

May 19–21, 2021

In Branson, MO Missouri Juvenile Justice Association Spring Conference

MJJA 2021



Matt Bellace Motivational Speaker & Comedian Since 1995, Matt Bellace, Ph.D., has been a professional speaker and standup comedian. His programs encourage over a hundred thousand students and adults each year to pursue natural highs (e.g. laughter, meditation) and be resilient in the face of stress.

Dr. Bellace has a Ph.D. in clinical neuropsychology, which is the study of the brain and behavior. He worked at the National Institutes of Mental Health, and completed his internship at the traumatic brain and spinal cord units at The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. His dissertation focused on the neurological underpinnings of emotional memory.

He's the author of the book, *A Better High*, a contributing author for the *National Geographic Kids* and was a recurring comedian on truTV's "World's Dumbest." For seven years, he performed stand-up comedy in clubs and colleges across the country, including appearances at *Gotham Comedy Club* in New York City and the *Just For Laughs Festival* in Montreal.

As an undergraduate at Bucknell University, Matt founded a student prevention organization named C.a.l.v.i.n. & H.o.b.b.e.s. Over 25 years later, it is the oldest student group on campus, providing substance-free events every weekend of the school year. In 1995, the trustees of Bucknell approved funding to refurbish a former fraternity house for the group to reside. *U.S. News and World Report* heralded the move, noting, "How times have changed." Bucknell President, William "Bro" Adams referred to the group as "revolutionary."

Spring Conference



Clark Flatt, BS, M.Div.

President/Founding Member – The Jason Foundation, Inc.

B.S. Business Administration – TN Technological University (1973)

Masters of Divinity – Vanderbilt University (1976)

Clark Flatt is a nationally recognized speaker on the topic of youth suicide awareness and prevention. With over 20 years in the field of suicide prevention, Mr. Flatt, as President of The Jason Foundation, Inc., leads one of the nation's oldest and largest non-profits whose mission is addressing the national health crisis of youth suicide.

Clark and his wife, Connie Flatt, have two sons; John A. Flatt, M.D., a Board-Certified Pediatric Neurologist and Chief Medical Officer for The Jason Foundation, and Jason Flatt, deceased at age 16 in 1997.

The Jason Foundation, Inc.

The Jason Foundation, Inc. (JFI) was founded in October of 1997 after the tragic death of Clark's youngest son, 16-year-old Jason, to the "silent epidemic" of youth suicide. Since its founding, JFI has grown to be one of the nation's leading nonprofits addressing the national health crisis of youth suicide.

Featuring



Keith A. Neuber, M.S.

Keith Neuber founded I K.A.N. PRESENTATIONS in 1995 with a mission of providing affordable, quality training that has practical applications for business and personal life.

Keith began providing training for human services, business and industry and the general public in 1978. Each training program is designed to meet the goals that the training sponsor is seeking to achieve.

Keith approaches each training with the energy and enthusiasm that keeps participants engaged, learning and motivated to make changes in their approach to the challenges of daily life.

Introducing the 2021 Missouri Teacher of the Year Darrion Cockrell



Photo credit: August Jennewein/University of Missouri-St. Louis

Darrion Cockrell, Missouri's 2021 Teacher of the Year, was born and raised in the City of St. Louis until the age of 14. At age 14, Darrion was moved into a boy's home in Creve Coeur, MO. After a year in the boy's home Darrion was adopted by his middle school football coach and stayed with his family for the next 11 years in Chesterfield, MO. While living in Chesterfield, Darrion attended both Parkway Central Middle and Central High Schools.

After playing college football at Millikin University in Illinois for two years, Cockrell injured his shoulder. He returned home and earned a Bachelor of Science in Education/Physical Education and a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Missouri - St. Louis.

Cockrell or "Mr. DC" as he likes to be called, teaches physical education to students in grades K-5 at Crestwood Elementary School in St. Louis, MO. He has nine years of teaching experience and has been at Crestwood since 2015.

Cockrell received a 2020 National Box Tops for Education Twilight Award, presented by Chance the Rapper. He also created the "Crest-Fit" training program, reaching thousands of people in his community through multiple platforms, where he continues to share fitness videos online that he records with his son. In his free time, Mr. DC enjoys spending time with family and friends, staying active, watching sports and supporting his students in their activities.

Cockrell is a role model for his students, and focuses on creating relationships that support the importance of staying active and healthy. He is always willing to lend a helping hand, inspires his fellow teachers, and motivates everyone in his school community.

AGENDA

DRAFT

Wednesday, May 19

11 a.m. Registration Opens 12:30—1:30 p.m. Opening Remarks—Marty Yust, MJJA Board President Presentation of Higher Education Scholarships

1:30—3pm Plenary: A Better High: The Science Behind Laughing, Meditating, Reducing Stress

and Managing Emotions 3—3:15pm Refreshment Break 3:15—5pm Workshops Go Beyond the Keynote with Dr. Matt Bellace Dealing With The Judge Workplace Climate & Productivity: Pride, Prejudice, Power and Productivity Temporary Alternative Placement Agreement (TAPA) Healthcare and Beyond: Collaborating for Better Outcomes for Youth in Juvenile Justice Programs

Thursday, May 20

7:30-8:15 a.m. Breakfast 8:15-8:30 a.m. Morning Welcome 8:30-10 a.m. Plenary: What's Right With Our Children Today! 10-10:15 a.m. Refreshment Break 10:15 a.m.-Noon Workshops Prosecutorial Discretion and Implicit Bias: Truth or Consequence Special Education: What I Need to Know Tools to Conquer the Generational Challenge Flexible Thinking: Stretching JO's to think like CD Workers and CD Workers to think like JO's and everyone to think like Attorneys! -Part One-Investigation and Assessing Imminent Danger Independent Assessor-Families First Update

12 p.m.—Lunch

MJJA Excellence in Juvenile Justice Court Program Award 1:30—3 p.m. Workshops

The Value of Your Impact Ethics for Social Workers-Part 1 Tools That Challenge the School to Prison Pipeline The Past and Future of Guardian ad Litem Work in Missouri Juvenile Certification 3—3:15 p.m. Refreshment Break 3:15—4:45 p.m. Workshops Ethics for Social Workers-Part 2 Advanced Juvenile Law and Best Practices for SRO's Juvenile Sex Offender Registry Flexible Thinking: Stretching JO's to think like CD Workers and CD Workers to think like JO's and everyone to think like Attorneys! -Part Two-Protective Custody Hearing Through Adjudication How Do I Provide Mental Health First Aid and Still Care for Myself?

Friday, May 21

7:15—8 a.m. Breakfast 8—10 a.m. Plenary: Clark Flatt, The Jason Foundation, Inc. 10—10:15 a.m. Break 10:15—11:15 a.m. 2021 Missouri Teacher of the Year, Darrion Cockrell 11:15—11:30 a.m. Closing—Marty Yust

Wednesday Afternoon

Plenary 1:30—3pm:

DRAFT

A Better High: The Science Behind Laughing, Meditating, Reducing Stress and Managing Emotions

You won't want to miss Dr. Matt Bellace, a clinical psychologist and stand-up comedian, delivering his humorous and interactive keynote. The presentation will focus on using natural highs and other healthy ways to reduce stress and manage emotions for you and your clients. The program will also discuss dealing with disappointment during the pandemic and how to use cognitive reframing and other techniques to be more resilient. Dr. Bellace's unique style of integrating science with funny stories and audience participation should make for a memory kick-off to the conference!

Workshops 3:15—5pm:

Go Beyond the Keynote with Dr. Matt Bellace

The beauty of having a keynote speaker with such a varied background is the opportunity to have in-depth discussions. In this workshop, the audience decides which topics they want to talk more about, including substance abuse prevention, adolescent brain development, meditation or public speaking. Regardless of the topic, it will be an interactive conversation, not a lecture. For example, the teenage brain is as fascinating as it is maddening, so come prepared with questions and stories. Perhaps you're interested in learning more about meditation. There are many types to experience from body scans to mindfulness meditation to Transcendental Meditation. Dr. Bellace is ready to lead exercises in all of them so you can see for yourself. Finally, how about practicing using humor and engaging stories to be a more effective speaker? This fun segment will involve members of the audience standing up and speak out on a topic they feel strongly about. Dr. Bellace will provide supportive suggestions for how to be an effective advocate.

Faculty: Dr. Matt Bellace, Motivational Speaker and Comedian

Dealing with the Judge

This session will address the pitfalls which exist in the relationship between juvenile court personnel and juvenile judges. The presentation will explain the philosophical basis for the rule against ex parte communication and how to avoid inappropriate exchanges of information with the judge. The discussion will explore questions about the appropriateness of various interactions with judges in a variety of contexts and the importance of maintaining the independence of juvenile officers.

Faculty: Hon. Darrell Missey, 23rd Judicial Circuit, and Abby Sapp, Attorney, former counsel for the Juvenile Officer in the 23rd Judicial Circuit and former General Counsel for the Office of Child Advocate.

Workplace Climate & Productivity: Pride, Prejudice, Power and Productivity

This session explores institutional models surrounding workplace socialization and productivity. Reviewing models from successful national and international organizations, participants are led to better understand how workplace climate can enhance or impede productivity and sense of belongingness. Discussions include civility in the workplace, equity in policies and procedures, and systems to transform workplace environments into diversity learning organizations

Faculty: Juanita M. Cleaver Simmons, PhD.

Temporary Alternative Placement Agreement (TAPA)

Temporary Alternative Placement Agreement was created through legislation passed in 2020. It mandates how the Children's Division handles diversions outside of the home due to safety concerns. Part of this legislation requires the Children's Division to notify the Juvenile Office any time a child is diverted to someone that is not a parent. This workshop will cover the requirements of the statute as well as the Children's Division's policies around TAPA. There will be opportunity to discuss how implementation of TAPA is going for circuits and to clarify any questions participants may have.

Faculty: Kara Wilcox, MSW, Children's Division Central Office, Prevention & Safety Program Coordinator, Crystal Wilson, Program Specialist

Healthcare and Beyond: Collaborating for Better Outcomes for Youth in Juvenile Justice Programs

In this session, we will explore the current healthcare and social determinants that can greatly impact outcomes for youth involved in the juvenile justice program. We jumpstart a larger group discussion by outlining health and wellness programs and initiatives that have been effective in Missouri and other states in improving outcomes for youth. Then we will end the session with an interactive discussion around current needs and system challenges and how healthcare companies can play a role in improving the lives of youth in the juvenile justice program.

Faculty: Jodi Fenner, Director, Specialized Programs and Populations and Kimberly Case, Ph.D., Specialty Product Management Foster Care, Anthem, Inc

Thursday Morning

Plenary 8:30—10am:

WHAT'S RIGHT WITH OUR CHILDREN TODAY!

That's not a "typo" in the title. The more common question is "What's wrong with our children today?" People in our society have a tendency to focus on the negative. This presentation will focus on the assets, strengths, contributions and potential of our young people. The pre-teen and teenage years are times of great challenge in a world that doesn't provide clear, positive values. This presentation will provide a framework for better understanding the actions and attitudes of today's young people. Keith will also provide practical suggestions for what a community can do to positively influence the choices of youth so that the community can proudly say, "Look at what's right with our children."

Faculty: Keith Neuber, I K.A.N. Presentations

Workshops 10:15—Noon:

Prosecutorial Discretion and Implicit Bias: Truth or Consequence

There is a growing body of research linking the domains of implicit bias to the daily discretionary decisions made prosecutors and PK-12 disciplinary school administrators. Although limited empirical evidence supports the assumption that implicit bias impacts the discretionary decisions made by such authorities when assigning consequences, anecdotal experiences confirm that implicit bias greatly impacts their decisions. This session is an informal overview of findings that support the power of implicit bias in discretionary decision-making of authorities. Informal discussion and data should aide participants in understanding how biases enhance the prison pipeline.

Faculty: Juanita M. Cleaver Simmons, PhD.

Special Education: What I Need to Know

This workshop offers an in-depth look at the special education process including: Child Find and how it applies to older youth and youth in juvenile facilities; using the evaluation process to distinguish between a youth with a disability versus typical teenage behavior; and finally, accessing special education services for justice involved youth.

Faculty: Nakatia Clay-Southeast Regional Coordinator for MPACT

Tools to Conquer the Generational Challenge

Generational differences are way too common in our world today. Baby Boomers get frustrated because Millennials won't pick up the phone. Generation X'ers would rather do the work themselves instead of relying on others. Millennials distrust older leaders because they feel that they only want to get rich. These scenes of dysfunction exist in nearly every business and organization in America. Sadly, we still tend to focus on the diversity instead of the inclusion. What if there was a way all generations could learn to understand each other? What if there were easy to apply solutions that could turn your communication discord into harmony? What if you could see into the future and begin to build a workplace culture that is ready for the next generation?

Faculty: Keith Neuber, M.S., I K.A.N Presentations

Flexible thinking: Stretching JOs to think like CD workers and CD workers to think like JOs and everyone to think like attorneys! - Part One-Investigation and Assessing Imminent Danger

Part one and part two of this workshop will be an interactive discussion covering the legal foundations from the points of view of all parties. From the hotline, through the court process to the conclusion of the investigation.

In part one, discussions will include the burdens of proof and standards of evidence; fact versus feigned knowledge and opinion as well as the elements of abuse and neglect under Chapter 210 versus juvenile court jurisdiction under 211.031.

Faculty: Karen Bickel, JD, Legal Aspects Trainer and Ellen Haynes JD, Special Counsel Children's Division

Independent Assessor-Families First Update

On February 9, 2018 landmark bipartisan Federal legislation, the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), was enacted into law. FFPSA includes historic reforms to help keep children safely with their families and avoid the traumatic experience of entering foster care, emphasizes the importance of children growing up in safe families, and helps ensure children are placed in the least restrictive, most family-like setting appropriate to their special needs when foster care is needed. Missouri will move to full implementation of FFPSA on October 1, 2021.

FFPSA provides states the opportunity to use Federal Title IV-E funding for specific trauma informed prevention services that help keep kids safely with their families. FFPSA requires an independent assessment by a qualified clinician to determine if placement in a family setting or in residential treatment is the most effective and appropriate option to meet the needs of youth in foster care. It ensures that youth in foster care whose needs cannot be met in a family setting receive quality trauma informed residential treatment services that are short term.

The theme for FFPSA in Missouri is Prevention, Placement and Systemic Partnership. Please join staff from the Missouri Children's Division in this workshop to gain a better understanding of this historic child-welfare legislation that impacts all child welfare stakeholders.

Faculty: Kate Watson, Court Engagement Coordinator, Lauren Hall, Program Development Specialist, Darin Rector, Unit Manager, Kayla Ueligger, Missouri Children's Division

Thursday Afternoon

DRAFT

Workshops 1:30-3pm:

The Value of Your Impact

Have you ever had a particularly long day or week and you ask yourself, "Why do I continue to do this work?" You are not alone! Juvenile Justice is a tough field that is both physically and mentally challenging and draining. Oftentimes staff question whether they are making an impact and wonder if the work they are doing has any value. Marlon Chambers, with his over 20 years as a professional in this field, would enjoy the opportunity to address these questions with you and share some invaluable reasons as to "why" we continue to work in this field. Participants will leave the workshop with a better understanding of the value of their impact, and hopefully have a renewed sense of energy and commitment to the field of Juvenile Justice.

Faculty; Marlon Chambers, Mentor Specialist, Family Court of St. Louis County, Court Programs Department

Ethics for Social Workers-part 1(description coming soon!)

Tools that Challenge the School to Prison Pipeline

More often than not behaviors are a form of communication. With this training participants will learn the significance of using interventions to prevent problematic behaviors before they occur; the benefits of a Functional Behavioral Assessment; and using simple and basic behavior management techniques in the educational setting to reinforce positive behaviors.

Faculty: Nakatia Clay-Southeast Regional Coordinator for MPACT

The Past and Future of Guardian ad Litem Work in Missouri

Guardians ad Litem represent the interests of children in juvenile, family and probate court matters in the State of Missouri. Children, although always a vulnerable population, have not always had their interests represented in court proceedings. This presentation will look at how the role of the Guardian ad Litem has evolved into the current practice configuration, and how that has shaped and influenced an understanding that children's interests and opinions need to be given consideration in preparing, negotiating, settling and trying cases. This session will also discuss and examine ways in which Guardian ad Litem practices are still in flux and how our Guardian ad Litem practices might be improved going forward.

Faculty: Anna Lingo, Esq. Markel & Lingo Law Offices, LLC

Juvenile Certification

Making the decision to pursue certification of a youth to stand trial as an adult is an extremely difficult and critical decision. This session will provide information/tips/advice related to the following areas: charging decision considerations, importance of communication between the Juvenile Office and Prosecuting Attorney's Office, use of detention/detention alternatives while certification decisions are pending, victim considerations, tips for writing a certification report, preparing to testify at a certification hearing including cross examination testimony, and appeal considerations. Presenters include Shariece Canady - Fifth Circuit Juvenile Office Attorney, Michelle Davidson - Buchanan County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Linda Meyer - Fifth Circuit Chief Juvenile Officer, and Dan Sharp - Chief Deputy Juvenile Officer for the Fifth Circuit Juvenile Office.

Workshops 3:15-4:45pm

Ethics for Social Workers-part 2 (description coming soon!)

Advanced Juvenile Law and Best Practices for SRO's

School Resource Officers, Juvenile Officers and School Administrators work hand in hand to ensure that schools are safe and the educational atmosphere is conducive to successful learning all while protecting the rights of juveniles and adhering to Statutes, Supreme Court Rules and Juvenile Officer Performance Standards. This workshop will cover some common issues / challenges when conducting and/or participating in interviews/interrogations, sharing of information and records, a discussion of the appropriate role of the juvenile officer in school related matters, as well as an update on raising the age of juvenile court jurisdiction.

Faculty: Tammy Walden, Retired Chief Juvenile Officer, 26th Judicial Circuit

Juvenile Sex Offender Registry

This presentation will provide an overview of The Sex Offender Registration and Notification ACT (SORNA) and the provisions under Missouri law regarding the juvenile and public sexual offender registry as well as recent changes in the law. The focus of the discussion will target issues regarding the sexual offender registry which directly impact juvenile law and practice.

Faculty: Laura A. Harrold, Chief Trial Officer, St. Louis City Family Court - Juvenile Division

Thursday Afternoon continued

DRAFT

Flexible thinking: Stretching JO's to think like CD workers and CD workers to think like JO's and everyone to think like attorneys! - Part Two- Protective Custody Hearing Through Adjudication

In this session discussions will include imminent danger standard and the application of facts to the standard, protective custody and adjudication hearing burden, bias and ensuring safety while dealing with the difficulties inherent in child welfare work.

Faculty: Karen Bickel, JD, Legal Aspects Trainer and Ellen Haynes JD, Special Counsel Children's Division

How Do I Provide Mental Health First Aid and Still Care for Myself?

Participants will increase their ability to provide appropriate support and intervention to youth experiencing mental health issues. This session will take the participant down the path to better understand the adolescent brain, ACE's, signs and symptoms of common adolescent disorders, warning signs, and protective factors in youth. Participants will also learn healthy coping strategies for youth and how to ensure their own self-care.

Faculty: Sherri Miller, Youth Prevention Specialist, Tri-County Mental Health Services

Friday Morning

Plenary 8—10am:

Clark Flatt, The Jason Foundation, Inc.

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The Jason Foundation, Inc. (JFI) was founded in October of 1997 after the tragic death of Clark's youngest son, 16-year-old Jason, to the "silent epidemic" of youth suicide. Since its founding, JFI has grown to be one of the nation's leading non-profits addressing the national health crisis of youth suicide. The Jason Foundation, their National Community Affiliates and National Awareness Affiliates create a national network of over 145 local Affiliate Offices located in 38 states. This network makes programs and services available for all fifty states. Since their inception, JFI has never charged for any program or resource they have contracted to provide. To learn more about The Jason Foundation, their Affiliates and programs, visit their website: www.jasonfoundation.com.

10:15—11:15am:

2021 Missouri Teacher of the Year: Darrion Cockrell

Cockrell or "Mr. DC" as he likes to be called, teaches physical education to students in grades K-5 at Crestwood Elementary School in St. Louis, MO. He has nine years of teaching experience and has been at Crestwood since 2015.

Cockrell received a 2020 National Box Tops for Education Twilight Award, presented by Chance the Rapper. He also created the "Crest-Fit" training program, reaching thousands of people in his community through multiple platforms, where he continues to share fitness videos online that he records with his son. In his free time, Mr. DC enjoys spending time with family and friends, staying active, watching sports and supporting his students in their activities.

Cockrell is a role model for his students, and focuses on creating relationships that support the importance of staying active and healthy. He is always willing to lend a helping hand, inspires his fellow teachers, and motivates everyone in his school community.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Juvenile and Family Court Personnel

Juvenile Detention Professionals

Judges

Attorneys

Children's Division

Division of Youth Services

Law Enforcement

Guardians ad Litem

Court Appointed Special Advocates

Educators

Child Advocacy Centers

Child Care Providers

Youth Service Professionals

Social Workers

Private Practitioners

School Representatives

Parents

Community Leaders

State Lawmakers

MJJA's Spring Conference will be held at The Hilton Branson Convention Center Hotel.

Lodging will be provided at The Hilton Branson Convention Center Hotel and The Hilton Promenade at Branson Landing Hotel.

Both hotels are located right next to each other.

To expedite your reservation – **BE SURE TO**:

1. Click on the web page address in purple font below to access the Hotel Reservation Link (The link pre-populates your group code)

2. Select the Room Type offered in the Quick and Easy Reservations for Attendees or Click "Book a Room" Link

3. To edit your stay for the conference click the "Edit Stay" hyperlink

Make reservations as soon as possible. The special room rate of **\$96** will be available until **Friday, April 30, 2021**, or until room block is sold-out, whichever comes first.

If you would like to spend additional days in Branson either before or after the meeting, the group rate could be offered and is **BASED ON AVAILBILITY**. Select "**Edit Stay**" hyperlink to check availability.

Below is the official Hilton Online Link and phone reservation information for Missouri Juvenile Justice Association:

Group Name: Missouri Juvenile Justice Association

Group Code: MJJA

The Hilton Branson Convention Center Hotel:

Your web page address is: <u>https://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/H/HROBCHH-MJJA-20210515/index.jhtml?</u> WT.mc_id=POG

> Physical Address: 200 East Main Street, Branson, MO 65616 Phone: 886-442-0959

The Hilton Promenade at Branson Landing Hotel:

Your web page address is: <u>https://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/H/HROBRHH-MJJA-20210515/index.jhtml?</u> WT.mc_id=POG

> Physical Address: 3 Branson Landing, Branson, MO 65616 Phone: 886-568-0890

<u>Reservation guidelines</u>: To secure a guest room reservation, a major credit card will be required. Reservations cancelled within **48** hours of arrival will incur a charge for the first night's **Room/Tax charge**.

<u>Check-In/Out Time</u>: Our check-in time is **4 PM**; check-out time is **11 AM**. All guests arriving before **4 PM** will be accommodated as rooms become available. Hotel bellmen can arrange to check baggage for those arriving early when rooms are unavailable and for guests attending functions on departure day.

Early Departure Fee: If a guest checks out prior to the guest's reserved checkout date, the Hotel will add an early check-out fee to that guest's individual account (currently, \$50). Guests wishing to avoid an early checkout fee should advise the Hotel **48 hours** prior to day of arrival.

<u>Parking Options/Fees:</u> Guests of the hotel can park at our Surface Parking Lot for \$7/Day, our Self-Parking Garage for SPECIAL CONTRACTED RATE OF \$13/Day for unlimited in & out privileges, or our Valet Park for \$25/Day for unlimited in & out privileges. Guests will check into the Hotel prior to selecting their parking options.

<u>Incidental Hold on Credit Card</u>: Guests that provide their own credit card for Incidentals, will have an authorized hold of **\$50/day** on their credit card account. If no Incidental charges are made during time of stay, anticipate 3 - 5 days post check-out before authorization hold is released. Discourage use of debit cards, as release of funds may take longer.

