The ROWLAND Foundation

Investing in Vermont's Teachers

Accessibility Statement

For the 15th Annual Rowland Conference

WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER BARATUNDE THURSTON
& WORKSHOPS BY VERMONT EDUCATORS
Thursday, October 29, 2026 - Davis Center, UVM

The Rowland Foundation is joyfully committed to providing equal access to all attendees at the Annual Rowland Conference. Since 2011 our conference has been hosted by the University of Vermont, which is committed to ensuring that its facilities are accessible to individuals with disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Together, our teams are dedicated to welcoming and meeting the needs of all conference guests.

You can see the full conference program on the Rowland Foundation website, including a schedule of the day and a description of the workshops offered. UVM manages the Rowland Conference on-line registration portal, which opens in September. When you register, you will be invited to request accommodations that you or your team members may need to attend the conference. Once you have completed your registration and your request has been received, the UVM Event Services team will be in touch to make arrangements to meet your needs. The following information is provided to assist you in assessing your needs and planning your requests. Please reach out to the University of Vermont's Event Services team at eventregistration@uvm.edu with questions.

Accessible Parking

Prior to the conference, UVM Event Services will contact attendees about parking and to issue permits. Most conference parking is reserved in the Jeffords Lot, which is located walking distance from the Davis Center. If you may need closer parking or a reserved accessible parking space, please contact us to make arrangements.

Allergies, Dietary Restrictions & Other Meal Accommodations

Your conference registration covers the cost of a continental breakfast, your lunch, and other refreshments during the day. Our lunch is served buffet style, with vegetarian and gluten-free options provided. You will be asked about dietary restrictions and allergies at the time of registration, which helps us to have the appropriate portions of those items on hand. If you need further assistance or if you have other allergies that could impact the quality of your experience, please contact us to discuss accommodations. If you use a wheelchair or other mobility device and have concerns about navigating the buffet, please let us know.

ASL Interpretation, Assistive Listening Devices, & Captioning

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpretation services may be requested for any and all parts of the day. Assisted listening devices and captioning may be requested for our mainstage events (our morning introductions, keynote address, and student presentation), where microphones will be used.

Most conference workshops take place in smaller groups in more intimate spaces where microphones will not be used. In those spaces, assisted listening devices and captioning may be less feasible. However, all workshop presenters are encouraged to use multiple modes of presentation to accommodate all participants. If you have concerns about being able to fully participate in the workshop of your choice, please contact the University of Vermont's Events Services team at eventregistration@uvm.edu prior to the event so we can arrange with the presenters of your chosen workshops to accommodate your needs.

Conference Locations

The majority of the conference events will take place in UVM's Davis Center. The Davis Center is a modern, ADA-compliant building located on UVM's main campus, on the north side of Main Street. The main entrance of the Davis Center is on its

third floor. Elevators and stairs are centrally located to take you to the fourth floor, where conference registration, the keynote address, and many of our workshops will take place.

While most of our workshop sessions take place in rooms within the Davis Center, some will take place in spaces within close walking distance elsewhere on UVM's campus, including the Waterman Building and the Old Mill. Workshop locations will be listed in the conference folder that you will receive the day of the event; campus maps will also be provided. This online campus map may also help you to identify these locations. Please contact us in advance if you have concerns about reaching your workshop location.

Conference Workshops (Breakout Sessions)

We offer two workshop sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, during which participants have the opportunity to take a deeper dive into the themes and topics of the day. A full list of this year's workshops is included in our conference brochure and on our website. We ask workshop presenters to create lively, active, and participatory sessions where attendees can practice new skills and learn by doing. If you have concerns about being able to fully participate in the workshop of your choice, please contact the University of Vermont's Events Services team at eventregistration@uvm.edu prior to the event so we can arrange with the presenters of your chosen workshops to accommodate your needs.

COVID-19 & Infectious Disease

We recognize that infectious diseases pose special risks to those with compromised immune systems and other health issues, and that large in-person events present challenges for such individuals. With this in mind, we will monitor the local situation ongoingly so that we can plan accordingly. Currently:

- We ask that you PLEASE STAY HOME if you experience fever, cough, muscle aches, or other symptoms in the days leading up to the event.
- Regardless of symptoms, we strongly encourage attendees to self-test for COVID-19 and/or influenza before attending the conference.
- We encourage attendees to update their vaccination status according to the Vermont Department of Health's guidelines to further mitigate risk.
- The 15th Annual Rowland Conference will be a mask-friendly event. Masks will be available at registration, and we encourage attendees to mask according to their comfort and needs.

Lactation Space

There is a dedicated lactation space (also known as a Nursing Mothers' Room) in the Davis Center, Level 1, Room 117. The room is available on a first-come, first-served basis, but it is kept locked. To access it, go to the 1st Floor Info Desk for assistance.

Pronoun Preferences

It is our standard practice to provide presenters' pronouns in our brochures and conference materials. Likewise, we request preferred pronouns for attendees during the registration process. If you choose to provide your pronouns at the time of registration, your preference will be printed directly on your conference name badge. If you do not provide your pronouns at the time of registration, no pronouns will be printed on your name badge. Stickers will be available if you prefer to add pronouns to your badge on the days of the event. Providing pronouns is one way to make the Rowland Conference a welcoming environment for all participants. You can learn more about why here.

Spaces to Pause

If you need to step away to take a break, make a phone call, check your email, or have a private conversation, numerous common areas are available in the Davis Center for these purposes: White Pine Lounge (4th Floor, Room 416), The Burack Family Lounge (1st Floor), and Henderson's Café (1st Floor). If weather permits, we also highly recommend stepping out into the fresh air.

Restrooms

There are public restrooms on each level of the Davis Center. These shared restrooms are labelled by gender and are equipped with accessible stalls. There is also one gender-neutral, single-occupancy restroom available on the fourth floor and another on the third floor at the bottom of the main stairs.

Seating

Our keynote session takes place in a large ballroom with a raised stage, a screen where slides are shown, and sound-amplification. Seating close to the stage will be arranged around circular tables, while farther back in the room chairs will be arranged in rows. UVM Event Services will take care to arrange the room to allow for easy navigation by attendees, including those with mobility issues. If you feel you

may need special seating due to low vision or hearing, a mobility aid, or service animal, please contact us to make arrangements.

Service Animals

Trained service and assistance animals are welcome on UVM's campus in accordance with federal and state law. Emotional support animals are not permitted.

Student Attendees

We welcome students to attend the conference as members of their school or district team. When a school team of eight attendees is registered, up to three students may be added to the team for a nominal charge of $50 each. Students are invited to attend the workshops of their choice; those designed with the student experience in mind are marked with an asterisk (*) on the conference brochure. However, because some workshops locations are outside of the Davis Center, it is best for students to register for workshops with an accompanying adult so they can navigate campus together.

Virtual Access

The 15th Annual Rowland Conference is an in-person event. We do not offer virtual or hybrid events at this time. However, our keynote speaker's remarks and some workshop materials will be available for viewing on our website after the event.

Your Questions

Your questions and comments help us learn how to better remove barriers to access for our conference. Please contact the University of Vermont's Events Services team at eventregistration@uvm.edu prior to the event to share your ideas and to be sure that your needs are met.