



Looking for a Speaker?

Alliance Partners with Expertise in Education Issues Include:

Achieve

Created by the nation's governors and business leaders, Achieve helps states raise academic standards and achievement so that all students graduate ready for college, work and citizenship. For more information, www.achieve.org

- Michael Cohen, President

Alliance for Excellent Education

Founded in 2001, the Alliance focuses on America's six million most at-risk secondary school students - those in the lowest achievement quartile - who are most likely to leave school without a diploma or to graduate unprepared for a productive future. For more information, www.all4ed.org

- Bob Wise, President

Civic Enterprises

Civic Enterprises is a public policy firm that helps corporations, nonprofits, foundations, universities and governments develop and spearhead innovative public policies to strengthen our communities and country. Created to enlist the private, public and nonprofit sectors to help address our Nation's toughest problems, Civic Enterprises draws on some of the best minds in the country to fashion new initiatives and strategies that achieve measurable results. For more information, www.civicenterprises.net

- John Bridgeland, President

Coalition for Community Schools

The Coalition for Community Schools is an alliance of national, state and local organizations in education K-16, youth development, community planning and development, family support, health and human services, government and philanthropy as well as national, state and local community school networks. For more information, www.communityschools.org

- Martin Blank, President and CEO

Communities in Schools

CIS creates comprehensive, locally controlled and owned support systems around schools. Almost 200 local CIS affiliates in 27 states and the District of Columbia helped more than 1.4 million students and their families connect to resources directly through CIS during the 2005-2006 school year. In partnership with the local school system, CIS identifies the most critical needs of students



and families that are preventing children from succeeding in school and in life. For more information, www.cisnet.org

- Bill Milliken, Founder
- Dan Cardinali, Executive Director

Community Matters

Community Matters envisions a society of safe, healthy, productive, and sustainable communities, where all youth and adults belong, join together, learn from one another, and serve the greater good. Their mission is to promote positive youth development. We equip individuals and organizations with the knowledge and tools to build communities where all children and youth can feel safe, connected, and empowered. For a preview, www.community-matters.org/presents.htm

- Rick Phillips, Executive Director

Corporation for National & Community Service

The Corporation for National and Community Service plays a vital role in supporting the American culture of citizenship, service and responsibility. A catalyst for change and a champion for the ideal that every American has skills and talents to give, the Corporation is the nation's largest grantmaker supporting service and volunteering. For more information, www.nationalservice.org

- David Eisner, Chief Executive Officer

Education Week

Editorial Projects in Education Inc. publishes *Education Week*, American education's newspaper of record. Their primary mission is to help raise the level of awareness and understanding among professionals and the public of important issues in American education. They cover local, state, and national news and issues from preschool through the 12th grade.

- Chris Swanson, Director of Editorial Projects in Education Resource Center

Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement is the world's largest organization dedicated to educating students in grades K-12 about entrepreneurship, work readiness, and financial literacy through experiential, hands-on programs. For more information, www.ja.org

- Sean Rush, President and CEO

Jobs for America's Graduates

Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) is a school-to-career program implemented in 700 high schools, alternative schools, community colleges, and middle schools across the country and United Kingdom. For more information, www.jag.org

- Kenneth Smith, President



John Hopkins University – Center for Social Organization of Schools

The Center maintains a staff of full-time, highly productive sociologists, psychologists, social psychologists, and educators who conduct programmatic research to improve the education system, as well as full-time support staff engaged in developing curricula and providing technical assistance to help schools use the Center's research. For more information, , www.csos.jhu.edu

- Robert Balfanz, Associate Research Scientist
- Nettie Legters, Associate Research Scientist

National Drop-out Prevention Center

The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network is to serve as a research center and resource network for practitioners, researchers, and policymakers to reshape school and community environments to meet the needs of youth in at-risk situations so these students receive the quality education and services necessary to succeed academically and graduate from high school. For more information, www.dropoutprevention.org

- Jay Smink, Executive Director

National Education Association

NEA believes every child in America, regardless of family income or place of residence, deserves and needs a quality education. NEA believes that quality education begins with a quality teacher in every classroom. NEA is the nation's largest professional employee organization. Its 3.2 million members include elementary and secondary teachers, higher education faculty, education support professionals, school administrators, retired educators, and college students preparing to teach. For more information, www.nea.org

- Reginald (Reg) Weaver, President
- Sheila Simmons, Director of Office of Human and Civil Rights

Highlighted Speakers from Recently Held Summits Include

Ron Clark

Ron Clark has been called "America's Educator." His work with disadvantaged students in rural North Carolina and in inner-city Harlem garnered worldwide attention, and he was invited to the White House on three separate occasions to be honored by the President and Mrs. Clinton. He has been interviewed by Katie Couric on the Today Show, and he has appeared twice on the Oprah Winfrey Show. Ms. Winfrey even featured him in her magazine and named him her first "Phenomenal Man." In addition, Ron's experiences as a teacher are the subject of the critically acclaimed movie, "The Ron Clark Story," that stars Matthew Perry in the lead role. See Ron in action by [viewing this video](#) and contact his office for engagements by [clicking here](#).



Dr. Irving Hamer, Jr.

Dr. Irving Hamer is one of the nation's foremost leaders and activists for education reform. His distinguished career in academia and the public, nonprofit and private sectors is marked by innovative policies and programs. As Deputy Superintendent of School Improvement, Dr. Hamer developed and managed implementation of the School Improvement Zone for the Miami-Dade County Public Schools in Florida, and results challenge conventional wisdom about school improvement in urban centers. During his 30-plus years as an educator, Dr. Hamer has served as NYC Deputy Commissioner of Education, Board of Education member, school administrator, teacher, and professor. His entire career has been dedicated to improving education for the most vulnerable and fragile students in the nation's school systems. To connect with Dr. Hamer, please e-mail him at IHAMER180062@aol.com.

Speakers Bureaus

A more general approach to finding expert speakers on this issue would be to contact speakers bureaus. We have listed a few of the major national bureaus below for your reference.

- All American Speakers (www.allamericanspeakers.com) specializes in placing premier celebrity talent with access to sports and Hollywood celebrities.
- Executive Speakers Bureau (www.executivespeakers.com) offers a full service bureau of national and local speakers.
- Motivational Speakers Bureau (www.speakersbureau.com) provides motivational, professional and keynote speakers for events.
- Nationwide Speakers Bureau (www.nationwidespeakers.com) is available to find speakers for any topic including areas of ethics, creativity and politics.
- Washington Speakers Bureau (www.washingtonspeakers.com) has a reputation for great speakers from various market sectors, i.e. political, business, entertainment, medical, education, youth and more.