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DIVERSITY ■ DISCUSSION ■ DEBATE



The Kids AREN'T Alright: Closing COVID's Learning Gap

January 25, 2023



Amy Gordon

Executive Director and CEO, Communities In Schools of Ohio

[CISOFOHIO](#)

Amy Gordon is the Executive Director for Communities In Schools. Having previously worked as the Afterschool Program Director at CIS, Gordon returned to the organization in 2012, eventually becoming the Associate Director in 2014.

Gordon has worked to champion the needs of young people and struggling families for over twenty years. She was an Area Director with a faith-based non-profit afterschool program, as well as a Family Specialist/Supervisor of a home-based program with Crittenton Family Services working with juvenile felony offenders and their families. She also served as a consultant with the Ohio Department of Education.

Gordon has also served three terms as an Afterschool Alliance Ambassador to promote the expansion of afterschool programs at the local, state and national level.

A graduate of Columbus City Schools, Gordon has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from The Ohio State University and is a licensed social worker in the state of Ohio.



Cheryl Ward

Vice President, Success by Third Grade, United Way of Central Ohio

[UWCO](#)

As Vice President of Success by Third Grade, Cheryl Ward leads a collective impact approach to ensure all third grade students are on a path to success by 2035.

She has dedicated her career in service and support to advancing the social, emotional, and mental health of our community's students and families.

Prior to joining United Way, she served as Executive Director of Whole Child Supports with Columbus City Schools. She also served in supervisory roles with Nationwide Children's Hospital Behavioral Health, Department of Youth Service, and Rosemont Center.

Ward is a product of Columbus City Schools. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in psychology from Spelman College and a Master's Degree in Clinical Counseling from The Ohio State University. She is a licensed professional clinical counselor with supervisory endorsement in the state of Ohio and holds an ODE administrator license.



Stéphane Lavertu, Ph.D.

Professor, Director of Doctoral Studies, John Glenn College of Public Affairs, The Ohio State University

[GLENN_COLLEGE](#)

Stéphane Lavertu's teaching and research focus on public administration, political economy, public policy analysis and evaluation, and education policy and governance.

His interdisciplinary research examines the politics of public administration and the performance of public organizations, particularly in the context of K-12 education. He is passionate about conducting policy-relevant research, particularly to help improve public education here in Ohio. He regularly conducts such research in collaboration with state and local government agencies, as well as nonprofit think tanks such as the Thomas B. Fordham Institute.

Lavertu has a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from The Ohio State University, a Master's Degree in Education from Stanford University, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin.



Eric Karolak, Ph.D.

CEO, Action for Children

[EKAROLAK](#) [ACT4KIDZ](#)

Eric Karolak, Ph.D., is CEO of Action for Children, the source for child care and early learning services in central Ohio. Previously, he directed the efforts of the Early Care and Education Consortium, an alliance of more than 8,000 early learning programs providing care and education for nearly 1 million children across the U.S.

From 2001 to 2006, Karolak led the National Child Care Information Center, the largest federal clearinghouse and technical assistance center focused on child care and early education for low income families. He has worked closely with states developing the technical aspects of child care assistance programs, quality rating systems, and partnerships across early childhood programs. He has conducted policy research and fiscal analysis in the areas of child welfare, child care, women's labor force participation, and public housing, and has testified before committees of several state legislatures and Congress.

He received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Toledo and his Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.

Today's Attendees

B CMC Board Member **LM** Lifetime Member
NM New Member **LS** Livestream Supporter



Audio assist headphones are available the AV table at the side of the room.

MEMBERS

George Arnold **LM**
Natalie Atkins
Kelly Atkinson **B**
Mary Auch
Matt Barnes **B**
Mario Basora **NM**
Susan Beaudry
Mary Birchard
Tasha Booker
Christina Brown
Doug Buchanan Jr.
Rick Buchanan
Jessie Cannon
Lisa Cochran
Teddie Coe **NM**
Melanie Corn
Lisa Courtice
Jonathan Cummin **NM**
Lanie Cuthbert
Marieke Davis **NM**
Marissa Davis
Seth Dobbelaer
Gregg Dodd
James Dye
Krista Faist **NM**
Warren Fishman **LM**
Cindy Foley
Erika Gable
Jill Geiger
Amy Gordon
Steve Gravenkemper
Amie Grubbs

Lynnanne Gutierrez
Lauren Hagan
Andrea Harless
Kourtnei Hattton
Rachel Heine **LS**
Mike Hochron
Joseph Jenkins **NM**
Thomas Kahler
Eric Karolak
Jody Korte **NM**
Allen Kraus
Pamela Kreber
Bill LaFayette **LS**
Matthew Lanning
Trip Lazarus **LM**
Jeffrey Lemichuk
Susan Lewis
Kaylor
Jonathan Lohr **NM**
Patrick Losinski
Jill Lukshin-Hoff
Carol Luper
Tony Macaluso
Jeremy Mangerchine
Yolande McGee-Savory
Michael McGreevey
Anthony McIntosh **B**
Jamie McKenna
Montez Mickens
Tonya Milligan **NM**
Montra Moody
Joan Marie Moore
Shannon Morgan
Elizabeth Orosz

Colin Page
McGinnis
Wren Peters **NM**
Jantzen
Ridenour **NM**
Abbie Ridpath **NM**
Elizabeth Rioch
Adero Robinson
Dominic Romano
Rachel Rumble - Comerford
Diana Salmeron
Nikhita Samala **NM**
Nikki Scarpitti
Jane Scott
Jarrod Setliff
Dan Sharpe
Hedi Sharifzadeh
Shirazi **NM**
TaKeysha Sheppard
Bruce Smith **LM LS**
Breanna Teece
Katy Trombitas
Marshall Troxell
Tucker Tucker **NM**
Brian Urbanski **LM**
Jody Urbanski **LM**
Jake Vasilj
Peggy Volpe
Sally Volpe
Joey Wallace **NM**
Cheryl Ward
Jacob Ware
Stephen White **B**

Beth Whitted **LM**
Michael Wilkos
David Williams
Anthony Wilson
Ashleigh Woods
Timmy Wotring
Mindy Wright **LM LS**
Judith Zimomra
Donna Zuiderweg

GUESTS
Chad Aldis
Jana Alig
Alex Anthony
Kelli Bates **LS**
Tricia Bradley
Gretchen Brandt
Brooklyn Brown
Paulette Burks
Becky Ciminillo
Cindy Clark
Zachary Compston
John Coneglio
Kimberly Connell
Belinda Costin **LS**
Kate Curry Da Souza
Angela Daniels
Paolo DeMaria
Meghan Devring
Nia Dewberry
Shelby Fischer
Tamara Freeman
Dina Galley
Katherine Glenn-Applegate

Savannah Gonsoulin
Nichole Goodman
Amanda Gradisek
Kelsey Gregory
Nick Grimmer
Charlie Hansen
Juliana Hardyman
Rejeana Haynes
Erich Hiner
Whitney Holdrieth
Madison Hoofkin
Anthony Irwin
Julia Jackels
Lauren Jones
Katie Laufersweiler-Hanf
Stéphane Lavertu
Ann Lawrence
Jen Lehe
Shelly Lewis
Robyn Lyons-Robinson
Vicki Malesky
Liz Marchio
Tameko Martin
Matt McCloskey
Meghan McDevitt
Daphne McKinnie
Aranne Moody
Christopher Moran
Jennifer Mundorf
Cheryl Nelson
Chanel Norton Lee
Fredrick Parker
Joseph Patrick

Brian Pauquette
Mike Peddicord
Ryan Pettit
Desiree Polk-Bland
Beverly Powell
Kelley Raspberry
Ruqayya Rehmatullah
Eric Reisch
Miya Reyes
Valerie Ridgeway
Safira Robinson
Jonathan Sadlier
Hannah Salem
Christiana Sallard
Leah Santalucia
Laura Schaller
Kathy Shahbodaghi
Ibrahima Sow
Tina Starner
Amber Stevens
Caylan Stevens
Sara Stouffer-Lerch
Allysen Todd
Maura Usher
Zoe Van Dyke
Ellie C Wallace
Monica Womack
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The Mission of the Columbus Metropolitan Club is to connect people and ideas through community conversation.

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More Ways to Catch CMC Forums

WCBE 90.5 Radio airs CMC Forums on Saturdays at 7:00 AM. CMC Forums are available on the WCBE Podcast Experience website.

Forum podcasts can also be heard on the CMC website or via your favorite podcast app.

WOSU Public Media, CMC's broadcast partner, televises CMC Forums on the WOSU Ohio digital channel and over-the-air on channel 34.2. The most recent Forums air on Mondays at 9:00 PM, Tuesdays at 5:00 AM, and Thursdays at noon.

CTV, Columbus Television, airs CMC Forums on Spectrum Channel 1024, WOW Channel 3, and AT&T Channel 99. You can also watch CTV over the air on WCIZ Channel 22.4.

Forums can also be seen on the CMC website at [columbusmetroclub.org/archive/](#) and on CMC's YouTube channel.

Upcoming Forums

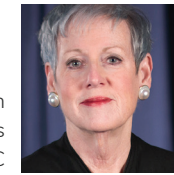
Unless otherwise noted, all forums are 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM.
For Ticket info, visit [columbusmetroclub.org](#) or call 614.464.3220

Thank you to our Table Hosts

Columbus Metropolitan Library
Communities In Schools of Ohio
Columbus State Community College
PNC
United Way of Central Ohio

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2023

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor



Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor completed her term on Ohio's Supreme Court on December 31 and stepped down as Ohio's longest-serving statewide elected woman. Join CMC and host Yvette McGee Brown, Partner, Jones Day, and Former Justice, The Supreme Court of Ohio, for a conversation with O'Connor, reflecting on her long service to Ohio and what the future might hold for voters, the state's Constitution, and Ohio's highest court.



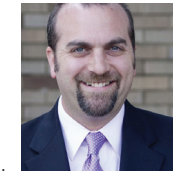
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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023

Keeping the Faith: Columbus Religious Leaders Address Community Issues



Featuring Hillel Skolnik, Senior Rabbi, Tifereth Israel, Earl Fernandes, Bishop, Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Abdurrahman Justin Wood, Youth Director, Noor Islamic Cultural Center, and Victor M. Davis, DMin, Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, with host Jerry Revish, Retired Co-Anchor, WBNS 10TV, and Senior Pastor, Unity Temple Church of God in Christ.



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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023

Starlab Is A Cosmic Win for Ohio



Featuring John M. Horack, Ph.D., Neil Armstrong Chair in Aerospace Policy, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, The Ohio State University, Jeffrey Manber, Director and Co-Founder, Nanoracks, and Scott Shearer, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, The Ohio State University, with host Frederic Bertley, Ph.D., President & CEO, COSI.



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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023

Licking County Plans Its Ideal Intel Future



Featuring Jennifer Roberts, Executive Director, The Thomas J. Evans Foundation and Neutral Convener for FRAMEWORK, Jamie Greene, Principal, planning NEXT, and Rick Platt, President & CEO, Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority, with host Benjamin Lanka, Business Editor, The Columbus Dispatch.



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SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023

Corner Office to Condos: Rethinking Columbus Skyscrapers

SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023

Laying Track for Amtrak's Expansion

SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023

Latino Leaders on Ohio's Future