



January 2024—Issue No. 25

Association Newsletter

Empowering Members To Empower Us All

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NEW YEAR'S INSPIRATIONS

As we step into the New Year, it is again a time for looking back and forward, perhaps with a side of resolutions and a dash of optimism.

With a bit of luck, may January offer us the chance to enter into the unknown with a fresh perspective.

In the aftermath of holiday or year-end festivities, a lingering nostalgia merges with collective anticipation—and hope—for what the year ahead may have in store. Beyond your go-to resolutions, we challenge you, and we challenge ourselves, to cultivate true inspiration and passion that will transcend the excitement of January and see us through the whole of 2024.

We invite ourselves (and you) to consider this month as the in-breath following the exhale of year-end celebrations—a contemplative pause and filling-up before we plunge into the uncharted territories of the coming months. We take this moment as an opportunity to reconnect with our intrinsic motivation and turn with purpose and commitment towards a future that is uncertain, but (we hope) filled with possibility!

So let's move beyond quickly-forgotten lists and get strategic about our growth—individually, and as a movement. And let's do it together. We are, as always, right here cheering you on, ready to support you however we can.

We invite you to share your New Year's inspirations with us! What is giving you hope and purpose this year? Email: hello@esdprofessionals.org.

A NOTE FROM TOBY ISRAEL

“I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes.

Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something.

So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make New Mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: art or love or work or family or life.

Whatever it is you're scared of doing, Do it.
Make your mistakes, next year and forever.”
—Terry Pratchett

Dear ESD Professionals,

The above is my favorite quote for new beginnings. I come back to it year after year, because, to-date, I have not found anything else I like nearly as much.

I am a strong believer in the making of mistakes and the doing of things that scare us. I believe action should trump perfection, that even imperfect doing is better than no doing at all.

We are living in a world that is often overwhelming and overstimulating. If you ever feel like there is too much to do to even know where to begin, you're not the alone. Fear of failure is paralyzing; however, trite as it sounds, if we do not try, then we cannot possibly succeed. Failure is a given only for those who do not begin.

I know you know this, ESD professionals. As my colleagues and mentors, friends and teachers, you have modeled for me time and again a compassionate and fluid approach to activism and education. Please don't stop.

With gratitude for all the doing you do, and hope for the year ahead,

Toby

ASSOCIATION NEWS

New Year, New ESD Goals!

Will you consider becoming a member?

If you are working in the ESD field as an instructor, an instructor-trainer, staff, executive, entrepreneur, volunteer, researcher, writer, artist, advocate, or anything else, you are welcome here.

We invite you to [reach out](#) to our Membership and Operations Lead, Modupe Poku, if you would like to know more.

LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY, COMRADERIE, & CONNECTION?



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF ESD PROFESSIONALS

www.ESDProfessionals.org



The Association of ESD Professionals, Credentialing 12/18/23

Meet the Newly
Credentialed ESD
Professionals (2023)

Congratulations to all our new ESD Professionals

Meet the “New” ESD Professionals of 2023

[Read our latest blog!](#)

“Congratulations to all our new ESD Professionals! It feels worthy of a celebration to see growing global awareness of the value of ESD education. We hope the Association credential becomes a well-recognized assurance of competence and quality which will facilitate communication and agreements among ESD professionals and partner organizations.”

[Read our latest blog](#) to meet the eight newest credentialed ESD professionals.

ASSOCIATION'S FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE!



We have been hard at work curating an unforgettable experience of learning and community building for all ESD professionals and allies, and we can't wait to share it with you. This will be a truly hybrid event where virtual conference-goers can participate alongside in-person attendees. [See the program here.](#)

Coming Up!

Association of ESD Professionals' First Annual Conference!

April 19-20, 2024 in Costa Rica | Member Meeting and Reception April 18

The Association of ESD Professionals' First Annual Conference will gather ESD practitioners—and those eager to learn about ESD—from around the world in April 2024. We will learn together and deepen our ESD community.

Our theme, "Growing ESD, Thriving Together," is a call to unite in our mission to expand the reach of ESD worldwide. Together, we seek to grow the ESD movement bigger and stronger, united in our commitment to prevent violence through empowerment self-defense. We hope to see you in Costa Rica!

[Register here.](#)

Note: If you are interested in applying for financial assistance or international tiered pricing for the conference, you can find more information and access the applications on our [Events page](#) or simply click one of the following links:

- Conference International Tiered Pricing Application: [Click Here](#)
- Conference Financial Assistance Application: [Click Here](#)

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Check out our Career Center!

Find Mission-Aligned Work & Workers

Are you looking for work (or new employees) aligned with your mission? We invite you to utilize the [Association's Career Center](#) as you seek your next job or hire. We know that empathy and ethics are key deciding factors for many ESD professionals, so we have sought to create a values-oriented career center where you can connect with your future employer or employee.

Check it out [here](#).



How to Find Your Voice

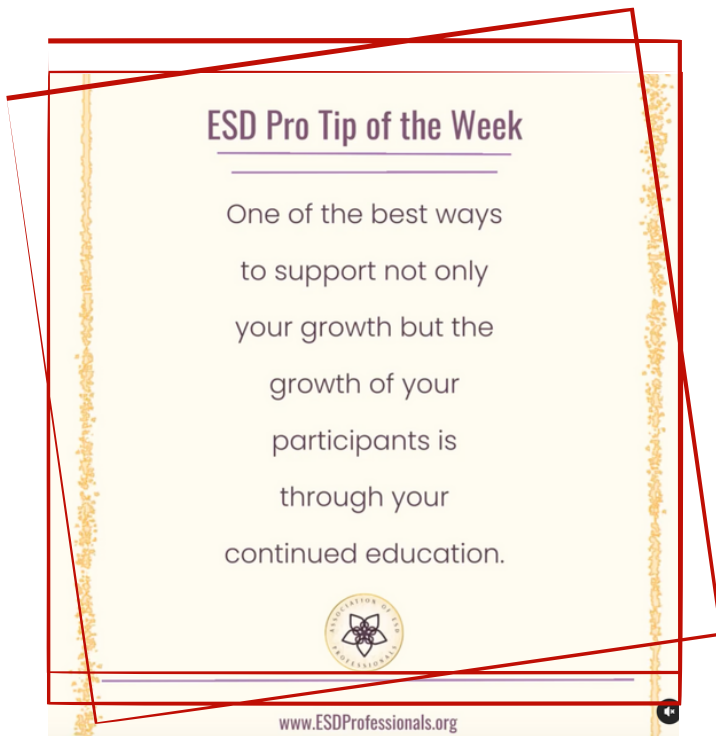
Check out our How-To guides!

“As an ESD professional, you likely believe deeply that people of all ages and backgrounds must find their voices and use them fearlessly if they are to live lives of dignity and security. But have you ever thought about finding your voice when it comes to developing your ESD project? How about finding your unique voice as an ESD instructor?”

Your voice is the medium that conveys your message to the people who need to receive it. That is powerful.”

Visit our [resources page](#) to download this and all our How-To Guides.

ASSOCIATION NEWS



ESD Pro Tips of the Month

- Your ongoing growth and education supports that of your participants!
- Consistent follow-up may be the key to getting return participants.
- Choosing your words with intention (ahead of time) can help make a strong first impression.
- Challenge yourself to speak with 100 people in one week about your ESD work!

[Follow the Association on Instagram](#) for more tools to build your ESD practice with ease!

Office Hours

January 25, 2024 | Online

This month's Office Hours will be focusing on Heart-Centered Marketing for ESD Professionals (especially those running non-profit programs). If you have questions about starting or operating an ESD practice or have wisdom to impart to colleagues, please join us! Register [here](#).

Missed out on past Office Hours? Be sure to check out all the sessions on [YouTube](#)!

For questions, contact [Modupe Poku](#).



ESD WORLDWIDE

Let's start the New Year right... with a strong dose of ESD inspiration! It is our honor each month to celebrate your work and accomplishments and do what we can to amplify the news far and wide! Have someone to share in our next newsletter?

Please email: hello@esdprofessionals.org.

PAVE is teaming up with Alameda County Library!

Alameda County Library has chosen PAVE Prevention to provide innovative safety and de-escalation training.

WWW.PAVEPREVENTION.COM

PAVE Prevention Partners with Alameda County Library

Groundbreaking Safety and De-escalation Training Program

We are thrilled to share that PAVE Prevention is partnering with Alameda County Library (AC Library) to implement a comprehensive safety and de-escalation training program. Approximately 250 AC Library employees will undergo this training over the course of a year, ensuring sustained knowledge of trauma-informed, gender-inclusive, cultural, and race-sensitive safety practices!

Learn more about PAVE Prevention on their [website](http://www.paveprevention.com).

Call for Proposals: UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women.

Closing Date: February 1st

Civil society organizations with proven expertise in ending violence against women and girls are invited to submit project concepts to end violence against marginalized women and girls.

Read the guidelines and submit [here](#).

NOW OPEN

**27th Cycle
CALL FOR
PROPOSALS**

ESD WORLDWIDE



Get Empowered

New & Exciting ESD Reading!

Nadia Telsey and Lauren Taylor recently released “Get Empowered: A Practical Guide to Thrive, Heal, and Embrace Your Confidence in a Sexist World.” This is going on our holiday reading list! How about you?

“While men—who commit almost all gender-based violence—are the ones who should be responsible for changing, those of us who are targeted shouldn’t have to wait for the world to transform and become a better place in order to live safer, fuller, more authentic lives.”

Visit the [website](#) to connect with the authors.

Feminist and Ethical Artificial Intelligence for Social Impact

February 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16

Interesting opportunity for anyone interested in the intersection of gender and technology.

“This training assumes no prior understanding of algorithms and will use conceptual understandings, rather than statistical or data science approaches, to upskill you in this rapidly evolving technology.”

Scholarships available. More information [here](#).

Feminist and Ethical Artificial Intelligence for Social Impact

February 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16 (2024)

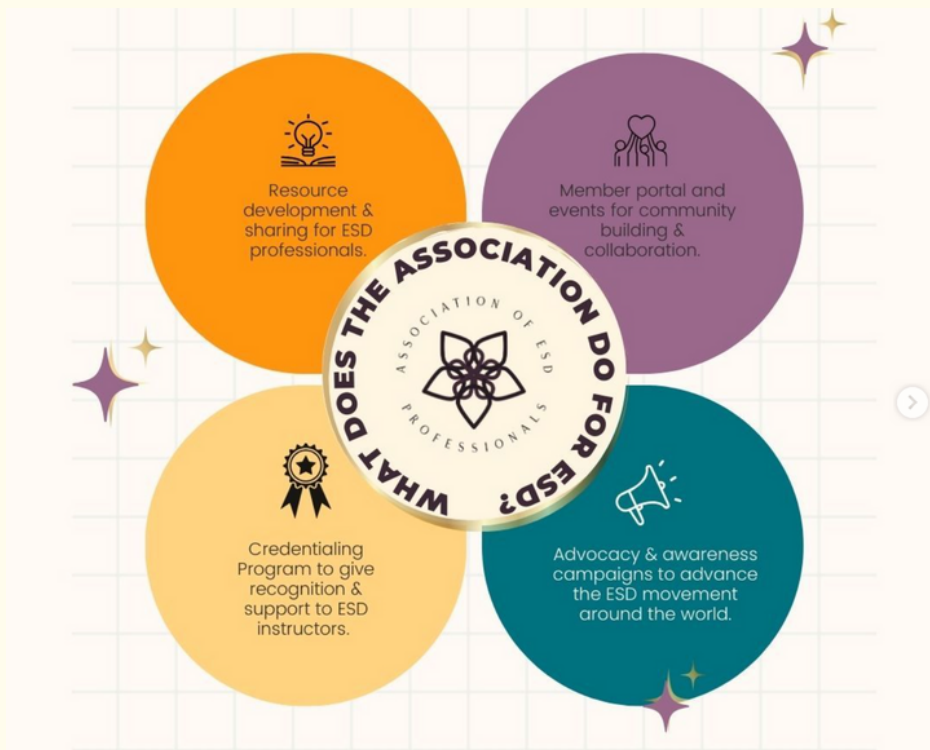
9am-12:15pm Eastern Time

Dr. Emily Springer
Gender and technology researcher and consultant

cynara.co/trainings

GENDER TRAINING PLATFORM

HOW CAN THE ASSOCIATION SUPPORT YOU?



We are passionate about supporting this movement by uplifting the amazing work you are doing around the world. Curious to know more about how the Association can support you? Reach out to Membership & Operations Lead [Modupe Poku](#) to start a conversation.

LET'S STAY CONNECTED!

Don't be a stranger! The Association of ESD Professionals is here for you.

Have a comment? Please contact us at [Hello@ESDProfessionals.org](mailto>Hello@ESDProfessionals.org) if you would like to share a celebration about your ESD work, learn more about the Association Credentialing Program, become a member, or explore other opportunities for collaboration. We always love to hear from you!

Be sure to stay in touch with us via social media, too:

