# **2019 Midwest Regional Student Seminar**

## **National Association of Blind Students (NABS) and National Federation of the Blind of Illinois (NFBI)**

## **Agenda**

Friday, March 15 – Sunday, March 17, 2019

### **Friday, March 15, 2019**

6pm – Meet & Greet

7:30pm – Dinner Outing

### **Saturday, March 16, 2019**

8am – Breakfast

9am – Welcome and Opening Remarks | Denise Avant, President, National Federation of the Blind of Illinois, Chicago, IL

9:05am – Overview of Weekend | Kathryn Webster, President, National Association of Blind Students, Arlington, VA

9:10am – Introduction from Our 2019 Planning Committee

9:15 – Interactive Activity: Owning Your Company | Cody Beardslee, President, Minnesota Association of Blind Students, Minneapolis, MN

10am – Transitioning to College: Perspective from A Blind Student | Mausam Mehta, Board Member, National Association of Blind Students, Charlottesville, VA

10:15am – Motivated by Health & Wellness | Marilyn Green, Yoga Instructor, Chicago, IL

10:30am – Power Stems from Collective Action | Maurice Peret, Coordinator, Career Mentor Program, National Federation of the Blind, Baltimore, MD

10:45am – Public Speaking Takes Practice | Bex Leon, Social Worker and Social Advocate, Chicago, IL

11am – Interactive Activity: Molding Your Message through Debates | Robert Parsons, Board Member, Michigan Association of Blind Students

11:45am – Announcements

12pm – Building Your Future Luncheon, Jennifer Wenzel, Admissions Coordinator, Blindness: Learning in New Dimensions (BLIND), Inc.

1:30pm – Presentations: The Power of Words | Robert Parsons, Board Member, Michigan Association of Blind Students, Kalamazoo, MI and Kathryn Webster, President, National Association of Blind Students, Arlington, VA

2:30pm – Professional Development Rotations

* Elevator Pitch | Robert Parsons
* Dress for Success | Ron Brown and Jean Brown
* Positively Speaking to Blindness During Interviews | Josh Loevy
* Proper Meal Etiquette | Debbie Stein and Maurice Peret
* Importance of Cover Letters | Janae Burgmeier
* Importance of Resumes | Jennifer Wenzel

3pm – Break-Out Discussions

* Room 1 - Resource Fair | Mausam Mehta
* Room 2 – Getting Comfortable with the Uncomfortable (Improv) | Dustin Cather
* Room 3 - Preparing for Networking Events | Debbie Stein and Maurice Peret

4:30pm – Transforming through Training | Ron Brown, President, National Federation of the Blind of Indiana, Indianapolis, IN

4:45pm – Announcements and Logistics

5pm - Adjourn

6pm – Professional Networking Hour

7pm – Professional Banquet

9pm – Evening Activities

* Room 1 – Sculpture & Drawing | Debbie Stein, Editor, Future Reflections, Chicago, IL and Ralph Cossentino, Palette and Chisel, Chicago, IL
* Room 2 – Music and Karaoke | Dustin Cather, Treasurer, National Association of Blind Students, Pekin, IL

### **Sunday, March 17, 2019**

8am – Breakfast

9am – Welcome and Opening Remarks | Kathryn Webster, President, National Association of Blind Students, Arlington, VA

9:05am - Family Feud | Maurice Peret, Coordinator, Career Mentor Program, National Federation of the Blind, Baltimore, MD

9:45am – Our Futures Start Here | Yusef Dale, Assistant United States Attorney General, Chicago, IL

10:00am – Mentor Panel

Moderator: Maurice Peret

Panelist Pairs: Patti Chang and Kathryn Webster; Debbie Stein and Amy Bosko; Cody Beardslee and Matt Gip

10:40am – Imagine A Leader | Katy Olson, President, Iowa Association of Blind Students, Iowa City, IA

11:10am – Transitioning to Employment: Perspective from A Blind Professional | Patti Chang, Director of Outreach, National Federation of the Blind, Chicago, IL

11:20am – You Can be A Blind Nurse | Lindsay Fritz, Treasurer, Wisconsin Association of Blind Students, Madison, WI

11:30am – Owning Our Future | Kathryn Webster, President, National Association of Blind Students, Arlington, VA

11:45am – Feedback and Takeaways

12pm - Adjourn