



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

**KATHY THOMPSON | UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

**STRIKING A CHORD: CREATING A SUSTAINABLE FARM-TO-SCHOOL PROGRAM THROUGH HARMONIOUS COLLABORATION AND DYNAMIC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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**ABSTRACT:**

The UGA Grow It Know It program promotes sustainable farm-to-school practices using a dynamic model of cross-disciplinary professional development for P-12 educators. Through intentional collaboration and perspective-taking, the GIKI team has ensured that, while each member has a different part to play, the score is a harmonious effort to incorporate sustainable food system projects in local schools and communities. In this interactive workshop, presenters will share an ensemble of findings, resources, and lessons learned.

**THEMATIC FOCUS: SURPRISING COLLABORATIONS**

**BIO(S):**

**KATHY THOMPSON**

Kathy Thompson is a clinical professor of Middle Grades Education in the Department of Educational Theory & Practice at the University of Georgia. She is president of the Southeastern Association of School-University Partnerships and serves on the Georgia Association for Middle Level Education Board of Directors. She has authored numerous publications and made other scholarly contributions focused on the education of young adolescents, service-learning, professional learning of teachers, and school-university partnerships. In 2013, Kathy received the Gulf-South Summit on Service-Learning and Civic Engagement through Higher Education Outstanding Practitioner Award and the UGA Service-Learning Teaching Excellence Award.

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