

ACTIVE CITIZENS CONFERENCE



2023 Active Citizens Conference Workshops

Finding Your Service Story

There's no uniform way to participate in collective action, nor should there be! Most people are familiar with manual labor and direct service as the traditional ways to volunteer, but that's not the limit. Through sharing service stories, this workshop will broaden your understanding of the skills and tools you can use to make change happen. Together, we'll work to answer the question "what do we want to change, and how can we best apply our skills to accomplish it?"

All in this together: fostering community engagement through cross-campus collaboration

Learn about collaborative and community-engaged programming at two universities in the Greater Richmond area and reimagine collaboration in your own communities and schools. Presenters will highlight innovative programs that foster community engagement at their respective universities, and overview pathways for creating programs across partner institutions that support engaged citizenship.

Welcome to CaMMP- Preparing Civic Minded

Professionals with Universal Design for Learning

Flexibility, accessibility, accountability, creativity, authenticity, and community – this workshop will explore these tenets of universal design for learning (UDL) using

the Civic- and Movement-Minded Professional (CaMMP) project as an example. The CaMMP project synthesized students' knowledge/skills with their personal/professional interests with the aim of supporting others in marginalized populations and/or underserved communities, while also being inclusive of diverse learning styles. Learn how to apply UDL to community-oriented learning objectives and assessment practices of your own.

Overcoming Wicked Problems and Eco-Anxiety

With a constant drumbeat of anxiety inducing reports, it's not surprising people want to avoid thinking about daunting concerns like climate change. However, there is another way: The Sustainable Development Goals, 17 areas intended to achieve a peaceful and equitable life for everyone now and in the future. Attend this session to learn about taking positive action and avoiding eco-anxiety. Discover the goals relevance to you and begin incorporating them into your daily life.

Unconventional Approaches to Civic Problem Solving

Are there new ideas or old solutions? By mixing conventional group discussions, reflection, and idea sharing with unconventional improv, philosophical discussions, and graffiti, this workshop will open minds and generate new ideas for service. You will identify and incorporate your interests and talents into pre-existing service projects or their own. Educators and community partners can brainstorm and assess their volunteer's abilities to find meaningful projects or programs in which they can better serve their communities.

Ethical Civic Engagement through Pathways of Public Service

Want to get involved in community service? Help out a community you care about? Direct your passions in a positive direction? Learn how to get ethically engaged through the eight pathways of public service. You will share and discuss experiences and wants for civic engagement and have the chance to discover what it means to be altruistically serving.

Power, People, and Change

Why is understanding power critical for social change, and how can we amplify our individual power through collective action? Together we'll explore the sources and

effects of power in social movements. You'll walk away with a map of your own power and resources for putting it into action for causes you care about.

Voting Together: Strategies for Campus Engagement

Gain tools to publicize voting on your campus and develop an effective campaign to help students learn how to register – and remind them to vote. Voting has become highly polarized and young people have become increasingly more involved, as National NSLVE data has shown. While the number of engaged young adults has grown, there is still significant room for improvement.

The Power of Conversation: One Small Step Toward a Healthier Democracy

What happens when you put two strangers with diverging beliefs in a room together and ask them to talk? In an increasingly polarized world, storytelling is a powerful tool to remind us of our shared humanity. In this session, we will discuss how exchanging stories can bridge political and cultural divides. Participants will explore their personal identities, learn how to ask questions of curiosity, and practice skills to overcome differences without compromising their values.