



**Justice-involved Youth Symposium**  
**Sunday, May 3, 2026 – Monday, May 4, 2026**  
***Advancing Youth Justice, Education and Workforce Opportunities***

**Sunday, May 3, 2026: Welcome Dinner**

- **4:00 PM – 5:00 PM:** Arrival & Registration
- **5:00 PM – 8:00 PM:** Welcome Reception & Dinner
  - **Welcome Remarks:**
    - Dr. Lisette Nieves, President, Fund for the City of New York
    - Dr. Gisele Castro, Chief Executive Officer, exalt
    - Dr. Janelle Viruet, Executive Director, Center for Youth & the Future of Work
    - **Keynote Speaker:** Andrea Armstrong, Esq., Dr. Norman C. Francis  
Distinguished Professor of Law, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law

**Monday, May 4, 2024: Conference Day**

- **8:00am – 9:15am:** Light Breakfast
- **9:15am-10:00am:** Welcome Remarks and Opening
  - Dr. Noel S. Anderson, Co-Founder, Center for Youth and the Future of Work, Clinical Professor, Education Leadership & Policy Studies, NYU Steinhardt
- **10:00am – 11:15am: Panel 1:** Restoring Futures: K-12 Education and the Justice System
  - Dr. Travis Brown, Executive Director and Founding Principal, Pharos Academy
  - Dr. Meisha Porter, Visiting Senior Fellow, The Center for Educational Innovation (moderator)
  - Dr. Richard Welsh, Associate Professor of Education and Public Policy, Department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations, Peabody College at Vanderbilt University
- **11:30am – 12:45pm:** Lunch & Keynote Address
  - **Keynote Speaker:** DA Eric Gonzalez
- **1:00pm – 2:15pm: Panel 2:** Models for Educational and Economic Mobility for Justice-involved Youth



- Sharif El-Mekki, Chief Executive Officer, The Center for Black Educator Development (Moderator)
  - K. Bain, Founder & CEO, Community Capacity Development
  - Michelle A. Henry, East Region Executive, Corporate Responsibility, JP Morgan Chase
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- **RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT (2:15 – 2:30) What the Data Tells Us: Patterns, Gaps, and Systemic Insights**
    - **Giza Lopes: New York State Youth Justice Institute (Juvenile Justice Researcher)** [Giza Lopes, PhD - NYS Youth Justice Institute](#)
  
  - **2:30pm – 3:30pm: Panel 3: Ecosystem Partners**
    - Dr. Gisele Castro, Chief Executive Officer, exalt (moderator)
    - Honorable Judge Bruna DiBiase
    - Honorable Judge Gayle Roberts
    - Jordan Stockdale, Deputy Comptroller of Policy, NYC
  
  - **3:40pm – 4:40pm: Panel 4: Future of Work**
    - Dr. Noel S. Anderson, Co-Founder, Center for Youth and the Future of Work, Clinical Professor, Education Leadership & Policy Studies (moderator)
    - David Parks, Managing Director, The Skill Mill
    - Anila Dehart, Advisor, Researcher, Executive Educator on education-workforce coordination and future-of-work, former Global Managing Director at Deloitte
    - Andrew Friedman, Founder and President of AJF Investors
  
  - **6:00pm – 8:30pm: Closing Reception, Dinner and Award Recognition**

***\*Optional and not part of the official programming. We would also like to invite attendees to join on May 2nd for an optional Oxford University Walking Tour from 2:00PM-4:00PM & Dinner at 6:00PM-8:00PM***