



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

## RAY CHAO | BELMONT UNIVERSITY

### USING IMPROVISATION TO BUILD CONNECTIONS

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#### ABSTRACT:

Everyone uses improvisation even if they don't realize it. This workshop will use basic improvisation as a way to enhance communication, build community, and improve problem solving skills. Three primary areas important to service-learning will be emphasized: (1) ice-breakers (finding commonalities with others); (2) role-playing (understanding someone else's journey) and (3) collaboration (creative problem-solving).

Come learn how to be a more effective service provider by sharpening your improvisational skills. Learn the art of improvisation.

#### THEMATIC FOCUS: PLAYING AROUND

#### BIO(S):

##### RAY CHAO

Prior to serving as the Director of Legal Studies and Assistant Professor of Sociology at Belmont University, Ray was a prosecutor in Chicago. Additionally, Ray has extensive training in improvisation and has held workshops incorporating basic improv skills to improve communication, teambuilding and problem solving. Improvisation is a tool for learning and building bridges. Simply, improvisation emphasizes agreement and collective discovery thru listening.