



OCTOBER 9-11, 2024

EMBASSY SUITES & HAMPTON ROADS CONVENTION CENTER • HAMPTON, VA

VSCA 2024



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Pre-conference sessions are not included in the conference registration fee. Additional fee applies, see registration section.

**Wednesday, October 9 | 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

## **1. Big T and little t: Creating a Trauma-Sensitive School Environment**

**Raychelle Cassada Lohmann**



**ABOUT THIS SESSION:** Nearly a quarter of the nation’s youth will experience a traumatic event by age 16. Trauma can significantly impact young people’s physical and mental health, affecting their ability to learn and excel academically. Therefore, schools are crucial in creating safe, supportive environments that foster resilience and promote healing. Whether it’s a Big T event (i.e., unexpected loss of a loved one), little t occurrence (i.e., moving to a new school), or multiple complex traumas (i.e., exposure to pervasive abuse), the psychological effects can extend across a lifetime. Fortunately, there are essential coping skills that, if taught and nurtured, can significantly increase a youth’s ability to heal and persevere. This interactive presentation aims to teach participants about Big T and little t events and explore trauma’s neurological impact on young people. Furthermore, emphasis will be placed on building skills and implementing strategies to create a trauma-sensitive school environment where students do more than survive; they thrive.

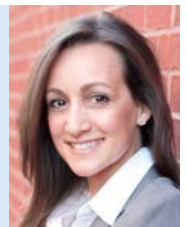
**SPEAKER BIO:** Raychelle Cassada Lohmann, Ph.D., is a counselor educator, clinical mental health counselor, school counselor, and international author of numerous books, including three in the 15-Minute Focus series: *Digital Citizenship, Anger, Rage and Aggression, and Growth Mindset, Resilience, and Grit*, along with many others. Raychelle has expertise in a wide range of issues affecting children and adolescents, from anger and aggression to anxiety and depression to sexual trauma and bullying. Raychelle attended North Carolina State University, receiving her B.A. in psychology, her M.S. in counselor education, and her Ph.D. in counseling and counselor education. With 25 years in the counseling profession, Raychelle has devoted much of her time to working with children, adolescents, parents, and educators.

Raychelle is a licensed clinical mental health counselor supervisor and licensed school counselor in NC. She is also a licensed professional counselor in SC. Additionally, Raychelle is an EMDR-certified provider and holds the following certifications: Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS), Board Certified Telemental Health Provider (BCTMH), Certified Clinical Trauma Professional (CCTP), and Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF).

**Wednesday, October 9 | 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

## **2. Behavior Interventions That Work & Motivating Challenging Students**

**Amie Dean**



### **Behavior Interventions That Work**

Do you have a plan for what you will do when a student doesn’t comply with your request the first time? Second time? How about the third time? Do you go home tired and exhausted from frustration? This presentation will guide you in developing a thorough, preventative plan for handling issues from low level distractions to serious/chronic behaviors. This is a practical, hands-on presentation filled with concrete steps you can use the next day to help students and yourself.

### **Motivating Challenging Students**

Like many of you, I have had classes, and often students, which led me to think, “How will I make it this year?” I have spent my career as a classroom teacher searching for and learning which strategies work with students. My only criteria: positive and practical! This session is designed for teachers who believe that every student has a gift to offer the world. We have to find ways to help them realize it.

**SPEAKER BIO:** Amie Dean, M.Ed., B.A. has worked in education for 28 years. She has experience teaching at all levels, and has taught both special and general education. She was with Fulton County Schools (GA) for ten years, four of which she provided support to teachers and students as the Student Support/ RTI Coordinator for her middle school. She holds a Master’s degree in Education and is Nationally Board Certified as an Exceptional Needs Specialist. With 28 years’ experience as an educator and 14 years as a professional consultant, Amie has worked with thousands of teachers, counselors and administrators in over 250 districts to improve best practices in behavior support, student engagement, and differentiated instruction. Amie has trained with Dr. Rick DuFour, Dr. Kay Burke, Dr. Spencer Kagan, Dr. Ruby Payne, and many others. Amie is also an author of many books, including *Your Happy Heart, There’s No Dream Too Tall*, and 15-Minute Focus: *Behavior Interventions: Strategies for Educators, Counselors, and Parents* and accompanying Workbook.

## OPENING SESSION KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Thursday, October 10 | 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

### You Can Get in the Way!

#### John Hodge



**ABOUT THIS SESSION:** Resilience has never been more important than it is right now in America's schools and communities, many of which have been ravaged by risk-factors associated with Covid-19. Today and in the near future, schools must be purposeful in their efforts to foster resilience in students and staff. In the book, *You Can Get in the Way*, Dr. Hodge defines resilience in the following way: "Resilience refers to the ability to avoid, navigate, bounce back from, get through, get over, go around, or survive adversities of all kinds." This session is the perfect way to inspire your school district, schools and/or community stakeholders to take action. In this session, Dr. Hodge provides an overview of the book along with very practical solutions to help buffer the risk-factors that traditionally hold kids back. It's the perfect launch for a new school year, or a needed boost during the tough months that follow. After being shared with over 800 educators in a state-wide conference, this session has already been described as "life-changing" by many of those lucky enough to hear it.

**SPEAKER BIO:** Dr. John W. Hodge is president and co-founder of Urban Learning and Leadership Center (ULLC), an organization focused on student achievement and reduction of the achievement gap. He has served as a reading teacher, English teacher, AVID teacher, Assistant Principal and Associate Director of AVID Center Eastern Division. He served as Director of An Achievable Dream Academy, an inner city school that piloted many of the interventions used by Urban Learning and Leadership Center. An Achievable Dream Academy is a high performing, high poverty school that has received numerous national awards. Dr. Hodge is also the author of *You Can Get in the Way*. Prior to his career in education, Dr. Hodge distinguished himself in the service of our country with the 7th Infantry Division of the United States Army.

What sets Dr. John W. Hodge apart in the field of education is his well-documented ability to put research and theory into everyday practice in rural, urban and suburban schools. He has served as an inspirational speaker at national, regional, and statewide conferences across the United States. His presentations are often "the spark" for schools in their quest to meet and exceed state/federal accreditation standards and implement strategies for continuous improvement.

*John will also be presenting a breakout session.*

## LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Friday, October 11 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.

### Saving Sycamore: The School Shooting That Never Happened

#### Molly Hudgens



**ABOUT THIS SESSION:** Molly shares the story of how she prevented a school shooting on September 28, 2016. When a student with a fully-loaded semi-automatic handgun came to her with a plan to kill people on the school's campus, he told her, "I came to you because you're the only person who can talk me out of this." After a ninety-minute intervention, the student relinquished the weapon to Hudgens with no shots fired and no lives lost. Hudgens' retelling of the event walks the audience through the specifics of the incident that took place in her office and highlights previous training that affected her decision-making process during the event. Hudgens speaks boldly of her faith throughout and challenges those in attendance to remember that every human interaction matters and that one life can make a difference. Hudgens became the first Tennessean and only the tenth woman to become a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation's Citizens Medal of Honor for her efforts that day.

**SPEAKER BIO:** Molly Bradley Hudgens is a 1998 and 2000 graduate of Western Kentucky University with a bachelor of arts degree in English and Allied Language Arts and a master of arts education degree in counseling. She is currently completing her twenty-first year as an educator in the Cheatham County School System where she serves as a school counselor at Sycamore Middle School in Pleasant View, Tennessee.

After a personal experience in college, her interest in violence prevention and safety sparked a desire to educate others who work with intervening in the lives of potentially violent teenagers. Her in-depth study on school shootings and the teenagers who commit these acts, "Recognizing Red Flags," has been utilized nationally to train professionals in the fields of education, law enforcement, juvenile probation, and juvenile court. The training focuses on understanding the three types of school shooters and how to use threat assessment tools as an intervention to prevent violent acts in a school and community setting.

*Molly will also be presenting a breakout session.*

**Friday, October 11, 2024**

## **Krystal L. Clemons**

**SPEAKER BIO:** Dr. Krystal L. Clemons is a professor of counseling at Denver Seminary and is a licensed school counselor (VA), a Nationally Certified Counselor, a Nationally Certified School Counselor, and an Approved Clinical Supervisor. She is also the founder and CEO of Clemons Education Consulting LLC. Dr. Clemons received her B.A. in psychology from the University of Virginia and received her M.S.Ed in school counseling and Ph.D. in counselor education from Old Dominion University. Previously, Dr. Clemons served as a professional school counselor for six years in Washington, D.C., and Virginia. ASCA recognized her during Black History Month 2021 as one of the Black school counseling professionals who has made significant contributions. Her research interests include anti-racism in school counseling and Black community involvement. Dr. Clemons has given over 80 peer-reviewed and invited presentations on the state, national, and international levels; and has published extensively in peer-reviewed counseling and education journals.



## **Black American Community Connections**

**ABOUT THIS SESSION:** School counselors underutilize three community entities within the Black American community: the Black Church, salons and barbershops, and Black Greek Letter Organizations (BGLOs). School counselors can use Cultural Wealth and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) as frameworks for making these connections to further cultivate Black American student achievement. This paper will give school counselors the information to assist students through data and SMART goals, bolster student success, and close the achievement, attainment, and opportunity gaps.

## **Twice Exceptional Black Children**

**ABOUT THIS SESSION:** Twice-exceptional (2E) children are those who are both gifted and have a learning, physical, or emotional disability. However, 2E Black children often face additional challenges for several reasons. Black children are disproportionately represented in special education and have lower rates of identification for gifted programs. This presentation will involve a case study and aims to explore the experiences of 2E Black children in education settings and identify ways to better support their unique strengths and needs.

## *Tentative Schedule*

### **Wednesday, October 9, 2024**

- 1:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Registration & Information Center Open
- 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Pre-Conference Sessions
- 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Exhibits Open
- 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. “Meet and Greet” Welcome Reception (Embassy Suites Manager’s Reception)

### **Thursday, October 10, 2024**

- 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration & Information Center Open
- 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Exhibits Open
- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast (available in the Exhibit Area)
- 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Opening Session with Featured Speaker and Keynote Speaker – John Hodge
- 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Transition Break
- 10:15 a.m. – 11:05 a.m. Breakout Session 1
- 11:05 a.m. – 11:35 a.m. Break with Exhibitors
- 11:35 a.m. – 12:25 p.m. Breakout Session 2
- 12:25 p.m. – 1:25 p.m. Box Lunch (available in the Exhibit Area)
- 1:25 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Breakout Session 3
- 2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Break with Exhibitors
- 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Grad Student Meet & Greet
- 2:45 p.m. – 3:35 p.m. Breakout Session 4
- 3:35 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. Transition Break
- 3:50 p.m. – 4:40 p.m. Breakout Session 5
- 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Networking Social (Embassy Suites Manager’s Reception)

### **Friday, October 11, 2024**

- 7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Registration & Information Center Open
- 7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Exhibits Open
- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast (available in the Exhibit Area)
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. Breakout Session 6
- 9:20 a.m. – 9:35 a.m. Transition Break
- 9:35 a.m. – 10:25 a.m. Breakout Session 7
- 10:25 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Morning Break & Exhibit Area – Last Chance!
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. Breakout Session 8
- 11:50 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Transition Break
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. Awards Luncheon & Closing Keynote Speaker – Molly Hudgens

# REGISTRATION



**Current VSCA member?** Yes  No  Member # \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (as it should appear on name badge) \_\_\_\_\_

JOB TITLE - (REQUIRED PLEASE) \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION/SCHOOL DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

ATTENDEE EMAIL (REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION) \_\_\_\_\_

WORK ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

VEGETARIAN/GLUTEN FREE MEALS? Yes  No  ATTENDING THE AWARDS LUNCHEON ON FRIDAY? Yes  No

**Become a VSCA member and save!**

Before registering for the conference, visit [www.vsca.org](http://www.vsca.org) and click "Join Us" to become or renew your annual membership.

Or you can bundle your membership with your conference registration. See those rates below.

PLEASE **CIRCLE** ALL RATES THAT ARE APPLICABLE AND PLACE THE TOTAL IN THE GRAY BOX.

Pre-Conference Learning Session (Oct 9) <i>*circle only one</i>		Member* Professional/ Emeritus	Member* Grad Student/Retiree	Non-Member**	
1. Big T and little t: Creating a Trauma-Sensitive School Environment – Lohmann		\$50	\$40	\$80	
2. Behavior Interventions That Work & Motivating Challenging Students – Dean		\$50	\$40	\$80	
Full Conference (Oct 10-11)	Member* Professional/ Emeritus	Member* Professional/ Emeritus plus Membership	Member* Grad Student/Retiree	Member* Grad Student/Retiree plus Membership	Non-Member**
Early Registration*** (by 9/15)	\$150	\$190	\$60	\$80	\$220
Regular Registration (9/16 - 10/6)	\$170	\$210	\$70	\$90	\$240
Onsite Registration (after 10/6)	\$190	\$230	\$100	\$120	\$260
One-Day Attendance (Oct 10 OR Oct 11)		THURSDAY Only	THURSDAY Only plus Membership	FRIDAY Only	FRIDAY Only plus Membership
Early Registration*** (by 9/15)		\$110	\$150	\$110	\$150
Regular Registration (9/16 - 10/6)		\$130	\$170	\$130	\$170
Onsite Registration (after 10/6)		\$150	\$190	\$150	\$190
<b>TOTAL DUE:</b>					

\* Must be a VSCA Member where noted. Membership must be good through October 11, 2024.

\*\* All Non-Members, regardless of designation, pay the same rate.

\*\*\* To qualify for the Early or Regular Registration Rates, your registration form AND payment (copy of your purchase order, check, or credit card) must be received or postmarked by the Early or Regular Registration cutoff dates.

**REGISTRATIONS CANNOT BE PROCESSED WITHOUT PAYMENT. PLEASE SEND PAYMENT AND REGISTRATION FORM(S) TOGETHER.**

## How and Where Do I Pay?

	WEBSITE	EMAIL	FAX	PHONE	MAIL
CREDIT CARD	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PURCHASE ORDER		✓	✓		✓
CHECK					✓

**WEBSITE:** [www.ncyionline.org/vscac](http://www.ncyionline.org/vscac)

**EMAIL:** [registrations@ncyi.org](mailto:registrations@ncyi.org)

**FAX:** 423-899-4547

**PHONE:** 866-318-6294

**MAIL:** National Center for Youth Issues  
P.O. Box 22185  
Chattanooga, TN 37422-2185

Please make your check or purchase order payable to: **National Center for Youth Issues.**

A W-9 is available on the website.

PLEASE NOTE: The attendee will receive a confirmation to the email address provided when their registration is processed (make sure to check Junk/Spam folders). Please allow ample time for processing.

## PAYMENT METHOD

**PURCHASE ORDER** A COPY OF THE PURCHASE ORDER IS REQUIRED.

(PAYABLE TO NATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTH ISSUES, P.O. BOX 22185, CHATTANOOGA, TN 37422-2185)

**CHECK ENCLOSED** (MADE PAYABLE TO NATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTH ISSUES)

**CREDIT CARD**  PERSONAL  CORPORATE

CARD NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_ CID# \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CARD (PLEASE PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD BILLING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** If we are forced to cancel the VSCA Conference because of a "force majeure" event, such as a government restriction on large gatherings that cover the intended size of the conference, then we will issue full refunds of the registrations. Otherwise, our normal cancellation policy will be upheld: There will be no refunds after September 9, 2024. All cancellations before September 9, 2024 will be refunded less a \$25 handling fee. The conference is not responsible for and cannot give refunds due to problems beyond its control such as weather or school closings. There will be no refunds if you register as a NonMember and then later become a member. Please become a Member or renew your membership before registering for the conference. The sponsors of the conference receive registrant contact information.

On social distancing and other health and safety measures, the regulations/guidelines that apply to hotels and conference centers may change. The VSCA Conference will conform to all necessary regulations/guidelines that are in place as of the date of the conference.



## The 2024 Virginia School Counselors Conference will take place at the Embassy Suites & Hampton Road Convention Center

1700 Coliseum Drive Hampton, VA 23666

The Embassy Suites has a **conference rate of \$149\* plus tax**. **Deadline is September 16, 2024**. This rate is valid as long as rooms are available in the block.

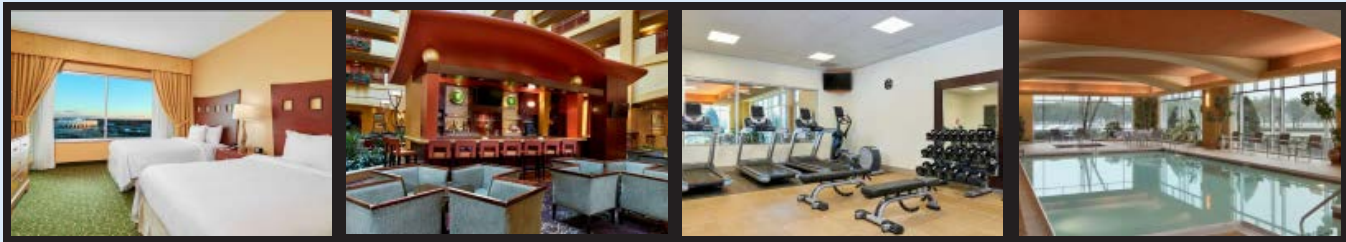
\* Add tax for single or double occupancy.

### To make hotel reservations:

**CALL:** 800-362-2779, or 757-827-8200. Please be sure to tell the hotel the group code “VSC”.

**REGISTER ONLINE:** Go to [www.ncyionline.org/vscac](http://www.ncyionline.org/vscac) and scroll to the “Accommodations” section to book a room.

**The Embassy Suites conference rate includes a full, cook-to-order breakfast and an evening Manager’s Reception!**



## Come Learn and Play!

In the evening, make sure you take time to relax and enjoy the surrounding area. Go to [www.ncyionline.org/vscac](http://www.ncyionline.org/vscac) to see the things to do around the beautiful Embassy Suites.

***Visit the Peninsula Town Center, less than a mile from the Embassy Suites!***

- You can sit back and relax at the many restaurants at the Town Center, such as Abuelo’s, Avenue Blue, Outback and My Pi, along with others.
- The Peninsula Town Center has a premium movie theater with leather recliners and gourmet food, so you can finally watch that movie you have been wanting to see.

**We hope this conference will educate and equip you to do your job well, and we also hope you will take advantage of the wonderful ways you can relax and be refreshed!**

