



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Reagan Institute Summit on Education Welcomes Leading Education Scholar to Speaker Lineup

Chester E. Finn Jr. will participate in panel on holistic approaches to student education, success

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute today announced the addition of Chester E. Finn Jr., Distinguished Senior Fellow and President Emeritus of the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, as a panelist at the Reagan Institute Summit on Education (RISE), held in Washington, D.C., on April 10-11, 2019.

"Chester has long been a thoughtful, incisive voice in the education conversation," said Roger Zakheim, Director of the Reagan Institute. "Decades of students, universities and policymakers have benefited from his perspective. We're excited to have him on this panel, and look forward to hearing his insights and observations."

Finn will participate in a panel session entitled "Measuring What Counts: Educating the Whole Child." This panel will build on insights gained from the National Commission on Social, Emotional and Academic Development's 2019 report "From a Nation at Risk to a Nation at Hope," critically considering current and former measures of success to envision a fuller approach to education.

"The modern era of education reform in the United States began during Reagan I, and I was honored to serve with Bill Bennett and an amazing team during Reagan II. Three decades later, it's only fitting that the Reagan Institute is sustaining the momentum," said Finn. "Social/emotional well-being appears to be an essential precondition for kids to learn a lot--but academic achievement is not a precondition for social and emotional health. Therein lies a big problem."

Finn is Distinguished Senior Fellow and President Emeritus at the Thomas B. Fordham Institute. He also serves as a member of the Maryland State Board of Education, a senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution where he chaired Hoover's Koret Task Force on K-12 Education. He has authored more than twenty books and his work has appeared in various publications including The Christian Science Monitor, Education Week, Harvard Business Review, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post. Finn earned his doctorate in education policy from Harvard University, is the recipient of many awards and holds an honorary doctorate from Colgate University.

Finn joins other leaders in education, policy, business and technology participating in RISE 2019. Throughout the conference, bipartisan panels and plenaries will foster conversation on a wide range of education policy issues. These issues include developing a holistic approach to education, preparing students for the job market of the future, surveying the higher education horizon and setting audacious national goals for our education system.

RISE 2019 is open to registered media. For more information, visit www.reaganfoundation.org/reagan-institute or follow RISE on Twitter @ReaganInstitute. Join the conversation with #RISE2019.

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About the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the nonprofit organization created by President Reagan himself and specifically charged by him with continuing his legacy and sharing his principles - individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion and the award-winning Discovery Center, as well as the Reagan Institute in Washington, D.C. Ronald Reagan said, “**Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.** We didn’t pass it on to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.”

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