

Affinity Groups: As part of this conference, each participating student is invited to identify with an Affinity Group. This is an opportunity to meet peers from independent schools across New England and share experiences. Affinity Groups will be facilitated by adults from the AISNE community.

Affinity Group Choices: Each Student Should Indicate an Affinity Group Preference as Part of Your School's Registration

African | African American | Asian American | Caribbean American | International | LatinX | LGBTQ+ | Middle Eastern
Multi-Racial | Native American | South Asian | Trans-Racial Adoptee | White European American

Student Workshops: Each student will be assigned two workshops. Please note, workshops are assigned based on: 1) the student preferences indicated in your group's registration, 2) the available space for each workshop session, 3) the number of times a given workshop is offered. Most are offered twice. Four workshops, as noted below, will be offered once.

All Style Dance

In this workshop, learn a cultural mix of many different dances: hip hop, locking, popping, breakdancing, afrobeat and step.

The Art of the Sample

Samples appear on almost every hip hop song you have ever heard, not to mention many R&B and pop songs as well. By dictionary definition, sampling is the act of taking a portion, or sample, of one sound recording and reusing it as an instrument or element of a new recording. But it's much deeper than that definition can describe. Producers dive deep into humanity's collective musical DNA, honoring those who created music before them, and carefully birth new songs from what our musical ancestors gifted us. This workshop will dive into the unique history of sampling in hip-hop music. Together we'll learn about the origins and development of this art form, explore examples of it in songs currently on the charts, and finish off by creating our own beat, built exclusively with samples.

Asian / Asian American Identity Exploration – offered one time

In this workshop, we will talk about what is like to be an Asian or Asian American student living in the United States in the current social and political climate. In addition to sharing our unique culture and heritage, we will discuss the difficulties of being an Asian or Asian American student, including conversations about stereotypes and expectations. This session will be similar to a typical Asian American Students Association (AASA) meeting, featuring entertaining skits, engaging discussion and educational videos. In addition, there will be interactive activities to emphasize the diversity of our Asian / Asian American community.

Asian American Representation in Movies

Do you like Asian movies? When was the last time you saw an Asian movie? Have you ever seen a Hollywood movie with an Asian American playing the leading role? Come prepared to share your thoughts and to ask questions about Asian American representation in movies. We'll watch a few movie clips to get a brief overview on the history of Asian Americans in American movies. We'll then open up for discussions on why we need to have our own movie stars and more importantly how we can contribute to or increase Asian American representation on our own school's stage.

Being First

Are you the first generation in your family to grow up in the U.S. or speak English as your primary language? Will you be the first person in your family to graduate from high school or go to college? In this workshop, we'll explore what it's like to be the first generation in our families to do these things and others. As part of this exploration, we'll also watch fifteen minutes of a documentary film, First Generation, which shares the stories of four teenagers who are all working toward becoming first generation college students. After watching this excerpt, we'll discuss with whose stories we resonated most and what we share in common with these teens.

Breaking Up with Bias and Stereotypes: The Power of Being a LatinX Girl

In this workshop, we will discuss what it's like to be a Latina in the U.S. From societal pressures, stereotypes to empowerment and ethnicity, we will be covering all the topics relating to and regarding Latina women. If you identify as such, come join us!

Brothers Supporting Brothers

Brothers Seeking Academic Excellence (BSAE), a mentoring and support group for Boys of Color, will share information about the group and its purpose, share their pledge with you and do an activity around identity and personal responsibility. The workshop will be run by members of the group and provide an opportunity for honest discussion about being young men of color in predominately white schools. This workshop will be interactive, fun and interesting. This is an opportunity to learn from your Big Brothers about how to be an excellent student, get the most out of your private school experience and remain true to who you are!

Columbian Journey Through Music

Has music ever taken you on a journey across a country? Through history? Well it will in this workshop! Harpist & Composer Nicolas Castaneda and his harp will take you on a trip across Colombia to explore the sounds of the geographic regions, the implications of history on the ways that music evolves and the role Colombian music plays in contemporary society. Your ears and your minds are certainly in for a treat!

Empowering Youth Voice Through Ekphrastic Spoken Word Poetry: Keynote Speaker, Tony DelaRosa – *offered one time*

Art is a mirror and window into diverse cultures and experiences. Art is a form of liberation and can help you see through a lens that is not always readily available. Through this interactive session, analyze and write about works of art, develop a spoken word poem and present your poem as a form of verbal reflection. By the end of this session, make a commitment to engage your community in storytelling and art in your own unique way.

Forensic Files: In Living Color

The criminal justice system is currently a tattered patchwork. While many are quick to point out surface level problems, there is still work to be done. During this workshop, we will work through a hands-on forensics case study that better identifies the role race plays in the systemic injustices of the system. Drawing on science, statistics and writing, we will then do some activism work. As ones living in color, we must make sure that those of color who have had their voices taken away are spoken for.

How to Get Away with Inequality: Why What We Binge Watch Matters

In this workshop, we'll explore how racial minorities are portrayed and treated in the media. We'll discuss notable works of people of color and to what degree they are recognized. We'll also talk about how much diversity there is in the people we study in school and the importance of diversity in the adults whom students should see as respected, accomplished and intelligent. How does media representation impact our goals? In this workshop will evaluate the relationship between art and our reality.

Is There Iron in My Cereal? – offered one time

In this workshop, work with undergraduate engineering students to apply a magnetic separation technique to solve a STEM challenge involving breakfast cereal.

Keepin' It Real Professional

Zora Neale Hurston once said, "Sometimes, I feel discriminated against, but it does not make me angry. It merely astonishes me. How can anyone deny themselves the pleasure of my company? It's beyond me." So often, we feel like have to leave part of ourselves at home when we come to a school or to a job where there aren't a lot of people like us. We don't have to though. In this workshop, we'll figure out how to "Keep it Real" while "Keepin' it Professional" and how to use all of the things that make us who we are to our advantage. You don't have to change yourself to be your best self and anyone who wants you to is denying themselves the pleasure of your company.

Let's Talk About Your Immigrant Story!

In recent years, we have seen an increased resentment towards immigrants coming to the United States. Whether it is stereotyping Mexicans as criminals or people from India and China as job stealers, we seem to have gotten away from the founding edict of this nation, a nation that welcomes the stranger and promotes liberty and justice for all. In this workshop, we'll explore your family's immigrant story. Some people have come here by choice and others by force and we'll explore the ways your family's history coincides with the events of the time. Please come with as much info. as possible as to where your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, etc. hail.

Lifer: Living Life in the World of Independent Schools – offered one time

School can be a great place. You have friends, challenging classes, great teachers and seemingly endless opportunities to explore ideas. It can also be a tough place sometimes. Some friends might be frenemies, that one class could be more challenging than you imagined, and being one of few kids from your background may be hard. In any of those situations, you make the most out of your time at an independent school, right? Well you're in luck! Geneive Rankle, independent school lifer, director of financial aid at BB&N and mom of two independent school students is glad to talk through ways to make the most of independent schools for life.

Living in the Gray Space: Walking Through the World as a Bi-Racial or Multi-Racial Person

An interactive exploration of what it's like to be without a distinct racial identity in this country, in which so much of our tribal affiliation is determined by our perceived race. This will be a dialogue where you will be able to both put voice to thoughts you've worried you couldn't share, and put a name on feelings that you've had, even if you've never quite realized you've had them. By the end of this workshop, every participant will be closer to an answer for the question you've been asked a million times: "What are you?"

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Men of Excellence

Blood. Sweat. Tears. All of these things are precisely what your ancestors sacrificed for your freedoms. YOU are their wildest dreams come true. How will you honor their legacy? How will you tap into that secret strength that will make you a "Man of Excellence"? Come learn, build and commit to snatching your dreams!

Minorities Matter

Around the globe, minority groups have faced discrimination and continuously battle for their right to be treated equally with their majority counterpart. After listening to stories from celebrities and everyday people who have battled with the hardships that come with being a minority, take part in a role play activity where you will put yourself in the shoes of someone from a cultural minority group. Devise ways to increase cultural awareness in your own community.

The Model Minority Problem

What does it mean to be a model minority? Does the notion validate meritocracy and the American dream, or does it hide important social issues facing various groups in American society from view? Does it also affect how one defines self-worth? Our activity and discussion will provide opportunities to explore the model minority stereotype and its real-world consequences.

More Than the Medicine

Sports & video games? Dancing? Musicals? Financial Literacy? What do any of these things have to do with enjoying a successful career in pharmacy? Join pharmacist James Smith for a conversation about how the things you love and your career can be a winning combination!

The Power of Words

Words are powerful. They can raise you up or they can bring you down. How we talk to ourselves, others and about others impacts how we live and finesse in color. This workshop will help you understand how powerful words can be on a personal, social and societal level. We will learn how to be mindful of our words and how to train our brain to focus on words which are positive and empowering.

Prosecutors of Color & The Power of Choice

The discretion prosecutors hold in the courtroom is a power that should be used to provide fair and equal justice, but what does this mean when the definition of "fair and equal" varies from person to person? How do we balance society's interests with those of the victims and defendants that find themselves in a courtroom? This workshop will outline the many factors that are considered when prosecuting a case, from bail arguments to pleas, to trials.

Self-Validation & The Success Mindset: It's About the Inside Game of You

Learn how to use your natural born talents to be successful including recognizing your gifts and being authentically you. This workshop features interactive exercises and tips for how to practice self-knowledge as a tool for your life success.

Think Like an Engineer! – offered one time

In this workshop, work with undergraduate engineering students to apply engineering design principles to solve a STEM challenge involving a wallet.

What's in a Name?

The dictionary defines the word name as: *a word or set of words by which a person, animal, place, or thing is known, addressed, or referred to.* A name is so much more. For many, our names connect us to our families, our ancestors, a story. For others, it defines who we are. This workshop will be an interactive way to explore and tell your story.

Where is the Color at? Social Media and Representation

In today's world, the idea of perception has manifested through our use of social media, from Instagram to Snapchat. However, as these platforms increase, the ways we see ourselves get tested and now more than ever, representation matters. How does our use of social media impact the idea of beauty when it comes to people of color? Is it changing the conversation or is it hindering it? We will look at various examples that have played out these exact questions.

White Ally Conversation (for White Allies)

Gain a better understanding of white identity and the privileges white students are granted because of race. Learn how to use this understanding to be a better friend and ally to people of color. Learn how to use your voice to build a more equitable world.

Chaperone Workshop: Optional Workshop for Chaperone Attendees, During Morning Workshop Time, 10:40 - 11:40 a.m.

Facilitated by Keynote Speaker, Tony DelaRosa
