



## **CALL FOR WORKSHOP PROPOSALS**

### **The 2026 Preschool- to 2nd-Grade Educators Diversity Summit** ***“Starting Small, Thinking Big: Building Inclusive Foundations for Learning”***

The Greater Philadelphia Diversity Collaborative (GPDC) is excited to announce the **2026 Preschool- to 2nd-Grade Educators Diversity Summit**, a day to explore issues of diversity, equity, and inclusivity geared toward educators of children in preschool through 2nd grade, scheduled for **Saturday, April 18th, 2026**. The Summit will be hosted at The School in Rose Valley on their 9-acre wooded Rose Valley, PA campus.

The GPDC invites teachers, school administrators, staff, and teaching artists to submit proposals to lead a 45-minute workshop for 15-20 peers. The workshop should address an issue of justice, equity, diversity, inclusion, or anti-racism. The theme for this year’s summit is ***“Starting Small, Thinking Big: Building Inclusive Foundations for Learning”***. The presentation may encompass a range of formats and media, but activities should be interactive.

It is the goal of the GPDC that by participating in this event, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of themselves and their peers as anti-racist educators while exploring issues of diversity, equity, and identity as they relate to the world of their young students. The goals of the day are:

- To address why it is important to start discussing identity, diversity, social justice, and equity in schools as early as possible
- To empower attendees with various proactive, engaging, and age-appropriate tools and resources for the classroom that address the authentic diversity of our world and help strengthen behaviors that uphold its value
- To provide opportunities for discussion, sharing, and support

The program committee will review proposals to determine acceptance. Regardless of acceptance, you should expect an emailed response by January 20th, 2026. If your workshop proposal is accepted, you will receive an email by January 30th, 2026. Up to two facilitators per workshop will have their registration fee waived. We will work to assist accepted facilitators with supplies if needed, but please understand that our budget is limited. Proposals are welcome to incorporate outside activities, weather permitting.

**Please share this invitation with your faculty and other colleagues who might be interested. Proposals must be received by Friday, January 16th, 2026.**

To have your proposal considered, please complete the attached proposal form and submit it to [gpdiversitycollaborative@gmail.com](mailto:gpdiversitycollaborative@gmail.com)

You may direct any questions to Nora E. Quinn, Summit Coordinator, at [nquinn@theschoolinrosevalley.org](mailto:nquinn@theschoolinrosevalley.org).

We are looking forward to receiving your submissions. Your creative contributions will help to make this a successful day for all.

**The Preschool - to 2nd-Grade Educators Diversity Summit Program Committee:**

*Jeri Bond Whatley, Co-Founder of GPDC and Programs Coordinator for The Race Institute for K-12 Educators*

*Chrishanté Strickland-Dandy, Director of Curriculum and Culture, Lansdowne Friends School*

*Rod Stanton, GPDC Advisory Board and Head of School, The School in Rose Valley*

*Nora E. Quinn, GPDC Summit Coordinator & Theater Teacher, The School in Rose Valley*

*Jeannine Mackey, Assistant Kindergarten Teacher, The School in Rose Valley*

*Cassandra Fiore, Nursery Teacher, The Miquon School*

*Delilah Maestri, Preschool Teacher and DEIJB Coordinator, United Friends School*



Small Schools Collaborating for Big Change

**The Greater Philadelphia Diversity Collaborative** promotes

healthy, socially conscious, and culturally responsive preschool through 8th-grade communities by keeping initiatives of difference, social justice, and equity at the forefront of our respective schools' views. We actively provide GPDC educators & students with tools to address issues of social justice, equity, and anti-racist concepts in our member schools.



**The School in Rose Valley** is a progressive school for preschool through

sixth-grade children. In our classrooms and our wooded campus, teachers and students create experiences that arouse curiosity, stretch muscles, strengthen initiative, and stimulate questions. We guide children to know themselves, to delight in learning, and to understand their opportunities and responsibilities in our community and the world. Situated on 9.5 acres outside Media, PA, SRV is easily accessible from Philadelphia, Wilmington, and the surrounding suburbs.



*Small Schools Collaborating for Big Change*

**Workshop Proposal Form**  
**The 2026 Preschool- to 2nd-Grade Educators Diversity Summit**  
***“Starting Small, Thinking Big: Building Inclusive Foundations for Learning”***

*This form should be submitted to [gpdiversitycollaborative@gmail.com](mailto:gpdiversitycollaborative@gmail.com) no later than January 16th, 2026. Please direct any questions to [nquinn@theschoolinrosevalley.org](mailto:nquinn@theschoolinrosevalley.org).*

**Title of Workshop:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Workshop** *(feel free to attach additional pages and supporting documents):*

*If your presentation is accepted, the program committee reserves the right to edit the description to promote the event.*

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**Workshop Facilitator Information**

*(Please Attach a Brief Facilitator Bio for each Facilitator 150 words maximum)*

**Facilitator Name:**

**Pronouns:**

**Title/Position:**

**School/Organization:**

**Email Address :**

**Phone Number:**

**Facilitator #2 Name, if applicable:**

**Pronouns:**

**Title/Position:**

**School/Organization:**

**Email Address :**

**Phone Number:**

*Please list any equipment/supplies that you will need. The campus has WiFi, Apple TV connections, and projectors available upon request. We will work to assist you with supplies if required, but please understand that our budget is limited.*