

Tomorrow and Today, NJFEA



From the Executive Director’s Desk

Dear Friends of the CFE,

The days are getting longer and bursts of color are starting to appear in flower beds. Spring is just around the corner and with it comes feelings of hope and renewed energy to make it through the last days of winter. That energy extends to our NJFEA chapters this year, which have been growing by leaps and bounds. We currently count over 60 chapters and 675+ students doing amazing work as NJFEA members and we believe we will add to that number before the current school year is finished. If you have not registered your NJFEA chapter this year, please do so. When you register your chapter, your students get wonderful benefits, such as attending our conferences, and we get the data we need to understand the demographic makeup of our members and determine the effectiveness of our programs. Don’t forget, your district can use Title IV funds to pay for student memberships and NJEA affiliated districts can contact their local presidents about using PRIDE funding.

There is an African proverb that states, “If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go together.” The CFE knows that we are stronger when our members actively participate in the process of crafting programming. The NJFEA Constitution has a provision that creates an Advisory Board composed of NJFEA advisors, students, higher education representatives and representatives from NJEA. The current NJFEA

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From the Executive Director's Desk (cont.)

Advisory Board met in January to review last year's events and provide direction on many current initiatives, including our upcoming NJFEA conferences. The conversation was productive and we hope that the changes discussed will enable us to inspire NJFEA members for years to come.

Districts interested in running a new [Tomorrow's Teachers](#) course in 2023–24 in their high school(s) need to register the instructors of that course for training, which will take place on June 27–28 at Rider University. Registration will remain open until May 12. There is no cost for training, and if you are certified in the 11th edition and wish to do some refresher training, you are welcome to register. Breakfast and lunch are provided on both days. The cost of the curriculum is \$575 until May 12.

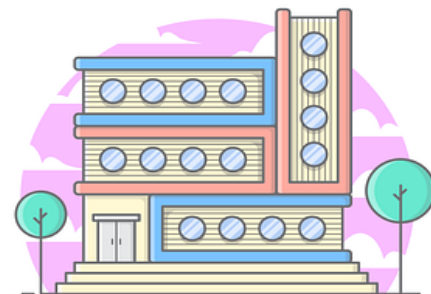
Speaking of summer, don't forget that applications for the 2023 Future Educators Academy close on March 31. It will be a competitive process this year, so make sure to get those applications in on time! See [page 3](#) for more information.

Educators know that teaching and learning go beyond the walls of a classroom and extend into the community. Building relationships requires us to tap into the empathy, compassion, and understanding that form the basis of our shared humanity. We have a responsibility to help communities where we can and our annual service project is a way to put our words into action. NJFEA chapters are currently running two drives in the month of March. The first is collecting personal hygiene items to distribute as comfort kits. The second is collecting art supplies for classrooms. We encourage chapters to take pictures of the collection process and submit them so we can share their good work. Further details can be found on [page 4](#).

It was wonderful to see so many new NJFEA chapters during our January conference at TCNJ and we hope that we will see even more of you at our upcoming conferences. On May 9, we will have an NJFEA conference at Montclair State University with the theme of Working with Communities of Color. On May 25, we will have a middle/high school NJFEA conference at Stockton University with the theme of Learning Together: Celebrating Education to Advance Diversity. Registration is now open for both conferences (see [pages 7 and 8](#) for the event flyers). With the growth and progress of our NJFEA chapters this year, we have plenty to celebrate and hope you and your students will join us to network and be inspired.

Yours in learning,

Jeanne DelColle, Ph.D.





CENTER FOR
FUTURE EDUCATORS AT
THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

FUTURE EDUCATORS ACADEMY

JULY 8–15 | THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

The Future Educators Academy is a week-long, social justice-focused program for high school sophomores and juniors (rising juniors and seniors) from NJ public schools interested in exploring careers in education.

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

- Individual and group learning experiences
- Insight and instruction from education professionals
- Field trips to local communities and institutions
- Practical application of new concepts and ideas



APPLY: tinyurl.com/36vzkuxw

**APPLICATIONS DUE
FRIDAY, MARCH 31!**



ADMISSIONS & REQUIREMENTS

This program aims to recruit students from marginalized and underrepresented groups, although any student from an NJ public high school may apply. Selection is based on a personal essay, teacher recommendations, extracurricular activities, and academic performance. Applicants may also be interviewed. These virtual interviews will take place during April–early May.

Admission to the academy is competitive, as spaces are limited. Accepted participants will be required to complete pre-assignments, a portfolio of work, and written reflections.

There is no cost to attend, and meals and on-campus accommodation will be provided by CFE. Attendees must be fully vaccinated by the start of the program.

futureeducators.tcnj.edu



NJFEA SERVICE PROJECT 2023



Brought to you by the NJFEA State Officers

ART SUPPLY DRIVE

Many public schools do not receive adequate funding to provide quality art materials to their students throughout the year. By having local NJFEA chapters donate collected art supplies, students across the state will feel supported and take advantage of the opportunity to artistically express themselves.

COMFORT KIT DRIVE

Schools and homeless shelters care for individuals who lack the funding for basic hygiene supplies. Comfort kits would be assembled and donated to a school or organization supporting those within the community who need the assistance.

COLLECTION ITEMS

- Colored pencils
- Glue sticks
- Non-toxic crayons
- Washable markers
- Paint brushes
- Pencils
- Washable paints
- Cardboard boxes*

* Chapter members should decorate the outside of the boxes before placing the supplies inside for donation. Be creative!

COLLECTION ITEMS

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpastes
- Nail care items
- Scent-free lotions
- Hair brushes/combs
- Tissues
- Hand sanitizers
- Washcloths

* Any hygiene products designated for children should be child-size/kid-friendly.

* Items can be separated and packaged by age and/or gender.

GUIDELINES

Accepted donations should be new and unopened. Make sure to set aside time during chapter meetings to organize and check the quality of the donations.

Make sure to address the unique needs of the local school and/or shelter that will be receiving the donations (do they need more of some items than others?)

SUGGESTED DATES

Collection date range: FEBRUARY 24–MARCH 10

Distribution date range: MARCH 10–31

SHARE YOUR WORK!

Submit a Chapter Highlight (tinyurl.com/2d7s7t7a) with details about your chapter and service project. Send photos or videos of your chapter activities to cfe@tcnj.edu!

Speaker Series



Liana Rodriguez (left), Thairah Castillo (right), and Uma Mistry (center) January's Speaker Series event featured three participants from the 2022 Future Educators Academy, CFE's first residential version of its summer program! The segment began with an overview of the revamped program, and then our former participants jumped on to share why they chose to apply and what they took away from the week-long experience. Liana shared that the Academy inspired her to start an NJFEA chapter at her school to bring together like-minded students and attend events like the regional conferences. Thairah expressed how she was nervous at first to apply, but was happy that she followed through, as the Academy gave her the experience and confidence to apply for her current position as NJFEA Vice President. Uma confessed how surprised and proud of herself she was for stepping out of her comfort zone to regularly collaborate with new people and passionately express her thoughts through the hands-on assignments. If you are still considering whether to apply for this summer's program, the [full recording](#) is a great resource to check out!



Don't forget! February's Speaker Series event with Danielle Epps from Montclair State University was postponed due to illness, so there's still time to sign up and be notified when the event is rescheduled!

Winter 2023 NJFEA Conference

The CFE team was excited to kick off the New Year with the 2023 NJFEA Winter Conference at The College of New Jersey. On January 13th, 12 schools from the NJFEA network gathered to take part in a unique learning and networking experience. As always, participants were greeted by our state officers, who play a big role during conferences. They are responsible for: prepping the day before, setting up in the morning, checking in attendees, capturing photos and posting to social media, leading activities, and more! If you're interested in becoming a state officer, keep an eye out for the 2023–24 school year application, which will open in the coming month. Christine Girtain, this year's NJ State Teacher of the Year, was the conference's keynote speaker and shared some great insights with attendees. If you were unable to make it to this event, you can still learn about Girtain, her work, and her advice for future educators in this [Speaker Series video](#).



Winter 2023 NJFEA Conference (cont.)

After the welcome and keynote speech, participants enjoyed two breakout sessions. This conference's sessions covered topics such as supporting first-generation future teachers, deaf-friendly classrooms, music education, leadership, and more. While enjoying lunch, students got to hear a panel of TCNJ preservice students share different aspects of pursuing a degree in education, and being a college student in general. Thank you to everyone who made this conference possible! We look forward to seeing both new and returning chapters at the last two conferences of the school year!



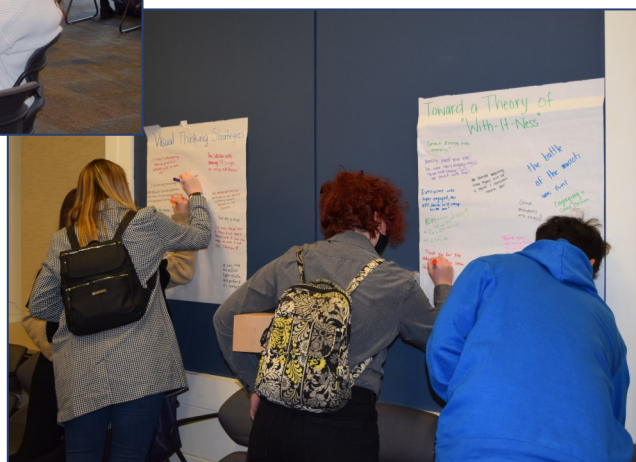
Students checking out the fun freebies in the tote bags

NJ STYOY Christine Girtain delivering her keynote speech



Participants thanking their breakout session presenters at the end of the conference

Eileen Heddy, director of TCNJ's Support for Teacher Education Programs (STEP), sharing the number of ways that educators can teach abroad





CENTER FOR
FUTURE EDUCATORS AT
THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

NEW JERSEY FUTURE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE

Working with Communities of Color

WHEN

MAY 9, 2023
8:30 AM–1:30 PM

WHERE



**MONTCLAIR STATE
UNIVERSITY**

This conference is open to official NJFEA members in grades 9–12. If your NJFEA chapter or Tomorrow's Teachers course has not yet finalized membership for the 2022–23 school year, please visit www.thinkregistration.com/feaaff/nj.



Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Students must be registered and accompanied to this conference by a teacher, counselor, or school administrator. Students may not register themselves. A complimentary lunch will be provided, and the dress is smart casual. For any questions, please email us at cfe@tcnj.edu.

REGISTER

www.thinkregistration.com/njfea/nj

DEADLINE: APRIL 24

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CENTER FOR
FUTURE EDUCATORS AT
THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

NEW JERSEY FUTURE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE

Learning Together: Celebrating Education to Advance Diversity

WHEN

MAY 25, 2023
8:30 AM–1:30 PM

WHERE



This conference is open to official NJFEA members in grades 7–12. If your NJFEA chapter or Tomorrow’s Teachers course has not yet finalized membership for the 2022–23 school year, please visit www.thinkregistration.com/feaaff/nj.



Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Students must be registered and accompanied to this conference by a teacher, counselor, or school administrator. Students may not register themselves. A complimentary lunch will be provided, and the dress is smart casual. For any questions, please email us at cfe@tcnj.edu.

**DEADLINE:
MAY 10**

REGISTER

www.thinkregistration.com/njfea/sj

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Chapter Highlights

Passaic County Technical Institute's chapter visited Paterson School 12 for an observation visit! Students were able to shadow teachers in grades K–8 and interact with the students to learn more about elementary and middle school teaching.



Jennifer Skomial, **Morris County School of Technology's** advisor and 2018–19 NJ STOY, was featured in an article on NJ.com! Skomial talks about the education pathway in her vocational-technical school and the unique ways that the program supports and encourages students as they explore careers in education. Check it out here (tinyurl.com/bdyvnetb)!



Black History & Women's History Resources

Our state officers compiled some resources to help you learn more about Black history and women's history, within education and beyond! Below is our Communications Officer's submission. Be sure to check out the next page and our social media for more!

Diamond Previlon
Communications Officer

[Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Historically Black Colleges and Universities](#) is a testimony to academic resilience. HBCUs are acclaimed for the space they provide Black students to be unapologetically Black. These are institutions where students are empowered and redefine what it means to be Black in America. This documentary by Stanley Nelson highlights the trials and accomplishments of the education system a formerly enslaved race built. From contraband schools in the South to more than 100 Black colleges today, Black excellence shines brightly as determined minds continue to rise.



Leaders such as Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. Du Bois, and other intellectuals set the standard for what HBCUs are today. At the cornerstone of these institutions are what Washington explained as: “a feeling that to get into that schoolhouse and study in this way would be about the same as getting into paradise.” Education means freedom. Education means possibilities, opportunities, and a chance to be more than the status quo. These colleges embrace this side of education and see it as a door to changing the world.



Howard University

What I find most admirable is how students receive an education at these HBCUs that reflects a peaceful intention in response to an aggressive society. The minds enriched by Black colleges reflect endurance as much as the institutions do themselves. The schools persevered despite the many years of an administration that did not reflect the student population, events such as the 1972 Southern University Shooting, and the destruction that arose from fear. In the same way, their students persevere as the face of several boycotts during the Civil Rights Movement and movements today. These colleges reflect the voice once inaccessible, and the knowledge once removed from reach. HBCUs are the centers of resistance, resilience, and innovation in education.

You can find the Community Screening Guide for the documentary [here](#).

Additional resource: *Jim Crow's Pink Slip: The Untold Story of Black Principal and Teacher Leadership* by Leslie T. Fenwick

Resources

- **DEI:** Check out these [diversity, equity, and inclusion](#) educational resources from the NJDOE.
- **Art Education:** Explore the Smithsonian Institute's Learning Lab on the [Black Arts Movement of the 60s and 70s](#).
- **Women's Rights:** [Listen to this episode](#) of the NPR podcast, *Throughline*, which dives into women's movements in Iran, then and now.
- **Book List:** Explore Scholastic's [list of middle-grade books](#) for new reading suggestions!
- **Banned Books:** Want to know more about one of the most banned books of all time? [Watch this TED-Ed video](#).
- **Women's History:** Check out [PBS' list of five powerful women in history](#) (recommended by NJFEA President, Olivia Gray).

About CFE

The Center for Educators (CFE) was established at The College of New Jersey in 2011 as a collaboration between the New Jersey Education Association and The College of New Jersey to launch a new vision for statewide leadership in the identification, selection, and grooming of prospective future teachers, and to serve as an exemplary national model of future teacher development and recruitment.

The CFE was established to inspire, encourage, and recruit high school and middle school students who are considering teaching as a future career. The CFE especially seeks future educators interested in teaching in high poverty and hard-to-staff schools and/or high shortage subject areas such as math, science, special education, world languages, technology, bilingual and ESL. The Center believes that New Jersey's students are entitled to have the best, highly trained teachers that reflect the demographics of the state and promote academic progress and social skill development. The CFE works collaboratively with schools, institutions, and agencies across New Jersey to develop exemplary models of future teacher recruitment.



Jeanne DelColle



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