



***Media Advisory:***  
**Author, Community Leader Bill Strickland To Keynote at May 13 *Learns & Works Event***

WETHERSFIELD, May 11, 2011 – Social architect and community leader Bill Strickland will serve as keynote speaker at the 17<sup>th</sup> annual *Connecticut Learns and Works* Conference taking place Friday, May 13 at the Water's Edge Conference Center in Westbrook, CT.

Titled *New Opportunities for New Economies*, the conference, which will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., is for educators, counselors, employment and training specialists and business people interested in career and workforce development issues. It is sponsored by the Connecticut Labor Department, State Department of Education and the Connecticut Career Resource Network.

Strickland, who is author of the book “Make the Impossible Possible,” is president-CEO the Manchester Bidwell Corporation and a member of the White House Council for Community Solutions. He is also a past recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship “genius” award. He will kick-off the conference by discussing his theory that by forming partnerships and working together, organizations can best help people who are disadvantaged build a better future.

The conference includes a series of morning and afternoon workshops that will explore the development of green jobs, changes in the field of allied health, employer panels, an update on the current economy, a panel discussion on STEM careers, and the jobs picture for mature workers.

Additional details about the *Connecticut Learns and Works Conference* can be found online at [www.ctlearnsandworks.com](http://www.ctlearnsandworks.com).

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