



2026 Youth Leadership Conference

Presented by
The School District of Philadelphia
The Institute on Disabilities at
Temple University
& The Arc of Philadelphia



Institute on Disabilities



12th Annual Youth Leadership Conference

9:00 - 9:40 - Arrival

Visit Exhibitor Hall
Snack

9:40 - 9:50 - Kickoff

Christine Woysner, PhD
*Associate Dean and Professor
Research and Faculty Affairs*

Nathalie Neree, PhD
*Chief of Special Education & Diverse Learners
School District of Philadelphia*

Sponsors' Comments
10 min break

10:00 - 10:40 - Breakout Room 1 - Employment Support for People with Disabilities

Joe Murphy
*Transition & Employment Coordinator
Networks for Training & Development*

Jack Albaster
Project Career Launch Alumni

Laura McAnulty
*Executive Director
Neurodiversity Employment Network*

Jane Cordero
*Transition Coordinator
Project Career Launch*

10:00 - 10:40 - Breakout Room 2 - College Education for People with Disabilities

Cheryl Torsney
*Program Manager
Leadership & Career Studies
College of Education & Human Development
Institute on Disabilities, Temple University*

Christie Fisher, M.Ed.
*Director of Integrated Studies
Gwynedd Mercy University*

Zyhir Garbett
*Alumni
Leadership & Career Studies
Temple University*

Sophie Vassallo
*Alumni
Gwynedd Mercy University*



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10 min break

10:50 - 11:30 - Breakout Room 1 - Self-Advocacy and Disability Services

Lauren Alden
Director, Independent Living Services
Liberty Resources Inc.
REVUP Philadelphia

Liberty Resources Inc.
Commissioner
Office for People with Disabilities,
City of Philadelphia

LaToya Maddox
Senior Independent Living Specialist

Rodney Whitmore
Independent Living Specialist
Liberty Resources Inc.

10:50 - 11:30 - Breakout Room 2 - Assistive Technology

Wendy Davis
Director of Marketing & Outreach
Pennsylvania Assistive
Technology Foundation
(PATF)

AT Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
*TechOWL - Technology for Our
Whole Lives*
Institute on Disabilities at
Temple University
College of Education
& Human Development

Laura Slotkoff, MS, OTR/L, ATP
Assistive Technology (AT) Specialist

11:30 - 12:15 - Lunch
Visit Exhibitor Hall



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12:15 - 1:00 - Keynote Speaker

Andrew Arboe
Autistic Self-Advocate and Speaker

1:00 - Closing

LaQuenta Montañez
Secondary Transition Coordinator
Office of Diverse Learners
School District of Philadelphia

Jamie Ray-Leonetti
Associate Director of Policy
Institute on Disabilities at Temple University
College of Education & Human Development

Shane Janick
Executive Director
The Arc of Philadelphia

Thank you to our sponsors and to everyone who made today such a success!

Independence



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