

**Application for Introduction to Conversations About Race and Belonging  
and Conversations About Race and Belonging**

Missouri NEA partners with Nebraska State Education Association to offer these trainings. See session description on second page. Please complete and return both pages of this application to [Laurie.Bernskoetter@mnea.org](mailto:Laurie.Bernskoetter@mnea.org) by the deadlines stated below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ MNEA Member? \_\_\_\_\_

Home Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Personal Email \_\_\_\_\_

School email \_\_\_\_\_ What is your race and/or ethnicity? \_\_\_\_\_

School District or College \_\_\_\_\_

**What are your preferred gender pronouns?** \_\_\_ He/him/his \_\_\_ She/her/hers \_\_\_ They/them/theirs

**What is your grade level(s) and subject (s)?** \_\_\_\_\_

**First year employed as an educator:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Which session(s) are you applying to attend?** Enrollment is limited, so please mark those you are interested in attending as 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> choice. Each program is limited to 22 participants.

**Introduction to Conversations About Race and Belonging**

\_\_\_ Program A: Thurs., Jan. 14, 7-9 p.m. and Sat., Jan. 16, 10 a.m. – noon  
*Early bird application by Jan. 4, applications close Jan. 7*

\_\_\_ Program B: Sat., March 13, 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m.  
*Early bird application by Feb. 26, applications close March 3*

**Conversations in Race and Belonging** *Early Bird deadline Mar. 15, Applications close Mar. 21*

\_\_\_ Six sessions- April 3, April 17, May 1, May 15, June 5, June 12- Saturdays, 1-3:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Initial to confirm commitment to attend all Saturday sessions

\_\_\_\_\_ Initial to confirm commitment to organize and implement at least one conversation in your workplace or community, applying the discussion/reflection skills you have learned and practiced.

**MNEA/local NEA association roles you have served in- please list.**

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**What is your professional role?** Check all that apply

Teacher/Instructor    School counselor    Librarian    Instructional coach    Administrator  
 Professional Development Committee    School leadership committee

Other district/school/college committees- please list:

**Are you interested in leading** future 1 to 4-hour *Introduction to Conversations on Race and Belonging* in your area? (MNEA will provide additional training.)    Yes    No

If yes, we recommend that you attend the six-session program if possible.

If yes, please list any previous experience presenting OR why you would be a good presenter.

**Why do you want to participate in the Conversations on Race and Belonging sessions?**

### Session description

Conversations About Race and Belonging: A Short Program is a six-session interactive virtual program that provides a foundation for initiating and engaging in relational conversations about race, otherness, equity, and belonging in various settings: home, work, community. This program uses episodes from the podcast *Seeing White* (Scene On Radio, 2017, Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University) and a selection of literary works by authors of color to frame conversations about race and belonging. The Short Program builds a peer cohort through conversation, stories, racial literacy, critical thinking, and the practice of reflective and dialectic skills that support leading small group discussions on race and belonging. Registrants are expected to attend the full program and to organize and implement at least one conversation in their workplace or community, applying the skills they have learned and practiced.

### Presenters:

Palma Joy Strand earned a Juris Doctor from Stanford Law School, and a Masters in Law (LL.M) from Georgetown University Law Center. She is currently a Professor of Law (full tenured professor) in the Negotiation and Conflict Resolution Program at Creighton University. Since 2017 she has also been teaching virtually. In 2004, Strand began facilitating conversations about race and belonging, both in the context of classes university classes taught through the several universities and as stand-alone programs. She continues this work today.

Michele Chang holds a Masters of Public Health from Emory University. Since 2016, she has served as a facilitator for conversations on race in community settings. Chang continues to train groups to be facilitators of group discussions on race and has designed and co-taught high school programs on race and equity. Since 2019, Chang has co-facilitated programs on race and equity specifically designed for educators and administrators.

Missouri National Education Association / [www.mnea.org](http://www.mnea.org) / 800.392.0236

