

Dear Educator:

I am writing to share with you three exciting opportunities for your students to be involved in the annual **Hip Hop Youth Research and Activism Conference** at Rutgers University.

On **Friday, May 20th, 2022**, the annual Hip Hop Youth Research and Activism Conference will take place at Rutgers



University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Conference registration is free of charge and open to 9-12th grade students who can attend with a school group and/or chaperone. The conference will include workshops and presentations aligned with the goals of developing Hip Hop literacies and social justice literacies through poetry, art, and writing. The conference will be facilitated by secondary and post-secondary students. You can register and find more information on the conference <u>here</u>.

In the **fall of 2022** we will be accepting applications for the **Hip Hop Youth Research and Activism (HHYRA) Youth Leaders Fellowship**. Eligible applicants are high school students or recent graduates who are interested in working with other youth to design and organize the annual conference with support and mentorship from scholars and teaching artists from across the U.S. Applications will be available on our <u>website</u> in September 2022.

The call for proposals for workshops, performances, and presentations for the conference will be available in January 2023. Proposal acceptances will be released in February and accepted presenters and facilitators will be invited to attend the HHYRA Pre-Conference Youth Leadership Institute in the Spring. Proposals will be reviewed by the Youth Leadership Council of the conference.

We hope you consider joining us for the May 20th HHYRA conference. Please also encourage your students to apply for the next cohort of Youth Leaders Fellows and to submit proposals for the 2023 conference. For questions, please contact Dr. Lauren Kelly at <u>lauren.kelly@gse.rutgers.edu</u>.

Sincerely,

Lauren Leigh Kelly, Ph.D. Assistant Professor Rutgers University Graduate School of Education