



56th Annual NYSSSWA School Social Work Conference
“Bridging the Gap: Meeting the Needs of Our Students in the New Decade”

Schedule of Events

Thursday, October 28, 2021

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Registration/sign in

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Welcome -- Conference Chair, NYSSSWA President. Board Introductions

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Opening Keynote (2 Contact Hours)

"Using Trauma Informed Strategies in Response to the COVID Pandemic" by Laurie Belanger, LCSW-R; Kelli Cookfair, LCSW; Margaret Perkins, LMSW & Tina Houston McCrea, LMSW

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. Lunch

Presentation of *“Ruth Schwartz School Social Worker of the Year Award”*

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Breakout Session A (2.0 Contact Hours) (Choose one)

A1: “Dance and Movement to Support and Address Mental Health and Well Being”
by Katilin Principe, MEd. & a School Social Worker, TBD

A2: "A Grief Like No Other: Helping Families Cope with Suicide" by Day Cummings,
LCSW, RN

A3: “Human Trafficking 101” by Amy Fleischauer, LMSW; Detective David Zamorek; & Patricia Calleri, Supervisory Special Agent, Homeland Security Investigations (*Speakers request wearing of masks and vaccinated attendees only. Feel free to choose another session.*)

3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Breakout Session B: (2.0 Contact hours) (Choose one)

B1: “CANCELLED” “Preventive Classroom and Behavior Management Techniques” by
Presenter Pending

B2: “Suicide Prevention & Intervention in the School Setting” by David Pratt, Ph.D.,
MSW

**B3: “Transgender and Gender Expansive Students: K-12 Best Practices in the Age of
DASA”** by Suzanne Donovan, LCSW-R & Mel LeMay, LMSW

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Informal Gathering

6:30 p.m. - ? **“CANCELLED”** “Niagra Scenic” Tour of Niagra Falls (Additional \$35 cost for those interested.)

Friday, October 29, 2021

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Registration/sign in & Buffet Breakfast

8:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. General Session (2.0 Contact hours)

“Mental Health in Schools in the 21st Century” by David Hamilton, Ph.D., LMSW. Executive Secretary, State Board for Social Work, New York State Education Department--Office of Professions

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Breakout Sessions C (2.0 Contact hours) (Choose one)

C1: **"Practical Self Care Techniques for Educators & Students"** by Tina Lamendola, LCSW

C2: **“Kids Escaping Drugs: Face2Face”** by John Bennett, Program Director of Kids Escaping Drugs

C3: **“Child Welfare Matters for School Social Workers: A Peek Through the Doors of Family Court”** by Judith Gerber, Esq.

12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Buffet Luncheon

1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Closing Keynote Speaker (2.0 Contact hours)

"The Power of Laughter: A Bridge to Personal and Classroom Well-Being"
by Caren Kolerski

3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Ending Announcements & Adjourn

5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Board meeting/Dinner