

# **COURAGEOUS SCHOOLS:**

2nd annual SEL conference

## **Holding the Vision in Tough Times**

A conference for teachers, principals, policymakers & the public on fostering students' social & emotional learning

**Saturday May 21, 2011**

Bank Street College  
610 W. 112th Street, Manhattan  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

### **Keynote speakers:**



**PEDRO NOGUERA**  
author, educator and  
NYU urban sociologist



**KATHRYN OTOSHI**  
author of *One*, a children's  
book about bullying

Come be inspired. Hear from students, teachers, principals and policymakers who share a vision of stronger, safer, more supportive schools. Learn about the power of social and emotional learning (SEL) to help young people develop skills they need to thrive at school and in life. Now more than ever, we need to put social and emotional learning at the heart of education.

### **REGISTER ONLINE**

at [www.morningsidecenter.org](http://www.morningsidecenter.org).

Online registration fee of \$20 includes lunch.

For more info, contact Marieke at [hvanwoerkom@morningsidecenter.org](mailto:hvanwoerkom@morningsidecenter.org) or 212-870-3318 x72.



### **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

8:00 - 9:00 am	Registration ( <i>with continental breakfast</i> )
9:00 - 9:30	Gathering and Welcome
9:45 - 11:15	Workshop A ( <i>descriptions on back</i> )
11:30 - 12:30	Keynote speaker Pedro Noguera
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch ( <i>provided</i> )
1:30 - 2:00	Keynote speaker Kathryn Otoshi
2:15 - 3:45	Workshop B ( <i>descriptions on back</i> )
4:00 - 4:30	Youth Pride Chorus
4:30 - 4:45	Closing remarks
4:45 - 5:30	Reception

COURAGEOUS SCHOOLS is organized by Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility, Tom Roderick, executive director. Morningside Center has been working in schools since 1985, developing and implementing such programs as Resolving Conflict Creatively and The 4Rs (Reading, Writing Respect & Resolution). Morningside Center has trained and coached some 25,000 teachers in more than 700 schools, helping hundreds of thousands of young people increase their social and emotional intelligence.

We are grateful to the Tiger Foundation for supporting the conference.

*Photo above: workshop at last year's conference. © Christopher L. Smith*



## WORKSHOPS

Workshops designated as “A” (eg, 1A) are in the morning. Workshops designated as “B” are in the afternoon (eg, 1B). In most cases, the same workshop is offered in both morning and afternoon, with the designation “A&B” (eg 2 A&B).

**1A. Holding the Vision in Hard Times – SEL on a Shoestring.** How can we continue to foster SEL at a time when resources are limited? Shrinking school budgets mean we have to be creative in finding support through community and other alliances and by sharing best practices. This collaborative approach can help us all keep our sanity as we encourage our students to achieve. **Facilitator:** Christina Fuentes, Principal at PS 24, Brooklyn

**1B. Holding the Vision in Hard Times - SEL and Accountability.** We’re all feeling the strain of shrinking resources, growing classroom sizes and increased expectations for students’ academic performance. We’ll discuss the punitive regime of school testing versus a more humane approach that encourages educators to be accountable to students and the community as a whole. **Facilitator:** Christina Fuentes, Principal at PS 24, Brooklyn

**2 A&B. The 4Rs Program (Reading, Writing, Respect & Resolution).** Research shows that Morningside Center’s 4Rs Program boosts the attendance and academic performance of youth identified as behaviorally at risk. It also increases the social and emotional competence of children throughout the school. This interactive workshop will introduce participants to the 4Rs Program. **Facilitator:** Joyce Griffen, Morningside Center staff developer

**3 A&B. Cultivating Schools with Spirit: Nurturing the Inner Life of Teachers and Children.** Participants will explore how we can nurture our own sense of purpose and vision and create opportunities for reflection and personal renewal for the young people in our care. **Facilitator:** Linda Lantieri, Director of the Inner Resilience Program at the Tides Center

**4 A&B. Leading with Social and Emotional Intelligence.** In this experiential workshop, we’ll consider what it means to lead with social and emotional intelligence. What does the research say? What skills do school or organization leaders need to create a climate that supports personal and professional learning? **Facilitator:** Janet Patti, Ed.D. Professor of Educational Leadership at Hunter College

**5 A&B. Holistic Discipline.** Participants will explore Morningside Center’s SEL approach to discipline. We’ll unpack our assumptions about what discipline means and begin to challenge and reshape those assumptions. We’ll learn skills to integrate self-awareness, conflict resolution, and personal responsibility into our approach to discipline. **Facilitator:** Kristin Page Stuart, Morningside Center staff developer

**6 A&B. Peace Helpers and Peer Mediators: Children CAN Solve Conflicts!** In this interactive workshop, participants will learn the basics of two of Morningside Center’s peer conflict resolution programs that empower young people (K-12) to contribute to a more peaceful school climate. **Facilitator:** Tara Fishler, Morningside Center staff developer

**7 A&B. Class Meetings: Building Community through Joint Problem-Solving.** Through video and role plays, participants will experience class meetings that give K-5 students a chance to apply their SEL skills to real-life problems. Teachers will describe how class meetings transformed their classrooms. **Facilitators:** Leslie Ramos and Sherley Guerrero, teachers at PS 24, Brooklyn

**8 A&B. Diversity in the Classroom.** Children as young as three and four are aware of prejudice and have begun to absorb it. Workshop participants will explore ideas of prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination, and hear from students about how they’ve learned to stand up for themselves and others. **Facilitators:** Emma Gonzalez and Mariana Gaston, Morningside Center staff developers

**9A. Addressing Bullying through Children’s Literature.** How do we encourage kids to help create a positive social climate that can put a stop to bullying? Author and illustrator Kathryn Otoshi will engage participants using her award-winning book “ONE,” helping them develop a customized plan for a ‘no-bullying, call-to-action, Be the ONE’ movement in their school. **Facilitator:** Kathryn Otoshi, award-winning children’s book author and illustrator

**9B. Creating a caring and supportive environment for LGBTQ students.** Participants will clarify their definitions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and queer. With a group of young people, we’ll discuss some of the major issues facing LGBTQ youth and consider how we can use SEL strategies to foster a positive school environment for LGBTQ students. **Facilitators:** Nelly Espina and Dr. Tolonda Tolbert, Morningside Center staff developers

**10A. Using Art to Foster SEL in the Elementary School Classroom.** Through an experiential art project participants will learn creative ways to help elementary school students identify and understand feelings, fostering their academic, personal, and social success. **Facilitator:** Dawn Gilbert, art therapist (MA, ATR-BC, LCAT)

**10B. Using Art to Foster SEL in the Secondary School Classroom.** Through an experiential art project participants will learn creative ways to help secondary school students identify and understand feelings, fostering their academic, personal, and social success. **Facilitator:** Dawn Gilbert, art therapist (MA, ATR-BC, LCAT)

**11 A&B. SEL in Special Education.** We’ll explore how social and emotional competency can scaffold learning for those who are most challenged in a classroom setting. How do we as teachers support students’ motivation, independence and productivity in the face of the challenges they bring to the classroom? **Facilitator:** Tami Brown, Special Education teacher at Gateway Schools

**12 A&B. Fostering SEL on the High School Level.** Principal David Cohen will introduce participants to a program developed at Midwood High School integrating SEL into the curriculum and school culture through public service announcements, a peer mediation program, and an SEL course for first-year students. **Facilitator:** David Cohen, Principal at Midwood High School, Brooklyn.