

elevate

— PHOENIX 2024

FEAT.
GERRY
BROOKS



MR.
GREG
-
KIM
BEARDEN



&
JACK
HARTMANN!

SHERATON
PHOENIX
DOWNTOWN

JULY 11-13

ELEVATEYOURCLASSROOM.COM | @ELEVATEYOURCLASSROOM

with
KEYNOTES BY



KIM BEARDEN



MR. GREG



GERRY BROOKS



JACK HARTMANN

DANCE PARTY
with

AND SESSIONS
by



JACKIE KOPS



CHRISTINA DECARBO



VERA AHIYYA



JAKE DAGGETT



KATIE KNIGHT



HOLLY EHLE

WHO WE ARE

ELEVATE is the premiere professional development for primary Pre-K - 2nd Grade Educators. Our Selection of highly accomplished national speakers, are either currently teachers, administrators, specialists, coaches or consultants working in schools.



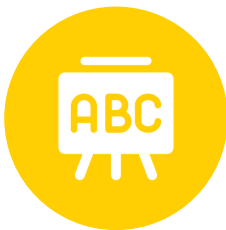
**Founded in
Research**

All ELEVATE, conference sessions are based on research and/or evidence-based content and practices and guaranteed to be presented in a way that engages attendees in hands-on activities and models instructional best-practices.



**Next Day
Implementation**

Every session you attend will provide you with lesson ideas and activity resources that you can take back to your classroom and use immediately!



**Vetted
Speakers**

At ELEVATE, we set the bar high! All presenters are required to support their presentation content with current research, model best-practice instructional methods, incorporate active-engagement strategies within their sessions, and provide complementary lesson plans/activities for attendees to take back and use immediately in their classrooms.



elevate verb

el·e·vate | \ 'e-lə-ˌvāt , -vət \ **verb** 1: to lift up; raise to a higher level 2: to improve intellectually, morally, or culturally 3: to promote or uplift another 4: to raise to a higher cognitive or conceptual level 5: to put in high spirits

The definition says it all....and at ELEVATE, that's what we are all about: Supporting and uplifting early childhood and elementary educators in their quest to improve instruction for the students they serve.

This conference was designed with the core objective of supporting educators who work selflessly in the classroom each day, giving their all. The ELEVATE team consists of highly experienced and award-winning educators who are currently teaching in the classroom or actively serving in schools.

**We SEE you.
We know your struggles.
We APPRECIATE you.**

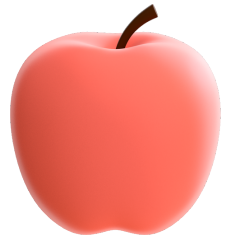
ELEVATE is here to support YOU. Our conferences will provide you with the absolute best professional development sessions offered for Pre-k to 2nd grade educators. Every ELEVATE conference will include multiple sessions on all core academic strands (including reading, writing, math, science, & social studies), as well as administrative, SEL, school culture, classroom management, and culturally responsive teaching workshops.

And what's more important is that our support doesn't stop there! ELEVATE is much more than a conference you attend. After joining us for an in-person professional development experience, you are invited into our ELEVATE community. This is a place where educators across the country digitally come together to provide continued support and encouragement for one another. Think of it as a social-media-based PLC. Post your questions. Request support. Share your challenges. We'll be right there to provide long-term support. We've got you!

Ready to ELEVATE your classroom?

Join us in Phoenix!

JOIN US IN PHOENIX, AZ!



LOCATION & HOTEL

Sheraton Phoenix Downtown

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Phoenix, AZ 85004

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**We have discounted room rates!
Limited rooms available so be
sure to book your room as soon
as possible.**

[BOOK HOTEL](#)

Ticket	Dates	Price
Early Bird Full Access VIP Pass	Now through Aug 31, 2023	\$300
Full-Access VIP Pass	Sept 1 - June 30, 2024	\$350
Full-Access At The Door	July 1 - July 11, 2024	\$400

Topics Covered at ELEVATE! Phoenix



**Science of
Reading**



**Data Driven
Instruction**



**School
Culture**



**English
Language Arts**



Fine Motor



**Social
Studies**



Math



**Classroom
Management**



**Play Based
Learning**



The Arts



STEAM



Writing



Science



**Social
Emotional
Learning**



**Diversity,
Equity,
Inclusivity,
and
Accessibility**



**English
Language
Learners**



DAY 1

featuring

Gerry Brooks

Thursday,
July 11th

4 pm - 6 pm
6 pm
7 pm

Registration
Keynote by Gerry
Meet & Greet

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DAY 2

featuring

Kim
Bearden

and

Mr. Greg!



Friday,
July 12th

8:15 am - 9:15 am

9:30 am - 11:45 am

11:45 am - 1:15 pm

1:15 pm - 2:15 pm

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

3:45 pm - 4:45 pm

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Morning Keynote
with Kim Bearden!

Breakout Sessions

Lunch on Your Own

Breakout Sessions

Breakout Sessions

Breakout Sessions

Mr. Greg - Giveaways &
More!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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DAY 3

featuring

Jack
Hartmann

and

Mr. Greg!



Saturday,
July 13th

8:15 am - 9:15 am
9:30 am - 10:30 am
10:45 am - 11:45 am
11:45 am - 1:15 pm
1:15 pm - 2:15 pm
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Morning Dance Party
with Jack Hartmann!
Breakout Sessions
Breakout Sessions
Lunch on Your Own
Breakout Sessions
Closing Keynote by
Mr. Greg!

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FEATURING...

Morning

DANCE PARTY

with



JACK HARTMANN

Saturday,
July 13th

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Greg Smedley -Warren

Howdy! I am Mr. Greg from The Kindergarten Smorgasboard. I have been teaching for 16 years. I spent a year teaching fifth grade, two years in second grade and am now in my 13th year in Kindergarten. Kindergarten is my passion and my calling but honestly, that wasn't how it started. When I was moved to Kindergarten (not voluntarily!) I called my mommy and cried. But on the first day, I fell in love and knew that Kindergarten is where I belonged. I have remained in Kindergarten ever since. I plan to never leave the classroom as the kids are what drive me to continue my growth as a teacher and person.

I received my bachelors degree from Indiana University and received my ELL certification from David Lipscomb University. At the beginning of my career I spent two summers teaching in Ecuador which only helped to fan the flames of my passion for teaching. In 2015 I was selected as Teacher Of The Year by my peers. I have a monthly broadcast on YouTube called Submission for Smorgie LIVE. I enjoy blogging, creating curriculum and resources for my classroom and conducting professional development sessions to help teachers around the world make their classrooms a more fun, effective and interactive place to teach.

When I'm not in the classroom, blogging and doing all things teach, I enjoy spending time with my family. I live in Nashville, Tennessee with my husband (known as The Mister on my blog), our 2 yr old daughter, Adelynn and our goldendoodle, Butters.



Gerry Brooks

Gerry Brooks is a veteran educator in Lexington, Kentucky. His educational experience includes six years in the classroom, two years as an intervention specialist, and 12 years as an administrator.

He is a passionate public speaker whose focus is on encouraging and helping teachers improve their instructional abilities. He also has a desire to help administrators successfully lead their staff.

An encouraging speaker, he has spoken to educational groups all around the nation. His focus is on encouraging teachers to improve their instruction through personal climate and culture strategies. He desires to help administrators focus on how to lead all staff in a positive and constructive manner.



Kim Bearden

Kim Bearden is the cofounder and a language arts teacher at the highly acclaimed Ron Clark Academy, an innovative middle school and educator-training facility in Atlanta. Each year, over 15,000 educators from around the world visit Kim's classroom and attend her workshops to learn better ways to engage students, build relationships, foster creativity, enhance communication, and create a climate and culture for success.

In 2016, Kim was honored at the White House for being inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. She was selected from over 70,000 nominations to be honored as the Disney American Teacher Awards Outstanding Humanities Teacher, and the Milken Family Foundation selected her to receive the Award for Excellence in Education. She is the winner of the InfluencHer Award, the University of Georgia Outstanding Educator Award, and the Turknett Character Award for Servant Leadership. Mercedes-Benz recognized her in their Greatness Lives Here campaign, and Women Works Media Group has named her one of Georgia's Most Powerful and Influential Women.

Over the past thirty-four years, she has been a teacher, instructional lead teacher, curriculum director, school-board member, staff-development trainer, and middle-school principal. Kim is a bestselling author of three books: *Crash Course: The Life Lessons My Students Taught Me*; *Talk to Me: Find the Right Words to Inspire, Encourage, and Get Things Done*; and *Fight Song: Six Steps to Passion, Power, Peace, and Purpose*. Additionally, Kim shares her passion and love for her craft with audiences around the world as a keynote speaker and professional development trainer.



Holly Ehle

Holly is a full-time kindergarten teacher and literacy specialist who is passionate about student engagement, differentiated instruction, and early literacy. She is currently working on her Ph.D. in Reading, Language, and Literacy with a specialization in Educational Neuroscience and loves helping teachers better understand exactly how the brain learns when beginning to read and write. In the classroom, her mission is to teach EVERY child to be a proficient reader and writer, including those with dyslexia and/or other learning challenges. Outside of the classroom, her mission is to help teachers bridge the gap between research and practice in fun and engaging ways. Holly is also dedicated to giving back to educators who work so hard in the classroom, and it was this shared passion that forged her connection with the Kindergarten Smorgasboard/ELEVATE team.

Jake Daggett



Jake is an Ohio native who began his teaching career in Milwaukee, WI in 2015. Having specialized in literacy and phonics instruction, Jake built a following on social media for his engaging and rhythmic phonics lessons. He is extremely passionate about structured literacy and inclusive classrooms. Jake is on his seventh year of teaching and currently teaches First Grade. On the side, Jake mentors college students at Marquette University as they work through their senior year courses in elementary literacy. He is thrilled to be back for a second year at ELEVATE!



Vera Ahiyya

Vera Ahiyya was raised in El Paso, Texas with her wonderful mother and amazing grandparents. Vera has taught Kindergarten and first grade for the last 16 years. Her online presence is dedicated to influencing other educators by spreading her vast knowledge and love of diverse children's books. She is the author of *Rebellious Read Alouds*, a professional development book for educators. She is also the author of two picture books, *You Have a Voice* and *KINDergarten*.



Jackie Kops

Jackie is an enthusiastic curriculum writer and teacher trainer behind *Pocket of Preschool* who loves supporting educators of little learners. She is a former preschool teacher with over fourteen years of classroom teaching experience in both full-day and half-day settings. She is from Missouri where she earned a Masters and Bachelors in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Maryville University. Her goal is to help you unleash your teaching superpowers! Jackie's passion is to inspire you with play-based activities, themed centers, and supports that nurture and challenge little learners in a caring classroom community.



Christina DeCarbo

Christina (Miss DeCarbo) is a PreK-5 literacy coach and reading teacher for her school district in Northeast, Ohio. She is trained in dyslexia and structured literacy through the Orton Gillingham Academy and LETRS. Her research-based sessions are packed with engaging lessons and creative tools to help students reach their greatest potential as readers, writers, and problem-solvers. Christina is the curriculum author of best-selling literacy intervention materials, and loves collaborating with educators on Instagram @missdecarbo. As a mom to two little ones at home, she enjoys spending time with family and drinking ALL the coffee!

Katie Knight



Katie Knight is a 1st grade classroom teacher with a plan! Katie loves to share her plans and ideas that help teachers become consistently happy and organized while helping their young students grow in maturity and as readers and writers! Katie speaks nationally at conferences, and you can find her on social media, Teachers Pay Teachers and her blog, under Teacher To The Core! Katie welcomes you in, and has you laughing, feeling energized, and leaves you equipped to take action that makes your teaching life easier!

Research Citations

All ELEVATE conference sessions are based on research. It is one of our requirements to be a speaker for ELEVATE.

Below are some of the sources from research that our speakers are using within their classrooms for best instructional practices, and to build their Professional Development sessions for ELEVATE!

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Meet our Team!




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