

MAINE 20 EDUCATION 50

Summary

- **Maine ED 2050 is a statewide project** to bring communities, educators, and youth together to discuss how education and schooling can be designed for personal, civic, and economic thriving in the next few decades.
- **Major Maine industries** from farming to healthcare are also participating in the project so we can learn how all kinds of educational experiences can develop the capacities most needed for success in Maine jobs.
- **100% of what we learn is available publicly** on our online platform. Community leaders, employers, educators, journalists, and policy makers can use the data to align their priorities with what is most meaningful to Mainers.
- **The Fall 2022 Summit** is a kick-off event to create a strong network committed to designing and supporting an education system for the Maine our communities want.

How can I get involved?

- **Share** the project with your organization, community, school, or circle of friends.
- **Sign up** as a collaborating organization and host a series of conversations. We provide everything you need, including a facilitator.
- **Sign on** as a partner organization, engage your network, and attend the Summit.
- **Support** the project by becoming a sponsor.

Learn more about Maine ED 2050 on our [pilot website](#).

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Why Community Organizations?

Community organizations can play a key role in the project as a trusted convener and a center of community learning. We are asking Maine community organizations in every county to consider playing a role in getting your community excited to participate.

What will I be asked to do?

- Invite and encourage your community to participate using the channels you already use, using the flyers we share with you or, if you prefer, your own flyers.
- Post a link on your website's home page to find out more and sign up (through a google form or on a list you keep).
- Let community members know you believe in the value of the project.

Do we have to manage registrations or host conversations?

- No. Participants sign up online for a specific day and time that you have chosen, and they use zoom links we provide.
- No. We provide a host. However, facilitating a conversation is enriching and easy. A community member can facilitate the conversation using a guide we provide. It is as simple as reading a script, but hosts are free to flex with the flow of the conversation and go "off script" using their own judgment.

How do the conversations themselves work?

- Participants simply click the zoom link and join a group of up to 2 to 5 other community members. Or they can talk in person, using a recording device.
- Participants introduce themselves with their first name only, or even a pseudonym.
- The host gains consent for recording the conversation and records the conversation on Zoom.
- The group uses a circle process and healthy conversation agreements to make sure all voices are heard.
- Questions from the guide focus on personal experiences, not positions on issues.

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What happens afterward?

- We upload the audio file to [LocalVoices Network](#) through our partner [Cortico](#).
- The audio is transcribed and analyzed using artificial intelligence.
- Conversation participants are invited to view their now visually appealing transcript and use a highlighting tool to show what is most important to them about what they said.
- The public can see and listen to the conversations too, searching for keywords and themes—statewide, by county, or even by conversation date.

What will we do with the data?

- We will analyze the data and share it with major education-interested organizations in a Fall 2022 Summit.
- Data will also be used for white papers and reports to be shared with legislators, educational institutions, nonprofits, and philanthropy.

Contact us to find out more: 2050@edforumofmaine.org

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