

**Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education  
22nd Annual PA-NAME Conference  
March 6 – 7, 2020**

*Hosted by*  
**Cabrini University's Center for Urban Education, Equity and Improvement  
Radnor, PA**

**The Fierce Urgency of Now: Naming, Framing and Enacting Solutions for Change!**

*We know through painful experience that freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed. Frankly, I have yet to engage in a direct action campaign that was "well timed" in the view of those who have not suffered unduly from the disease of segregation. "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (1963)*

*We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. "I Have A Dream" (1963)*

*We are now faced with the fact, my friends, that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. "Beyond Vietnam" (1967)*

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s call to respond to the *fierce urgency of now* resonates with educators, leaders and scholars in the 21st century. Despite being illegal for 65 years, enduring segregation along the lines of race and class gives rise to gaps in school funding, disparities in academic scores, and inequities in educational access and opportunities. In Pennsylvania, a recent analysis by the Keystone Research Center found that the spending gap between a typical high-wealth and low-wealth district widened from \$3,058 per student in 2013 to \$3,778 in 2017. Student performance on the 2018 Keystone Exams shows that, overall, proficiency rates have increased, but these gains mask persistent disparities by race, language, gender, and socioeconomic status. Similarly, Education Trust shows that the overall college graduation rate in Pennsylvania colleges and universities has increased, but that the gaps persist for students of color.

In the face of these enduring systemic injustices, how can we, as multicultural educators, leaders and scholars emulate Dr. King's impatience and endeavor to make the promises of democracy real? We are called "for such a time as this" to name, frame and enact interventions, exemplary practices, discourses, and epistemologies to disrupt systems of inequity. This *Call for Proposals* seeks out presentations and workshops featuring research, initiatives, and/or practices that frame and offer solutions to critical issues in a range of educational settings (K-12 schools, colleges and universities, nonprofits, and other settings).

PA-NAME 2020 will charge scholars, educators, and educational leaders to lead with courage, convictions, and a commitment to transform society through the power of education and critically liberating scholarship. The Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education (PA-NAME) annual conference will be held March 6-7, 2020 at Cabrini University in collaboration with the Center for Urban Education, Equity, and Improvement.

### **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

Due Friday, December 13, 2019 no later than 11:59 p.m. EST

Submit proposals online via [pa-name.org](http://pa-name.org)

Decisions announced the week of January 13, 2020

### **Organizing Levels**

Each proposal must indicate one of the following Organizing Levels to which content is directed:

- Introductory — Geared for newcomers to the field of multicultural education.
- Intermediate — Geared for those with some exposure to multicultural education.
- Advanced — Geared for mid-career practitioners of multicultural education.

### **Types of Sessions**

#### **Presentation**

A presentation allows *an individual or up to five presenters* to share their work (such as innovative curriculum and instructional methods, programs and policies, and research findings). Sessions are arranged into 50-minute sessions. Presentations should allow 10 – 15 minutes for audience questions and discussion.

#### **Interactive Workshop**

An interactive workshop provides an opportunity to engage participants in active, cooperative, and/or experiential learning. This session will be 90 minutes in duration. Collaborative sessions that model a lesson or curriculum and engage participants in reflection and inquiry are especially encouraged.

#### **Roundtable**

The roundtable session will be 30 minutes in duration, and provide a forum for small group (6 – 8 participants) consideration of evolving practice, research, and ideas. This format is best suited for nascent ideas for practice and research, evolving practice and preliminary findings.

## Directions for Submissions

All proposals must be submitted online through PA-NAME's website. Please enter the following information via the submission page:

1. **The name and contact information** (including institutional affiliation, email address, and telephone number) **of the lead presenter and all co-presenter(s)**. PA-NAME will notify only the lead presenter of the acceptance or rejection of proposals so lead presenters should keep a copy of the proposal, and should share the acceptance/rejection notice with co-presenters.
2. **Title of proposal**. The title and abstract in the proposal will be used in the conference program for accepted proposals.
3. **Abstract**. The abstract should be no more than 50 words in length. It will be included in the conference program, if the proposal is accepted.
4. **Proposal**. The proposal must not contain any identifying information to ensure blind review. If identifying information is included, the proposal will be rejected. Proposals may be a maximum of 500 words. Please address the following five points (a-e) of information and include the heading of each point in the narrative:
  - a. **List the following four items** at the **top** of the proposal:
    - i. Proposal title
    - ii. Organizing level (introductory, intermediate, advanced)
    - iii. Type of session (presentation, interactive workshop, or roundtable)
  - b. **Content in Relationship to Conference Theme**: Briefly describe the content of your presentation. How will it address the conference theme? What does the presentation seek to accomplish, and what are its objectives?
  - c. **Significance of Content**: Why is the presentation significant? How will it advance our knowledge of or capacity for multicultural education? Include any relevant data, information, or research supporting the presentation. Proposals should make clear how they are adding something new to multicultural education.
  - d. **Audience Interaction and Process**: How will the audience be involved in the session? What handouts or resources will be provided? What is the format of the session (e.g., workshop, simulation/role play, group discussion, lecture, paper presentation, artistic performance, etc.)?
  - e. **Organizing Level and Outcomes**: What is the organizing level and how is presentation geared to that audience? How will the presentation be of use to conference participants? What should participants learn during the session?

## Deadline for Submissions

The deadline for all submissions is 11:59pm (Eastern Time) on Friday, December 13, 2019.

## Evaluation of Proposals

The Proposal Review Committee is charged with selecting a balance of proposals with respect to topics, formats, and audiences. Readers will use the following rubric to review proposals. Final decisions on the proposals will be announced the week of January 13, 2020.

### Proposal Evaluation Rubric

The possible range for individual criteria score is 1-5 with 5 being the highest. The highest possible total combined score for a proposal is 20.

Criteria	Weak (1 – 2)	Average (3)	Strong (4 – 5)	Criteria Score
<b>Conference Theme</b>	No ties to theme even if rhetoric says these are tied in.	Has some ties to theme; for example, in content and/or outcomes.	Clearly addresses conference theme. Overall proposal is clear as to its relation to both.	
<b>Significance of Content</b>	Issues raised are not significant.  Does not add to or reinforce existing work in multicultural education.	Reinforces, but does not add to, current research, knowledge, or practice bases in the field. May shed new light on multicultural issues through the perspective(s) it takes.	Clear information. Rationale is based on current research, knowledge, and/or practice (praxis) in the field, and adds to one or more of these foundations.  Timely. In-depth.	
<b>Audience Interaction &amp; Process of Presentation</b>	No attention to presenter-audience interaction. Process is not clear or is incompatible with time frame.	Some interaction between audience and presenters will take place. Some attention to designing a well-timed and interesting presentation is evident.	Highly interactive pedagogy or presenter-audience interaction is described. Materials described are relevant and innovative. Time frame of presentation is explained.	
<b>Organizing Level, Audience &amp; Participant Outcomes</b>	Proposal does not really address organizing level/ audience. Little or no attention is given to participant outcomes.	Proposal description does not match organizing level, or proposal is too general or too specific to make an accurate assessment. Describes desired participant out- comes, but it is not altogether clear how they will be achieved.	Proposal makes its content level explicit and explains why various groups of attendees with that level of knowledge in the field would be interested. Provides an explicit statement of participant outcomes and how they will be achieved.	
<b>Total Score</b>				