

# YOUTH CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

## Workshop Options

### National Virtual Diversity Conference for Youth 2025

#### **Beyond the Hype: Human Trafficking of Youth**

Hidden in plain sight is the cliché for situations involving trafficking and yet, in 2024 minors who have been trafficked are filling up our youth detention centers, dropping out of school and using substances to cope with their trauma. How can we recognize trafficking when it's happening right in front of us – from survival sex to forced criminality to the labor trafficking of unaccompanied minors? We need to see beyond the hype, understand the nuances of the crime and know the existing resources to support survivors. This workshop will bust through myths perpetuated by social media and Hollywood; illustrate the realities of trafficking in rural and urban communities; and encourage new ways of thinking about vulnerability, marginalization and exploitation of youth.

#### **How to Have Hard Conversations**

This workshop will teach youth how to talk about controversial issues with people who disagree with them; and if they should. We will review a basic overview of the psychology of changing opinions and explain how to harness that psychology to change the minds of people close to you while attendees prepare for a real conversation they would like to have. Youth will leave the workshop with an understanding of how to have hard conversations and feel equipped to have an upcoming conversation.

#### **Know Your Rights**

Regardless of your immigration status, you have guaranteed rights under the Constitution. Learn more here about your rights when encountering police or ICE, and how to express them.

## **Lest We Forget ... Stories of Wisdom, Stories of Truth**

We will use storytelling to take a journey through American history from the perspective of the African American woman. The journey begins with slavery and travels into present day America. Racism, hatred, and stereotyping are some of the many topics touched upon in this presentation. We will end with a group discussion on how society has changed—for better or worse—to the present day, and the power of one.

## **Navigating Diversity Backlash**

This workshop is an interactive conversation about why there is resistance to equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts and how to work through the backlash. Learners will engage in dialogue and activities (role-play is one) to come away with strategies on how to address diversity backlash when they are faced with resistance to their work in social and racial justice.

## **What to Expect: The College Experience**

This workshop will feature a panel of college students with different identities and backgrounds talking about their experiences applying to college, navigating financial aid, and what life has been like now on the college campus.