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## **EXTRA YARD FOR TEACHERS SUMMIT ANNOUNCES POWERFUL LINEUP**

**TICKET REGISTRATION IS OPEN AND FREE FOR ALL ATLANTA-AREA TEACHERS**

ATLANTA (October 11, 2017) – In January more than a thousand local teachers will attend the College Football Playoff (CFP) Foundation’s signature events curated solely for educators—the Extra Yard for Teachers Summit (Summit) and Extra Yard for Teachers Lounge (Lounge)—and this year the Summit is infusing brilliance into every aspect, starting with the presenters.

At 2 p.m. ET on January 6, 2018, two days before the College Football Playoff National Championship, 1,000 teachers representing public and independent schools across Atlanta will converge for the Summit—a free, fast-paced event featuring TED-style talks and performances focused toward teachers at the Georgia World Congress Center. Summit presenters will share thought-provoking ideas, inspirational journeys, and life-changing experiences with Atlanta’s best and brightest K-12 teachers.

Attendees will hear talks and see performances by passionate artists, innovative professionals, dedicated educators and imaginative problem-solvers—the people who pursue greatness and inspire brilliance in those around them every day.

### **The confirmed list of 2018 presenters includes:**

- [The Ron Clark Academy Essentials Step Team](#), Students. Artists, Global Citizens
- [Rodney D. Bullard](#), Chick-fil-A Foundation, Veteran, White House Fellow
- [Dr. Meria Carstarphen](#), Atlanta Public Schools, Leader, Transformer
- [Sydney Chaffee](#), Educator, Risk-taker, National Teacher of the Year (2017)
- [Paula Dofat](#), Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women, Counselor, Dream-driver
- [Gina Lehe](#), College Football Playoff, Communicator, Education Champion
- [Andrés Ruzo](#), National Geographic Explorer, Investigator, Challenger
- [Joaquin Zihuatanejo](#), Emcee, Spoken Word Artist
- Local teacher audition winner, announced November 6

There will also be surprise guest appearances during the Summit. Past guest appearances have included former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, country musician Clare Dunn, NFL player and ESPN analyst Desmond Howard, and Pro Football Hall of Fame athlete and educator Randall McDaniel.

Local Atlanta teachers are encouraged to audition for an opportunity to become a speaker on the main stage at the Summit or share a workshop or discussion idea for the Lounge. Teachers have until October 20 to submit a description or 90-second video of their best story and lesson they want to share with their peers to [ExtraYardSummit.com/Audition-Atlanta/](http://ExtraYardSummit.com/Audition-Atlanta/). A curatorial committee will narrow the submissions and announce the winning teacher-speakers on November 6.

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Tickets to attend the Summit are free for local educators and available on a first come, first served basis. Teachers must register for a ticket at [ExtraYardSummit.com/Atlanta](https://ExtraYardSummit.com/Atlanta) in order to attend the Summit.

Before the Summit begins, teachers from across Atlanta will also have access to attend the Lounge, a daylong celebration of teachers with workshops, wellness activities, giveaways, art activations, and one-on-one discussion opportunities with Summit speakers. The Lounge is free to all teachers with a valid school I.D., and open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. Tickets can be reserved at [ExtraYardSummit.com/Atlanta](https://ExtraYardSummit.com/Atlanta) until December 20.

### **Significant Dates to Remember:**

- September 12 – October 20: Local teachers encouraged to submit auditions
- October 11 – December 20: Teachers register to attend the Summit and Lounge
- November 6: Local speaker audition winner(s) announced
- January 6: Extra Yard for Teachers Summit and Extra Yard for Teachers Lounge opens to Atlanta-area educators

The Summit and Lounge are part of the CFP Foundation's philanthropic platform, Extra Yard for Teachers, which aims to make a significant impact in the classroom. The platform supports teachers through the development and implementation of programs in four focus areas: resources for classroom needs, recognition of standout teachers, professional development and leadership training, and teacher recruitment.

Since its inception in 2013, the CFP Foundation and its partners has funded more than \$12 million through Extra Yard for Teachers, impacting 3,033,144 students, 97,407 teachers and 12,902 schools in College Football Playoff host cities and in communities designated by its conference partners.

For more information about the Extra Yard for Teachers Summit, please visit [ExtraYardSummit.com](https://ExtraYardSummit.com).

### **About the College Football Playoff Foundation and Extra Yard for Teachers**

The College Football Playoff (CFP) Foundation is the charitable arm of the College Football Playoff, supporting education across the country. The CFP Foundation's primary platform, Extra Yard for Teachers, elevates the teaching profession by inspiring and empowering teachers through the implementation of programs in four focus areas: resources, recognition, recruitment and professional development. The CFP Foundation utilizes multiple partnerships to execute its initiatives and support positive educational outcomes. For more information, please visit [CFP-Foundation.org](https://CFP-Foundation.org).

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