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Concept Note

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A global movement to shift dominant narratives about the purpose of education to thriving

2025

Grounded in the belief that every child deserves the opportunity to thrive, Change the Script weaves together a carefully curated gathering of social entrepreneurs, government officials, non-profit leaders, academicians, researchers, policy makers, young people, school leaders and global voices to ensure every child can thrive. By shifting ingrained and conditioned voices within our own selves and in the ecosystem, Change the Script aims to transform the definition of success to thriving. Our goal is to ensure that every child can expand to their fullest potential, through empathetic and compassionate relationships, in a just and equitable education system.

Since its inception in 2015, Change the Script has sought to amplify youth voices, surface the deep systemic blocks to equity and seed new markers of success grounded in thriving, relationships and wholeness. In the years since, we have witnessed a tangible shift: the rise of Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) across policy and practice, and large-scale implementation. Today, the question is no longer 'why' SEL, but 'how' to embed it meaningfully across systems.





In 2024, we returned after a four-year pause post COVID-19. And as captured in this <u>short film</u>, we collectively held space for reflection, uncomfortable questions, deep listening and bold reimagining. We confronted the subtle biases within ourselves and in the systems we build. We saw that change doesn't start with scale — it starts with the self, with our stories and our shared solidarity.

In 2025, we build this momentum with clarity and courage by asking:



How can we build ecosystems that create space for real transformation and thriving?



What does it take to center thriving- not just as a philosophy, but as a systemic priority?



How can we translate reflection into strategies that reshape our cultures, policies and approaches to be equitable and inclusive?

We envision this year's gathering as a convergence of practice and imagination - a place to forge pathways from inner shifts to collective action. We will continue to hold space for authenticity, vulnerability and self-reflection, while also inviting bold ideas, practices and co-created futures. Together, we will explore how thriving can become the purpose of education — for children and the education system, as a whole.

We invite you to this exploration where we look to redefine success through a deep inside-out process in a co-created community. Where success is not about where we get to, but about walking together to change the script, until every child can thrive.









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