



Center for Urban Education Ministries Newsletter

"Relentlessly Strengthening Urban Education"



"Optimal Performance"

Optimal performance sounds terrific. Everyone wants to be at optimal performance - as a student, as a professional, as an athlete, and as a person. Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi was an expert studying optimal performance and defined it as "flow". He said there are eight characteristics of "flow":

1. Complete focus,
2. Clear goals and rewards in mind
3. Transformation of time
4. Experience is intrinsically rewarding
5. Effortless & ease
6. The balance between challenges and skills
7. Actions & awareness are merged
8. A feeling of control over the task

When we think of situations or instances when we experienced "flow," these characteristics were present. The Center for Urban Education Ministries (CUEM) is partnering with faith-based teacher education programs, networks of schools, individual ministries, and urban entities to produce optimal performance. CUEM provides strong "urban value" and expertise to these organizations. Professional development, urban education resources, and uplifting recognition are all part of our efforts. Get engaged with our work, reach out to us for more information, and continue to support our vital work through your donations. And we will continue to "relentlessly strengthen urban education" to reach optimal performance with you.

-Dr. Steve Gerner, Executive Director/CEO

[Visit our Website](#)

RECRUITMENT

**EXPERIENCE THE CITY
EXPAND YOUR PEDAGOGY
EMBRACE THE GOSPEL**

Learn more about our Immersion experiences in New York City [here!](#)



RESOURCES

If you haven't seen our FREE valuable resource for you, check it out below! The Center's "6" provides you with six minute educational videos that address vital school topics. We also post our monthly newsletter to serve as an asset for your school.

The Center's 6 on LEA
Connects

Click here to see more CUEM
Resources

RECOGNITION

Kieschnick Urban Leadership HONORS

The Jane and Mel Kieschnick Urban Education Leadership HONORS was awarded at the national conference of the Association of Lutheran Secondary Schools in San Diego, California. This special honor is given to an urban school leader who is servant-minded and focused on student success. Our 2023 winners are: Tim Bouman - Walther Christian Academy, Head of School, Melrose Park, IL and Lucas Fitzgerald - Pacific Lutheran, Principal, Gardena, California.



Reflections from Mel Kieschnick

(CUEM Board Member, Emeritus)

"Day by day with humor, cajoling, patience, prayer, and fierce determination, school teachers and administrators 'do whatever one can do' to make learning not just tolerable or bearable, but enjoyable and enlightening"

Partner With Us!

Have an educational resource or story to share?

Connect with **Devan Lenz-Fisher**, our Director for Programming and Communications, to have your information highlighted through our various platforms.

We need your financial support for CUEM. Your contribution will help us in "relentlessly strengthening urban education."

Please click on **"GIVE"** button to make an electronic payment.

Checks can also be received at:

Email Devan at
cuem.national@gmail.com

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GIVE TO CUEM