

About the Critical Professional Development Speaker Series

Beginning in 2016 and continuing through 2019, through primary funding from the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) and the Great Teaching and Leading Fund (GTLF), the [*Abriendo Caminos/Opening Pathways for Students of Color into the Teaching Profession*](#) grant project, began a critical professional development (CPD) speaker series designed to bring local and national educational experts (scholars, practitioners, and activists) on a variety of sociopolitically-located multicultural educational issues, to Southern Nevada to support the professional development needs and demands of local educators, particular PK-12 educators in the Clark County School District (CCSD).

Since 2020, through primary funding from the University of Nevada Las Vegas' (UNLV's) [Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach \(CAEO\)](#), the CPD speaker series has continued as an initiative of the UNLV College of Education's [Center for Multicultural Education \(CME\)](#).

In partnership with CCSD's Equity and Diversity Education Department (EDED) through Fall 2021, and beginning in Fall 2022 in partnership with the [Regional Professional Development Program \(RPDP\) of Southern Nevada](#), and with continued administrative support from the NDE, licensed educators can attend these CPD speaker series sessions and earn either CCSD-approved Professional Growth Plan (PGP) and/or NDE-approved continuing education units/credits.

Additional funding and co-sponsorship support for the CPD speaker series has been provided by [Code Switch: Restorative Justice for Girls of Color](#), Kappa Delta Chi's [Growing Latinas into Outstanding Women \(GLOW\)](#), UNLV's [Department of Interdisciplinary, Gender, and Ethnic Studies \(IGES\)](#), the education and/or diversity units of Nevada State College (NSC) and the College of Southern Nevada (CSN), as well as an array of other community-based educational allies.