

# Eskolta School Research and Design Summit Will Host Leaders in Youth Reengagement

*Sponsored by NYU and the National League of Cities, in Partnership with JobsFirstNYC, the Summit will highlight ways to support partners who serve older youth*

(New York, NY — Oct. 3, 2023) — Eskolta School Research and Design today announced programming for its upcoming summit on authentic youth engagement. [Eskolta Network Summit 2023: Reengaging Youth](#) on November 7, 2023 will drive pivotal conversations with partners who serve older youth in settings such as transfer/alternative schools, opportunity youth, and reengagement programs. The Summit is being sponsored by NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development and the National League of Cities, in partnership with JobsFirstNYC.

Programming keynotes announced today include:

- Dr. Meisha Porter, President and CEO, Bronx Community Foundation
- Evin Orfila, English teacher, NYC Department of Education

“We are thrilled to once again bring together educators, practitioners, thinkers and implementers to the Eskolta Network Summit,” said Nada Ahmed, CEO, Eskolta. “Participants will have the opportunity to connect, share, and learn how to listen to youth and engage them in creating positive impacts on their education and communities. Older youth often face countless barriers to success in school and life. As a community, we know that there are many innovative ways to build systems and environments that work better for our over-age and under-credited students — and we need to share those ideas. Collaboration is a key ingredient and that’s exactly what we plan to do at this year’s Reengaging Youth Summit.”

This is the first in-person summit Eskolta has hosted since 2019. The day-long gathering will explore best practices, policy, and research around authentic youth reengagement. Workshops, presentations, and speakers will focus on student voice and leadership, inclusive school culture and curriculum, and equity-centered pedagogy.

The Summit is made possible through the generous sponsorships from NYU and the National League of Cities, in partnership with JobsFirstNYC, and with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Founded in 1890 as the first school of pedagogy in the United States, NYU Steinhardt now takes a uniquely interdisciplinary approach to education. With more than 200 undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral degrees NYU Steinhardt creates an environment of rich collaboration and intellectual leadership, where scholars and students alike can take part in the movement of education for social change. NYU Steinhardt salutes Eskolta for their work in making a more equitable society through support for a more inclusive public school system and are happy to

sponsor this summit. For more information on NYU Steinhardt's work, please visit [steinhardt.nyu.edu](https://steinhardt.nyu.edu).

The National League of Cities Reengagement Network is a dynamic and virtual community open to representatives from cities, educational institutes, and organizations dedicated to creating pathways for youth and young adults aged 16-24 who are not engaged in education or employed. The Network provides an opportunity for field experts to attend peer learning calls, receive a weekly stream of valuable resources, engage in national initiatives, and updates on promising practices throughout the field. The National League of Cities Reengagement Network is thrilled to be a sponsor of Eskolta Network Summit 2023. Eskolta's unwavering commitment to reengaging youth in alternative settings resonates with the network's values. The Network is excited to support Eskolta as they convene leading experts to explore critical topics, such as youth voice and leadership.

JobsFirstNYC's mission is to create and advance solutions that break down barriers and transform the systems supporting young adults and their communities in pursuit of economic mobility. Through its education solutions portfolio, JobsFirstNYC builds equitable pathways to postsecondary education and career opportunities and is thrilled to partner with Eskolta on their Network Summit focused on engaging young people on nontraditional educational paths, or who may be out of school and out of work. In its latest data brief, [Reversing Nearly a Decade of Positive Trends](#), JobsFirstNYC shares that in 2021, the out-of-school, out-of-work rate for 18- to 24-year-olds was 20%— slightly higher than the rate in 2005, when JobsFirstNYC was founded to address this crisis. The organization believes it will take all of us to ensure New York City is able to create a seamless continuum of services that meets all young people where they are at and gets them on paths to economic mobility.

The Summit will be held at NYU's Kimmel Center on **Tuesday, November 7, 2023, from 8:30a —2:30p**. If you're interested to learn from and connect with teachers, practitioners, students, and the broader community seeking to re-engage youth, [secure your spot today](#).

### **About Eskolta School Research and Design**

Eskolta School Research and Design is a nonprofit consultancy that works with educators and districts to foster cultures of compassion, respect, and high expectations in alternative and traditional high schools serving students ages 16–21. Through professional learning opportunities and coaching in continuous improvement, research, and documentation of strong practices, our work helps transform teaching and learning systems and structures at the classroom, school, and district levels so that previously underserved students are afforded true opportunities to succeed. We envision learning spaces and systems grounded in connection, joy, self-reflection, integrity, collaboration, critical action and trust that center the humanity and contributions of BIPOC and other marginalized communities. For more information, please visit: [www.eskolta.org](https://www.eskolta.org)

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