

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

2020 Spring Continuing Education Conference for Social Workers

Wednesday – Friday, April 29, 30 & May 1, 2020
Charleston (WV) Coliseum and Convention Center



Dr. Kathryn Conley Wehrmann, PhD, MSW, LCSW is the current President of the National Association of Social Workers Board of Directors. She received her PhD and MSW from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Currently, she serves as a faculty member and BSW Program Director at Illinois State University. She has previously served in public child welfare and healthcare settings, which provided a sound background for her being chosen to be a Senior Fulbright Scholar to Romania where she taught and conducted research on child welfare reform. Dr. Wehrmann served at ISU as principal investigator on two child welfare training grants and was recognized for successfully securing approximately \$1M in grants and contracts. Honored as NASW Lifetime Achievement award recipient at the district level, she has served as NASW District Chair, State Conference Chair, Illinois Chapter President, National Board Representative for Region IX, and member of the Executive Committee. She is a current member of the Baccalaureate Program Directors Association and the Fulbright Association.



Dr. Carrie Pettus-Davis, PhD, MSW, BSW has been called an up and coming star of our profession! She is Associate Professor of Social Work at Florida State University and Founding Director of the Institute for Justice Research & Development. She also continues to serve as Founding Co-Director of the Smart Decarceration Initiative at the Brown School, Washington University, St. Louis and as Network Co-Lead for the American Academy of Social Work & Social Welfare. Dr. Pettus-Davis co-edited Smart Decarceration: Achieving criminal justice transformation in the 21st Century published by Oxford University Press (2017). Her areas of professional and research specialization include intervention research on well-being development for justice-involved adults, sustainable and effective ‘decarceration’ (smart decarceration), trauma and social support among justice-involved adults and behavioral health among justice-involved adults. She is the recipient of the 2018 Criminal Justice Ministry Achievement Award.



Bil Lepp: Growing up in a family where the truth was fluid, Bil Lepp became adept at spinning tales and exaggerating circumstances at an early age. Bil’s outrageous, humorous, family friendly tall-tales and stories have earned the appreciation of listeners of all ages and from all walks of life. Though a five time champion of the West Virginia Liars Contest, Lepp’s stories often contain morsels of truth, which represent universal themes, in clever and witty ways. They also provide deep insights into our shared Appalachian culture and heritage. Audiences all across the country, from grade schools to corporate boardrooms to Comedy Central’s Hudson stage, have been delighted by Bil’s mirthful tales and delightful insights into everyday life. Bil’s books and audio collections have won awards, including the PEN Steven Kroll Award for Children’s Book Writing, Parents’ Choice Gold awards, and awards from the National Parenting Publications Association, and the Public Library Association.