

The workshop will focus on exploring creative and critical thought processes and actions as they relate to fashioning identity in multilingual and multicultural contexts. The concept of identity will be explored as perceived and expressed through the consideration of language, thinking, and meaningful experiences. Participants will take part in a series of interactive thinking activities designed to bring out aspects of identity and empathy as manifested in different cultural and linguistic contexts. These experiences will include cooperative and creative thinking routines designed to enhance interaction and empathy while encouraging self-reflection and discovery. They will then be encouraged to explore how aspects of identity differ among linguistic and cultural groups while reflecting on their personal experiences. After this interactive process, participants will produce a creative representation of some aspect of their thought process to share with the entire group. These representations may include visual or auditory pieces such as designs, models or songs and raps. A model will be provided of a visual and an auditory representation of identity to participants as a guide. Finally, a discussion of how a creative and collaborative exploration of identity can promote empathy, dialogue and respectful coexistence will ensue.