



Robert Sherman

Director of the Initiative for Social and Emotional Learning, NoVo Foundation

Robert F. Sherman, Ph.D., serves as Director, Initiative for Social and Emotional Learning at the NoVo Foundation. Partnering with the field's leading intermediary, the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), NoVo is working to institutionalize social and emotional development, delivered through evidence-based programs in classrooms. The goal is stronger outcomes for students who are academically, socially, and emotionally prepared to lead successful lives and contribute to community and society. Most recently, Sherman served as Executive Director of the Action Center to End World Hunger, a division of Mercy Corps. He was founding director of the national Effective Citizenry grantmaking program at the Surdna Foundation, and worked in the New York City government for eight years, directing the Increase the Peace Volunteer Corps for the Office of the Mayor and as Director of the Community Relations Institute at the NYC Commission on Human Rights. He holds a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Adelphi University and a BA from Haverford College.

Joe Brewster

Filmmaker/Parent, American Promise

Joe Brewster is the co-producer and co-director of *American Promise*. He and his partner, Michèle Stephenson, have produced and directed award winning feature documentaries and narrative films. Brewster is a Harvard/Stanford educated psychiatrist who specialized in organizational analysis. He traveled to New York City in 1985 to pursue media studies in the service of social change. In 1992, Brewster sold his first screenplay to the Jackson-McHenry group under the Warner Brothers imprint. In 1996 Brewster wrote and directed *The Keeper*, which was an official selection in the dramatic narrative competition section of the Sundance Film Festival and garnered numerous national and international awards including a Spirit Award nomination.

Tristan Love

Youth Advocate, Houston, Texas

Tristan Love is a senior Biology major, Chemistry minor at Wiley College in Marshall, Texas. Upon graduation he plans to gain admittance into medical school and become a physician. On campus, Love is the former Executive President of the Student Government Association, and he is a Regional Undergraduate Board Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. Love travels the world speaking on the power of mentoring, and how it saved his life.

Michele Stephenson

Filmmaker/ Parent, American Promise

Michèle Stephenson is the co-producer and co-director of *American Promise*. A graduate of McGill University and Columbia University School of Law, Stephenson uses her background in critical studies, race and human rights to inform her documentary work. Her Panamanian and Haitian heritage has also fueled her passion to tackle stories on communities of color and human rights. An early pioneer in the Web 2.0 revolution, Stephenson used video and the internet to structure human rights campaigns and train people from across the globe in video internet advocacy. Her work has appeared on PBS, Showtime, MTV and other outlets. Stephenson's honors include: Silverdocs International Documentary Film Festival Diversity Award; and the Henry Hampton Award for Excellence in Film and Digital Media.



Roger Weissberg

President and CEO, CASEL

Roger P. Weissberg is NoVo Foundation Endowed Chair in Social and Emotional Learning, LAS Distinguished Professor, and a Professor of Psychology and Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). He is also President and CEO of the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), an organization committed to making evidence-based social, emotional, and academic learning an essential part of preschool through high school education across the United States. Weissberg has authored more than 200 publications focusing on preventive interventions with children and adolescents. He has received various awards including the American Psychological Association's Distinguished Contribution Award for Applications of Psychology to Education and Training, the Society for Community Research and Action Distinguished Contribution to Theory and Research Award, and the "Daring Dozen" award from the George Lucas Educational Foundation for being 1 of 12 people who are reshaping the future of education. Recently he was elected to the National Academy of Education.