

# MUSIC CITY SEL CONFERENCE A-TEAM

## Action Report 2022

### About Music City SEL Conference

Over the course of its twelve year history, the **Music City Social Emotional Learning Conference** has brought together thousands of educators, youth-serving professionals, and other community leaders & stakeholders to share skills, tools, and resources to support them in creating responsive learning environments that elevate whole-child wellness and empower all members of a community to thrive. Since the start, the Music City SEL Conference has sought to engage partners at the local, regional, and national-level, to provide a diverse selection of experiential workshops that offer attendees new SEL techniques, resources, and best-practices.

#### The 2022 Music City SEL Virtual Conference featured:

##### "Powerful Conversations" with Keynote Lee Rush:

Throughout his impressive career, Lee Rush, Executive Director of the nonprofit justCommunity, Inc., has gained extraordinary insights into the approaches and practices that strengthen youth development and create positive, collaborative environments. Based on the work of Peter Block described in his best-selling book *Community: The Structure of Belonging*, Lee guided conference attendees through a series of small group conversations that provide the social architecture for meaningful connections.

At the root of his discussion was a simple promise:

*All transformation is based in our language  
and once we change the way we talk and  
listen, the world changes instantly.*

### Music City SEL Conference Returns

The 2023 Music City SEL Conference marked the event's return to a live, in-person event since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic! The Music City SEL A-Team recognized the extraordinary value of face-to-face, hands-on collaborative learning and overcame challenges to offer a high-quality event.

#### Some key accomplishments of the 2022 Music City SEL Conference include:

- ✓ Attracting over **250** guests representing **29 US states and 1 Canadian territory**
- ✓ Providing space for participants to engage with more than **25** exhibitors, each offering valuable resources.
- ✓ Meeting or exceeding the expectations of **96%** of conference-goers, according to surveys.
- ✓ Offering **40** unique workshops designed to engage and inspire conference attendees.

Workshops at the 2023 event were carefully selected from a pool of submissions by the Music City SEL Conference A-Team and participants were asked to provide feedback using a 5-point scale. The results demonstrated that sessions performed exceptionally on all metrics:

**Speaker Knowledgeability: 4.85 / 5**  
**Session Engagement: 4.65 / 5**  
**Session Expectations: 4.63 / 5**  
**Intent to Use Information: 4.63 / 5**

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### 2022 Music City SEL Conference A-Team Partners

#### Presenting Organizations:

BrainzonesLLC  
Cape Breton University  
CATCH Global Foundation  
Center for Responsive Schools  
Centerstone  
Country Music Hall of Fame and  
Museum  
Experiential Tools  
Franklin Special School District  
Hamilton County Schools  
iCUE, LLC.  
Integr8ED  
Mecklenburg County Social Services  
Memphis-Shelby County Schools  
Metro Nashville Public Schools  
QuaverEd  
The Excellence Team  
The F.I.N.D. Design  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
xSEL Labs  
Youth Communication

#### Exhibiting Organizations:

Autism TN  
Calm  
CATCH Global  
Centerstone  
Fly Five  
Jill Speering  
Mental Health Coop  
NAZA  
PFLAG Nashville  
QuaverEd  
Responsive Classroom  
School-Connect  
STARS Nashville  
TAADAS  
The Excellence Team  
The FIND Design  
Thoughtful Teacher Podcast  
TN Suicide Prevention Network  
UTK College of Social Work  
Vanderbilt Behavioral Health  
xSEL Labs  
Youth Communication

**Special thanks to these sponsors and top-tier exhibitors  
who helped make the conference possible:**

Metro Nashville Public Schools | [mnps.org](https://mnps.org)  
QuaverEd | [quavered.com](https://quavered.com)  
STARS Nashville | [starsnashville.org](https://starsnashville.org)

### Participant Reflections

*"This has always been a favorite conference for me! I feel that Nashville has always been on the leading edge for SEL. The focus on SEL & equity is amazing."*

*"The workshops that were immersive and gave hands on examples that I can take back."*

*"The best part is the ability to learn and share knowledge that encourages shifts in mindset. Loved collaborating and meeting new partners."*

### 2022 Music City SEL Conference A-Team Members

#### Alignment Team Co-Chairs:

**Kyla Krengel**, Metro Nashville Public Schools  
**Rodger Dinwiddie**, STARS Nashville

#### Alignment Team Members:

**Charity Ingersoll**, Vanderbilt Behavioral Health  
**Tracy Glascoe**, Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
**Kathy Gracey**, Vanderbilt Behavioral Health  
**Dr. Doug Granier**, Vanderbilt University  
**Eric Johnson**, STARS Nashville  
**Dr. Michel Sanchez**, Metro Nashville Public Schools  
**Jennifer Stanchfield**, Experiential Tools

#### Alignment Team Staff:

**Glen Biggs**, A-Team Manager, Alignment Nashville  
**Justin Sweatman-Weaver**, Events Manager, Alignment Nashville