CCP’s 2018 Conference
Disruptive Leadership: Inspiring Strategies for Social Change

CONNECT, LEARN, GET INSPIRED, & ACT

Cristina Jiménez
United We Dream

Grant Oliphant
Heinz Endowments

Wednesday, May 16
8: am - 2:30 pm
Toyota Presents Oakdale Theatre, Wallingford
Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy’s Board of Directors, staff, and 2018 Planning Committee, I welcome you to our 26th annual event. This year’s theme, Disruptive Leadership: Inspiring Strategies for Social Change, aims to inspire and equip Connecticut’s philanthropic community to rise to meet the many challenges that our state and our communities face.

Today, with political divisiveness and extreme uncertainty at the federal level, many more of us are experiencing disruption in our day to day lives. For others, of course, the feeling of disruption is nothing new. Many members of our communities have long experienced disruption – through discrimination, systems that have failed them, and structural racism. This year’s planning committee wanted to explore disruption not as a state of being, but as a tool, a strategy. Thematic strands of disruption, leadership, and collaboration have been woven throughout the entire program.

This year, we worked to balance inspiration with pragmatism. We hope that you and your colleagues leave the meeting with new contacts and new energy, but also case studies, tools, and other resources that help you move from inspiration to action.

Thank you to all of our sponsors, speakers, volunteers, and attendees. Your support made this event possible.

Best regards,

Karla Fortunato
President

MANY THANKS TO OUR CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Rebecca Allen, Program Officer, Melville Charitable Trust
Elysa Gordon, Vice President & Senior Advisor, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
Laura McCargar, President, Perrin Family Foundation
Alena Mazotas, Digital Communications, Newman’s Own Foundation
Sue Murphy, Executive Director, Liberty Bank Foundation
Kim Russo, Executive Director, The Fund for Greater Hartford
Kaylah Smith, Program Associate & Assistant Director of Development, Community Foundation of Greater New Britain
Janée Woods, Director of Organizational Culture, William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund
## Disruptive Leadership: Inspiring Strategies for Social Change

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*It is CCP policy that attendees refrain from fundraising at any CCP program or meeting.*
12:30 pm

Lunch Welcome
Kathy Luria, CCP board chair
Webster Bank

Award Presentation
Nancy P. Roberts Award: Tauck Family Foundation
Liz Tauck Walters, President

New Board Members
Janice L. Elliot, Melville Charitable Trust
Tiffany S. Donelson, Connecticut Health Foundation
Elaine V. Mintz, Fairfield County’s Community Foundation
Lauren Patterson, New Canaan Community Foundation
Richard J. Porth, United Way of Connecticut
Diane Sierpina, The Tow Foundation

Retiring Board Members
Juanita T. James, Fairfield County’s Community Foundation- 2015-2018
Judith Meyers, Children’s Fund of Connecticut- 2009-2018
Chris Traczyk, Farmington Bank Community Foundation- 2012-2018

CCP President
Karla Fortunato

Afternoon Keynote
Of Small Men and Sages: Leadership in a Time of Upheaval
Grant Oliphant, Heinz Endowments

2:25 pm

Closing Remarks
Kathy Luria
What We Can’t Do Alone, We Do Together: Bringing Philanthropy Together for Greater Impact

Given the complex and significant challenges that CT foundations are driven to address, collaboration is a must-do. This session will explore successful case studies in collaboration that have raised the visibility of philanthropy, disrupted systems or practices, and achieved their goals, including: a short-term pooled fund developed quickly to support the burgeoning youth organizing following the Parkland shooting; a three-year collaboration among 27 CT foundations to pilot how housing providers and job centers partner more effectively to help families exiting homelessness find work; and a long-term funder collaborative focused on remaking the early childhood system in Connecticut.

Moderator: Mendi Blue-Paca, Fairfield County’s Community Foundation

Speakers: Mónica Córdova, Funder Collaborative on Youth Organizing
          Rebecca Allen, Melville Charitable Trust
          Carol O’Donnell, Early Childhood Funders Collaborative

Rethinking Foundation Practices Around Evaluation

How can philanthropy ensure that its research and evaluation efforts align with its goals and strategies? How does leadership from a foundation use information from the foundation’s evaluation work? How can our evaluation frameworks and practices support goals around equity, systems change, and advocacy? This session will draw on experts and case studies to help participants explore new frameworks, assessments, and strategies for their foundation’s research and evaluation efforts.

Speakers: Dr. Teri Behrens, Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy
          Jennifer Glickman, Center for Effective Philanthropy
          Elysa Gordon, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

So You Want to Learn about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) have become a part of the philanthropic lexicon, but what do these words mean in practice? How do we begin to articulate why this work matters, where to start, or how to engage others in this journey? This workshop will contextualize DEI in a larger philanthropic context and support participants in assessing where to start and what priorities to lift up for future work. This session is geared toward those who are new, or whose foundations are new, to learning about diversity, equity, and inclusion in philanthropy.

Facilitator: Dana Kawaoka-Chen, Justice Funders
Disruption in the Public Square
Over the last years, advocates and activists have returned to the civil rights playbook embracing public demonstrations, civil disobedience, and other disruptive tactics to raise the visibility of an issue, to protest, and to call for change. This session will tell the story of the recent community organizing and direct action, pairing stories of community leaders with those of foundations, and explore the rationales for the work from the perspective of grantee and grantor.

Moderator: Janée Woods, William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund
Speakers: Bishop John Selders, Moral Mondays Connecticut
Angelica Idrovo, CT Students for a Dream
Andhrose Bazil and Aaliyah Figueroa, Hearing Youth Voices
Laura McCargar, Perrin Family Foundation
Caprice Taylor Mendez, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven

Lending & Leveraging Leadership Beyond Traditional Grantmaking
Many foundations are bringing their full financial and political clout to bear on their mission. This session will explore ways that foundations are working toward their goals and leaning into their mission beyond traditional grantmaking, including mission-related investing, public policy advocacy, and bolder communications.

Facilitator: Jay Williams, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
Speakers: Mark Allegrini, Confluence Philanthropy
Sheila Perrin, Perrin Family Foundation
Frances Padilla, Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut

Working through Common Challenges in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Practice
Many organizations are keen to integrate diversity, equity, and inclusion into their organizations, but they don’t know where or how to start. This interactive session will highlight stories of organizations that have faced and worked through common challenges related to their ongoing diversity, equity, and inclusion practice. This session is geared toward those who have already done some learning about diversity, equity, and inclusion in philanthropy.

Facilitator: Dana Kawaoka-Chen, Justice Funders
Speakers: R. David Addams, William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund
William Ginsberg, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
Martha McCoy, The Paul J. Aicher Foundation / Everyday Democracy
Cristina Jiménez, United We Dream

Cristina Jiménez is executive director & co-founder of United We Dream, the largest immigrant youth-led organization in the country. Originally from Ecuador, Cristina came to the U.S. with her family at the age of 13, and attended high school and college as an undocumented student. She has been organizing in immigrant communities for over a decade and was part of United We Dream’s campaign team that led to the historic victory of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program in 2012 that protects close to a million young immigrants from deportation. Under Cristina’s leadership United We Dream has grown to a powerful network of 57 affiliates in 25 states with over 400,000 members.

Grant Oliphant, Heinz Endowments

Grant Oliphant is president of The Heinz Endowments. He rejoined the foundation in 2014, after serving as president and chief executive officer of The Pittsburgh Foundation for six years. For nearly two decades, Grant held several senior management posts with Heinz family foundations, including vice president for programs and planning at the Endowments, his position before taking the helm at The Pittsburgh Foundation in 2008. The Heinz Endowments seeks to help their region thrive as a whole and just community, and through that work to model solutions to major national and global challenges.
From among six worthy nominees, CCP’s Awards Committee chose the Tauck Family Foundation, a private, multi-generational family foundation that invests in organizations and initiatives that equip the children of Bridgeport, Connecticut with the necessary social and emotional skills to thrive academically and in life. The foundation was selected for its innovation, impact, and the collaborative nature of its work.

Tauck Family Foundation’s work reaches more than 70% of Bridgeport’s 11,000 children in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade through its four investees: Achievement First Bridgeport Academy Elementary School; Horizons at Greens Farms Academy; New Beginnings Family Academy; and Bridgeport Public Schools’ Social and Emotional Learning Initiative, a partnership between the Yale University School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry, the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, and the Bridgeport Public Schools.

In 1994, The Tauck Family Foundation was founded by Arthur C. Tauck, Jr. to foster a legacy of giving and community involvement in Connecticut. The Foundation has grown and evolved over the years, and today the board includes multiple generations of family members, as well as a professional staff.

CCP applauds the work of the other funders who were nominated for the Nancy P. Roberts Award: Fairfield County’s Community Foundation; Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation; Nellie Mae Education Foundation; United Way of Coastal Fairfield County; and Working Cities Challenge Connecticut.
R. David Addams | David has been executive director of the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund since 2014. He spent his early career as an attorney and a specialist in negotiation, mediation, and conflict resolution. Over the last 20 years, he has served in various nonprofit management positions including Executive Director of the Oliver Scholars Program, Executive Director of Associated Black Charities and Vice President of the New York Urban League. David was also Deputy Manhattan Borough President and Chief of Staff at the Manhattan Borough President’s Office, Deputy Director of the New York Civil Liberties Union and Director of Affiliate Diversity and Strategic Initiatives for the American Civil Liberties Union. He served as a Visiting Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Administration at Brooklyn College and an adjunct professor of public policy and law at Brooklyn College Graduate Center, City College of New York’s Center for Legal Education and City University of New York Law School at Queens College.

Mark Allegrini | Mark serves as a program manager at Confluence Philanthropy, where he advances mission aligned investing. He supports a community of private, public and community foundations, individual donors, and their values-aligned investments to move capital towards impact. Previously at Cone Communications in Boston, he worked with clients on all aspects of their CSR and Sustainability strategies. Prior to Cone, Mark was at the nonprofit Ceres, advocating for better management of corporate sustainability. He began his career at the German Marshall Fund in Washington, DC, where he worked on the Economic Policy Program exploring issues related to global poverty and food security.

Rebecca Allen | Rebecca is a program officer for the Melville Charitable Trust, a national foundation dedicated to finding solutions to prevent and end homelessness. Her strategic focus includes the development and management of an implementation plan to achieve the Trust’s goals around fostering housing stability and resilience among families and strengthening employment outcomes among people who have experienced homelessness.

Andhrose Bazil | Andhrose is a 17 year old senior at New London High School and will graduate in 25 days. She will be attending Providence College in the fall where she plans to major in political science. She loves to dance, read, and eat. Andhrose is a part of Hearing Youth Voices, a youth-led social justice organization working to create systemic change in the education system in New London, Connecticut.

Teri Behrens, Ph.D. | Teri is the director of the Institute for Foundation and Donor Learning at Grand Valley State University’s Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy. Her work is focused on providing professional development for grantmakers and donors. Prior to joining the Johnson Center, Teri was the director of evaluation at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Mendi Blue-Paca | Mendi leads Fairfield County’s Community Foundation’s grant making, programmatic investments, public policy advocacy, and community leadership initiatives to close the opportunity gap in Fairfield County. She oversees the Foundation’s Center for Nonprofit Excellence, Fund for Women and Girls, and Thrive by 25 efforts. A former
strategic consultant to many of the largest U.S.-based foundations, Mendi’s prior work also includes serving as municipal development and policy director and analyst at Goldman Sachs & Co. Mendi has a Bachelor’s in Economics from Harvard College, a Juris Doctorate from Harvard Law School and a Master’s in Business Administration from Harvard Business School.

Mónica Córdova  | Mónica is a native New Mexican who developed her leadership from a very early age through youth organizing programs that utilized social justice and empowerment approaches. In 2005, she became the youth organizer at the SouthWest Organizing Project (SWOP), a local community based grassroots organization. There she developed innovative youth rights campaigns that focused on building the leadership of SWOP’s youth constituents and in 2008 went on to become a co-director at SWOP. Mónica brought her many years of experience in youth and multigenerational organizing, building networks, community and civic engagement organizing to the Funders Collaborative on Youth Organizing team as a program director in 2014 to lead Healthy Communities: Youth for Healthy Schools and became deputy director in 2017.

Aaliyah Figueroa  | Aaliyah is a senior at New London High School. This Fall she will be attending Seminole State College. She considers herself to be educated, but unfiltered. She is a part of Hearing Youth Voices, a youth-led social justice organization working to create systemic change in the education system in New London, Connecticut.

William Ginsberg  | Will has served as president of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven since 2000. For Will, this work is the culmination of a career devoted to community issues, as he has worked at the local and national levels in community economic development, community banking, and community philanthropy. Will served in the Clinton Administration from 1994 to 2000 as Assistant Secretary for Economic Development in the U.S. Department of Commerce, as Commerce Department Chief of Staff and as Managing Director of the Federal Housing Finance Board. Will lived and worked in New Haven for a decade before going to Washington. He served as Development Administrator under Mayor DiLieto from 1984 to 1988 and subsequently as president of the Science Park Development Corporation. Will is a graduate of Columbia Law School and Trinity College.

Jennifer Glickman  | Jennifer supports the Research Team at CEP in designing studies, analyzing quantitative and qualitative data, and writing final reports. She is passionate about the power of high-quality research in serving and enhancing the social sector. Prior to joining CEP in January 2014, Jennifer received her B.A. in Human Development and English and her M.Ed. in Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation from Boston College (BC). Jennifer worked as a Graduate Research Analyst at the TIMSS and PIRLS International Study Center, an educational assessment organization, and was a teaching assistant for an undergraduate course at BC called Classroom Assessment.

Elysa Gordon, M.S.W., J.D.  | Elysa is vice president and senior advisor to the president at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. As a member of the executive leadership team, she facilitates Foundation-wide collaboration and coordination and leads the Foundation’s
research and evaluation unit and public policy strategy. Elysa has an extensive background in promoting public policy, analyzing programs, and leading collaborative efforts to improve services for families and children. As Assistant Child Advocate for the Connecticut Office of the Child Advocate, she led successful reform efforts on behalf of the children involved in Connecticut’s child welfare and criminal justice systems. She also served as senior policy advisor for the New York State Permanent Commission on Justice for Children.

**Angelica Idrovo** | Angelica is an activist and leader with the undocumented rights organization, CT Students for a Dream. For the past 4 years, alongside this organization, she’s been committed to the work for the immigrant rights movement. She represents the organization through speaking to the press, legislators, and community members about educational equity, comprehensive immigration reform, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), and other social justice issues. Through her work she’s able to keep advocating, empowering, and educating undocumented youth at high schools and colleges.

**Dana Kawaoka-Chen** | As the executive director for Justice Funders, Dana partners and guides philanthropy in reimagining practices that advance a thriving and just world. She is a co-author of “The Choir Book: A Framework for Social Justice Philanthropy,” and frequently serves as a trainer and facilitator for values-aligned practice in Philanthropy. Dana’s leadership has been recognized by her peers—in 2014, she was awarded a Distinguished Alumni Award by Oakes College of the University of California at Santa Cruz, and in 2015, Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy recognized Dana as one of twenty-five national “Leaders in Action.”

**Laura McCargar** | Laura was appointed as president of the Perrin Family Foundation in June of 2016. Laura joined the foundation in 2012 as a program officer, where she played a central role in designing the foundation’s youth-led social change grantmaking strategy and oversaw the development and implementation of capacity building initiatives designed to strengthen and expand youth organizing across Connecticut. Laura’s work in the philanthropic sector and her deep belief in the power of youth-led social change is informed by her experience as a youth worker and organizer.

**Martha McCoy** | Martha is executive director of Everyday Democracy and president of The Paul J. Aicher Foundation. The organization and its network are recognized for linking community engagement to greater racial equity in policy areas such as criminal justice, education, and early childhood development. McCoy serves on the advisory board of the Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity. She is co-chair, with Secretary of the State Denise Merrill, of the Connecticut Civic Health Initiative.

**Caprice Taylor Mendez** | As a strategic program officer for The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Caprice supports the grantmaking for both Immigration Integration in Greater New Haven and the community reentry efforts of formerly incarcerated individuals. Caprice has dedicated her career to systemic change for greater social justice, working with historically disenfranchised communities throughout the USA. She is humbled, during these times of unprecedented levels of deportation and detention, to support the Immigration Strategic Funders Collaborative in Connecticut.
Carol O'Donnell | Carol is the executive director of the CT Early Childhood Funder Collaborative, a project of CCP, where she is responsible for advancing the vision and priorities set forth by its 16 members. Carol has extensive experience in philanthropy having worked for community and private foundations where she designed and implemented initiatives related to early childhood, lifelong learning and youth development. She is one of the founding members of the Collaborative and served as one of its original co-chairs.

Frances Padilla | Frances has been an unwavering advocate for social and economic equity for low- and moderate-income Connecticut families her entire career. As president of the Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut, she has strengthened the Foundation’s standing as one of the state’s most effective and powerful foundations advocating for consumers and patients. Frances serves on the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy’s board of directors where she chairs the Government Relations and Policy Committee.

Sheila Perrin | Sheila is co-founder and board chair of the Perrin Family Foundation. Sheila has been a leader in local and state philanthropy for more than 20 years. She founded the Perrin Family Foundation with her husband, Charlie, in 1994. In her position as president and with the experience of working with many Connecticut non-profit boards, she actively stewarded the foundation’s evolution from a family foundation with several funding priorities to one with a specific mission and focus on youth voice. Sheila is an emeritus director of the Fairfield County’s Community Foundation and actively served on its board from 1998-2013. Sheila also served as a board member for the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy from 2003-2009.

Bishop John L. Selders, Jr. | The Right Reverend Doctor John L. Selders, Jr. is an ordained minister serving in the United Church of Christ; the Organizing Pastor of Amistad United Church of Christ, Hartford, CT; Assistant Dean of Students, member of the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, (former) associate college chaplain, Trinity College, Hartford, CT; and one of the leaders of Moral Monday CT. For 15 years, he served as executive director of Zezzo House (an 18 unit housing project) in Hartford, CT.

Jay Williams | Jay began his tenure as president of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, the community foundation for the 29-town Greater Hartford region, in July 2017. Previously, he served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, where he led the federal economic development agenda, and as deputy director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at The White House, where he was the principal liaison between the President of the United States and local elected officials. His time in Washington, D.C. followed five years as Mayor of Youngstown, Ohio.

Janée Woods | Janée tends to the reflective, expressive, and creative capacities of the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund as the director of organizational culture. That work includes how the Fund articulates and practices its values in internal relationships and with the community, learning as an organization in integrating lessons into practice, and manifesting those values and practices through the Fund’s public voice.
ABOUT CCP

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United Way of Connecticut
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New members since last annual meeting are bolded.
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Diane Sierpina
Director of Justice Initiatives
The Tow Foundation

Staff

Karla Fortunato
President

Dee Goodrich
Director of Member Engagement

Laurie Allen
Director of Communications

Tiffany Walton
Executive Assistant and Office Manager
In the spirit of CCP’s advancing conversations about diversity, equity, and inclusion, we are pleased to share the Alliance for Nonprofit Management’s Annual Capacity Builder’s Conference, Re-envisioning Our Field: Advancing Racial Equity & Leading Innovation in Capacity Building, on October 10-12 in Hartford, CT.

FRIENDS IN PHILANTHROPY:
We warmly invite you to join capacity builders from all disciplines and regions of our country as we look to advance our field for the good of the nonprofits and communities we serve.