

NBC NEWS HOSTS PHOENIX SUMMIT ON FRIDAY, MAY 3 AS PART OF "EDUCATION NATION PHOENIX"

Panel series featuring a Mayor Roundtable as well as leaders from Arizona education and business community, begins at 9:45 AM/MT at the Herberger Theater Center

NEW YORK, NY— May 1, 2013— As part of "Education Nation Phoenix," on Friday, May 3, NBC News will host a Summit featuring a series of interviews and panel discussions with leaders from the Arizona education and business community focused on topics such as early childhood literacy, K-12 initiatives to improve student achievement and graduation rates, and workforce preparedness. The Summit will be hosted at the Hergberger Theater Center, and panels will be moderated by NBC News Chief White House Correspondent and Political Director Chuck Todd, NBC News Chief Education Correspondent Rehema Ellis, with support from 12 News Anchor/Reporter Kim Covington, 12 News Today anchors Fay Fredricks and Doug Meehan and Noticiero Arizona News Anchor/Reporter Patricia Batres. More details on each event are below.

9:45 AM/MT— "What Arizona Wants: Raising the Bar in Education"

Moderated by NBC News' Rehema Ellis

Leticia Rodriguez-Davis, Teacher at Hartford Sylvia Encinas Elementary School;

Jeff Spellman, President, Parent Teacher Association, Orangewood Elementary School District, Phoenix;

Maria Rico, Senior at Trevor G. Brown High School, Phoenix Union High School District

*Streamed live on EducationNation.com

10:20 AM/MT— "Early Literacy: Sowing the Seeds for Success"

Moderated by NBC News' Rehema Ellis
With

Terri Clark, Arizona Literacy Director;
Rhian Evans Allvin, CEO, First Things First;
Dr. Jaime Rivera, Superintendent, Riverside Elementary District;
Joy Weiss, 3rd Grade Teacher, Balsz Elementary School
*Streamed live on EducationNation.com

10:45 AM/MT— "K-12: Improving the Outcome"

Moderated by NBC News' Chuck Todd
With

Andy Tobin, Speaker, Arizona House of Representatives;

John Huppenthal, State Superintendent of Education;
Joe Thomas, Vice President, AEA; Teacher, Skyline High School, Mesa Public Schools;
Leah Landrum Taylor, Minority Leader, Arizona State Senate

*Streamed live on EducationNation.com

12:00 PM/MT— "Job One: Preparing Arizona to Compete in the 21st Century Economy"

Moderated by NBC News' Chuck Todd
With

Craig Barrett, former CEO and Chairman of the Board, Intel Corporation; Eileen Klein, President, Arizona Board of Regents; Mike Madsen, President of Defense and Space, Honeywell Aerospace; Harry "Red" Conger, President of the Americas, Freeport—McMoRan

12:45 PM/MT— Closing Event: Mayors Roundtable

With

Mayor Georgia Lord, Goodyear, AZ; Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa, AZ; Mayor Greg Stanton, Phoenix, AZ

*Events from 12:30-1:00 PM/MT are live on 12 News and streamed live from 12:00 – 1:00 PM/MT on EducationNation.com

For more information on "Education Nation Phoenix," including Friday's Phoenix Summit, Saturday's Student Town Hall and Teacher Town Hall, and Monday and Tuesday's public learning events, visit EducationNation.com/Phoenix.

"Education Nation Phoenix" is supported by Lead Sponsor Helios Education Foundation, Supporting Sponsor University of Phoenix, and Knowledge Partners the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Expect More Arizona, and NBC Learn.

About "Education Nation"

"Education Nation" seeks to create a thoughtful, well-informed dialogue with policymakers, thought leaders, educators, parents and the public, in pursuit of the shared goal of providing every American with an opportunity to achieve the best education in the world. These discussions cover the challenges, potential solutions and innovations spanning the education landscape. By providing quality information to the public, NBC News hopes to provide information to Americans so they can make decisions about how best to improve our education system both in the near and long terms, and to shine a spotlight on one of the most urgent national issues of our time.