



ATTN. TEACHERS, COUNSELORS, FACILITATORS, GROUP WORKERS, GROUP LEADERS, CAMP STAFF, ETC....

## The Connecticut Experiential Education Association's

Annual Conference

Saturday, March 17, 2018

9:00 – 5:00 PM

Registration opens at 8:30

Nathan Hale Community Center

160 Spruce St., Manchester, CT

### **Keynote: IAN HOCKLEY**

Dylan's Wings of Change is a foundation established to honor the memory of Dylan Hockley, who was killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14th, 2012. The foundation's mission is to help children with autism and other related conditions achieve their full potential. One of the ways our keynote speaker, Ian Hockley, honors his son is through a school based program- Wingman for Schools. Wingman for Schools counters the root causes of rejection, exclusion and isolation with increased empathy and compassion. Students are empowered to take the lead in their school's climate. This is a yearlong cycle of experiential activities that is student led and delivered in the classroom. The curriculum is tailored to meet the climate needs of your school and integrated into the timetable.

Student leaders are trained by expert educators with selected teachers acting as champions to guide and continue their development. Ian will be sharing his story and the developmental of the foundation and the Wingman Program.

**PLAYNOTE:** Robb Armstrong, Jennifer Stanchfield, and Heather Wlochowski will present a sampling of the Wingman for Schools training. They will provide experiential engagement from the curriculum Ian, Jennifer, and Robb developed.

### **Workshops:**

\**Jennifer Stanchfield*, "Meaningful Reflection Brings Learning to Life"

\**Marta Koontz*, "The Four Shields"

\**Maureen Hamilton*, "Radical Empathy Through Story Sharing"

\**Scott Goldsmith*, "Breakout EDU"

\**Jennifer Johnson*, "Play Therapy"

\**Peter Wlochowski*, "Journey: Build a Book"

**ONLY-\$35.00**

Includes continental breakfast and lunch!

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE-3/16/2018**

**PLEASE VISIT [WWW.THECEE.A.ORG](http://WWW.THECEE.A.ORG), CLICK ON EVENTS, AND REGISTER TO ATTEND.**

You may pay at the door, but we need a count for food.

**For more information you can contact: Heather Wlochowski, 860-647-5215 or [heatherw@manchesterct.gov](mailto:heatherw@manchesterct.gov)**

presented by

Department of Leisure, Family and Recreation

Youth Service Bureau Division

63 Linden Street • 647-5213



## ***WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS***

***Meaningful Reflection Brings Learning to Life:*** Enliven the traditional sharing circle with active, brain-based strategies that increase participant engagement, buy-in and ownership. Take away creative inspiration, new perspectives, and practical tools for weaving reflection throughout your program. Use multiple methods including movement, metaphor, art, self-reflection, and interactive dialogue to increase relevancy, depth of understanding, and connection to real life and future learning.

***The Four Shields*** model provides a framework for considering our movements through life. A version of the Native American medicine wheel, the Four Shields model (as taught by the School of Lost Borders) presents an overlay of the stages of human nature with the four directions and the four seasons. It provides a rich metaphor for exploring the stories we each live. Engaging with the shields brings us into ceremony—we use circle practice to shift us into a place of deep listening. This deep listening can transform our experiential programs, providing participants with new insights and possibilities.

***Radical Empathy Through Story Sharing:*** Robin Williams said, “Everyone has a story we know nothing about.” Some of the greatest misunderstandings faced between people, political parties, or nations are due to the fact that we do not know each other’s full story—we fail to empathize. Our brains are hard wired for stories. Stories are how we make sense of the world. A writer and fabulous educator Doe Boyle, says it best, “Stories link of us mind to mind, and heart to heart.” In this session, we will use the power of story, in this case personal narratives, capitalizing upon those powerful connections to build empathy. We will be employing many of the techniques developed by the fine folks at Narrative4, a group whose mission states, “Builds a community of empathic global citizens who improve the world through the exchange of personal narratives.” We will share our personal narratives and be able to better glimpse what it is like walking in the shoes of another.

***Breakout EDU:*** In this workshop, you and your group will be immersed in the Breakout EDU world! Breakout EDU kits bring the excitement of “escape rooms” to you and your group. Your group will need teamwork and critical thinking to find clues and solve a series of challenging puzzles to open locked boxes on the path to claiming the prize. As a facilitator, the Breakout EDU digital platform allows you to choose scenarios that are focused on a wide array of academic and other topics for all ages. Kits can be purchased or built piece by piece.

***Jennifer Johnson***, LCSW is a NY state licensed psychotherapist who received her master's degree in Social Work at Columbia University in 2008. For the last 10 years Jenn has been working at a day treatment center for preschool-aged children with emotional and behavioral challenges in Brooklyn, NY. There she provides play therapy to individual children, runs social-emotional skills groups, and works with parents and teachers to coordinate treatment strategies. Jenn is also the co-owner of a private child psychotherapy practice, JJ Play Therapy. She has extensive post-graduate training in play therapy and is trained in Child-Parent Relationship Therapy.

***Build a Book*** Peter Wlochowski, M.Ed. & his Journey crew will walk participants through their remarkable “Build a Book” process. Participants will leave with greater sense on how young people can document their experiences through an artistic & memorable method.