



2016 CCTM Conference: Building a Community of Math Excellence

The 2016 Colorado Council of Teachers of Mathematics (CCTM) Conference will explore diversity issues and feature TODOS speakers who will address equity. The upcoming annual conference, "Building a Community of Math Excellence," will be held on September 22–23, 2015, at the Denver Mart. It will kick off on Thursday, September 22nd, with an administrator and district leader workshop from 12:00–3:30 pm, followed by a teacher pre-session from 4:00 to 6:30 pm.

During the leader pre-session on Thursday, Joanie Funderburk, president of CCTM, and Cathy Martin, immediate past president of CCTM and NCTM Board member, will address administrators, district leaders, and math coaches/specialists. They will share their expertise about the best instructional materials for use in today's mathematics classrooms. They will also offer ideas about the getting great results from using other available mathematics materials.

Nora Ramirez and **José Franco**, both past presidents of TODOS, will lead the teacher pre-session, from 4:00–6:30 pm on Thursday. Their presentation, Making Mathematics Accessible and Equitable for All Students, is described as follows. "Schools have a variety of students with multiple needs and mathematical understanding, yet all students can learn mathematics. Classroom environments need to be created where all students are highly engaged in rigorous mathematics that requires them to reason, defend and justify their thinking while critiquing the reasoning of others. Participants will engage in mathematical activities, discuss observations and ideas on how to support students as they develop into autonomous and critical thinkers, and examine their beliefs as they relate to the teaching and learning of mathematics. Attention will be on accessible and equitable mathematics, student engagement, including that of ELLs, through the use of language, representations, and opportunities for participation. "

After the pre-sessions, the annual Colorado Mathematics Teaching Awards ceremony occurs at 6:30 pm on Thursday evening. Everyone is welcome to honor the award winners and nominees while celebrating excellence in Colorado classrooms. A selection of hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will add to the festivities. Conference activities on Friday, September 23rd, begin with registration/check-in at 7:00 a.m. Interactive sessions for all audiences will be offered from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Rochelle Gutiérrez will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Gutiérrez is a professor of Mathematics Education in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research focuses on equity in mathematics education, race/class/language issues in teaching and learning mathematics, and effective teacher communities. Her work has been published in such journals as *Mathematical Thinking and Learning*, *Journal for Research in Mathematics Education*, *Harvard Educational Review*, *Democracy and Education*, *Urban Review*, and *Mathematics Teacher*.

Rochelle Gutiérrez, **Nora Ramirez**, **José Franco**, **Diane Kinch** (current TODOS President) and **Susie Håkansson** (TODOS immediate Past President) will do hour-long small group sessions on Friday providing Colorado teachers an intimate learning experience from experts. All five of these speakers have been recognized with the TODOS Iris M. Carl Equity and Excellence Award.

This year's conference schedule provides dedicated time to visit the exhibits area, where TODOS will have an exhibit. The registration fee includes a lunch voucher that can be spent among several catering options onsite so participants can make the most of their conference time. The wrap up will include an update from the Colorado Department of Education, and some fabulous door prize giveaways.

The conference will be held at the Denver Mart at I-25 and 58th Avenue in Denver. For those requiring an overnight stay close to the conference, the DoubleTree Westminster (located on the Boulder Turnpike at Sheridan) offers a conference rate of \$115/night. To reserve a room, go http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/D/DENNSDT-CTM-20160922/index.ihtml?WT.mc_id=POG . The conference block of rooms is available until September 6th. The hotel reservation includes a breakfast buffet and free shuttle to and from the Denver Mart. Registration begins August 1, 2016, and can be accessed via the CCTM website (cctmath.org).