



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
& Faculty Affairs
College of Education & Human Development
Temple University

Nathalie Neree, PhD

Chief of Special Education & Diverse Learners
School District of Philadelphia

Sponsors' Comments | Tracey Carter, Associates Beyond Limited Expectations (ABLE), IBX
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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