



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RISE Welcomes President, CEO Of National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

Nina Rees will participate in panel exploring future of P-12 education

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute today announced the addition of Nina Rees, President and CEO of the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, as a panelist at the Reagan Institute Summit on Education (RISE), held in Washington, D.C., on April 10-11, 2019.

“Not only does Nina lead one of the best-known education policy nonprofits in the country, but she’s played a critical role in developing and implementing policy within the Department of Education and at leading think-tanks,” said Roger Zakheim, Director of the Reagan Institute. “We welcome her voice in this conversation and look forward to the insights she’ll share about what we can do to make sure our children’s school years are fulfilling and formative.”

Rees will participate in a panel session entitled “From P-12: The Challenges of Creating a New School House.” This panel will consider the future of P-12 education in light of the reauthorization and implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), looking to examine equity challenges and assess disruptive solutions. Local luminaries who have generated significant progress in their school systems will share insights, as will those who have formed partnerships with business, philanthropy and other outside entities.

“The foundation of our democracy is grounded on an educated citizenry. Unfortunately, today, discussions around education often end up highlighting the differences of opinion on the topic – rather than highlight the things we all agree on and can work together to improve,” said Rees. “RISE is one of the few gatherings of its kind aimed at re-igniting national interest and a sense of urgency in tackling the complex problems confronting our education system with an eye toward building collaboration.”

A nationally-recognized expert on education, Rees serves as President and CEO of the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools. Her accomplishments include serving as Senior Vice President for Strategic Initiatives at Knowledge Universe, an education company that specializes in early childhood education, before- and after-school programs and online education programs; as Deputy Under Secretary for innovation and improvement at the Department of Education; as Deputy Assistant to the Vice President for Domestic Policy; and as Senior Education Analyst at the Heritage Foundation. In addition to her column for U.S.

News & World Report, her writing can be found in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post.

Rees joins other leaders in education, policy, business and technology participating in RISE 2019, including Sen. Lamar Alexander, Rep. Virginia Foxx, Sen. Tim Kaine, Pennsylvania Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera, the Department of Education's Diane Jones, Founder of Khan Academy Sal Khan and many others. 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.

Media Contact: Emilee Lamb — lamb@pinkstongroup.com or 571-480-2367

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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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