

# The <sup>2017</sup> Capital Conference

## WHERE THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE COME TOGETHER

Join us at the New York State Museum, the oldest state museum in the country, and get ready to lobby.

Surrounded by more than 15 million specimens and artifacts that reflect more 170 years of research in the earth sciences, biology and human history, prepare to advocate on behalf of your students for the betterment of public education.

### Dates and Locations

**Sunday, February 12, 2017**

**New York State Museum**

**222 Madison Avenue, Albany, NY 12230**

**Monday, February 13, 2017**

**Renaissance Albany Hotel**

**144 State Street, Albany, NY 12207**

### Agenda

#### Sunday, February 12

11:30 - 1:30 p.m.

#### **Registration**

#### **Welcome**

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Speakers: **Susan L. Bergtraum**, NYSSBA President and **Timothy G. Kremer**, NYSSBA Executive Director

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

#### **State of New York Education**

Learn the latest on key issues, hear from experts and get prepared for meetings with legislative representatives. Engage in an interactive conversation focusing on the key issues facing New York's schoolchildren. Gain insight into the legislative process and glean tips that will be useful in your Monday meetings and when you return home.

Speakers: **NYSSBA's Governmental Relations Team**

3:00 - 3:15 p.m.

#### **Break**

3:15-4:15 p.m.

#### **A Conversation with the Commissioner**

Common Core, high-stakes testing, school finance, closing the achievement gap and more. State Education Commissioner MaryEllen Elia will discuss current issues facing New York school boards and answer your questions.

Speaker: **MaryEllen Elia**, New York State Commissioner of Education

4:15-4:30 p.m.

#### **Break**

4:30-5:30 p.m.

### **Legislative Insiders Panel**

Hear from reporters that specialize in covering legislative activities and receive an “insiders” perspective on the budget process and the specifics of the 2017 budget.

**Moderated by: Liz Benjamin**

Panelists: **Keshia Clukey**, *Politico*, education reporter **Jon Campbell**, Albany correspondent for *Gannett's* New York outlets and **Monica Disare**, *Chalkbeat* education reporter

5:30-7:00 p.m.

### **Reception**

Enjoy refreshments on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the New York State Museum. The New York State Museum is a center of art, science, and history dedicated to exploring the human and natural history of the state. Ride on the historic Carousel and get a photo memento of your visit.

7:00-8:30 p.m.

### **Dinner**

Hear from special dinner speaker, **Dana Goldstein**, journalist and author. She authored the *New York Times* bestseller *The Teacher Wars: A History of America's Most Embattled Profession* (Doubleday) and contributes to many other publications. Dana writes about education, women's issues, social science, inequality, criminal justice, health, and cities.



## **Monday, February 13**

Take all you've learned, head up the hill and meet your state representatives!

8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

### **Breakfast**

Don't miss student speaker, **A.G. Chancellor IV** from William Floyd School District

A.G. Chancellor IV is a senior at William Floyd High School in Mastic Beach and is an active participant in his school, community and state. He actively participates in the YMCA New York State Youth & Government program. As a member of Youth & Government, which he currently leads as Governor, A.G. has served as Speaker of the Assembly, won Best Bill in the Assembly, and has been selected to attend the Conference on National Affairs for the past two years. He has been honored as one of 20 "Outstanding Statesmen" from the 600 students in the delegation. Following high school, A.G. plans on studying public policy and economics before entering a career in the public sector. He is also captain of the William Floyd High School Mock Trial team and was a member of the 2014 state champions. He is a two-sport athlete (tennis and cross country) and a member of the National Honor Society.

10:00 a.m. and beyond

### **Legislative Appointments**

Remember: please schedule your appointments in advance and allow plenty of time to go through security and get to your appointments.

12:00-12:30

### **Press Conference**

Joint press conference with the New York State Parent Teachers Association

**Cost:**

Complimentary for NYSSBA members



**Recognition Program:**

All NYSSBA member school boards are eligible for recognition in this program. Credit will accrue for listed events and activities for individuals serving on a NYSSBA member board.

Board members will earn 20 points for attending the Capital Conference.

[Click here](#) for more information.

**Hotel Information:**

Need a room for NYSSBA's 2017 Capital Conference? The host hotel is the Renaissance Albany Hotel, 144 State Street, Albany, NY 12207. Hotel check-in time is 4:00 p.m. and check-out time is 11:00 a.m.

Call the Marriott's toll free reservation center at (888) 236-2427 to obtain the group rate ranging from \$179 to \$209 by requesting group code **schscha** or **schschb**. Hotel room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes.

or, [Book Online](#)

The Renaissance Albany Hotel does not accept purchase orders as a form of payment. If hotel rooms will be paid for by check, the check and tax exempt certificate must reach the hotel no later than Friday, February 3, 2017. Should there be a balance at the time of check in, a credit card will be required for payment.

*Please note, the room rate does not include parking. [Click here](#) for Parking Information.*

The room block will be held until January 19, 2017. Reservations will continue to be accepted after this date, at prevailing room rates, subject to availability. Dependent upon demand, rooms may become unavailable prior to January 19, 2017.

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