

WELCOME FROM THE PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

We welcome you to the 2018 Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence!

SRA's biennial meetings are a moment when we can come together to share and learn about the work we are all so passionate about. At a time when so many youth across the globe are facing unimaginable hardships, our collective work provides a sense of optimism going forward.

We are very excited about this year's program. Our outstanding invited speakers cover a range of cutting edge topics from a number of disciplinary areas including the latest findings on sleep and the brain, psychobiological reactivity to stress, education inequality, interpersonal risk and depression, and peer victimization among sexual minority youth. Invited panels also cover important topics related to neurocognition, intersectionality and health, positive youth development, the risks and opportunities of social media and transgender and gender non-conforming youth. Also included on the program are an invited roundtable where you can get practical tips on conducting international research, an invited panel to consider the future of developmental science, an invited workshop where you will learn strategies for writing for non-academic audiences, and a new format – a “data blitz” to offer rapid presentations on adolescents and social media use. Finally, on Thursday night we will have a special screening of the documentary, “Screenagers” with a moderated discussion after the film (and popcorn and cash bar during!). We hope this will be a more informal and fun opportunity to engage in conversation and share ideas. Please join us for these invited sessions as they take place in the morning and throughout each day of the conference.

We also encourage you to make time to interact with presenters in the ongoing poster sessions. This year we continue the tradition of a special poster session on Friday of the critical work involving diverse populations. To build on this event, this year we also include posters on international research for a combined session entitled: *Adolescence in the Context of Domestic and Global Diversity*. Often some of the best scholarship represented at SRA can be found hanging succinctly on a display board in an exhibit hall. Come stroll the hall and linger for the engaging conversations that these presenters have to offer.

The best part of any conference is the opportunity to engage with incredible scientists that range from outstanding senior scholars to the emerging researchers who will lead our science in ways that we cannot yet imagine. We believe that #SRA18 in Minneapolis will provide many such opportunities for everyone.

We extend our sincere thanks to the people who volunteer their time to make this conference possible, in particular those early career scholars who play a key role in facilitating the invited sessions. We also offer our deepest gratitude to the leadership of SRA, especially President Lisa Crockett and all of the SRA staff who make this conference run so smoothly; to the panel chairs and the many reviewers who provided a rigorous review of a large number of submissions; to the previous program co-chairs, Noel Card and Andrea Hussong; and, most important, to the SRA membership and attendees of the conference who make this conference the pre-eminent meeting for research on adolescence.

We hope that you enjoy the conference and return home enriched by the experience and eager to share with others the exciting new research taking place in the study of adolescence.

Sincerely,

Jasna Jovanovic and Mitch Prinstein



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jasna Jovanovic".

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitch Prinstein".