

2024 STATE CONFERENCE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024
8:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M

LOUISIANA

EDUCATORS

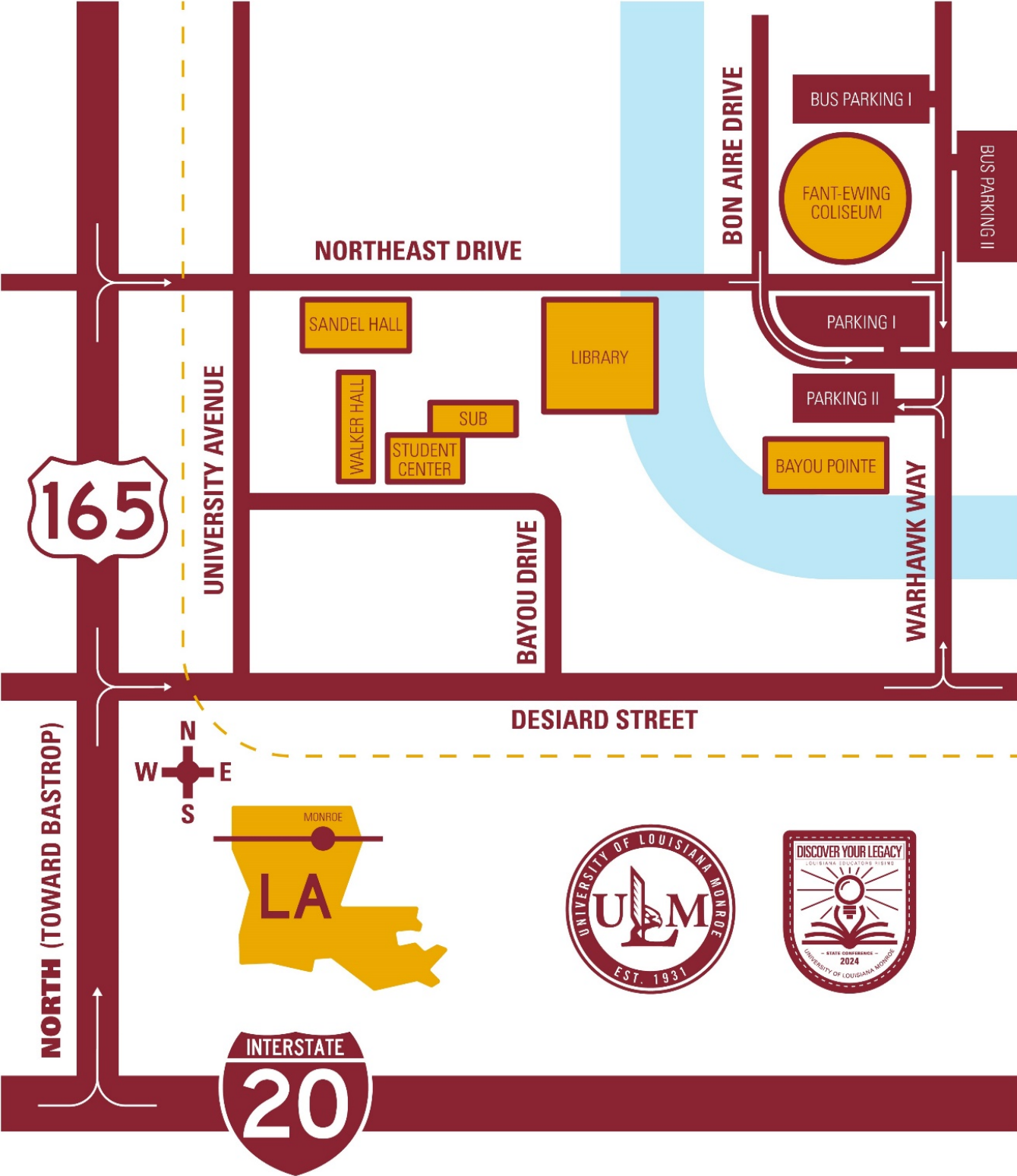
RISING

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Hosted by ULM Educators Rising Collegiate Chapter



Campus Map



2024 Louisiana Educators Rising State Conference

Discover Your Legacy

Conference Schedule at a Glance

Time	Location	Event
7:30 - 8:30	Bayou Pointe Foyer	Check-in
8:30 - 9:15	Bayou Pointe Cypress Hall	Opening Session and Keynote
9:40 - 10:20	Walker and Sandel	Breakout Session 1
9:40 - until	Various Locations – See Competition Overview	All Competitions
10:35 - 11:15	Walker and Sandel	Breakout Session 2
11:15 - 11:55	SUB Rooms C and E	<i>Gold Group</i> - Exhibitor Browse/Poster Session
	SUB Corridor	<i>White Group</i> - Campus Tour/Social Media Session
	SUB Ballroom A, B, D	<i>Maroon Group</i> - Lunch <i>Blue Group</i> - eat at any lunch period
11:55 - 12:35	SUB Rooms C and E	<i>Maroon Group</i> - Exhibitor Browse/Poster Session
	SUB Corridor	<i>Gold Group</i> - Campus Tour/Social Media Session
	SUB Ballroom A, B, D	<i>White Group</i> - Lunch <i>Blue Group</i> - eats at any lunch period
12:35 - 1:15	SUB Rooms C and E	<i>White Group</i> - Exhibitor Browse/ Poster Session
	SUB Corridor	<i>Maroon Group</i> - Campus Tour/ Social Media Session
	SUB Ballroom A, B, D	<i>Gold Group</i> - Lunch <i>Blue Group</i> - eats at any lunch period
1:30 - 2:10	Walker and Sandel	Breakout Session 3
2:30 - 3:30	Bayou Pointe	Closing Session, Keynote, Awards



@EDRISINGLA

#DISCOVERYOURLEGACY

#BEATEACHER



@EDUCATORSRISINGULM



EDUCATORS RISING LOUISIANA

#THANKATEACHER

#LEAPDAYLEARNING



EDUCATORS RISING ULM

Competition Schedule Overview

All competitions will kick off at 9:40 am in the locations listed below and will run until they are completed. Events listed below as Open can be viewed by spectators. Competitors should arrive at their event location at least 20 minutes before their assigned competing time.

Competition	Audience Viewing	Location(s)
Educators Rising Moment	Open	High School/Collegiate: Bayou Pointe Cypress Ballroom Middle School: Bayou Pointe Lagniappe Ballroom
Children’s Literature	Closed	Walker 2-46 Literacy Lab
Job Interview	Closed	Student Center 163
Interactive Bulletin Board	Closed	SUB Hangar 2 nd Floor – Rooms C and E
Public Speaking	Open	High School/Collegiate: Library Terrace, 7 th Floor Middle School: Library 7 th Floor Conference Room 706
Creative Lecture	Open	Student Center 170
Impromptu Speaking	Closed	Student Center 246
Inside Our Schools	Closed	Walker 2-37 School of Education Conference Room

LEAP Day Shoe Contest

In honor of #leapdaylearning we are asking all participants to show off your coolest pair of shoes! In order to compete in the LEAP Day Shoe Contest, participants must:

1. Take a picture with your extraordinary shoes at one of our awesome State conference events.
2. Post the picture on your Instagram.
3. Tag @educatorsrisingulm
4. Add the hashtag #leapdaylearning in your caption.

The picture with the most likes before 2:00 pm will win the LEAP Day Shoe Contest and be announced at the Closing Keynote! Good luck!

2024 Louisiana Aspiring Educator Summer Academy

This one-of-a-kind, five-day hybrid summer camp and professional learning experience for high school students enrolled in the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway or other future educator development courses will take place at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette on July 7-12, 2024.

This academy will bring high school and collegiate students, teacher leaders, advisors, and coaches from all over Louisiana for a high-energy experience that will propel them on their way to becoming an effective, educational leader. Participants will engage in workshops, be mentored by exceptional educators, practice effective teaching skills and network to build community of other aspiring educators.

If interested in learning more about how to be involved in this program, go to Walker 2-105 during Breakout Session #1 to learn more!

Welcome and Keynote Address ~ 8:30-9:15

Location	Presenters	Title
Bayou Pointe	Conference Leadership Team Dr. Ron Berry, ULM President Mayor Friday Ellis, City of Monroe	Welcome and Introductions
	Kylie Altier, Louisiana Teacher of the Year	Opening Keynote Address
	ULM Educators Rising Collegiate Conference Leadership Team	Conference Preview <i>Sponsor Spotlight:</i> Pugh Family Foundation



Kylie Altier
East Baton Rouge Parish

Mrs. Kylie Altier is a first-grade teacher at Buchanan Elementary School in Baton Rouge, LA. Altier believes that all students deserve to feel immensely loved in school and be excited by an engaging curriculum while having their learning tailored to their individual needs and interests. To that end, she has pursued grants to enrich not only her students' educational experiences but also the whole school community. With these grants, she brought life to a school garden focused on sustainable urban agriculture, created a mobile kitchen where students cook fresh vegetables they harvest, and designed a curriculum employing virtual reality headsets to boost experiential learning. She fills her classroom with experts to help students learn more about their passions. Altier's students have gotten to interview and learn from a New York Times Best Selling Author, the National Championship-winning

Tiger Girls, curators from the Museum of Natural Science, and more! Last year, her students showed an average of 2.5 years of reading growth. While in Texas, Altier received many accolades, including being named Teacher of the Year for her school, district, and region in 2019 and the Mentor Teacher of the Year for Stephen F. Austin University in 2019. At Buchanan Elementary, Altier started an extracurricular Garden Club, coordinated the first science fair, and led professional development in her district.

Breakout Session #1 ~ 9:40 - 10:20

Location # Seats	Presenter(s)	Title	Audience	Description
Sandel 236 68 Seats	Mary Napoli, Brandon Baker, Jasmine Carter, Allen Price, Lanae Smith, Grace Stevens	Student Perspectives on Critical Components of Classroom Culture	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	This panel will address issues of classroom culture, equity, and equality from the high school student perspective. Panel members are Educators Rising students who have observed classroom culture in multiple classrooms and grade levels and draw personal experience from a diverse variety of schools. Panel members will share their unique impressions on effective methods to cultivate classroom culture based on their observations as future educators and personal experiences as students.
Sandel 238 116 Seats	Justin Overacker, Mallorie McKinney, Ja'Terrica Anding, Jha'Marcus Baker, Scheyler Brown, Zakyra Christian, DeAndre Collins, Alexis Craft, Mariah Criff, Kaitlin Dean, Terrell Dunn, Angel Hogg, Angel Jackson, Brooklyn Keith, Kailey Pittman,	"Sipping Tea: Tantalizing Talks and Tales on Timeless Traditions" <i>Presenters cont.</i> Amiyah Reed, Danterrous Robinson, Rayveyonia Robinson, Samaria Smith, Jeremy Staten, Michaela Staten, Christian Thomas, Larry Washington, Ciara Wesley, Ja'Nyla West	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	During our session, we plan to share our personal journeys, challenges, and aspirations as high school aspiring educators. Attendees can expect to take away valuable insights into the evolving landscape of education through the eyes of the next generation of teachers. The significance of our topic lies in bridging the generational gap in education, highlighting the importance of diverse perspectives in shaping the future of teaching. As young aspiring educators, we aim to showcase that one's legacy in education can begin to take shape even before entering the profession.
Walker 1-102 125 Seats	Dr. Alicia Jones	Searching for Solutions: Alternative Avenue to the Literacy Problem	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	Dr. Alicia Jones discusses the Monroe Literacy & Art Bus, The Jones Center Non-profit literacy center, and other non-traditional avenues to addressing literacy concerns in Monroe, Louisiana, and beyond. *This session is also being offered in the second breakout session*
Walker 1-142 98 Seats	Dr. Lori Benoit, Madison Desselle, Jessica Haley, Evan Broussard, Zeb Kennerson, Nikolas Dodd	Culture Toss Apocalypse	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	In this workshop, participants engage in a role-playing activity to envision a world where acceptance, promotion, and survival hinge on concealing or compromising aspects of identity. The session prompts reflection on cultural identity and inclusion through guided activities and discussions. Participants refine their understanding of inclusion, explore best practices for inclusive educational settings, and recognize inclusion as an equity issue deeply connected to culturally responsive teaching.
Walker 2-17 25 Seats	Lydia Powers	Exploring Identity through Collage	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders	This topic holds immense relevance for aspiring educators. As they enter the teaching field, understanding the complexities of identity and how it intersects within educational environments becomes crucial. In this session, we will discuss responsive teaching, and then we will create ethnographic collages. This session is hands-on and allows the participants to bring home an artifact.
Walker 2-48 48 Seats	Alicia Angelle, Kaitlyn Daigle, Gabrielle Dolhonde, Karley Rockwell, Micah Davis, Marietta Adams	(Re)searching Our Practice: Lessons Learned from Residency in Teaching	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders	In the session, we plan to share how being reflective educators has supported us as we work to become amazing teachers. Teachers must work together, look for ways to adjust our lessons and meet the needs of students in our classes. Working on collaborative research projects is one way that we can develop our skills and create our legacy.

Location # Seats	Presenter(s)	Title	Audience	Description
Walker 2-49 49 Seats	Dr. Lisa LeBoeuf	Discover Where Literacy Lives	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	In this hands-on learning experience, attendees will learn where literacy fits into all content areas and participate in evidence-based literacy practices, activities, and mini-lessons that can be used in math, science, social studies, and reading lessons. They will discover how to ensure literacy is incorporated into their content and how to adjust for grade levels and student needs.
Walker 2-84 25 Seats	Josephine Baris	Managing Your Class to Leave Your Legacy	Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	This session will share classroom management strategies including the importance of procedures, transition cues, positive reinforcement, setting up a safe student environment, and more. Attendees will leave with easy-to-use strategies that they can use the next day in their classrooms. To have a legacy in teaching, you must survive and use classroom management systems.
Walker 2-101 25 Seats	Kimberly Eckert	Mapping it Out: The Road to Growing Your Own	Teacher Leaders and Administrators Only	During this workgroup, the EdRising state coordinator will help schools/districts that are just starting out or looking to grow. On behalf of Educators Rising (National), information will be shared about the different solutions EdRising offers, along with varying timelines for what might be considered depending on when a school or district can come aboard. Time will be left for a solid Q and A, and each participant will leave feeling prepared to address next steps, whichever they may be, based on where they're starting.!
Walker 2-105 130 Seats	Aimee Barber, K-Lynn McKey, Micah Bruce-Davis, Douglas Williams, Marietta Adams	2024 Aspiring Educators Summer Academy: What do YOU hope to see, learn, and do?	High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	In the summer of 2023, ULM hosted the first-ever Aspiring Educators Summer Academy for high school juniors and seniors. This summer, this week-long event will take place July 7-12 on the beautiful campus of ULL! Come to this session to learn more about what this week will look like, to see if it's a good fit for you or your students, and to contribute ideas for what you hope to see, learn, and do during this exciting week! This is a great event, free for high schoolers, and offers paid positions for collegiate students as well!
Walker 2-109 45 Seats	Jaclyn Richie	Cultivating Self-Efficacy	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	Attendees can expect to dive into the fundamentals of self-efficacy, offering practical strategies to boost confidence and navigate challenges in the teaching profession. Through interactive discussions and real-life scenarios, participants will gain valuable insights into fostering a growth mindset essential for a lasting education legacy.
Walker 3-53 53 Seats	Dr. Matthew Green, Sophia Gruesbeck, Faith Hebert, Jillian Hebert, Ray Jones, Emilee Robichaux	"It can't be worse than I think, can it?": Investigating Issues of Equity in Education	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	Five undergraduate students will share their experience conducting equity audits as part of their teacher preparation coursework. These students were the first class to take EDCI 240: Investigating Issues of Equity at UL Lafayette. This course is part of a new Equity and Inquiry Core course at UL Lafayette. The presentation will focus on sharing with other students and educators how investigating equity can create more equitable and excellent schools and how teachers and preservice teachers can be empowered to create change in their cities, schools, and districts.

Breakout Session #2 ~ 10:35 - 11:15

Location # Seats	Presenter(s)	Title	Audience	Description
Sandel 236 68 Seats	Dr. Wendi O'Halloran, Dr. Amy Craig, Dr. Dylan Solice	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion... How to be a Transformational Teacher	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	We will discuss what classroom culture/climate looks like in a culturally responsive classroom. We will touch on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and getting to know your students. We will talk about the book "What I Wish My Teacher Knew," and how we can make small changes to ensure all students' needs are considered.
Sandel 238 116 Seats	Andi McFarlain, Justin Overacker, Amy LeBlanc, Brittany Lozada, Dr. Lori Benoit	Seeds of Leadership and Legacy: Nurturing Aspiring Educator Chapters Together	Teacher Leaders, Administrators	"Seeds of Leadership" aims to create a collaborative space for educators to share, learn, and grow together. Participants will leave the workshop equipped with a wealth of knowledge, practical strategies, and a network of support to foster the growth of aspiring teacher chapters in their schools and communities.
Walker 1-102 125 Seats	Dr. Alicia Jones	Searching for Solutions: Alternative Avenue to the Literacy Pronlem	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	Dr. Alicia Jones discusses the Monroe Literacy & Art Bus, The Jones Center Non-profit literacy center, and other non-traditional avenues to addressing literacy concerns in Monroe, Louisiana and beyond.
Walker 1-142 98 Seats	Dr. George Noflin	Call Me MiSTER	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	In America, less than 2% of the teachers are African American males. This is compounded by a national teacher shortage, and this problem is exacerbated. Grambling State University's Call Me MiSTER program, one the best across the country, recruits and scholarships young minority men to be specially trained to excellent in the classroom as well as in the community. We will share with you some of the stories of these young men and their aspirations to become great teachers and leaders in their community.
Walker 2-17 25 Seats	John Foster Benoit, Jady Davis, Brionne Johnson, Madison Prudhomme	Advocacy for Aspiring Educators: How your chapter can leave their legacy on campus	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders	Aspiring educators have the immense power and influence to create meaningful change on their campus. In this interactive, hands-on workshop, fellow aspiring educators will present a change they made on campus and provide a framework for your chapter to create their own change. Discover your legacy by discovering your potential for meaningful advocacy in your school.

Location # Seats	Presenter(s)	Title	Audience	Description
Walker 2-48 48 Seats	Jenny Gonsoulin	And will you succeed? Yes, you will Indeed! (98 and 3/4 guaranteed)"	High School and Collegiate	How does Classroom Management and making an emotional connection with your students connect? In this session, participants will see how creating a meaningful classroom culture can lead to forming positive student relationships. Guided by Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs we will discuss ways to help our students meet each level to become successful students and members of our communities.
Walker 2-49 49 Seats	Jordyn Hampton, Raeven Augustine, Jayla Miller, Andrea Spreter, Ja'Nyri Ware	The Importance of Recruiting Students of Color into Pre-Educator Programs	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	This panel will highlight students of color participating in pre-education programs. Panel participants will discuss their experience working in schools and how the program has impacted their future and career plans. You will hear four students of color discuss what education means to them as students and educators and express the importance and need for more educators of color and how that impacts all students.
Walker 2-84 25 Seats	Patrick Moyer	Finding your Footing and Feed your Fire in your Classroom	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	Impactful education starts with building authentic meaningful relationships with your students. These relationships also lie at the heart of "Discovering Your Legacy" and identity as an educator. We will learn how to establish a culture of teaching and learning through the value of authentic relationships, and how to be intentional about building those relationships with students, each of whom brings their own unique stories.
Walker 2-105 130 Seats	Mia Escareno, Madison Desselle, Jessica Haley, Evan Broussard, Zeb Kennerson, Nikolas Dodd	Breakout Rooms: Solving the Mystery of Collaboration	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders	The session will focus on the importance of collaborative learning as an effective instructional tool to promote equity and inclusion, an important aspect of an educator who wants to leave a legacy of impact on students. The session is significant because it provides participants with the opportunity to participate in a mock murder mystery breakout room, so they can experience first-hand the cognitive and social benefits of well-designed collaborative learning experiences, such as breakout rooms.
Walker 2-109 45 Seats	Kriston Wilson	Adverse Childhood Experiences in Elementary Children	Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	Adverse childhood experiences are traumatic events in a child's life from birth to age 18. Children who have multiple adverse experiences are at a high risk of developing brain damage and mental health conditions such as anxiety, depression, and mental abuse (Crouch et al., 2019). This damage affects the child's present reality such as their education and psychological development and their future adult health unless intervention methods take place.
Walker 3-53 53 Seats	Brandy Morin, Laurie Carlton	Expanding the Pre-Educator Pathway Across Louisiana	Teacher Leaders and Administrators	This session is for teacher leaders or system leads looking to collaborate and discuss ideas about how to expand the pre-educator pathway in their schools or systems. This session will replace the quarterly community support call typically held virtually by the LDOE.

Lunch Rotation Schedule ~ 11:15 - 1:15

SUB Ballroom A, B, D 2nd Floor	Maroon Group Lunch	11:15 - 11:55
	White Group Lunch	11:55 - 12:35
	Gold Group Lunch	12:35 - 1:15
	Blue Group Lunch	11:15 - 1:15
The Blue Group represents students enrolled in competitions and event workers. Blue tickets can be redeemed for lunch around competition times and work shifts.		

Lunch Menu

Each participant will receive four tickets to be used at lunch. Each item below can be chosen for one ticket each. Tickets are color coded to correspond with your lunch group.

Drinks	Coca Cola, Diet Coke, Dr. Pepper, Sprite, or Water
Side Salad	Dressings: Ranch, Balsamic Vinaigrette, Golden Italian, or Thousand Island
Pizza	Cheese, Sausage, or Pepperoni pizza from Domino's, Pizza Hut, Johnny's, Papa John's, and Revival *Gluten free options are available
Chips	Mixed variety of chips
Cookies	Chocolate Chip, Lemon, Oatmeal Raisin, or Sugar

Campus Tour/Social Media Campaign Schedule ~ 11:15 - 1:15

SUB Corridor	White Group	11:15 - 11:55
	Gold Group	11:55 - 12:35
	Maroon Group	12:35 - 1:15
	Blue Group	11:15 - 1:15
Students in the Blue Group can participate in these activities at any time during this time frame.		

Social Media Campaign – SUB Corridor

As you spend your day discovering your potential legacy as a future educator, take some time to thank a teacher who has taken a leap of faith and left a positive legacy in your life, your school, or your community. Stop by the social media campaign booth to share your story by recording your words of thanks or writing a message to thank this teacher. These stories will be captured by the Sterlington High School Multimedia team and shared on social media following the state conference.

Campus Tours – SUB Balcony and Quad

Want to see more of the beautiful ULM campus and learn about college life on the bayou? Go on a campus tour during your lunch rotation! Look for campus tour signs and tour guides who will be gathering tour groups just outside the SUB.

Poster Session/Exhibitor Browse Schedule ~ 11:15-1:15

Participants can visit the exhibitors and poster/art presenters during their assigned rotation time below.

SUB Rooms C and E	Gold Group	11:15 - 11:55
	Maroon Group	11:55 - 12:35
	White Group	12:35 - 1:15
	Blue Group	11:15 - 1:15
Students in the Blue Group can participate in these activities at any time during this time frame.		

Poster/Art Sessions

Presenter(s)	Title
Shelbi Zaruba	Why Art-Based Environmental Education?
Abbey Poirier	The Context of the School-to-Prison Pipeline
Desarae Thibodeaux	Art in Different Careers
Marisa Hooker	Social Media Issues in Education
Lola Guidry	The Effects of Teacher Satisfaction on Student Performance
Grace Roth	Non-traditional Families
Emma Haley	How fun and Play Help Children Learn
Lauren Brooke Meche	Should Children be Allowed on Facebook & Instagram?
Kiana Joseph	The Power of Public Speaking
Landon Brown	Crucial Connections between Camp and School
Kaitlyn Courville	Experience, Express, and Educate
Connor Maranto	The Truth of High School

Exhibitors

	Organization
1	Ascent Health
2	Louisiana Association of Educators
3	Louisiana Christian University
4	Louisiana State University of Alexandria
5	McNeese State University
6	ULM Office of Recruitment and Admissions
7	ULM School of Education
8	Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau
9	Louisiana Association for the Education of Young Children

Breakout Session #3 ~ 1:30-2:10

Location # Seats	Presenter(s)	Title	Audience	Description
Sandel 236 68 Seats	Tramia Green, Aaliyah Ricard, Connor Maranto, Glenda Villanueva	Unpacking the Teacher Shortage: How Student Voice Matters	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	We don't have all the answers, but we won't shy away from the problem. In this panel, we will discuss the significant, nationwide issue of teacher shortage. We will explore the dramatic change of the ratio of teachers to students in the classroom. This issue has been a problem for many years without change but today we hope that our panel motivates others to take the initiative.
Sandel 238 116 Seats	Ashton Rymer	Motivating Your Students to Leave their Legacy	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	In this session, we will talk about how to motivate your students to do their best, whether it be on benchmark assessments, RTI assessments, enrichment, or state assessments. We will cover innovative ways to motivate students using creative methods and making connections to help students leave their legacy. Warning: There may be flying candy for those who dare to participate!
SUB Ballroom A,B & D	Justin Overacker	Louisiana Aspiring Educators 2023 Summer Academy Reunion	Attendees and Staffers from 2023 Louisiana Aspiring Educators Summer Academy	This session is for all attendees of last year's 2023 Louisiana Aspiring Educators Academy at ULM to network and catch up!
Walker 1-102 125 Seats	Kimberly Eckert	Networking Session for Student Leaders	Middle School, High School, Collegiate,	This is a student leader networking session with our state program coordinator. Each school should send a student representative to engage in a brainstorming session focused on sustainability and growth for your pre-educator program and statewide grow your own initiatives.
Walker 1-142 98 Seats	Aimee Trahan	Reverse Coloring Activity	Middle School, High School, Collegiate	Instead of coloring a page with line-drawn images, reverse coloring involves adding lines, shapes, and doodles to a page pre-filled with colors and no lines. In this activity, participants will learn about line emphasis and creativity.
Walker 2-17 25 Seats	Dr. Sally-Rose Gaglione	Calibrating Coteaching Implementation in the Inclusive Classroom	Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	The session will be guided by a research-based presentation that defines coteaching, explores coteaching models, and provides evidence for the relevance, importance, and success of coteaching in an inclusive classroom. Audience members will be provided with a case study to review with any time left. As we continue to foster future educators, it is vital to present the reality of the modern classroom - inclusion of students with disabilities, English Language Learners, and students who may have yet to be identified but still struggle with attention, language, and behavior. As new teachers enter classrooms, part of their legacy must be being a collaboration model.

Location # Seats	Presenter(s)	Title	Audience	Description
Walker 2-48 48 Seats	K-Lynn McKey	Movement for Improvement!	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	Whether one is enrolled in school or teaching in a school, adding movement to the day has several advantages. Though physical activity is known to contribute to better overall health like building stronger muscles and bones, it also can enhance school and classroom culture. Physical activity can help with brain health and academic achievement, while also contributing to better sleep habits and overall cognition. It helps curb the negative effects of depression and anxiety, while also helping with classroom management.
Walker 2-52 45 Seats	Dr. April Giddens, Dr. Michelle Brunson, Dr. Debra Jo Haley, Dr. Dylan Solice, Dr. Amy Weems, Kristin Walker	Effective Pedagogy for Reflective Teaching	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	Reflective teaching is a pedagogical approach that encourages educators to examine and analyze their teaching practices, experiences, and outcomes. It involves a thoughtful and intentional process of self-evaluation, allowing teachers to explore the effectiveness of their instructional methods and classroom management strategies. Through reflection, educators can identify strengths and areas for improvement, leading to informed decision-making and professional growth.
Walker 2-84 25 Seats	ULM TRIO	Supporting First Generation College Students	High school, Collegiate	This session will highlight how TRIO programs, specifically the Student Support Services TRIO program, strive to retain and matriculate first generation college students toward the successful completion of their baccalaureate degree by creating a model environment for student growth, retention, and diversity.
Walker 2-105 130 Seats	Shaylon Lonon, Shantay Hill, Gregory Donaldson, Kendall Cook	Community Building Circles	Middle School, High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	In our session, we are excited to delve into the transformative power of community-building circles and underscore their profound importance in fostering a positive and inclusive learning environment. By actively engaging participants in a community-building circle, we aim to showcase the efficacy of this approach in cultivating meaningful connections among diverse groups of people. The key takeaway for attendees is a practical understanding of how implementing community-building circles can enhance classroom dynamics, nurture empathy, and create a supportive space for diverse voices.
Walker 2-109 45 Seats	Brandy Morin, Laurie Carlton	Expanding the Pre-Educator Pathway Across Louisiana	Teacher Leaders, Administrators	This session is for teacher leaders or system leads looking to collaborate and discuss ideas about how to expand the pre-educator pathway in their schools or systems. This session will replace the quarterly community support call typically held virtually by the LDOE.
Walker 3-53 53 Seats	Medcamps of Louisiana	Crucial Connections between Camp and School	High School, Collegiate, Teacher Leaders, Administrators	The connections between camp and school are often seen as polar opposites, but when these two crucial elements of a child's life work together to collaborate, the students/campers benefit immensely. Find out how your school/class could partner with a camp near you to provide a fun twist on your lessons while allowing them to learn in an alternative, individual way. This session is also for upper classmen and collegiate students interested in working as camp staff.

Closing Session, Keynote, Awards ~ 2:30-3:30

Location	Presenters	Title
Bayou Pointe	ULM Educators Rising Collegiate Conference Leadership Team	<i>Sponsor Spotlight:</i> Regions Bank
	Phoenix LeBlanc, Louisiana New Teacher of the Year Tia Trahan, Louisiana Principal of the Year	Closing Keynote Address
	ULM Educators Rising Collegiate Conference Leadership Team	Presentation of Awards



REGIONS



Phoenix Morel LeBlanc
Albany Middle School
Livingston Parish Schools

Phoenix Morel LeBlanc is currently teaching 7th grade science at Albany Middle School in Albany, Louisiana. LeBlanc strives to engage students in the practice of science through utilizing meaningful real-world phenomena that students investigate both inside and outside the classroom. LeBlanc is also the head cheerleading coach at Albany Middle School and a sponsor of the Albany Middle School science club. The Albany Middle School science club focuses on exploring various fields of science and improving their community. LeBlanc is a passionate teacher who strives to provide an exceptional educational experience and to show her students and athletes that they have a profound impact on the world around them.

Mrs. Tia Mechelle Trahan is the proud principal of Lafayette Middle School (Grades 6-8) in Lafayette, LA. Trahan is a National Board-Certified Teacher (NBCT) and is a veteran of the United States Army National Guard. An educator for over twenty years, Trahan's educational journey began as a teacher and reading facilitator. She was an assistant principal for two and half years, Principal of Milton Elementary-Middle School for four years and is now entering her seventh year as Principal of Lafayette Middle School. Trahan was one of 21 Louisiana educators awarded a Leaders Fellowship and was part of the First Cohort of Louisiana Leaders to complete the National Institute for School Leaders. She currently serves as the Middle School Representative for the Lafayette Principals Association along with being a member of Lafayette Parish School System's Superintendent Panel, Wellness Team, Reimagine Grant Advisory Committee, and she serves on the Louisiana NBCT Network Board. Trahan continually seeks to strengthen her knowledge as an instructional leader to bridge gaps.



Tia Mechelle Trahan
Lafayette Parish

2024 Louisiana Educators Rising State Conference

Sponsors:



College of Arts, Education, & Sciences
School of Education
Office of Recruitment



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA MONROE



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



Thank you for sharing your day with us!