

NATIONAL SUMMER LEARNING ASSOCIATION'S

# CELEBRATION DINNER

30 YEARS OF IMPACT



\* Smithsonian

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10TH, 2023**

6:30 - 10:30 PM

SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM  
OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE

*Honoring*



**MALBERT SMITH, II**  
CEO, Metametrics



NEW YORK LIFE  
FOUNDATION

**THE NEW YORK  
LIFE FOUNDATION**



**DARRYL MCDANIELS  
& SHEILA JAFFE**  
Founders, The Felix Organization



NATIONAL SUMMER LEARNING ASSOCIATION'S

# CELEBRATION DINNER

30 YEARS OF IMPACT

The Board of Directors of the National Summer Learning Association  
Cordially Invites you to our 30th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

*When* **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10TH, 2023**

*Where* **SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM OF  
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE**  
1400 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20560

**6:30 PM** Cocktail Reception

**7:30 PM** Dinner & Awards

**8:30-10:30 PM** Dessert Receptions and Private Tours of the Museum

Cocktail Attire, Student Performances by New York Life Foundation  
Excellence in Summer Learning Award Winning Programs





**MALBERT SMITH III, PH.D.**  
CEO, Metametrics

**Malbert Smith** is a national education leader committed to improving the math and literacy skills of America's children. As the co-founder and CEO of MetaMetrics, his research has revolutionized not only the way reading and math are measured but also how teachers and parents can use test data to personalize instruction. He created the Lexile Framework for Reading and the Quantile Framework for Mathematics which are scales that connect test scores to instruction. Today, Lexile and Quantile measures are used by every major test publisher and instructional company inside their products. Over 40 million students in the US receive Lexile measures from statewide and interim assessments throughout the year, and teachers use these scores to match students with appropriate instructional materials. Not only are Lexiles the de facto standard for the measurement of reading in the US but also across the globe. Educators and English Language Learners from over 50 countries rely on Lexiles.

Malbert has worked with the leadership teams from dozens of state departments of education on assessment and accountability issues. He has helped more than ten states launch summer reading programs designed to combat summer loss, especially among low-income students. Florida, Kentucky, North Carolina and Oklahoma have featured Dr. Smith on their television programs. He also partnered with Harvard University's Dr. James Kim on an I3 grant to study the effects of summer loss.

Malbert is a Research Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award. In addition to his long-term board membership on the National Summer Learning Association, he serves on the UNC's School of Education Board of Visitors, the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children and the American Association of School Administration Learning 2025 Commission. Malbert also serves as an advisor to the Council of Chief State School Officers on the National Teacher of the Year Program. Malbert and his wife, Alisa Edwards Smith, live in Chapel Hill, NC. They have three children Jeni Harrell, Elizabeth Lattanzio and Malbert Smith IV and four grandchildren (Isabel, Victoria, Eliza and Ryder).



**NEW YORK LIFE**  
**FOUNDATION**

Inspired by New York Life's tradition of service and humanity, the **New York Life Foundation** has, since its founding in 1979, provided over \$415 million in charitable contributions to national and local nonprofit organizations. The Foundation supports programs that benefit young people, particularly in the areas of educational enhancement, childhood bereavement and social justice. The Foundation also encourages

and facilitates the community involvement of employees and agents of New York Life through its Volunteers for Good program and Grief-Sensitive Schools Initiative.

Since 2010, the New York Life Foundation has partnered with the National Summer Learning Association (NSLA) providing over \$3.7 million in grants and corporate support. The Foundation's support of the Excellence in Summer Learning Awards, plays a key role in highlighting the importance of summer learning programs for young people. The awards recognize outstanding summer programs that demonstrate excellence in accelerating academic achievement and promoting healthy development for children and youth.

Research suggests students who begin high school "on track" are four times more likely to graduate and go on to college. This is why The New York Life Foundation's educational enhancement priority is to support out-of-school time programs that help middle school students' successfully transition from middle school to high school, both academically and socially. Summer learning programs play a critical role in a young person's life and are a key component of the Foundation's grantmaking strategy.



**DARRYL MCDANIELS & SHEILA JAFFE**  
Founders, The Felix Organization

**Sheila Jaffe** was born in Manhattan and grew up in the Bronx. At eleven years of age, she found out she was adopted. Today, she is an Emmy winning casting director for HBO's, The Sopranos and Entourage and films including The Fighter, Rocky Balboa, and Ted. Although casting is her profession, Sheila's passion is helping children. As she sees it: "Felix is like my child and watching Felix grow in its reach to help these children has been an indescribable blessing." Sheila currently sits on the board of the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation and the Advisory Board of the Savannah Film Festival. In 2013, she was honored at The Children's Rights Gala for her work with children in foster care.

For more than 25 years, Felix co-founder **Darryl "DMC" McDaniels** has had an influence on popular culture. The first rap group to grace the cover of Rolling Stone Magazine and the first to appear on MTV, Run DMC changed music. DMC continues to create, inspire and motivate. After discovering as an adult that he was adopted, DMC began his journey down another life path in search of his birth mother. While his struggle was captured in the Emmy-winning VH-1 documentary, "DMC: My Adoption Journey", the process gave DMC insight and purpose, prompting him to become an advocate for adoption and foster children. He was invited to the White House by President Obama to address youth groups on responsibility and has appeared before Congress and State Legislatures in support of this cause. Along with his work as a musician, author, and speaker, DMC has been the recipient of awards including Hard Rock's Love All Serve All Award for his philanthropic endeavors. DMC also sits on the board of directors of the JMJ Foundation, Children's Rights, and Garden of Dreams.





**\$30 BILLION**

SECURED FUNDING FOR SUMMER AND AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS IN THE RECENT AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

**\$3 MILLION**

DISCOVERSUMMER.ORG MEDIA CAMPAIGN TO HELP FAMILIES FIND PROGRAMS

**256,000**

UNIQUE VISITORS ON DISCOVERSUMMER.ORG

**20,000+**

PARTNERS IN 50 STATES

**5,000 ATTENDEES**

JOIN OUR WEBINAR SERIES

**1,000 ATTENDEES**

JOIN OUR ANNUAL SUMMIT

**500 ORGANIZATIONS**

PARTICIPATE IN 12 PLCS

**150 LEADERS**

PARTICIPATE IN OUR NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

**48 STATES**

PARTICIPATE IN STATE SUMMER LEARNING NETWORK

**10 INTERNS**

PARTICIPATE IN OUR SUMMER POLICY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## Why NSLA and Summer Learning Matters for Kids?

Research shows that the summer months are one of the most inequitable yet entrepreneurial and impactful times for students. For 30 years, NSLA has convened, trained and supported it's broad network of nearly 20,000 civic and education leaders representing schools, districts and state education agencies, non-profit organizations, government agencies, researchers, foundations and corporate partners. NSLA works to ensure all young people in America, regardless of background, income, and zip code can participate in and benefit from a high quality summer learning experience each year.

In response to the recent negative effects of the Covid 19 pandemic on the academic, physical and emotional well-being of young people, summer learning has emerged as a key national response strategy to help students catch up and propel forward. NSLA works with national, state and local leaders in these areas: **Program Quality, Partnerships, Policy, Public Awareness and Leadership Development.**



### NSLA'S Signature Initiatives

#### Program Quality

- New York Life Excellence in Summer Learning Awards
- 2-day Virtual Summer Planning Bootcamp
- Consulting and Training

#### Partnerships

- Camp-School Partnership Project
- Ten Professional Summer Learning Communities

#### Policy

- Founding Partner in the US Department of Education's Engage Every Student Initiative
- State Summer Learning Network with Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)

#### Public Awareness

- DiscoverSummer.org National Website and Media Campaign
- Annual State of Summer Research Report with Harvard University's PEAR Program

#### Leadership Development

- Summer Innovation Fellowship
- National Youth Leadership Institute
- Paid Capitol Hill Summer Internship Program

- Gold Table Sponsor** **\$50,000**
  - 2 Premium Tables of 10
  - Recognition from the stage at the Celebration Dinner
  - Listing on the screen in the Digital Program
  - Inclusion in all post-event press releases
  - Acknowledgement on the event website
  - Sponsorship of a Summer Innovation Fellow or Professional Learning Community

- Silver Table Sponsor** **\$25,000**
  - Premium Table of 10
  - Recognition from the stage at the Celebration Dinner
  - Listing on the screen in the Digital Program
  - Acknowledgement on the event website
  - Sponsorship of a Summer Policy Intern

- Bronze Table Sponsor** **\$10,000**
  - Premium Table of 10
  - Recognition from the stage at the Celebration Dinner
  - Listing on the screen in the Digital Program
  - Acknowledgement on the event website

- Cocktail Reception Sponsor** **\$50,000**  
(One Available)
  - 2 Premium Tables of 10
  - Recognition during the Cocktail Reception
  - Listing on the screen in the Digital Program
  - Inclusion in all post-event press releases
  - Acknowledgement on the event website

- Dessert Reception Sponsor** **\$30,000**  
(Three Available)
  - Premium Table of 10
  - Recognition throughout the Dessert Reception
  - Listing on the screen in the Digital Program
  - Acknowledgement on the event website

- Individual Tickets:** **\$1,000**
  - One ticket to the Cocktail Reception, Celebration Dinner, & Dessert Receptions

- Digital Journal Advertising:** **\$2,500**  
The 30th Anniversary Digital Journal is an opportunity to support the work of the National Summer Learning Association by purchasing an advertisement or including a tribute message which will be viewed through the evening and on the event website after the Celebration Dinner.
  - Please submit jpeg and/or pdf to Lauren Krattiger, Director of Communications [lkraattiger@summerlearning.org](mailto:lkraattiger@summerlearning.org)
You may provide a brief message with logo.

To Register online or make a donation, please visit [summerlearning.org](http://summerlearning.org)

**Contributions:**

- I am unable to attend the Celebration Dinner but would like to sponsor one student to attend.
- I am unable to attend the Celebration Dinner but would like to support the National Summer Learning Association. I am pleased to enclose my fully tax-deductible donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- Enclosed is my company's matching gift form. My company will match my gift in the amount of: \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I do not plan on filling my seat(s); please:

- Fill seat(s) with student(s)
- Utilize as an unrestricted gift

**Checks should be made payable to:**

The National Summer Learning Association and returned to 1701 Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

For more information or to pay by credit card over the phone, contact Christi Kobus Rokicki, Vice President of External Affairs [crokicki@summerlearning.org](mailto:crokicki@summerlearning.org)

NATIONAL SUMMER LEARNING ASSOCIATION'S

# CELEBRATION DINNER

30 YEARS OF IMPACT



**national summer  
learning association**

## ABOUT THE NATIONAL SUMMER LEARNING ASSOCIATION (NSLA)

For 30 years, NSLA has worked to combat summer learning loss and close the achievement and opportunity gaps which research shows grows most dramatically between lower and higher income students over the summer months.

Our vision is, and always has been, to ensure all young people in America, regardless of background, income, and zip-code, can participate in and benefit from a high-quality summer learning experience, every year.

NSLA supports and collaborates with a broad and ever-growing network of 20,000+ leaders of school districts, youth serving government agencies, non-profit and corporate partners from across the country focused on improving the lives of young people and their families.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair

**Jim Quinn**

President (Retired)  
Tiffany & Company

Vice Chair

**Reggie Love**

Senior Advisor  
Apollo Global Management

Treasurer

**Lacrecia Cade**

President and CEO  
What-If Collective Company

**Dan Anglin**

Principal  
Prince Henry Group

**Luke Bayer**

Territory Manager  
Phillips Healthcare

**Matthew Boulay**

NSLA Founder

**Evan English**

VP of Product Design  
and User Research  
American Express

**Jon Fortt**

CNBC co-anchor  
TechCheck and Founder  
CNBC's Closing Bell Overtime

**Dan Levi**

Executive VP and  
Chief Marketing Officer,  
Clear Channel Outdoor

**Kristen Masino**

CFO  
XNLP

**Ericka Miller**

CEO  
Isaacson, Miller

**Lindsey Schmidt**

Partner  
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher

**Malbert Smith, III**

President  
MetaMetrics

**Fatima Shama**

Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer  
North and South America  
Bloomberg LP

**Dr. Rachel J. Thornton**

Vice President, Enterprise  
Chief Health Equity Officer  
Nemours Children's Health

**Stephan Turnipseed**

Executive Vice President  
and Chief Strategy Officer  
Pitsco Education

---

**Aaron Philip Dworkin**

CEO  
National Summer  
Learning Association