



**CONNECTICUT**

FOCUS ON STUDENTS

# IECA Spring Conference

May 13-15, 2020



# IECA Pre- and Post-Conference Tours

For IECA member consultants only

Visit the Campus Tours page of our web site for the details of each tour:  
<https://link.iecaonline.com/precon-tours>

## College Tours

Register through IECA's conference registration system

### Monday–Tuesday | May 11–12

#### Hartford

**Tour 1:** University of Hartford, Trinity College, University of Connecticut, Wesleyan University, Mitchell College

### Monday–Tuesday | May 11–12

#### New Jersey & New York

**Tour 2:** Rider University, Princeton University, Drew University, Fordham University, Sarah Lawrence College

### Monday–Tuesday | May 11–12

#### Southern Connecticut

**Tour 3:** University of New Haven, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield University, Quinnipiac University, Yale University

### Monday–Tuesday | May 11–12

#### Rhode Island

**Tour 4:** Bryant University, Providence College, Brown University, Rhode Island School of Design, Salve Regina University, University of Rhode Island

### Wednesday Morning | May 13

**Tour 5:** United States Coast Guard Academy and Connecticut College

### Friday Afternoon | May 15

**Tour 6:** Mitchell College

### Friday Afternoon | May 15

**Tour 7:** Connecticut College

## School Tours

Contact school to register

### Monday–Wednesday | May 11–13

Tabor Academy, Portsmouth Abbey School, St. George's School, St. Andrew's School, Marianapolis Preparatory School, Rectory School, Pomfret School  
Contact for questions and registration: Kelly Sheehan, Senior Associate Director of Admissions, [ksheehan@pomfret.org](mailto:ksheehan@pomfret.org), 860-315-4411

### Tuesday | May 12

Shrub Oak International School

Contact for questions and registration:

Mary Lavan, [mlavan@shruboak.org](mailto:mlavan@shruboak.org), 914-885-1997

## Learning Disabilities & Therapeutic Program Tours

Contact program to register

### Monday–Tuesday | May 11–12

Chapel Haven Schleifer Center, Franklin Academy, Vista Life Innovations, Oxford Academy, Grove School

Contact for questions and registration:

Cindy Pope, Franklin Academy, [cindy@fa-ct.org](mailto:cindy@fa-ct.org)

### Tuesday | May 12

The Glenholme School, The Woodhall School, Newport Academy, Wellspring

Contact for questions and registration: Christina Reddington, Wellspring,

[Christina.Reddington@wellspring.org](mailto:Christina.Reddington@wellspring.org)

# Welcome to IECA's First Conference in CONNECTICUT



We are excited to be in Connecticut, where IECA has more members per capita than any other state. It is also IECA's first conference where you needn't leave the premises to find food, shopping, or entertainment. There's something for everyone at the Mohegan Sun Resort, an all-in-one venue where learning, playing, and entertainment coexist on one amazing property that will accommodate every attendee. You'll spend the day with captivating speakers; breakout sessions for every specialty and interest, and meeting with colleges, schools, and other professionals. All three ACE Talks presenters also have breakout sessions for deeper dives into their areas of expertise and the Master Class will focus on how assessing psychological profiles can move students toward independence. For the first time, the schedule will feature three separate dedicated events for Schools, Colleges, and Therapeutic programs, facilitating even better information exchange and connections. We introduce the new Wednesday evening School Exchange, giving traditional and LD K-12 schools and programs their own networking event with IECs, and removing them from the Thursday morning Fair, which will now focus exclusively on Colleges/Universities, Gap Year programs, and non-therapeutic Post-Secondary programs. Friday's Information Swap will continue to focus exclusively on therapeutic schools and programs for all ages.

But don't plan to head to your room when the last session ends; the evenings promise to be just as busy! You can choose from 42 restaurants and 30 stores, burn off any conference calories at the fitness centers, bowling alley, golf course and beautiful grounds; or relax and be entertained with a concert, comedy act, or maybe a sporting event. The networking event on Thursday evening at Game On! will add a new dimension to networking with some friendly competition. Plus, Mohegan Sun has gaming for those who want to take advantage, but attendees can go from the front desk to guest rooms to conference events and never pass through the casino floor if they wish, and no one will have to contend with the presence of cigarette smoke, which is the case at many older gaming properties.

# ACE Talks

Thought leaders in **Adolescence, Consulting, and Education.**

Wednesday's opening session will feature a series of three renowned experts each conducting a 15-20 minute dynamic and energetic presentation to share a major point, theme, or innovative idea with our audience.



**Wednesday | May 13 | 1:00 p.m.**

## The Side Door: Reflections on Operation Varsity Blues

Daniel Golden will discuss his new reporting on the college admissions scandal and how his findings contrast with the popular perception of the case.

**Daniel Golden** is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author and a senior editor at ProPublica, a non-profit website for investigative reporting. A longtime higher education reporter, he is best known for his critically acclaimed national bestseller, *The Price of Admission: How America's Ruling Class Buys Its Way Into Elite Colleges—and Who Gets Left Outside the Gates*, which was recently reissued with new reporting on Operation Varsity Blues.



Daniel Golden

## Emotional Intelligence: Key to Raising Healthy, Happy, and Successful Children

In this interactive presentation, Marc Brackett will discuss his center's research on the "emotional state" of our nation's children and families and will describe the theory and skills of emotional intelligence, which have been shown to support optimum health, well-being, and academic success. He will also explain the skills, tools, and practices developed at Yale, which can support parents in developing their own and their children's emotional intelligence.

**Marc Brackett**, PhD is the founding director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence and a professor in the Child Study Center of the Yale School of Medicine. His book, *Permission to Feel*, combines psychological research and compelling anecdotes to offer a blueprint for understanding our emotions and using them wisely in order to achieve success and well-being. Brackett is the lead developer of RULER, a systematic, evidence-based approach to social and emotional learning that has been adopted by more than 2,000 public, charter, and private schools across the United States and in other countries.



Marc Brackett

## Easing the Stress of Parents During the Application Process

As professionals who work closely with families know all too well, applying to schools is often a stressful, high-stakes process that can bring out the worst in everyone. This presentation will describe how IECs, program directors, and admissions officers can recognize the underlying anxiety that drives resistance, noncompliance, and other challenging behaviors in families with whom they work. Along with providing insight into typical triggers for parents' anxiety, strategies will be offered to help ease that stress and promote the educational decision-making that best serves students.

**Roni Cohen-Sandler**, PhD is a clinical psychologist in private practice who specializes in raising healthy adolescents, mother-daughter relationships; and psycho-educational assessments. She has written three parenting books: the bestselling *I'm Not Mad, I Just Hate You: A New Understanding of Mother-Daughter Conflict*; the award-winning *Trust Me, Mom—Everyone Else is Going!* and *Stressed-out Girls: Helping Them Thrive in the Age of Pressure*. Cohen-Sandler is currently working on her newest parenting book, tentatively titled, *Anything But My Phone, Mom!*



Roni Cohen-Sandler

## Special Guest Speaker

**Thursday | May 14 | 12:30 p.m.**

### Cultivating Student Access and Success for a New Generation

**Angel B. Pérez**, PhD is the Vice President for Enrollment and Student Success at Trinity College, Connecticut. Perez is an education administrator, author, speaker, teacher, and student advocate. With more than two decades' experience in secondary and higher education leadership positions in the U.S., he is now recognized as a national thought leader, and sought after as an international speaker, on issues of educational equity and access in American education.



Angel B. Pérez

## Friday College Special Address

**Friday | May 15 | 10:30 a.m.**

### The Future of Ethical Practice

**Jayne Fonash**, EdD is president of NACAC and is an independent educational consultant. She spent 20 years in public and private mental health practice and 24 years as a public high school counselor and director of counseling services. Fonash was recognized by NACAC as the 2013 recipient of the NACAC Government Relations Award, presented to a NACAC member who has made outstanding efforts in support of policy initiatives that promote equal access to higher education. She also served as a past-president of PCACAC and as member of the NACAC Affiliates Presidents Council.



Jayne Fonash

## Master Class

**Friday | May 15 | 1:00 p.m.**

### Supporting Independence in Students: Identifying Cognitive and Emotional Risk Factors, Appropriate Interventions and Placements

This Master Class will consider supports required for moving students toward independence. Research will be reviewed that shows strong relationships between cognition, emotion, and personality. This course will consider how the assessment of important psychological profiles can help identify select methods of intervention and placement that will address areas of strength and weaknesses in the students that consultants support. Case studies will be considered as well to identify methods of intervention for both high achieving students as well as students who are at-risk of failure, like those with learning disorders and anxiety.

**Matthew Cruger**, PhD, a clinical neuropsychologist, is senior director of the Learning and Development Center at the Child Mind Institute. He specializes in neuropsychological examinations, cognitive assessments and other evaluations for gifted children as well as those with learning difficulties, autism spectrum disorders, and ADHD. A strong advocate for children and teens with special education needs, Cruger uses empirically supported treatments to improve both his patients' emotional functioning and their academic achievement.



Matthew Cruger

## Ready or Not: Assessing College Readiness and Support Options

Wondering how to support LD/ND students who aren't quite college-ready? Join IECA members and experts from transition, support, and disability programs to discuss case studies and understand readiness factors, program options, and best practices.

**John Conway, LCSW, CADAC,**  
**Edge Learning & Wellness Community**  
**Kinsley Rausch, Franklin Learning Institute**  
**Lauren Merritt, MA, College Steps**  
**Christine Wenzel, MAEd, University of Connecticut**  
**Grant Leibersberger, MEd, MBA, Focus Collegiate**  
**Marci Schwartz, LCSW, PhD, IECA Associate**  
**Eric Endlich, PhD, IECA Associate**  
**Moderated by Lauren Gaylord, MA, IECA**

**For All: Applied**

## Where's the Money? Exploring Affordability Options

The landscape of college admissions has changed dramatically. This workshop introduces critical elements of college affordability planning and how money is used by colleges through admissions offers to compose incoming classes.

**Cyndy McDonald, MA, PPS, IECA**  
**Dean Skarlis, EdD, IECA**  
**Rachel Coates, MA, IECA**  
**Claire Law, MS, IECA**  
**Brent Benner, MA, University of Tampa**  
**Additional college reps to be announced**

**For IECs: Applied**

## You Don't Have to Be a Neuro-Guru to Use Neurofeedback

Explore the what, why, and how of neurofeedback and the science behind it, including research, bio-psycho-social approach, and qEEG brain mapping. Presenters will demystify implementing neurofeedback in the therapeutic and academic environment.

**Dianne Kosto, SCN, SYMMETRY Neuro-Pathway Training**  
**For All: Foundational**

## Tools to Reduce Teen Stress and Anxiety

The high school years are fraught with anxiety for students and their parents. IECs are very often confronted with anxiety-related issues such as sub-par test and academic performance, difficulties focusing and staying on task, and the overall stress, pressure and anxiety of getting into the "right" college or university. This session will provide an in-depth, interactive examination of how to reduce teen anxiety and improve performance. It will also include an evidence-based model of nine tools to help students be more calm, confident, and focused throughout the college application process.

**Ben Bernstein, PhD, Performance Psychologist**  
**For All: Applied**

## Adapting to the New Realities of Therapeutic Consulting

How can we improve our practice from communications with programs and families to policies and procedures to dealing with difficult parents? Making changes to your practice will give you confidence and decrease your risks. Participants will share what they do to keep from feeling overwhelmed, help maintain your sanity, and rekindle the passion of why you went into the business of therapeutic consulting.

**Gail Curran, MS, MBA, CEP, IECA**  
**Jesse Quam, LCSW, IECA**  
**Mindy Goodman, CPA, IECA Associate**  
**Lisa Vella, MEd, IECA**  
**Linda Lavin, OT, IECA**  
**Kathy Nauta, BS, IECA Associate**  
**Ruby Laufer, OT, IECA**

**For IECs: Foundational**



**Foundational:** For those with limited experience, seeking core knowledge

**Applied:** For established professionals seeking additional knowledge

# 3 UNIQUE NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday | 7:00–8:30 p.m.

## School Exchange

**NEW EVENT**

*for IECs specializing in School and LD/ND*

This is a brand new, dedicated opportunity for Traditional Day/Boarding schools and LD K-12 schools and programs to exclusively network with school and LD/ND independent educational consultants. This event will be part school fair and part wine/cheese/dessert reception. Schools will set up a small display and share information with IECs during this dedicated networking time. New this conference: with this School Exchange event, traditional day/boarding schools and LD K-12 schools and programs will not exhibit in the Thursday morning Fair.

Thursday | 9:00–11:15 a.m.

## College & PostSecondary Fair

**NEW FORMAT**

*for IECs specializing in College, Gap/Travel, and LD PostSecondary*

The Fair features tabletop exhibits and represents an exclusive opportunity to discover new colleges and postsecondary programs, reconnect with colleagues, and learn what's new on campuses across the country. *New this conference: traditional day/boarding schools and LD K-12 schools and programs will exhibit separately at an event on Wednesday evening.*

Friday | 10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

## Therapeutic Information Swap

*for IECs specializing in Therapeutic placement*

The Swap provides an opportunity for IECs who specialize in Therapeutic advising to meet exclusively with schools & programs that support the needs of students with emotional, behavioral, or substance abuse issues.

## Discussions

### Consultant Roundtables

Thursday | 7:30 a.m.

Among the top-rated conference segments, this very popular exchange of ideas among independent educational consultants (members and nonmembers) on a variety of topics, offers something in all IEC specialties.

### Therapeutic Community Discussions

Thursday | 9:30 a.m.

This is an opportunity for therapeutic program representatives—especially therapists and program leaders—and independent educational consultants to learn from each other by discussing key issues in the areas of emotional and behavioral development.

### School Water Cooler Talks

*Co-hosted by members of the IECA Schools Committee & Admission Leaders*

The Water Cooler Talks provide an opportunity for IECs and school admission reps to come together for collaboration and collegiality, discuss the work they are doing, trends they are observing, and the families they are seeing. New this conference, there will be three opportunities to participate!

- Wednesday • 2:45 p.m.: Supporting LGBTQ Students in Our Schools
- Wednesday • 4:30 p.m.: Character Snapshot Update
- Friday • 9:15 a.m.: Vaping, Cell Phones, and Student Anxiety



# Special Events

## Tuesday

*For Early Arrivals*

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

## IECA Member Consultants Dinner

*(for IECA Professional, Associate, Student, and Retired Member consultants and spouses/partners only)*

The member dinner has become a favorite tradition as a special opening event to the conference. In Connecticut, we will take over one of Mohegan Sun's most popular restaurants, BALLO. The restaurant resembles a Gothic abbey built in the 12th century located in the hills of Tuscany. The menu features Italian favorites using exceptional fresh, locally grown produce. Join your colleagues and experience Italy without leaving the resort!

**Cost:** IECA Members \$55  
Spouse/  
Significant Other \$75  
*(includes food and beverage)*

Thursday | 6:00–7:00 p.m.

## IECA Networking Event: Game On!

Our Networking event will take place at Mohegan Sun's entertainment venue, Game On!, which offers bowling, video games, a retro style arcade, a private Karaoke suite, extensive bar, and great food while networking. **Have fun, socialize, unwind, Game On!**

**Cost:** Free to all conference registrants. IECA member guests: \$55  
Guests may include IECA member spouses/partners. Employees or affiliates of programs, schools, and colleges may not attend as guests.

Tuesday | 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

## Therapeutic School Connections

Therapeutic School Connections provides a structured and congenial atmosphere for therapeutic boarding schools/programs and IECs to talk and listen. The format involves one-on-one meetings between the two groups. IECs move from table to table to meet with each school/program. During these personal scheduled appointments, schools/programs have the opportunity to share who they are, what their mission is, and how they are unique. Registration for this event will be conducted through the School Connections website <https://schoolconnections.org>. This event is free for IECs and includes one night (Monday) at the conference hotel, a welcome reception Monday evening, and lunch on Tuesday.

Schools/programs slated to participate include: Arise Society, BlueFire Wilderness Therapy, Boulder Creek Academy, Ellenhorn and Association for Community Integration, Family First Adolescent Services, Juniper Canyon Recovery Center for Women, Kaizen Academy, Logan River Academy, Montana Academy, New Haven RTC, New Vision Wilderness Northwoods, Potomac Programs Home, RedCliff, Seven Stars, Summit Preparatory School, The Dorm.

Friday | 7:45–9:00 a.m.

## Annual Membership Breakfast Meeting

*(For all IECA Members: Professional, Associate, Student)*

Join your IECA member colleagues for the Association's annual opportunity to reflect on the past year and hear about plans for the year ahead. It's our one chance to gather together as members to celebrate independent educational consulting and all IECA has to offer. In addition, members will elect new officers and a new Board of Directors, vote on changes to the bylaws, and have an opportunity to share suggestions with staff and board leadership.

Friday | 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

## College Showcase

Friday morning you'll have the opportunity to hear from admissions counselors representing colleges and universities from the Northeast and across the country. You'll hear from big universities, small liberal arts colleges, and those in between. This is a great chance to learn more about numerous campuses in one morning!



# CONFERENCE Schedule

for Independent Educational Consultants

## Monday | May 11

School, college, and program tours  
For IECA member consultants only

## Tuesday | May 12

School, college, and program tours  
For IECA member consultants only

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Therapeutic School Connections  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m. IECA Member Dinner (optional)

## Wednesday | May 13

School, college, and program tours  
For IECA member consultants only

7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Conference Central Open**  
*Includes Registration, Vendor Hall, and Networking Lounge (Registration will remain open until 7:00 p.m.)*

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Pre-Conference Workshops**

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. **Opening General Session with ACE Talks**  
**Daniel Golden, Marc Brackett, Roni Cohen-Sandler**

2:45 – 3:45 p.m. **Breakout and Discussion Sessions**

3:45 – 4:30 p.m. Dedicated Vendor Time with refreshments in *Conference Central*

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. **Breakout and Discussion Sessions**

5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Hosted Receptions

5:45 – 6:15 p.m. New Attendee Orientation  
*(for all first-time conference attendees)*

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. **School Exchange**  
*Traditional Day/Boarding schools and LD K-12 schools and programs*

## Thursday | May 14

7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Conference Central Open**  
*Includes Registration, Vendor Hall, and Networking Lounge (Registration will remain open until 7:00 p.m.)*

7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast in *Vendor Hall, Conference Central*

7:30 – 9:00 a.m. **Consultant Roundtables**  
*(for member and non-member consultants only)*

9:00 – 11:15 a.m. **College & PostSecondary Fair**  
Colleges/Universities, Gap Year programs, LD PostSecondary schools/programs and Related Service companies

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Special Presentation for Secondary School Admission Reps

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **Therapeutic Community Discussions**

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Breakout and Discussion Sessions**

12:30 – 1:45 p.m. **Lunch with guest speaker, Angel Pérez** & presentation of Steven R. Antonoff Award

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. **Breakout and Discussion Sessions**

3:00 – 3:45 p.m. Dedicated Vendor Time with refreshments in *Conference Central*

3:45 – 4:45 p.m. **Breakout and Discussion Sessions**

4:45 – 6:00 p.m. Hosted Receptions

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. **IECA Networking Reception**

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Hosted Receptions

## Friday | May 15

7:30 – 9:30 a.m. **Conference Central Open**  
*Includes Registration, Vendor Hall, and Networking Lounge*

7:00 – 7:45 a.m. IECA Affinity Group Meetings  
*(for IECA member consultants only)*

7:45 – 9:00 a.m. **Annual Membership Meeting with Breakfast**  
*(for IECA member consultants only: Professional, Associate & Student Members)*

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast in *Vendor Hall, Conference Central*

9:15 – 10:15 a.m. **Breakout and Discussion Sessions**

10:30 – 11:15 a.m. **Friday College Special Address from Jayne Fonash**

10:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **Therapeutic Information Swap**  
Therapeutic schools and programs, including Wilderness, PostSecondary and Transitional, and Related Service companies

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **College Showcase**

12:15 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch Available Inside Therapeutic Information Swap

1:00 – 2:45 p.m. **Master Class with Matthew Cruger**

2:45 p.m. Conference Closes



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## Independent Educational Consultants Association

3251 Old Lee Highway  
Suite 510  
Fairfax, VA 22030-1504

# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

## IECA Spring 2020 Conference in Connecticut

Registration is being conducted exclusively through the online registration system at: <https://link.iecaonline.com/Conference-IECs>  
Hotel booking information will be provided at the end of the online conference registration process. This helps to ensure that registered attendees have first access to available rooms. Only those registered for the conference will be eligible for the hotel's discounted rate. A list of participants will be published based on paid registrations received by April 1.

### Conference Fees Conference Registration for IECA Member Consultants

Early Bird (through February 29): \$500  
Regular (March 1 - April 1): \$550  
Late Fee (after April 1): \$50  
Tuesday Dinner: \$55  
Tuesday Dinner Spouse/Significant Other: \$75  
Thursday Reception Spouse/Significant Other: \$55

### Conference Registration for Nonmember Consultants, College, School, Therapeutic, and LD Representatives

Early Bird (through February 29): \$600  
Regular (March 1 - through April 1): \$645  
Late Fee (after April 1): \$50

### Pre-Conference Workshops

Wednesday half-day workshops:  
IECA Member Consultants: \$75 / All Others: \$95

### Continuing Education Hours

IECA has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 6632. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit will be clearly identified. All sessions qualify for CE credit for AICPEP. IECA is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.

### Special Needs

Registrants with a physical disability or dietary restrictions are asked to include that information with their conference registration, or send written requests for special meals or accommodations to [conference@IECAonline.com](mailto:conference@IECAonline.com).

### Guests

Only IECA member consultants may register a spouse or significant other to join IECA members for the dinner on Tuesday, May 12 (\$75), and the reception on Thursday, May 14 (\$55). Other guests cannot be accommodated. We are not able to accommodate guests for conference speakers, meals, sessions, or the Fair/Information Swap. **Only registered conference attendees will have access to conference events and the conference areas of the hotel.**

### Hotel Information

Conference attendees ONLY may book at the listed IECA Conference rate (\$179 single/double + \$14.95 facility fee). **Note:** A maximum of two rooms may be reserved under a conference registrant's name. Those not registered for the conference will pay the hotel's standard rates. You must mention IECA to receive the conference discount rate or use the online booking process that is provided with conference registration. Complimentary Internet access is included for all guest rooms reserved inside the IECA group block.

### Conference Materials

Conference materials will be available in Conference Central (at the IECA registration desk) located inside the conference hotel (see enclosed schedule for specific days and times).

### Travel Information

**Driving:** Mohegan Sun is approximately a one-hour drive from Providence, Hartford, and New Haven. Boston is just over 90 minutes and New York is approximately two hours. The resort offers **free parking** for all hotel guests and conference attendees.

**Airport Shuttle Service:** Shuttle Service and Private Car Service are offered to guests of Mohegan Sun (fees apply). Reservations are required 24 hours in advance and are accepted 24 hours a day at 888-320-4577, ext 2.

#### Airports Served:

Bradley International Airport (BDL) in Hartford, CT and  
TF Green Airport (PVD) in Providence, RI

**Cost:** \$50.00 per person, plus 20% suggested gratuity

**Hours:** From the airports: 7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.

From the hotel: 6:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.

For additional travel information (bus, train, ride share, etc.) visit: <https://mohegansun.com/about-mohegan-sun/getting-here.html>