

PIONEERS PRESS



**CEC Pioneers
Division**

New Pioneers Website Live!

CEC has recently redesigned their web site. This process afforded Divisions the opportunity to include their website within the CEC web site. You can explore the new [Pioneers web page](#).

Bylaws Approval

Each member will soon receive notice a copy of the proposed Bylaws update with a link to vote to approve the changes.

Voting will open March 5 and close March 26, 2021.

Questions about the Bylaws can be directed to Constitution and Bylaws: **Joan McDonald**, Chair of the Pioneers Constitution and Bylaws Committee.



Join us on March 8-13 for CEC's Learning Interactive Virtual Event (L.I.V.E.), featuring 700+ on-demand sessions, 3 keynote presentations, 30 live main stage sessions, 400 poster videos, a series of pre-conference workshops, and more.

If you have not already registered, there is still time!

[Register here!](#)

[Schedule at a Glance](#)

[Session Finder](#)



President's Message

Greetings! My name is Dave Edyburn and I have the pleasure of serving as the 2021 President of the Pioneers Division.

The Pioneers Board of Directors has been very active in preparing for the virtual CEC Live convention, March 8-13, 2021. On page 4 you can find a list of the current board members. On pages 2-4 you can find an update of the Pioneers' CEC Live activities.

Please note that you do not have to be registered for the conference to participate in the annual Pioneers Business meeting and Mackie Award and the Virtual Social (see right column). If I can answer any questions about the Pioneers Division, please feel free to contact me edyburn@uwm.edu.

Dave Edyburn
CEC Pioneers President 2021

Romaine P. Mackie Award Winner Dr. Alba Ortiz



Dr. Alba A. Ortiz

Dr. Ortiz was the first Hispanic President of CEC and had a distinguished career at the University of Texas, Austin and made many contributions to bilingual education.

Annual Pioneers Business Meeting and Mackie Award at CEC Live

The Mackie award ceremony will take place on Wednesday, March 10, 4:30-5:00 EST. This award honors outstanding service to the profession. Please join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of a true pioneer!

The annual business meeting will begin immediately following the Mackie award ceremony (5:00-6:15 pm ET). The business meeting will allow members to learn about the activities of the Pioneers Division. Time will be reserved for questions and comments.

The following link will allow members to join our Business Meeting and Mackie Award (note the two-step process to register and then receive a link). Because this event is sponsored by the Pioneers, participants do not need to be registered for CEC Live to attend.

Pioneers Division: Mackie Award and Business Meeting
When: Mar 10, 2021 05:30 PM Eastern Time

[Register in advance for this meeting](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Pioneers Virtual Booth

New this year, CEC has provided each Division with a virtual exhibit booth where members can drop by and chat! If you are registered for the Convention, visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall and look for the Pioneers' Booth. Our membership booth will be open as follows:

Monday - Wednesday

1:00 - 3:30 pm (EST)

Thursday

1:00 - 4:00 pm (EST)

Friday

1:00 - 2:30 pm (EST)

Saturday

9:00 am - 5:00 pm (EST)

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Pioneers Division Social Hour (Zoom)

Friday, March 12, 6:30 – 7:30 ET

On Friday, March 12, 6:30-7:30 pm ET, all members and friends of the Pioneers are encouraged to join us in a virtual happy hour. However, because this event is sponsored by the Pioneers, participants do not need to be registered for CEC Live to attend. Again, the event does require a reservation to receive the actual meeting link. This social hour will be sponsored by the Pioneers Presidents (Current, Future, and Past). Please plan to join us for fun and surprises!

[Zoom Link for Pioneers Division Social](#)

Friday, March 12, 6:30-7:30 pm ET

Meeting ID: 950 7487 6007

Passcode: 774459

ADVOCATE

You're already an expert in what you do, and sharing your expertise can make a difference in legislation.

How can educators become public policy advocates? Just think: you educate and motivate students every day. That's what advocacy is: educating and motivating lawmakers.

Get involved in advocating for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with exceptionalities, and the professionals who support them. [Check out the CEC Policy and Advocacy page.](#)

Pioneers 2021 Board Members

The following individuals serve on the 2021 Pioneers Board of Directors. To email any board member, write to us at: cecpioneers@gmail.com

Officers

President: Dave Edyburn

President Elect: Candace Borger

Immediate Past President: Emily Collins

Secretary: Kim Moffett

Treasurer: Lorrane McPherson

Committee Chairs

Awards & Honors Committee:

Gloria Taradash

Communications Committee:

Clinton Smith

Constitution and Bylaws:

Joan McDonald

Courtesy Resolutions Committee:

Pamela Gillet

Finance Committee:

Lorrane McPherson

Membership Committee:

Mickie Wong-Lo

Nominations & Elections Committee:

Emily Collins

Political Advocacy Committee (CAN):

Lisa Dieker

Professional Development Committee:

Candace Borger

Other-Voting Members

Coordinator, CEC-PD Mentoring Program:

Jamie Hopkins

Historian:

Diane Johnson

Other Non-Voting Members

Representative to Knowledge & Skills Committee:

Parthenia Cogdell

Representative to Project 2020:

Mary Ruth Coleman

Join us for the CEC Pioneer Division and DDEL Showcase Session!

Friday, Mar 12, 2:45 pm ET

Implementing Culturally Responsive Practices to Foster Family Engagement

Many special educators are unprepared to effectively teach culturally diverse exceptional students, communicate with their families and thrive in diverse communities. Currently, 81% of our special education teachers are white and 86% female (Data U.S.A., 2019). Teachers were less confident around family engagement than any other topic on the State of the Special Education Profession survey (Fowler, Coleman, & Bogdan, 2019). This four-part session will first discuss how disparities and the intersection of culture, race and disability impact African American communities and the daily pursuits of African American families. Second, the journey of four families' resistance, persistence to access services, and resilience in raising children with Autism will be shared. Third, ways to promote community engagement through natural networks, resources, partnerships, and advocacy will be examined. Last, an innovative educator preparation program will share how coursework, professional development, clinical practices, and cross-cultural immersion (in/out of country home stays) promotes family and community engagement.

Moderator: Dr. Renée Garraway, University of Maryland /College Park

Presenters:

Dr. Cathy Kea

North Carolina A&T University

Dr. Joy Banks

Howard University

Dr. Elizabeth Drame

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Dr. Theodore Pikes

North Carolina Central University

Update on Pioneer Involvement in CEC 2020 Project

By Mary Ruth Coleman

Thank you for the honor of representing the Pioneers in CEC's important 20/20 initiative. The 20/20 project is charged with creating a vision of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in all of CEC endeavors from individual members through Divisions and Units. There are 3 main goals of the 20/20 project:

- Create a more diverse membership and programs to support a more diverse membership (Diversity Leadership Program, Mentoring, Caucuses, etc.)
- Promote equity and engagement (volunteers, leaders, and participation in CEC professional and scholarly activated, etc.) by identifying and eliminating barriers that exist.
- Provide education and programming to support special educators in serving diverse communities (Webinars, Synchronous Courses, Resources/Tools, Sessions at Conferences, etc.).

CEC has made a three-year commitment to this work and is identifying outcomes and deliverables for each project goal.

- As individuals you can "take the pledge" making a personal commitment to address the goals of the diversity, equity, and inclusion. You can use this link to make a personal statement, or, to review the statements of your colleagues <https://exceptionalchildren.org/project2020>
- As Pioneers we have signed on to support the CEC 20/20 goals and we are listed as Pledge Partners. Where are we now?
- The work has just begun. Invitations for individual and group pledges were issued and several have been made. We have had one full group meeting to look at the overall goals of the project and one sub-

group meeting (there is a sub-group for each of the goals). Pioneers is part of the Engagement Subgroup, goal 2, which is being led by Dr. Joy Banks. At this meeting, we had general discussions about the direction for enhancing engagement.

At Dr. Banks request, she and I will meet to look at the groups strategies and work to develop some more specific ideas for direction as well as to reflect on historic approaches to these issues within CEC.

Our second meeting for the Engagement Group was held January 28th and we were able to clarify our objectives for engagement. These objectives are:

1. To Identify Barriers to professional engagement within CEC by establishing baseline data related to why special educators join, do not join, and why they become active in CEC
2. Increase diversity participation through our CEC (e.g. conference proposals, standards, committees, Board of Directors).
3. Review Publications (e.g. all journals, books, PD, webinars, etc.) to ensure inclusive and invitational through out the publication process (e.g. solicitation of manuscripts, reviews, and publication pipeline).
4. Increase CEC's influence in support of diversity issues on funding agencies (e.g. federal and private) for research and practice.

I have requested to focus on the subcommittee for Objective #2.

Respectfully Submitted

[Mary Ruth Coleman](#)

Preserving CEC's History

The June Jordan Fund was established in 1994, by the Pioneers Division in honor of June Jordan who was a former CEC staff member. June was instrumental in providing the leadership and support for establishing the Pioneers Division. In addition, she led CEC in the collection of documents and other types of information of historical significance to CEC and the field of special education.

The official title of the fund is **"The June Jordan 'I have a Dream' Memorial Fund"**. The purpose of the fund is to support CEC in maintaining the Archives and history of the Council. The Archives are maintained by a CEC Archivist who holds a non-voting position on the CEC-PD Board. The Fund is supported by direct contributions to the Fund. These funds are then allocated for expenditures to support the expansion and maintenance of the CEC Archives.

In the past, the support for the CEC Archives consisted of providing dollars from the June Jordan Fund to purchase supplies needed by the CEC Archivist, and to provide assistance to the Archivist by other members of the Pioneers Division in preparing and in placing materials in the CEC Archives. It is hoped that the plan developed by the History Initiative Work Group will provide additional opportunities to share, as well as, preserve the history of CEC and CEC-PD.

Please consider donating to the June Jordan Fund using the form below to assist with this important activity.

The June Jordan "I Have a Dream" Memorial Fund Contribution Form

Mail contributions to: Lorraine McPherson, 4850 W Kay T Drive, Tucson, AZ 85745

My contribution to the June Jordan Fund is \$_____.

Name: _____ Phone/email: _____

Address: _____
Street City State/Province Zip/Postal Code

Indicate if your contribution is in memory/honor of:

Please provide name and address for acknowledgment card:

Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City State/Province ZipPostal Code

Please make checks payable to the Pioneers Division of the Council for Exceptional Children and attach to this form.

Thank You!