



Robert J. Thompson Eastern Leadership Academy

August 27 - 31, 2023

The Logan Hotel - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

AGENDA

Sunday, August 27

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Arrival, check-in, registration:** Grange Foyer, Ground Floor, Logan Hotel Lobby

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Reception:** Stenton Terrace, Ground Floor

6:31 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Opening Dinner**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Welcome:

- David Biette, director, CSG East
- Representative Jennifer O'Mara, Pennsylvania, ELA'21
- Nora Lewis, vice dean, Professional & Liberal Education, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania

9:30 p.m. – Midnight **Hospitality Suite:** The Library and Outside Terrace, Ground Floor

Monday, August 28

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast:** Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Don Hannon, who staffs the CSG East Transportation Committee, will follow with an update on committee activities followed by Shirley Girouard, CSG East's Health policy analyst and David Biette will brief fellows on projects and activities in U.S.-Canada Relations.

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 **Navigating Roadblocks**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Speaker: Mitzi Johnson, former Speaker of the House (VT)

In practicing leadership, poor outcomes are often a result of diagnostic failures. This session is an introduction to two diagnostic tools- mapping perspectives and identifying anticipated losses- and how to use them to lead strategically. Being a successful legislator requires deep listening and negotiating to navigate loss and learn to disappoint people at a rate they can withstand. We will work to strengthen diagnostic muscles to analyze why attempts fail or succeed, and how to make progress on your toughest issues

12:01 p.m. – 12:20 p.m. **Break**

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch:** Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Creating and Communicating about a Climate Action Plan**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Speaker: Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Ph.D., Annenberg School for Communications

This presentation will focus on transforming the commitment of individuals to address climate change into a commitment by the groups and organizations of which they are a part to implement effective climate action plans.

2:01 p.m. – 2:22 p.m. **Break**

2:23 p.m. – 4:31 p.m. **Stress Management: Essential Strategies to Boost Calm and Confidence**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Speaker: Dr. Mary Anderson, Psychologist

Participants will learn science-based strategies and skills to help them improve their stress management, so they can be consistently high-performing in the short-term and sustainably high-achieving long-term. Clinical psychologist Dr. Mary Anderson will lead an interactive session demonstrating actionable techniques to effectively strengthen self-talk and optimize self-care, specifically-tailored to enhance coping with stressful situations and busy schedules, to boost calm and confidence.

6:15 p.m. **Meet in the lobby of Logan Hotel to walk to The Basket Room – El Techo Restaurant**

6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Reception and Dinner**

Location: The Basket Room, El Techo Restaurant

1830 Ludlow Street, Philadelphia; 267-930-5600

9:00 p.m. **Walk back to Logan Hotel**

9:30 p.m. – Midnight **Hospitality Suite:** The Library and Outside Terrace, Ground Floor

Tuesday, August 29

****2023 Class president nominations will be collected all day****

8:00 a.m.– 8:59 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast:** Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Nicole Jarrett, Ph.D., from CSG’s Justice Center will provide Fellows an overview of the Justice Center’s activities and projects.

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Skills Sessions: Connecting Across the Political Divide**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Speaker: Seth Pendleton, Partner, KNP Communications

Participants learn a common-sense approach to defusing hostile questions and giving positive, simple, and memorable information

11:31a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Break**

11:46 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Social Media Fundamentals: Tactics and Strategy**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Speaker: Matt White, Partner, KNP Communications

Now that so much political communication is taking place online, social media plays an increasingly critical role in connecting with constituents. This hour-long session will cover everything you need to know on how to use Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram confidently and effectively. Guidance will range from big-picture goals for online presence to specific tactics for crafting a compelling profile and tailoring messages for the right platform to reach your target audience. Which elected officials are doing it best? Who you should be following? What's the best way to connect with journalists? How can you engage commenters, use hashtags, and not fumble an attempt at a meme? This session will answer those questions and more.

1:16 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Lunch:** Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

2:01 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Public Service Leadership: Building a Culture of Excellence.**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Speaker: Scott Raecker, former Iowa legislator, director of The Robert D. and Billie Ray Center at Drake University

How do legislators build a culture of excellence that embodies clear communication, negotiation, integrity, respect, and accountability? Scott Raecker draws on 14 years of experience in the Iowa legislature and 19 years as a professional focused on development of ethical leadership and civility to help current legislators navigate the sometimes-uncertain terrain of lawmaking and governing.

Free Afternoon and Evening, dinner on your own. The concierge desk can advise on restaurants and make reservations. Baseball fans: The Phillies are playing the LA Angels starting at 6:40pm.

9:00 p.m. – Midnight **Hospitality Suite:** The Library and Outside Terrace, Ground Floor

Wednesday, August 30

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast:** Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

CSG East policy staff Bob Haefner and Tara Sad will offer an overview of Agricultural and Rural Affairs and Fran Boyd will brief fellows on projects and activities in Washington D.C.

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Skills Session Power and Microaggressions**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Speaker: Tania Richard, Antiracism Educator and DEI Consultant

As public debate becomes increasingly heated and polarized, this workshop will provide tools and strategies that legislators and staff can use when engaging with constituents and stakeholders on challenging issues, while remaining authentic to their values and positions. The facilitator will assist Fellows in recognizing, preparing for, and responding to difficult or sensitive interactions in order to reach a respectful, productive outcome.

Guided by the facilitator, Fellows will use legislator-inspired scenarios to frame a discussion of how a variety of approaches and strategies could be used to achieve satisfactory results.

11:01a.m. – 11:16 a.m. **Break**

11:17 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Lunch and Campaign Speeches for 2023 Class President**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

**Ballots will be collected as you exit the room.*

12:31 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Legislative Negotiation Workshop: Strategies to Overcome Impasse to Build Agreement**

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Speaker: Naseem Khuri, adjunct assistant professor of international negotiations, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University

Through participation in interactive exercises and discussions, participants will explore strategies to overcome impasse and build agreement in a legislative negotiation setting

5:45 p.m.

Meet in the lobby of Logan Hotel to board bus to Museum of the American Revolution (MoAR)

***NOTE: Business attire – 2023 class photo will be taken at the Museum**

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Reception

Location: MoAR, Oneida Indian Nation Atrium, 101 South Third Street, Philadelphia, PA

7:01 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Graduation Dinner and Presentation of Diplomas

Location: MoAR, Oneida Indian Nation Atrium

Speaker: Deputy Speaker Pro Tempore Robert Godfrey, Connecticut
Nina Valedón Santiago, Office of the Senate President, Puerto Rico, CSG
East, ELA Class President 2022

Topic: Reflections on the Role of Public Service

9:15 p.m.

Bus leaves for the Logan Hotel

9:30 p.m.– Midnight

Hospitality Suite: The Library and Outside Terrace, Ground Floor

Thursday, August 31

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Breakfast

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

9:01 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Spotlight on Leaders: Former Speaker of the House Ryan Fecteau, ME

Location: Mt. Vernon Room, Ground Floor

Facilitator: ELA'23 Class president

Ryan's primary legislative achievements included the creation of a state tax incentive for affordable housing, instituting housing-friendly zoning and land use regulations, investing in vocational and trade schools, implementing a child care worker wage stipend, and expanding dental coverage to over 200,000 Mainers. This discussion will focus on the challenges he faced and strategies he used to successfully pass these bills.