

# Pre-Conference Keynote



**1-4 pm**

Kelly Inn Ballroom

## **Mindsets and Strategies for Cultivating Equitable and Inclusive Cultures for Early Education**

Dr. Ramon Pastrano

In this keynote, we'll discuss how culture plays a key role in creating fair and supportive learning environments where everyone feels they belong. We'll look at ideas from brain science, psychology, education, and cultural studies to find practical ways to build and maintain a positive organizational culture.

Key topics include:

- **Understanding Culture Dynamics:** How culture influences behavior, learning, and growth in early education settings.
- **Transformational Leadership:** Leadership practices that promote cultural change and support diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- **Implementing DEI Strategies:** Creating actionable Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion plans that match organizational values and improve educational outcomes.
- **Equity Mindsets for Educators and Parents:** Recognizing how personal mindsets affect interpretations and responses to daily experiences, especially challenges and adversity. The twelve mindsets offer a framework for creating optimal learning conditions for students.
- **Engaging Stakeholders:** Building collaborative networks among educators, parents, and community members to support children's development.
- **Sustaining Change:** Setting up methods for continuous evaluation and adjustment of DEI initiatives to ensure long-term success.

By focusing on these areas, we aim to provide tools and insights to help create educational spaces where every child and adult feels valued and supported.

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I loved this keynote. Probably the highlight of the conference for me. This will be so useful in my Pre-K class...I have already started implementing some of it!

- Participant 2024  
Conference

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