



The Character Council of Western New York presents

DIVERSITY Rooted in Character!

**at the 12th Annual Champions for CHANGE Youth Leadership
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE**

Thursday, October 14, 2021 (High School) and Friday, October 15, 2021 (Middle School)

Program 9:00AM-Noon Links to join virtual event will be sent by email prior to the event

FREE EVENT for a team of up to 8 students and 2 advisors per school!

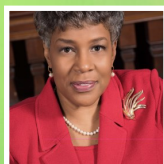
Please join us for an exciting, interactive conference aimed at helping you nurture a culture of character *excellence* in YOUR school community! The areas of Social Emotional Learning for students & advisors include: Self-Awareness, Social-Awareness and Relationship Skills.

Eligible for 3 hrs of NYS CTLE Credit for Educators through our co-sponsor Southtown Teachers' Center

MEET OUR PROGRAM PRESENTERS!



Rene Petties-Jones, President of the **National Federation for Just Communities** will focus on the topic of Diversity. Rene will discuss Stereotypes and how they can exclude others, and focus on opening our minds to acceptance, inclusion and the beauty of Diversity. Ideas for creating spaces and places where people feel welcome, leading to a healthier, more productive community will be discussed. A spectacular video created in partnership with Daemen College recently will be featured.



Tanya Staples, Senior Director of Community Schools for **Say Yes Buffalo** will run the Workshop "The Leader Within Me". Students will explore the concepts of leader and leadership and define the leadership qualities they possess.



Desiree Weppner, Vice President of the **CCWNY**, and Director of this **CHANGE** Conference will discuss character virtues as the foundation for good decision making and acceptance of others. Students will explore their own perceptions of others, the importance of curiosity vs assumption, and listening to others, resulting in empathy.

TAKE PART IN A COMMUNITY ART PROJECT!

Together, this group of WNY students who attend the virtual **CHANGE** conference will take part in a Diversity-themed art project. Each student will design a specific piece of art after the conference. The individual student pieces will then be put together to create one picture. This collaborative art piece will be displayed at the Burchfield Penney Art Center in March, reflecting the beauty of diversity of WNY and importance of everyone working together towards acceptance. *All materials will be provided with your registration packet.*

Online registration! Visit charactercouncilwny.org/CHANGECON

Questions can be directed to Conference Director, Desiree Weppner at CCWNYCHANGE@gmail.com