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Resistance School Draws Over 140,000 Participants

Cambridge MA--Organizing expert Marshall Ganz led the third session of Resistance School on Thursday, April 20, preparing participants to structure leadership teams and build capacity for action. Ganz's renowned approach to leadership acknowledges the uncertainty that comes with leading, and emphasizes relationships among people to discover and achieve a shared purpose.

More than 140,000 participants have tuned in for the first three sessions of Resistance School, a free training program for activists to strengthen the skills they need to take collective action.

"The question of how to turn resistance into rebuilding, and reaction into action... [is] where we are," said Ganz on Thursday, adding that the current political climate is an opportunity to "seize on this motivation that is all over the country right now, and turn it into a proactive force not just to be against something but for something."

Ganz drew on decades of experience as an organizer to lead participants through the process of building an effective leadership team. Acknowledging the complexity of this process, he said, "Everybody knows there's no value without some cost. There's no better future without some sacrifice."

Organizing is a particular form of leadership, he said, which requires engaging communities and bringing them together as a constituency, defining goals, and then working with them "to turn their resources into the power that they need in order to achieve the change that they want."

New York Assemblyman and DNC Vice-Chair Michael Blake will speak about how to sustain the resistance long-term in the fourth session of Resistance School on Thursday, April 27, at 7pm ET. Renowned historian and activist Timothy Patrick McCarthy led the first session of Resistance School on April 5, and former Obama grassroots movement architect Sara El-Amine led the second session on April 12.

Resistance School was founded by progressive graduate students at Harvard, who wanted to find a way to contribute to the wave of new and renewed political activism in communities across the country. The curriculum for Resistance School is designed for teams to join trainings, held on Harvard's campus and live-streamed online to communities across the country.

Mission: Resistance School aims to deepen community-based organizing infrastructure nationwide to secure issue and electoral victories at the local, state, and national level and advance progressive values of fairness, equality, and inclusivity. Through high-quality training for both those new to organizing and those

who want to deepen their skills, we strive to amplify communities' capacity to lead and make the sustained change they seek. We believe that the power of collective action can break through barriers that undermine the people's access to our democracy.

Resistance School is a student-run initiative developed by students at Harvard University. It is not an official course or offering of Harvard University or any of its schools.

About Marshall Ganz: Throughout a storied career of studying and practicing in the field of organizing, Marshall Ganz has developed one of the most renowned approaches to leadership and organizing. Read his full bio [here](#).

How to Participate in Resistance School: Resistance School is simultaneously streamed on the main page of the website (www.resistanceschool.com) and via Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/ResistSchool/>) on the nights of each session. The Facebook Live and website versions remain available for unlimited playback after each session.

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For more information visit Resistance School on www.resistanceschool.com, [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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