



Equity Enrichment Alliance  
496 Newhall St  
Hamden CT 06517

**Dear School Administrator, Principal, and/or Counselor,**

We are excited to invite your school to participate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Generationally Enhancing Males (GEM) Conference, taking place on:

**Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**  
**John Lyman Center for the Performing Arts**  
**501 Crescent Street, New Haven, CT 06515**

This impactful event is designed to empower young men of color in grades 5–8 by providing mentorship, leadership development, and exposure to higher education.

**Honor Your 8<sup>th</sup> Graders & Engage Future Leaders for the**  
100 Young Men of Color Awards

**Each school is invited to:**

Nominate up to 10 outstanding 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for the 100 Young Men of Color Awards who have demonstrated leadership, resilience, or academic excellence; these students will be recognized during the conference as rising leaders in their communities. **Nominations are not selections!**

Bring up to **25 students (grades 6–8)** to attend and engage in interactive workshops, mentorship opportunities, and a college-focused experience at the GEM Conference.

### **A Transformational Experience for Young Men**

This year's conference will feature inspiring speakers, dynamic facilitators, and community leaders committed to pouring into young men of color through stories, strategies, and lived examples of success in education, career, and life. Students will engage in interactive, real-world learning experiences led by successful men of color from various professional fields, with workshops focused on:

Leadership and decision-making – developing confidence and critical thinking.  
Brotherhood and mentorship – the power of community and positive role models.  
Breaking barriers and overcoming challenges – strategies to navigate adversity.  
The road to college and career readiness – preparing for future success.

### **Conference Details:**

**Date:** Thursday, May 7, 2026

**Time:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Location:** John Lyman Center for the Performing Arts, SCSU 501 Crescent Street, New Haven, CT

**Registration:** \$25 per student (includes lunch)

**Transportation:** Schools are responsible for providing transportation.



**How to Register & Secure Your Spots:**

We encourage your school to honor your 8<sup>th</sup> graders and engage younger students in this impactful experience for young men of color. **Please confirm your participation by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 to reserve student spots.**

**Need Financial Assistance?**

We understand that some schools may face financial barriers in sending students. A fundraiser page has been created to help secure sponsorships for students who need assistance with registration costs; if needed, schools can direct local businesses and families to support their students here:

Sponsor a Student – Scan Here:



This conference will be an unforgettable opportunity for young men to be mentored, celebrated, and inspired to reach new heights as scholars, leaders, and change-makers. We hope your school will join us in shaping the future of our young leaders at the 3rd Annual GEM Conference. **There will be news coverage the day of the event!!!**

If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to reach out. We look forward to welcoming your students to the 3rd Annual GEM Conference!

**Register Here:**

**Nominate Here:**



Sincerely

Sean T. Allen Sr

Founder, Equity Enrichment Alliance  
info@equityea.org  
www.equityea.org

