

★ Critical Conversation #3: Of Boys and Men: Can ELO Programs Help Engage Boys in Learning?

Room A1-2

In this conversation, BSB lead Jeff Cole will use insights from Richard Reeve's 2022 best-selling and much discussed book, *Of Boys and Men*, and BSB's own research into the Male Achievement Gap, to open a discussion about the potential role of ELO programs to address this challenge. Explore strategies to craft programs that will intentionally attract male participation in ELO programs, helping them develop purpose and hope.

Jeff Cole, *Beyond School Bells*

Flipping the Script: Afterschool Staff are Powerful Connectors

Room B1-2

There are scripts out in the world that say afterschool isn't as important as the school day—but if you're at this conference you know that's not true. Afterschool program staff play a powerful role in helping youth, families and schools thrive! Hear from former site coordinators and consider how you might "flip the script" on the power of afterschool!

Jennifer Jones, Katie Christiansen, and Stephanie Vadnais
Beyond School Bells

Forming A More Perfect Union*

Room A3

*This workshop is offered during sessions 2 and 3. Choose one. See session 2 for description.

Kent Day, *Civic Nebraska*

Design Sprint: Engaging Youth in Curriculum Design | Room B3

Learn how to engage college or high school students in the creation and testing of new, hands-on, and engaging afterschool and summer curriculum.

Dakota Staggs and Lauren Clark, *Beyond School Bells*

Build Your Future with CityBuild 2040* | Banquet Hall

*This workshop is offered during all 5 sessions today. Choose one. See session 1 for description.

1:45-2:00 PM Break

2:00-2:45 PM SESSION 4: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

Crash Course: Boys Programming

Room A1-2

Learn about a recent Beyond School Bells and Go Beyond design studio where a group of 6 male UNL students created and planned a series of survivor-themed activities with mature masculinity in mind to engage boys in afterschool programs.

Karson Swartzbaugh, *UNL student* | **Mitch Findley**, *Go Beyond* | **Dakota Staggs**, *Beyond School Bells*

Youth Brainstorming Sessions: A Meaningful Way to Elevate Youth Voice! | Room B1-2

Youth voice is essential in developing a high-quality program. But how can we elevate what we hear in a meaningful way? Come learn about youth brainstorming sessions—a fun, easy and interactive way to engage and hear from youth that differs from a typical questionnaire.

Kelly Palacio, *Lexington Afterschool Program*
Stephanie Vadnais, *Beyond School Bells*

TMC - A Platform for Developing New, STEM-Rich Content | Room A3

Come explore the TMC (Think Make Create) Labs' platform and how NE Extension is using it to develop new engineering and health/wellness programming.

Julie Boyle, *Nebraska 4-H Extension*

★ Critical Conversation #4: Full-Service Community Schools Q & A | Room B3

This critical conversation will focus on strategic issues related to Full-Service Community Schools - partnership strategies, communication / community engagement strategies and long-term sustainability. Come with questions and ideas!

Joe DiConstanzo, *NCFF* | **Dr. Tony Smith**, *Whyspeople*

Build Your Future with CityBuild 2040* | Banquet Hall

*This workshop is offered during all 5 sessions today. Choose one. See session 1 for description.

2:45-3:00 PM Break

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

3:00-3:45 PM SESSION 5: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

Nebraska STEM: For One, For All

Room A1-2

Hear from leaders in the Nebraska Women in STEM initiative and the Lincoln and Omaha STEM Ecosystems about ways we can intentionally engage Nebraska youth in STEM learning.

Amanda McGill Johnson, *Nebraska Cures; Nebraska Women in STEM* | **Julie Sigmon**, *Omaha STEM Ecosystem*

Kaylie Hogan-Schnittker, *Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development; Lincoln STEM Ecosystem* | **Gabby Johnson**, *Southeast Community College; Lincoln STEM Ecosystem*

TMC Labs as a Platform for Pop-Up Learning

Room A3

Come explore the use of the TMC Labs platform as an educational pop-up activity, with the ability to set up in locations all around your community. Hear about the resources available in the TMC Lab that support pop up learning and explore ideas to expand the use in new and unanticipated ways.

Julie Boyle, *Nebraska 4-H Extension*

Youth as Educators: Utilizing the High School Staffing Model | Room B1-2

Examine some of the basics of the high school staffing model and explore with other program professionals how to develop this further in your program. There's a place for you at the table whether you're just starting to think about how you could integrate young people into your staff, or if you've been doing it for years!

Dakota Staggs and **Stephanie Vadnais**, *Beyond School Bells*

The Art of Communities of Practice

Room B3

Session participants will be introduced to innovative approaches to running communities of practice in an interactive, engaging session. A STEMNext supported community of practice (CoP) guide will be shared. The session is geared toward educators who have facilitated or plan to facilitate communities of practice, but all are welcome.

Dr. Alison O'Toole, *Beyond School Bells*

Build Your Future with CityBuild 2040* | Banquet Hall

*This workshop is offered during all 5 sessions today. Choose one. See session 1 for description.

3:45-6:00 PM Break

6:00-8:00 PM DINNER AND RECEPTION

The Bay*

Exploring Purpose through Hands-On, Playful Activities

Join us at The Bay to hear an overview of their Misfit philosophy and how by validating youth interests, they help them navigate towards careers in their chosen fields. A tour of the Bay / Bay High will be provided, which will include opportunities to see youth involved in a skateboarding competition. Enjoy sandwiches by Bahnwich, the official fuel of BSB's Design Challenges, and build your own salad with greens grown through BSB's GrowELO initiative, which includes a deep partnership with the Bay.

***Address**

2005 Y Street,
Lincoln, NE 68503

Speakers: Mike Smith, *The Bay*

AGENDA | NEBRASKA'S ELO INNOVATION INVITATIONAL

DAY 3: THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

8:00-8:45 AM	Check-in and Breakfast , Banquet Hall
8:45-9:15 AM Banquet Hall	OPENING PLENARY: How to Build Hope In this talk, Dr. Hodges will discuss the research behind the importance of Hope and how educators can help young people develop the habits and mindsets that will allow them to adopt a hopeful outlook on life and the opportunities that the future holds. Keynote Speaker: <i>Dr. Tim Hodges, Gallup Strengths Institute, UNL</i>
9:15-9:30 AM	Break
9:30-10:15 AM	SESSION 1: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS
Building Bridges of Hope through Intentional & Meaningful Mentoring Relationships* Room A1-2 Imagine a world where every young person has adults in their life who appreciate them, honors their identity and cares for their success. Come explore ways in which after-school staff can create that world through quality mentoring and the intentional creation of mentor-rich environments. Learn how by creating mentoring relationships, programs amplify equity, empower students, and build self-confidence. *This workshop is offered during sessions 1 and 2. Choose one. <i>Christopher McCroy, Mentor NE</i>	Building Nebraska's Future STEM Workforce - A Panel Discussion with Nebraska STEM Businesses Room A3 Nebraska STEM business leaders from Behlen Manufacturing, Lozier, and Nebraska Public Power District will share their perspectives on how we can grow and strengthen Nebraska's future STEM workforce through outreach efforts to K-12 youth now! <i>Juli Thelen, Behlen Mfg. Co. Tammy Carlson, Lozier Jon Schulte and Kim Liebig, Nebraska Public Power District</i>
Youth Investigators: Helping Youth Use Research to Investigate their World Room B1-2 PRYDE created the Youth Investigators Program (YIP) to introduce adolescents to social science research methods. By introducing youth to key principles of research, we empower youth to investigate questions they have about their social world. Learn more about this curriculum and discuss the potential of YIP for after school programming. <i>Dr. Kristen Elmore and Esther Kim, The Program for Research on Youth Development and Engagement (PRYDE) at Cornell University</i>	Construct and Chat: CityBuild with Youth Banquet Hall Here's a chance to get hands-on and build with Nebraska youth! Come and interact with City Build 2040 alongside a group of elementary students. As you build a city together, hear youth voice in real time: What do these students love to do outside of school time? What do they wish they could do more of? <i>Trinity Lutheran 4th and 5th Grade Students Stephanie Vadnais and Katie Christiansen, Beyond School Bells</i>
10:15-10:30 AM	Break
10:30-11:15 AM	SESSION 2: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS*
Building Bridges of Hope through Intentional & Meaningful Mentoring Relationships* Room A1-2 *This workshop is offered during sessions 1 and 2. See session 1 for description	Think, Make, Create (TMC) Lab 101 Room A3 Curious what the TMC Lab is all about? This workshop will provide a full walk-through of the TMC Lab. <i>Julie Boyle, Nebraska 4-H Extension</i>

*Session 2 workshop options continue on the next page.

DAY 3: THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

Empowering Language Justice and Accessibility

Room B1-2

Come explore opportunities to engage youth as interpreters in afterschool programs. As a follow up to the "Youth as Interpreters" session, this session focuses on what policies and practices are necessary to best empower youth who want to use their interpreting skills for career paths.

Mariana Muñoz de Schell, *Nebraska Children and Families Foundation* | **Jodi-Renee Girón**, *First Five Nebraska*



Critical Conversation #5: The Kids are Not Alright- Can ELO Help? | Room B3

As discussed previously, the book *Of Boys and Men* captures a growing body of research showing that American males are not thriving. Recently released data says that teen girls are also engulfed in a "growing wave of sadness, violence and trauma." What can afterschool do in response to these troubling trends? A lot. Come prepared to discuss your concerns and solutions in this conversation-based workshop.

Moderator: **Dr. Alison O'Toole**, *Beyond School Bells*

11:15-11:30 AM Break

11:30 AM-12:15 PM SESSION 3: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

STEM Mentors: Using Zoom to Connect College Student Content Experts with ELO Programs

Room A1-2

Come learn more about STEMentors, an eLearning program providing afterschool programs with high-quality STEM experiences that are led via video conferencing by off-site eMentors (UNL college students). Learn how your program can partner with this innovative program.

Tracy Pracheil, *Nebraska 4-H Extension*

Conservation Experiences Afterschool

Room A3

Too often, youth are missing out on the inspiration that nature offers. Come explore two existing immersive conservation learning experiences (one in the Rocky Mountain West and the other across Nebraska's diverse ecosystems), as well as consider other local conservation experiences that exist near your community.

Mitch Findley, *Go Beyond* | **Dakota Staggs**, *Beyond School Bells*

Seeing and Collaborating with All Families

Room B1-2

It is easy to limit our view of "family engagement" to events, activities and newsletters—but it can go much deeper than that. Come to this interactive session to consider who are the disenfranchised families in your school/program and what should we consider when we think about engaging/collaborating with ALL families in our programs.

Jennifer Jones, **Katie Christiansen**, and **Stephanie Vadnais**, *Beyond School Bells*

To the Metaverse, and Beyond

Room B3

In this youth-led workshop, participants will get to experience the Metaverse and brainstorm about ways to integrate this emerging technology to create afterschool programs that excite, engage and inspire youth.

Keenan Page, *Nebraska Children and Families Foundation*

12:15-12:30 PM Break

12:30-1:30 PM LUNCH AND CLOSING PLENARY:

Banquet Hall

Building Back Better: Building the ELO Programs Youth Deserve – and We All Need

In this closing summation, Dr. Tony Smith will summarize some of the main themes that emerged over the course of our 2 ½ days, capturing the themes of Innovation, purpose and hope and how, with intentionality and openness, we can all be a part of the important work of building innovative afterschool and summer programs meeting the needs of every Nebraska youth, family and community.

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Tony Smith, *Whyspeople*