



OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL
EDREDESIGN
THE EDREDESIGN LAB



Summer Institute

Transforming Place through
Neighborhood Leadership

August 1-5, 2022

Speaker Biographies

(in order of appearance)



Paul Reville

Francis Keppel Professor of Practice of Educational Policy and Administration & Founding Director of EdRedesign, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Professor **Paul Reville** is the founder and director of the EdRedesign Lab. He returned to the Harvard Graduate School of Education as the Francis Keppel Professor of Practice of Educational Policy and Administration in 2013, having just completed nearly five years of service as the secretary of education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As Governor Deval Patrick's top education advisor, Reville established the Executive Office of Education and had oversight of higher education, K-12, and early education in the nation's leading student achievement state. He served in the Governor's Cabinet and played a leading education reform role on matters ranging from the Achievement Gap Act of 2010 and Common Core State Standards to the Commonwealth's highly successful Race to the Top proposal. He is particularly interested in matters of federal and state education policy and is now concentrating his work on the design of 21st century learning systems, braiding schooling, health/social supports, and enrichments to close learning and opportunity gaps. Prior to joining the Patrick Administration, Reville had chaired the Massachusetts State Board of Education, founded the Rennie Center for Education Research and Policy, co-founded the Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education (MBAE), chaired the Massachusetts Reform Review Commission, and the Massachusetts Commission on Time and Learning, and served as executive director of the Pew Forum on Standards-Based Reform, a national think tank that convened the U.S.'s leading researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to set the national standards agenda. Reville played a central role in MBAE's development of and advocacy for Massachusetts historic Education Reform Act of 1993. Reville has been a member of the HGSE faculty since 1997 and has served as director of the Education Policy and Management Program. Reville's career, which combines research, policy, and practice, began with service as a VISTA volunteer/youth worker. He served as a teacher and principal of two urban, alternative high schools. Some years later, he founded a local education foundation that was part of the Public Education Network. He is a board member and adviser to a host of organizations, and a frequent writer and speaker on education reform and policy issues. He edited the book entitled, *A Decade of Urban School Reform: Persistence and Progress in the Boston Public Schools*. He holds five honorary doctorate degrees. Last and most importantly, he is the father of four children.



Geoffrey Canada

**Founder & President, Harlem Children's Zone |
Founder, William Julius Wilson Institute**

Geoffrey Canada is a leading advocate for children and innovator in the field of education. Canada grew up in one of the most devastated communities in the United States, the South Bronx, raised by a single mother. He earned his bachelor's degree from Bowdoin College and went on to earn a master's degree at Harvard University. He vowed to help children who grew up in disadvantaged circumstances to succeed through education. Canada created Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ), a birth-through-college network of programs that today serves more than 13,000 low-income students and families in a 97-block area of Central Harlem in New York City. The unprecedented success of HCZ has attracted the attention of the media and leaders around the world. In 2011, Canada was named one of the world's most influential people by Time magazine and as one of the 50 greatest leaders by Fortune magazine in 2014. President Barack Obama created the Promise Neighborhoods Initiative to replicate the HCZ model across the country. Canada has been profiled extensively in the media, including The New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, 60 Minutes, The Oprah Winfrey Show, and Forbes, among others. He was featured in the documentary about the dire state of American education, Waiting for Superman, and has received more than 25 honorary degrees including ones from Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Dartmouth, and the University of Pennsylvania. He has also influenced a new generation of education reformers through his writings, having published essays in The New York Times, The New York Daily News, The Chronicle of Philanthropy, as well as two critically acclaimed books on poverty and violence: *Fist Stick Knife Gun* and *Reaching Up for Manhood*. After 30 years with the organization, Canada stepped down in 2014 as Chief Executive Officer of HCZ but continues to serve as President. In June 2020, Canada founded William Julius Wilson Institute, which serves as the national platform to help communities impacted by poverty design and implement their own place-based programs. Its first initiative was to combat the devastation of COVID-19 in Black communities.

Masters of Ceremony



Hayling Price

**Senior Managing Director of External Engagement,
Harlem Children's Zone**

Hayling Price serves as Senior Managing Director of External Engagement for the Harlem Children's Zone. He drives the organization's efforts to scale impact by leading HCZ's public policy and advocacy work while providing strategic advisory support to place-based organizations across the country. He also co-founded the William Julius Wilson Institute, HCZ's national hub for place-based, people-focused solutions that open pathways to social and economic mobility. Before joining HCZ Hayling was a strategy consultant at FSG, where he developed the firm's systems change practice, advised social sector clients on education initiatives, and facilitated the launch of collective impact initiatives in several communities. Prior to joining FSG Hayling worked as a federal advocate promoting public policy impacting youth and families. Through this work he supported the rollout of the Promise Neighborhoods initiative, providing advocacy support and technical assistance to cradle-to-career efforts nationwide. Hayling received his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania. He also received his MBA from Harvard Business School and MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School.



Rob Watson

Director for Partnerships and Community Impact, EdRedesign Lab at the Harvard Graduate School of Education

Rob Watson is the Director for Partnerships and Community Impact at the EdRedesign Lab at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. His work has focused on themes of civic engagement, community development and educational equity in the US, Latin America and Africa. Prior to joining EdRedesign, served as a consultant and advisor to institutions that include the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, FUSE Corps, Tufts University Tisch College of Civic Life, the Institute of Politics at Harvard Kennedy School, the Foundation for Louisiana, Obama Foundation and Harlem Children's Zone. A former Peace Corps Volunteer, Rob has co-founded five civil society organizations in Paraguay, including, Teach for Paraguay (member of the global Teach For All Network) and the Paraguayan Government's first national youth service program. More recently, he partnered with the Mayor, Superintendent of Schools and community leaders from his hometown of Poughkeepsie, New York to co-found the Poughkeepsie Children's Cabinet, a collective impact organization advancing cradle-to-career solutions for children, youth and families. Rob is also a co-founder of Lead for Poughkeepsie, a new AmeriCorps program affiliated with Lead for America that aims to attract and retain homegrown talent to pursue social impact careers in his hometown and the Mid-Hudson Valley region of New York State. Rob is a World Economic Forum Global Shaper and former Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Millennium Scholar. He holds a B.A. from Harvard College, an Ed.M in Education Policy and Management from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and a Mid-Career Master's in Public Administration from Harvard Kennedy School.



Troy Smith

Senior Managing Director, Programs, Harlem Children's Zone

Troy Smith is the Senior Managing Director of Programs at Harlem Children's Zone. During his 11-year tenure at the organization, he has served in many different capacities— beginning as a tutor then moving on to program coordinator, program director, and managing director, to his current position on the Executive Team. Troy was raised in Harlem and attended public schools in the community. A longtime Harlem resident, Troy possesses a deep personal connection to the organization's work, coupled with over a decade of programmatic experience. Troy earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Hamilton College. He also earned a master's degree in mathematics from the City University of New York (CUNY) at Lehman College, and a master's degree in liberal studies, with a focus on urban education, from CUNY's Graduate Center.



Andrea Levere

President Emerita, Prosperity Now Executive Fellow, Yale School of Management

Andrea Levere is an Executive Fellow at the Yale School of Management, hosted by the International Center for Finance in partnership with the Program for Social Enterprise. In this role, Andrea has drafted the Blueprint for Enterprise Capital to scale the delivery of "philanthropic equity" for nonprofits and social

ventures. She is working with the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, Citi Foundation, California Wellness Foundation, Federal Reserve Banks of NY and SF, and other partners to advance the practice of Enterprise Capital to build financial strength and resilience and reduce the racial wealth gap in the nonprofit sector. She is President Emerita of Prosperity Now, an organization that designs and operates major national initiatives to integrate financial capability services into systems serving low-income people, build assets and savings, close the racial wealth divide and advance research and policies that expands economic mobility for all. She stepped down in August 2019 after spending 15 years as President and 27 years with the organization and now works with the Racial Wealth Equity team to provide financial management and capitalization training to nonprofits led by people of color. Ms. Levere was a member of the Community Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors for three years, serving as Vice Chair in 2018 and Chair in 2019. In 2013, President Obama appointed Ms. Levere to the National Cooperative Bank's (NCB) Board of Directors and she has recently been appointed as Board Chair of their new CDFI, Rochdale Capital. She is a founding investor and the Chair of ROC USA, a national social venture that converts manufactured home parks into resident owned cooperatives. She is Vice Chair of the EBA Fund, a CDFI that manages loan sales while creating a secondary market for the nation's largest microlenders. She was a member of the FDIC's Committee on Economic Inclusion, Morgan Stanley's Community Development Advisory Board, Capital One's Community Advisory Council as well as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Ms. Foundation for Women. She holds a BA from Brown University and an MBA from Yale University.



Tom Bartlett
Co-Founder & President, 20 Degrees

Tom Bartlett is Co-Founder and President of 20 Degrees. 20 Degrees helps nonprofits, social enterprises and child care providers build financial resilience and new forms of revenue, equipping leaders with the tools necessary to navigate the future. 20 Degrees' products and services allow organizations to combine earned income, traditional fundraising and other cutting-edge ways to fund change, diversifying their sources of revenue. Having built his career at a top Fortune 50 company, he is a recognized corporate social responsibility (CSR) social change leader with over fifteen years' experience developing funding models, managing teams and deploying community investments. Tom began his career at The Boeing Company as an engineer and later transitioned into the CSR organization, combining his technical and community leadership experience to create shared value for company and community stakeholders. Tom brings both an engineer's and CSR professional's skill-set to his work with social enterprises. From modeling to deep strategic analysis, Tom delivers financial insights and design-thinking to customers. Tom is the current board chair of Jubilee JumpStart, an early education center providing quality care to low-income families in D.C. He also formerly chaired the Washington Area Women's Foundation Early Care and Education Funders Collaborative, a collection of leading regional foundations and businesses committed to improving early care and education across the Washington Metro region. Tom was recognized by Washington Business Journal as a 2022 40 Under 40 Honoree and is a member of Leadership Greater Washington class of 2020. Originally from Minnesota, Tom graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with an engineering degree and a minor in technical communications. He is an avid runner, rock climber, fly fisherman and stone-skipping enthusiast. Tom lives in the District of Columbia with his wife and two daughters.



Jim Shelton
Chief Investment and Impact Officer, Blue Meridian Partners

As Chief Investment and Impact Officer at Blue Meridian Partners, **Jim Shelton** leads Blue Meridian's efforts to continuously increase the impact, reach, and influence of our investees and investments. This includes driving the evolution, expansion, and ongoing implementation of Blue Meridian's regional investment strategy — integrating the work of expanding effective solutions nationwide with developing regional and local strategies that capture the compounding benefits of continuums of services — to produce the strongest possible outcomes for children and families and achieve community-wide impact. Jim also oversees Blue Meridian's efforts to investigate new areas where significant focused capital can help solve problems at scale. Areas Jim will explore include new approaches to economic and social mobility and racial equity; supporting comprehensive place-based and regional strategies; the roles of for-profits, policy and advocacy; and the potential to leverage targeted universalism to have broad impacts. Before becoming Chief Investment and Impact Officer, he was Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the organization, bringing to Blue Meridian deep multi-sector experience and expertise on the intersection of innovation, entrepreneurship, and systems change. Jim is currently a Senior Social Impact Advisor to KKR and Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institute. Prior to joining Blue Meridian, he founded Amandla Enterprises, an impact investment and advisory firm, and was President of Education for the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, President and Chief Impact Officer at 2U, and Deputy Secretary of the US Department of Education. Jim holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from Morehouse College as well as master's degrees in both business administration and education from Stanford University.



Raj Chetty
William A. Ackman Professor of Public Economics, Harvard University
Director, Opportunity Insights

Raj Chetty is the William A. Ackman Professor of Public Economics at Harvard University. He is also the Director of Opportunity Insights, which uses “big data” to understand how we can give children from disadvantaged backgrounds better chances of succeeding. Chetty's research combines empirical evidence and economic theory to help design more effective government policies. His work on topics ranging from tax policy and unemployment insurance to education and affordable housing has been widely cited in academia, media outlets, and Congressional testimony. Chetty received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 2003 and is one of the youngest tenured professors in Harvard's history. Before joining the faculty at Harvard, he was a professor at UC-Berkeley and Stanford University. Chetty has received numerous awards for his research, including a MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship and the John Bates Clark medal, given to the economist under 40 whose work is judged to have made the most significant contribution to the field.



Teresa Wilke
Owner and Principal, Silver Arrow Strategies

Teresa Wilke is a federal grants consultant who provides program design and proposal writing support for cross-sector coalitions and community-led movements nationwide, with a particular focus on place-based investments that address education equity, wealth-building, community reinvestment, social determinants of health and racial justice.

She has helped clients secure over \$140 million in grant awards, including funds from RWJF, NSF, ED, DOJ, ACF, SAMHSA, CMS and HRSA. A Grant Professionals Association-approved trainer, Teresa leverages over 20 years of federal grant writing experience, as well as her prior service as a federal appointee in the Clinton Administration White House, HUD, EPA and EEOC. Teresa earned her MBA from Washington University in St. Louis, where she teaches government grant writing to graduate students in the fields of social work, public health, and social policy at the Brown School. Teresa is the Owner and Principal of Silver Arrow Strategies, LLC.



Tiffany Nobles
MPA, GPC
Owner, T. Nobles Grant Consulting, LLC

A grant professional for over 10 years, **Tiffany Nobles**, MPA, GPC operates T. Nobles Grant Consulting, LLC as a full time consultant working with nonprofits and small businesses at various stages of their grant seeking journey. She holds a Masters of Public Administration, a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science, and recently earned her Grant Professional Certified (GPC) credential.



Michael McAfee
President & CEO, PolicyLink

Dr. Michael McAfee, President and CEO, leads PolicyLink, a national research and action institute focused on advancing racial and economic equity: just and fair inclusion for everyone living in America. He brings over 20 years of experience as a leader who has partnered with organizations across the public, philanthropic, and private sectors to realize this vision. During his time at PolicyLink, Michael has played a leadership role in securing Promise Neighborhoods as a permanent federal program, led efforts to improve outcomes for more than 300,000

children, and facilitated the investment of billions of dollars in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty. He is also the catalyst for the growing body of work on corporate racial equity at PolicyLink. Furthermore, Michael McAfee is building a well-coordinated and sustained campaign to “win on equity” -- to free America’s democracy from the oppressive blend of patriarchy, capitalism, and racism. Before joining PolicyLink, Michael served as senior community planning and development representative in the Chicago Regional Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). He earned his doctorate of education in human and organizational learning from George Washington University and completed Harvard University’s Executive Program in Public Management.



Alan Cohen
Founder & CEO, Child Poverty Action Lab

Alan Cohen is the Founder & CEO of the Child Poverty Action Lab (CPAL), a Dallas-based nonprofit that works to advance economic mobility by using data to broker collaboration and innovation between residents, community organizations, and local government agencies. Prior to CPAL, Alan was best known for his work as the architect of the Dallas Independent School District's nationally recognized early childhood education strategy. Additionally, he served as chief of Washington State's public-private partnership for early learning. He has served in appointed positions as the Co-Chair of the Dallas Mayor's Task Force on Safe Communities and as a member of the Dallas Mayor's Steering Committee on Workforce Development. He also volunteers on the boards of TexProtects, Dallas Kids First, United to Learn, and Workforce Solutions of Greater Dallas. Cohen earned his MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and his BA in Sociology from Tulane University. He is also a recent graduate of the Presidential Leadership Scholars program, which is a collaboration among the Presidential Centers of George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Lyndon B Johnson.



Abby Hiller
Research Translation Manager, Opportunity Insights

Abby Hiller is the Research Translation Manager at Opportunity Insights. She has her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Government with a Minor in Economics from Cornell University. Prior to joining Opportunity Insights, Abby was a researcher at FXM Associates Economic Planning and Research where she worked on municipal economic development projects, as well as at JLL where she researched and advised on real estate transactions across Greater Boston. Abby currently serves on the Planning Board in Brookline, Massachusetts.



Matthew Staiger
Research Scientist, Opportunity Insights

Matthew Staiger is a Research Scientist at Opportunity Insights. His research investigates the determinants of economic opportunity with the goal of identifying policies that would be effective at promoting upward mobility. He received his PhD in economics from the University of Maryland in 2021. Learn more about his research at his personal site.



Cara Pugh
CEO & Founder, Cara C. Pugh, Consulting LLC

Cara C. Pugh, M.Ed. is the CEO and Founder of Cara C. Pugh, Consulting LLC. Cara guides communities in reimagining equitable policies, learning, and community power. Currently the manager of National Programs at Innovate Public Schools and an Interdisciplinary Research Leadership Fellow with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Cara coaches and supports community leaders, residents, and community-based organizations about power building and holding power through policy and systems level

change. Pugh received a bachelor's degree in Public Policy, a double minor in Education and African American & Diaspora Studies from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She received a master's in education from the University of Missouri, St. Louis.



Parvathi Santhosh-Kumar
Vice President of Equitable Results, StriveTogether

Parvathi “Parv” Santhosh-Kumar is a future-oriented and collaborative systems change leader advancing racial justice to measurably improve the well-being of children and families furthest from opportunity. She is Vice President of Equitable Results at StriveTogether, a national movement to help every child succeed in school and in life, regardless of race, zip code or circumstance. Parv leads overall strategy and implementation for the Cradle to Career Network, including coaching and capability-building, trust-based philanthropy and grantmaking, convenings and network events, and learning, data and evaluation to advance better and more equitable outcomes for over 14 million young people across 70 regions in the US. Parv previously served Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel on executing his education policy agenda. She is a leader in the Global Shapers Community, where she co-authored the Millennial Manifesto and was selected as one of 50 young leaders to contribute to dialogues at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos. Parv earned a BA in American Studies from Northwestern and an MPP from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. She lives in Chicago.



Karen Kelley-Ariwoola
Chief Operations Officer, Northside Achievement Zone

Karen Kelley-Ariwoola, Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ) Chief Operating Officer, long-time resident of North Minneapolis is a distinguished senior executive who has spent her career working at the intersection of community needs and assets, philanthropic resources, and programmatic and policy solutions. In her work, Karen champions racial equity and inclusion to remove structural and institutional barriers for children and families—with a passion for education. Karen came to NAZ in 2019 after serving as Vice President of Advancement at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School and as Chief of External Relations for the Harvest Network of Schools. Previously, Karen spent nearly twenty years in senior leadership at The Minneapolis Foundation (including serving as Interim President and CEO 2006/2007). Her early career experience includes management roles in organizations focused on teen parenting, early childhood education and family support. Karen is a former member and chair of the Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ) board, former chair of the Minnesota Council of Foundations, and she also served on the national board of the Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE). She holds a M.A. in Family Support Studies from DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois and a B.S. in Early Childhood Education from Western Illinois University. Karen has received numerous professional awards including the Arthur Weinberg Memorial Prize for her Master's thesis, the ABFE 21st Annual James Joseph Lecturer and Leadership Award, for excellence in philanthropy and the “Nancy” Award for Leadership in Early Childhood.



Dreama Gentry **President & CEO, Partners for Rural Impact**

As the founder, president and CEO of Partners for Rural Impact, **Dreama Gentry** works to ensure the success of all rural students. For 25 years, those efforts were focused on Appalachian Kentucky, where she developed strategies to increase investment and improve outcomes on six indicators of success – kindergarten readiness, third-grade reading, eighth-grade math, high-school graduation, postsecondary degree attainment, and individual wellness. Through the experience of designing and leading the first rural Promise Neighborhood, she created a place-based, cradle-to-career approach for improving outcomes for rural students and communities across the country. The model has been shared with and adopted by communities across the country, including Walla Walla and the Yakima Valley in Washington, Cocke County in Tennessee, and South Carolina, Mississippi and Texas. In 2018, Gentry launched the annual Rural Summit to bring practitioners and leaders from across the nation to share inspirations and ideas for improving the educational outcomes for students from rural communities. An Annie E. Casey Children and Family Fellow, she also serves on the board of directors for the Pine Mountain Settlement School and Fahe, a community development non-profit.



Michael Koehler **Partner, KONU**

Michael Koehler partners with his clients to choreograph powerful leadership development programs. A former national champion in Rock 'n' Roll Acrobatic Dance, he is attuned to tensions between technique and creativity, between order and improvisation, and the critical importance of timing. In order to help changemakers bring about the organizational and societal changes that they envision, Michael supports (and provokes) his clients to make leaps in their own development. Michael's experiential methods build from pedagogical training at the University of Marburg, where he obtained a Master in Education, and at Georgetown University, where he obtained a Certificate in Leadership Coaching. Michael has experienced first-hand the frustrations of generating change within multi-stakeholder systems. He founded bilingual K-12 charter schools and has a long list of his own leadership failures from attempting to generate changes in the German education system. He reflected deeply on these failures during his studies at Harvard for the Master in Public Administration degree and zeroed in on the importance of leadership development in creating systems change. He now has one focus: developing leadership. He teaches "Leadership Confronted" to mid-career students at New York University, exploring issues of role, identity, and diversity around global challenges. He also founded the Adaptive Leadership Network in order to create holding environments for adaptive leaders and adaptive leadership educators to support and learn from one another. As a gay man born into a Seventh Day Adventist family, Michael has explored ways in which identity shapes how leadership is exercised. He thinks often about distinctions between "role" and "self." In Michael's case, this includes the questioning of assumptions he's developed as a first-generation university graduate from a post-industrial German town and as a first-generation immigrant to the US.



Eshauna Smith

Director of Community Impact, Ballmer Group

Eshauna Smith is Ballmer Group's first national Director of Community Mobilization, helping to improve economic mobility and reduce racial disparities at scale through Place Based Partnerships, with a specific focus on building talent pipelines to accelerate progress. Previously, Eshauna served as the CEO/President for Urban Alliance for 8 years.

Under Eshauna's leadership, Urban Alliance strengthened and grew its operations across three new cities, developed new national corporate partnerships, and expanded its workforce readiness programming to serve younger high school grades – more than doubling the number of youth served each year. Eshauna has received numerous recognitions and awards for her leadership and advocacy work on behalf of youth and families, most recently being named a 2019 Murdoch Community Hero and a Women Who Mean Business honoree by the Washington Business Journal. In 2015, Eshauna conducted a TEDx talk entitled the “Lucky Ones” to shine a light on the uneven distribution of access to opportunity within underserved communities. Prior to joining Urban Alliance, Eshauna was Senior Policy Advisor for Disconnected Youth and Workforce Development in the DC Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education, where she led the development of Raise DC, the District's first citywide cradle-to-career partnership. Between 2006-2010, Eshauna served as the founding Executive Director of the DC Alliance of Youth Advocates. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley and a Masters of Public Affairs from the University of Texas, Austin.



James P. Honan

Senior Lecturer on Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education

James P. Honan has served on the faculty at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) since 1991. He is also a faculty member at the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS), an affiliate faculty member with the Center for Public Leadership (CPL) at HKS, and a member of the Faculty Executive Committee of the Advanced Leadership Initiative

(ALI) at Harvard University. He is Educational Co-Chair of the Institute for Educational Management (IEM) at HGSE and Faculty Chair of Emirates Leadership Initiative Executive Education Program and Nonprofit Financial Stewardship (NFS) at HKS, a fully online executive education program. He has also been a faculty member in a number of Harvard's other executive education programs and professional development institutes for educational leaders and non-profit administrators, including the Harvard Seminar for New Presidents, the Management Development Program, the ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute, Crisis Leadership in Higher Education (Faculty Co-Chair), HGSE/Grantmakers for Education Program (Faculty Chair), the Principals' Center, and the Harvard Institute for School Leadership at the Harvard Graduate School of Education; Governing for Non-Profit Excellence, Strategic Perspectives in Non-Profit Management, NAACP Board Retreat, and Habitat for Humanity Leadership Conference (Faculty Section Chair) at the Harvard Business School (HBS); and Strategic Management for Charter School Leaders, Achieving Excellence in Community Development, American Red Cross Partners in Organizational Leadership Program and US/Japan Workshops on Accountability and International NGOs at the Harvard Kennedy School. He has served as Faculty Co-Chair of the Performance Measurement for Effective Management of Nonprofit Organizations program, an institute developed by the Initiative on Social Enterprise at HBS and the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Harvard University and served previously as Educational Chair of HGSE's Management Development Program. He has also taught in executive education programs and professional development institutes in Aruba, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia,

Guatemala, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Panama, Thailand, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela. He has served as a consultant on strategic planning, resource allocation, and performance measurement and management to numerous colleges, universities, schools, foundations, and non-profit organizations both nationally and internationally. His teaching and research interests include financial management of non-profit and education organizations, strategic planning, organizational performance measurement and management issues, and higher education administration. He is the author or co-author of several publications, including: "Monitoring Institutional Performance," for the Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities; "New Yardsticks for Measuring Financial Distress," (with Kent Chabotar) for the American Association for Higher Education; "How Might Data Be Used?" (with Cathy Trower); "Building Strategic Accountability Systems for International NGOs (with L. David Brown and Mark H. Moore); Scaling Up Success: Lessons Learned from Technology-Based Educational Improvement (co-edited with Chris Dede and Laurence Peters); "The U.S. Academic Profession: Key Policy Challenges" (with Damtew Teferra) in Higher Education; Using Cases in Higher Education: A Guide for Faculty and Administrators (with Cheryl Sternman Rule), Casebook I: Faculty Employment Policies (co-edited with Cheryl Sternman Rule), and Teaching Notes to Casebook I: Faculty Employment Policies (with Cheryl Sternman Rule). He received the Fussa Distinguished Teaching Award from the Harvard University Extension School in 1995. He was an Associate Director of HGSE's Programs in Professional Education and served as Institutional Research Coordinator in the Office of Budgets at Harvard University and Project Analyst in Harvard's University Financial Aid Office. His duties included preparing analytic reports on tuition and financial aid, faculty salaries, sponsored research, and other issues for the Harvard Corporation (President and Fellows), one of Harvard's governing boards. He has also been a research assistant at the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) Clearinghouse on Higher Education in Washington, D.C. and served as Director of Institutional Research and Planning and Executive Assistant to the President at Lesley University in Cambridge, MA. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Marist College (NY) and the National Association of Independent Schools (Washington, DC). He served previously as a trustee of Buckingham Browne and Nichols School (MA), Fitchburg State College (MA), Dana Hall School (MA), ERB (Educational Records Bureau (NY) (Board Chair), LASPAU – Academic and Professional Programs for the Americas at Harvard University, and the Plan For Social Excellence (NY), a private foundation. He has also served as Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Child Care Resource Center, Inc., a non-profit regional child care resource and referral agency in Cambridge, MA. He holds a B.A. from Marist College (NY), an M.A. and Ed.S. in Higher Education from George Washington University (DC), and an Ed.M. and Ed.D. in Administration, Planning, and Social Policy from Harvard University.



Lynne Sacks
Research Director, EdRedesign Lab

Lynne Sacks is the Research Director at the EdRedesign Lab at Harvard Graduate School of Education and leads the Lab's research activities. Lynne has over 20 years of research, non-profit, and policy experience. She heads the ongoing By All Means documentation and evaluation study as well as the Lab's other research. Before joining the Lab, Lynne worked for the Center for Equity and Excellence in Education at the George Washington University and the National Center on Education and the Economy. She has conducted research for the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the American Institutes for Research; she has also served as a consultant to New Profit, the Annenberg Center for School Reform, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Education, and the Commonwealth Corporation. Lynne is a former high school and adult English and English as a Second Language teacher. Lynne received her undergraduate degree from Cornell University, and her M.Ed. and Ed.D. degrees from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.



Wendy Viola

Managing Director, Knowledge and Awareness Building, William Julius Wilson Institute

As Managing Director, Knowledge and Awareness Building for the William Julius Wilson Institute, **Wendy Viola** oversees learning and knowledge management for the Institute. A community psychologist by training, Wendy has 16 years of experience in the field of research and evaluation in academic and applied settings, including the New York City Mayor's Office of ThriveNYC and the Harlem Children's Zone's Research and Evaluation team. Wendy earned her bachelor's from Cornell University and Masters and PhD in Applied Psychology from Portland State University.



Richard Raya

Chief Strategy Officer, MEDA

Richard Raya was the Director of Mission Promise Neighborhood at MEDA for nearly four years, working with partners to improve educational results for San Francisco's children and help families with their income, housing and health needs. Now, as MEDA's Chief Strategy Officer, he is informing equitable recovery efforts in other communities.

Richard is also a member of the Executive Committee for End Child Poverty in California. Prior to this, he was the Chief of Staff for an Oakland City Councilmember, and the Director of Administration for the Alameda County Public Health Department. Richard's great-grandparents were Yaquis who moved to the Bay Area after fighting in the Mexican Revolution. His parents worked as farmworkers and came of age during the Chicano Movement. He has a B.A. and Master's in Public Policy from UC Berkeley. He's accompanied on this journey by his geographer wife, five sons, and their rescue pit bull.



Lisa Early

Director of Families, City of Orlando Parks and Recreation Department

In 2003, Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer appointed **Lisa Early** to serve as Orlando's first Director of Children and Education and, in 2005, promoted her to also serve as Director of the City's Families, Parks and Recreation Department. In this capacity, Ms. Early oversees all of the City's parks, athletic facilities, and neighborhood and senior centers, as well as all of the City's children and youth programs. Ms. Early has embedded evidence-informed practices across the full spectrum of the City's children & youth operations with an unwavering focus on racial and economic equity. As an example, Ms. Early founded Parramore Kidz Zone (PKZ) in 2006 and My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Orlando in 2014. Among other things, PKZ has achieved precipitous declines in juvenile arrests, teen births and child maltreatment rates and improved the academic performance of children in Orlando's highest poverty neighborhood. In 2020, the City appropriated significant funding to scale up My Brother's Keeper Orlando and replicate Parramore Kidz Zone in three additional high poverty Orlando neighborhoods. Prior to her work with the City of Orlando, Ms. Early developed and directed children's programs in the U.S. and abroad since graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Human Development & Family Studies from Cornell University in 1981. She worked for Save the Children, UNICEF and the U.S. Agency for International Development and, upon relocating to Orlando, worked for Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children for twelve

years managing a wide range of federal, state and foundation-funded children's programs. Ms. Early is fully bilingual in English and Spanish and semi-fluent in Swahili.



Othello Meadows
Managing Director, Portfolio Strategy & Management,
Blue Meridian Partners

Othello Meadows provides strategic and executional leadership on critical business priorities and leads innovation efforts which will expand Blue Meridian's work as it evolves. He explores new philanthropic investment opportunities, leads due diligence on potential Blue Meridian investees, and manages relationships with current investees. In his previous role as President and CEO of Seventy Five North Revitalization Corp., a community revitalization and development organization based in Omaha, Nebraska, Othello oversaw the implementation of a \$90 million community redevelopment initiative in addition to managing the direction and daily operations of the organization. Before this, Othello was Executive Director of the Omaha Workforce Collaborative, a non-profit housed at the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, designed to restructure the workforce development efforts of the Omaha metropolitan area. His responsibilities included designing and implementing improved workforce delivery systems for low-income and low-skilled workers in the greater Omaha area and building strategic relationships with the foundations, community-based institutions, and social services agencies. In addition to his work with Blue Meridian, Othello owns and operates The Meadows Group, a neighborhood redevelopment consulting firm, and he also serves on several boards in the Omaha area. Othello earned his BA in Psychology from East Carolina University and his JD from North Carolina Central University School of Law.



Tomeka Hart Wigginton
Managing Director, Portfolio Strategy & Management,
Blue Meridian Partners

Tomeka Hart Wigginton provides strategic and executional leadership on critical business priorities and leads innovation efforts which will expand Blue Meridian's work as it evolves. She explores new philanthropic investment opportunities, leads due diligence on potential Blue Meridian investees, and manages relationships with current investees, focusing on Blue Meridian's place-based partnerships. Prior to joining Blue Meridian, Tomeka served as a Senior Program Officer at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, leading education policy and advocacy grantmaking to civil rights and equity organizations. Before this, she served as Vice President of Strategic Partnerships at the Southern Education Foundation, where she supported the foundation's work to improve student outcomes from early childhood to adulthood and helped implement a broad range of advocacy, research, and coalition building activities impacting public education across the Southern region. Tomeka served two terms on the Memphis City/Shelby County Schools Board, including a term as Board President. She currently serves as the board chair of the Data Quality Campaign and as a member of the Memphis Education Fund board, the First 8 Memphis board, and the University of Tennessee College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences Dean's Advisory Board. She is an Aspen Institute Rodel-Fellowship in Public Leadership fellow and a Pahara-Aspen Institute Education Fellow. Tomeka holds a Certificate in Education Finance from Georgetown University, a JD from the University of Memphis, and an MBA from Kennesaw State University. She received her BS in Marketing Education from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.



Cecilia Gutierrez

Managing Director, Operations & Stakeholder Engagement, Blue Meridian Partners

Cecilia Gutierrez partners with the Chief Impact Officer on strategy development and implementation and works closely with staff to establish and manage team operations to help achieve impact. Previously, Cecilia served as Deputy Director of My Brother's Keeper Alliance (MBKA), Obama Foundation, where she co-led the development and launch of the MBK Framework to Affect Systems Change. Prior to this, Cecilia spent five years as President and CEO of the Miami Children's Initiative, a place-based cradle to career strategy in the community of Liberty City in Miami, FL. Cecilia earned a Master of Public Administration from Baruch College, a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Boston College, and she was a National Urban Fellow.



Ronald F. Ferguson

President & CEO, The Basics, Inc. Adjunct Lecturer, Harvard Kennedy School

Ron Ferguson is an MIT-trained economist whose teaching, research, and social entrepreneurship span topics ranging from state and local economic development, to school reform, to early childhood parenting. A full-time faculty member at Harvard Kennedy School from 1983-2014, he transitioned to an adjunct role in 2015. Ron's current priority is The Basics, an initiative that he launched as Faculty Director of the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard University, to mobilize communities for infant and toddler learning and brain development. His most recent book, coauthored with Tatsha Robertson and published in 2019, is *The Formula: Unlocking the Secrets to Raising Highly Successful Children*. He grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, before earning an undergraduate degree from Cornell University and a PhD from MIT, both in economics.



Keri Randolph

Executive Director, Chattanooga 2.0

Keri Randolph currently serves as the Executive Director of Chattanooga 2.0, the cradle-to-career collaborative of Chattanooga-Hamilton County, Tennessee. Previously, Keri served as the Chief Strategy Officer for Metro Nashville Public Schools where she worked to align resources with the strategic plan to support students and increase student achievement. In this role, she oversaw the investment of more than \$600 million dollars in federal relief and entitlement dollars and philanthropic investments. She designed and led strategic initiatives including Navigator, Accelerating Scholars (high-impact tutoring), Promising Scholars (summer learning), and postsecondary success initiatives including University You. She previously served as the Assistant Superintendent of Innovation at the Hamilton County Department of Education and as the Vice President of Learning at the Public Education Foundation in Chattanooga, Tennessee. She was one of the original architects and leaders of Chattanooga 2.0, and she helped launch and lead the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Children's Cabinet. Keri began her career as a biochemist but quickly found her true love-teaching. She taught high school science for 10 years in North Carolina and has worked for more than 15 years in educator preparation programs in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Louisiana. Prior to returning to K-12 to serve the students of Nashville at the start of the

pandemic, Keri served as Director of PreK-12 Programs and Professor of Practice at Tulane University in New Orleans. Keri earned her bachelor's degree in biochemistry from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA, and a master's of science education from East Carolina University. She was awarded the doctorate in Educational Leadership from the Harvard Graduate School of Education in 2020.



Tauheedah Jackson
Director, Institute for Success Planning, EdRedesign Lab

Tauheedah Jackson serves as the inaugural Director of the Institute for Success Planning at EdRedesign, where she guides communities in designing personalized, relationship-based systems of support for children and youth through cross-sector collaboration. Prior to joining EdRedesign, she was the Director of Place Based Strategy & Community School Initiatives at the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL). In this role, she was responsible for engaging networks of leaders in local communities and supervising the programs, logistics, and daily operations of the Coalition. Tauheedah brings to EdRedesign nearly 22 years of experience working in youth development, local government, philanthropy, school districts and out-of-school time programs. She previously served as the Vice President for Strategic Partnerships for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hartford. In addition, Tauheedah was the Director of the Hartford Partnership for Student Success, leading a cross-sector collaborative partnership that founded and funded the local community schools initiative in Hartford, Connecticut. Under Tauheedah's leadership, Hartford Community Schools became locally and nationally recognized as an exemplar for its systems-building work. Tauheedah was elected by her peers to serve as co-chair for IEL's Coalition for Community Schools Leadership Network and as a member of the Coalition's steering committee, before joining the IEL staff in 2019. A native of Bridgeport, Connecticut, Tauheedah is a Connecticut College graduate and first-generation college student with a background in government and secondary education. She holds a Master's degree in the Education Policy and Management program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Tauheedah is a sought-after presenter and facilitator and sits on various nonprofit boards. She has received several awards recognizing her leadership in the field, including Hartford Business Journal's 40 Under Forty in 2013.



Sonali Nijhawan
Director, AmeriCorps State and National

Sonali Nijhawan has committed her career to developing leaders and growing national service. Most recently, she developed and served as the executive director of Stockton Service Corps, a six-year, \$12 million initiative to address local needs through AmeriCorps. Her professional background also includes extensive experience in education, beginning as an AmeriCorps member with City Year Chicago. Inspired by the students, families, and AmeriCorps community she met, she then went on to help found City Year Sacramento and launch the organization's 22nd site with 50 new AmeriCorps members. Nijhawan also served as the California director of Education Pioneers where she recruited, placed, and supported managers in urban school systems and education nonprofits, empowering people to challenge the status quo of our public education system. She holds a bachelor's in education and psychology from Marquette University and a master's in social work from the University of Maryland, Baltimore.



Daniel López
Senior Director of Partnerships, OneGoal

Daniel López leads high school and postsecondary partner engagement and partnership growth across Massachusetts as the Senior Director of Partnerships. Prior to joining the team, Daniel was a district program leader with EMERGE in the Houston Independent School District. He led the selective college advising and coaching efforts for first generation, low income seniors across 46 high schools. Beyond recent professional roles, Daniel is also an alum of the Latinos For Education Aspiring Latino Leaders and Leadership ISD Civic Voices fellowships. Daniel's journey into the education space began with his service as a Teach For America corps member where he served as a 8th grade English teacher in Spring Branch ISD. He graduated from Boston University with a bachelor's and master's degree in political science. Daniel's mission is to break down barriers which hinder first-generation, low-income students from attending and completing college.



Dr. Bridget Terry Long
**Dean & Saris Professor of Education and Economics,
Harvard Graduate School of Education**

Dr. Bridget Terry Long, Ph.D. is Dean and Saris Professor of Education and Economics at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. A member of the HGSE faculty since 2000, Long served as academic dean from 2013 to 2017 and was previously the faculty director of the Ed.D. and Ph.D. programs from 2010 to 2013. Long is an economist who focuses on the transition from high school to higher education and beyond. Her research examines the impact of factors such as affordability and academic preparation on college student outcomes. Several projects also examine the effects of providing information and assistance with college processes on the likelihood that students engage in important educational activities. As part of this line of research, she and co-authors have developed a series of interventions and worked with multiple schools and other organizations to evaluate the impact of these initiatives on behaviors such as saving for college, the completion of financial aid forms, and persistence in higher education. Long's other research projects examine the role of instructor quality, class size, and support programs on educational attainment. Long is a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) and a member of the National Academy of Education. She is also a Fellow of the International Academy of Education (IAE). Long has won numerous research grants, including major awards from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education, and the National Science Foundation (NSF). She is also on the Board of Directors for MDRC, a nonprofit social policy research organization, and the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE). She was awarded the Robert P. Huff Golden Quill Award from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). Long was appointed to the National Board for Education Sciences (NBES), the advisory panel of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) at the U.S. Department of Education, and she served as Vice Chair and then Chair during her appointment. She has also testified multiple times before Federal Congressional Committees and state government bodies, and she has been a Visiting Fellow at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. Long earned her Ph.D. and M.A. from the Harvard University Department of Economics and her A.B. from Princeton University in Economics with a Certificate in Afro-American Studies.



Kwame Owusu-Kesse
CEO, Harlem Children's Zone

Kwame Owusu-Kesse is the CEO of Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ), a world-renowned education and poverty-fighting organization based in New York. Appointed to the role in 2020, after his tenure as COO, Mr. Owusu-Kesse launched HCZ's transformation into a truly national organization — spearheading efforts to scale its place-based model to under-resourced communities across the country. As part of this effort, he catalyzed HCZ's national COVID-19 Relief and Recovery to support Black and brown communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. Locally, Mr. Owusu-Kesse oversees the administration of HCZ's comprehensive, cradle-to-career services to over 34,000 children and families in Central Harlem. Mr. Owusu-Kesse sees himself in the youth of HCZ. Growing up against a backdrop of poverty and family struggles, he was fortunate to have opportunities as a young boy to receive a high-quality education and reach his academic potential. After graduating high school, Mr. Owusu-Kesse earned his bachelor's degree in Economics from Harvard University and launched his career at Morgan Stanley as an analyst. During his third year with the bank, Mr. Owusu-Kesse was chosen for an externship at HCZ — an experience that paved the way for his career at HCZ. After finishing the externship, Mr. Owusu-Kesse returned to Harvard, where he earned a Master's in Business Administration from the Harvard Business School and a Master's in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School. With his time at Harvard complete, Mr. Owusu-Kesse re-joined HCZ as senior manager and special assistant to the CEO. Two years later, he was promoted to COO and finally, CEO.
