



Black Girls and Women Race, Gender, Power, and Global Education



GLOBAL EDUCATION SUMMER INSTITUTE

June 1 - 15, 2024

www.global-academics.org

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ABOUT GLOBAL ACADEMICS

Global Academics is a non-profit organization that creates opportunities for underserved African-American youth and young adults to engage in immersion learning and self-discovery through leadership development combined with travel to Africa, the Caribbean, and communities in Afro-Latin America.





Although Black Girls and women have made tremendous gains in school and work over the last few decades, Black females continue to face challenges and barriers to leadership, including racial and gender biases that impact self-esteem, personal safety, positive identity formation, knowledge of self, conflict resolution, and more. As adults, there is much we can do to prepare Black girls and women to become leaders that challenge these biases and positively impact social justice issues in the community.

Research shows that Black Girls and women do not lack confidence in leading – as this is already a role they play in family and community – but they do experience discrimination and lack of opportunities for leadership development and participation in global academic programs. At [Global Academics](#), we believe that the most effective way to foster strong leadership development for Black Girls and women is by supporting a positive foundational identity that is rooted in a knowledge of who we are historically and culturally as African people and the critical ways that women have always led in community, family and nation.

For over 15 years, Global Academics, has taken African American groups abroad to immerse themselves in Black nations as a means of learning about self, community, heritage, and culture. The primary group of youth selected are those who have not had the opportunity to have a passport nor travel internationally, but whose personal and leadership development would benefit from a globalized experience. [Research shows](#) that studying abroad increases college success rates, g.p.a.'s, and helps students maintain focus on achieving goals. When combined with leadership development that is focused on the understanding of the way race, gender, and power impact the lives of Black girls and women, study abroad can be that much more impactful. Global education leadership development means that Black girls and women learn about self through workshops and international travel to predominantly Black nations to deepen immersion learning and expand global identity. Global Academics is thus introducing our Black Girls: Race, Gender, Power, and Global Education Summer Institute 2024 (June 1 – June 15, 2024).

Beginning January 2024, twenty (20) Black female Oakland Unified School District graduates currently attending area colleges/universities will be identified to participate in a summer intensive Global Education Summer Institute that has three major components.

1. Leadership development workshops about race, gender, and Black Girls and Women Power,
2. Global Immersion Learning in rural Jamaica,
3. Implementation of a Black Girl and Women selected social justice project in Jamaica

WHY JAMAICA FOR BLACK GIRLS AND WOMEN?

The strength of Jamaican culture is exhibited in the worldwide impact this nation has had on Black consciousness. The music, food, cultural world view, and leaders from this small nation have produced Rastafarian way of life, Reggae music, Queen Nanny, Bob Marley, Marcus Garvey and many others. An in-depth experience in this country propels ones consciousness about personal and collective liberation. Importantly, Jamaica's women's movement has led to an increase of women elected into positions of influence, community organizing on issues that matter to women including economic self-reliance, and domestic violence. This tour is designed with intention to provide access to some of the most influential Jamaican women, community projects, historical reflections, and guided self-exploration in a manner that will elevate self-awareness, personal and collective Black Girl Power.

Institute specifics include

- One week of Race, Gender, and Power workshops, dialogues, and trainings
- Leadership development training specific to young Black women
- Historical seminars, readings, and lessons
- Mentorship and coaching sessions
- Ten days of travel to rural Jamaica for global immersion learning
- Development of a sisterhood of youth leaders
- Implementation of a guided community social justice project in rural Jamaica



OUR INSTITUTE CURRICULUM



KNOWLEDGE OF SELF – WHO ARE YOU?

Using African culturally based foundational thought and practice participants will engage in an exploration of self to review strengths, interests, communication styles, and areas where leadership growth is desired.

OUR AFRICAN HERITAGE – WHO ARE WE?

Attaining knowledge of one's history is critical for Black Girls who are in the process of developing leadership skills. Participants will learn about African and African American female leaders to explore their contributions, leadership styles, and strategies. Importantly, through a historical lens they will examine African conceptions of gender as a means of understanding Black female power.



BLACK GIRL AND WOMEN SISTERHOOD – HOW DO WE BUILD IT?

When Black girls and women support each other, and work together amazing things are accomplished. However, in today's world, social media and the context of race and gender constructs impede sisterhood. Participants will work to define, build, and strengthen sisterhood as a means of building self, community, and ensuring a network of support.



BLACK GIRLS AND WOMEN AS WARRIORS AND LEADERS – WHAT IS OUR ROLE?

Participants will explore the racial and gender context we are currently experiencing in Oakland/the U.S. so that they can identify what social issues they are most passionate about impacting. They will dialogue and debate strategies to address social justice issues facing the Black community. The objective is to identify a specific social justice issue that this new sisterhood of female youth leaders will address as the final step of the Institute.

BLACK PERSONAL AND COLLECTIVE PROTECTION – WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Black girls and women can experience exploitation, violence, family trauma and more. Learning to heal and protect themselves from trauma becomes an important part of leadership development for self and community. Participants will learn about the importance of radical self-love and the means for protecting themselves through in-person self-defense workshops that are based on African and African diasporic martial arts.

I AM BECAUSE WE ARE – SHIFTING OUR POWER TO HEAL, LEAD AND MOVE OUR COMMUNITY

Post-travel, the Global Education Summer Institute sisterhood will implement their newly enhanced leadership skills and implement their community action plan to address a social justice issue in Oakland.





Dr. Siri Brown, Founder And CEO, Global Academics

Global Academics was founded by Dr. Siri Brown who has been teaching and leading tours for over 20 years. She is a professor of African American and Ethnic Studies at Merritt College and U.C. Berkeley. She is a celebrated teacher who has impacted the lives of hundreds of students by helping them learn about the greatness of African/African American people and the critical way that race, gender and other constructs impedes our sense of self and community.

Dr. Brown holds a B.A. in Psychology and Ethnic Studies from the University of Washington, an M.A. in Black Studies from the Ohio State University, and a Ph.D. in U.S. History with an emphasis in Early American, African American and Women's history also from the Ohio State University. Dr. Brown is a two time Fulbright recipient for international projects in Brazil and South Africa. **Her research centers on the racialized legal and social resistance to violence against women.**

Her areas of expertise and passion are on African communities in the diaspora and the means in which African people have used culture and resistance as a means of maintaining self-determination. Equally important to her are the way African cultural traditions have blended with indigenous and colonial cultures as is evident in the powerful influence African culture continues to have in Latin America.

As a guide, Dr. Brown has developed in depth relationships with amazingly talented and famed Black artists, activists, academics, and community leaders and has fostered those relationships over years. Her contacts make her tours more personal and the learning more in depth. Her aim is to create "learning that lasts a lifetime" as she sees immersion travel as the most powerful way to come into a respectful understanding of traditional knowledge and culture.





Black Girls Race, Gender, Power, and Global Education: Global Education Summer Institute June 1 - 15, 2024

Day 1: Thursday, June 6, 2024

- Group arrives to Kingston Norman Manley Airport (KIN)
- Transportation to the hotel is provided
- 3pm check into the Pegasus Hotel located in New Kingston, an up-and-coming area in the city
- Welcome Dinner with special guest, Dr. Karen Carpenter, Chair of Gender Studies who will speak on “Women in Jamaican Society, Politics and Culture”

Day 2: Friday, June 7, 2024

Kingston

- 8:30am Breakfast is included and provided at the hotel each morning
- Visit to Emancipation Park a park built in honor of the end of slavery in Jamaica. The park includes an honoring of those who resisted slavery and includes a famous statue that symbolizes freedom for African people
- Tour of University of the West Indies (UWI)
- Meet with Chair of Gender Studies Department, Dr. Karen Carpenter for discussion about courses, training, faculty and students
- Panel Discussion with leading UWI faculty from the Department of Social Work on, “Gender Violence and the Status of Women in Jamaica”
- Lunch on campus with Jamaican female students
- Visit with JCADV (Jamaica Coalition Against Domestic Violence) the organization that helped establish the first confidential shelter for survivors of domestic violence

Day 3: Saturday, June 8, 2024

Kingston

- Meet with community organizer and Director of Peace Management Initiative, Erica Allen to learn about youth violence, truce, and reconciliation. Walk in an underserved community with neighborhood youth leaders
- Lunch
- Visit to Marcus Garvey’s Jamaican headquarters, Liberty Hall to learn about the efforts to restore this historic space by women organizers and the community programs offered. Tour the Marcus Garvey Museum, which was the first digital museum in the Caribbean to learn more about this Jamaican National Hero and Pan African Liberator
- Lecture from Dr. Renee Wilson, University of West Indies Department of History on “Amy Jacques Garvey and her role in the Liberation Movement”
- Walking tour with female street artists of Water Lane Mural Project to learn about Jamaican street art, gender, youth leadership and to enjoy the artistic expressions of the community

Day 4: Sunday, June 9, 2024

Kingston

- Noted Jamaican Dub Poet, actor, intellectual, and leading personality Mutabaruka joins Dr. Candia Mitchell-Hall, University of West Indies Reggae Studies Department for a discussion on, “Women in the World of Reggae”.
- Visit to Bob Marley’s home and museum with viewing of brief film about his life and contributions
- Hosted lunch
- Dialogue with Attorney Elizabeth Daney from Jamaicans for Justice about the dynamics of police brutality and resistance. Jamaicans for Justice (JFJ) is a non-profit human rights and social justice organization founded in 1999. JFJ is Jamaica's leading multi-issue human rights organization, providing full-time pro-bono legal support for victims of human rights violations and their families, engaging in legislative and policy advocacy and research, and delivering a range of human rights programming, outreach and education



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Day 5: Monday, June 10, 2024

Kingston/Port Antonio

- Depart for 3.5 hour drive to Portland Parish. This is the Parish known for the Blue Mountains, Caribbean sea, lush green and blue colors of nature. It is also peaceful and tranquil. This ride will allow travelers to see stunning scenery and rural areas in Jamaica
- Arrive at Charlestown Maroon Community for welcome and to meet host families
- Charles Town Maroon Community is located inland near the town of Buff Bay in the parish of Portland. The settlement emerged around 1754 and was settled by escaped enslaved Africans. Three major attractions in the community are the museum, the library and the Asafu Ground. In front of the museum is a library which has many books on Maroon heritage. The community holds onto their African heritage in language, drum and dance, spiritual expression, foods and herbal healing remedies. Meet with the first female Chief of the Charlestown Maroon Community, Colonel Marcia "Kim" Douglass
- Evening community cookout at the Asafu Yard with our new friends and families in Jamaica

Day 6: Tuesday, June 11, 2024

- Learn about and experience the African based Maroon culture and history this includes,
- Traditional Drum and Dance lesson
- Charlestown Maroon Museum tour
- Community service with Jamaican Maroon girls for summer reading and math
- Afternoon swimming in the river with community youth

Day 7: Wednesday, June 12, 2024

- Maroon Day
- Visit to Boston Beach to enjoy the day on an amazing white sand beach
- Hosted lunch at the Boston Jerk Center. This area is where Jerk seasoning and barbeque. Boston claims to have the best Jerk on the island.

Day 8: Thursday, June 13, 2024

- Morning mediation and discussion on the role of self-healing and self-love as a liberatory practice with ElderMama G. Mama G is an elder and spiritual leader in local and international Maroon communities and will lead an introspective art class with students
- Learn about traditional Maroon herbal and plant healing with Colonel Kim Douglass

Day 9: Friday, June 14, 2024

- Visit to Port Antonio for a walking tour of the area
- Meet Gynecologist and Obstetrician Dr. Elena Codrington who will discuss women, childbirth, and health in Jamaica
- Visit to a local primary school with teachers and for a discussion on education in Jamaica
- Return to Charlestown Maroon Community for time with families

Day 10: Saturday, June 15, 2024

- Check-out and drive to the Montego Bay Jamaica Airport and fly back to SFO



Dr. Linda James Myers

Renowned African Centered
Psychologist, Author, And Healer

Professor Linda Myers specializes in psychology and culture; moral and spiritual identity development; healing practices and psychotherapeutic processes; and, intersections of race, gender and class. Internationally known for her work in the development of a theory of Optimal Psychology, Dr. Myers has conducted lectures and trainings England, South Africa, Ghana, and Jamaica. She is the author of numerous articles, book chapters, and five books, including: *Understanding an Afrocentric World View: Introduction to an Optimal Psychology*; and, most recently, co-editor of *Recentering Culture and Knowledge in Conflict Resolution Practice*. Dr Myers' Oneness model of human functioning offers a transdisciplinary focus that builds on insights from the wisdom tradition of African deep thought and converges with modern physics and Eastern philosophies.

Her current research interests comprise the application of that model to a broad range of issues from health and education to business ethics.

Dr. Myers has received numerous honors and awards for excellence in research and scholarship, including being named Distinguished Psychologist by the Association of Black Psychologists; the Bethune/Woodson Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Development of Promotion of Black Studies from the National Council of Black Studies; Oni Award by the International Black Women's Congress; and, the Building to Eternity Award from the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilization, among others. Professor Myers is a recipient of the O.S.U. College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, and a past president of the Association of Black Psychologists.



Nehanda Imara

Awarded Community Leader,
Organizer, And Mentor

Nehanda Imara has been an Oakland resident for over 40 years. Nehanda is a dedicated activist, organizer, educator, and adjunct teacher for African American and Environmental Studies at Merritt College. Nehanda created the first Environmental Racism/Justice course at the Peralta Community College District. Read more about Nehanda's accomplishments in the Examiner.com article: "Nehanda Imara, Oakland's mother of environmental justice."

Nehanda was an organizer with Communities for a Better Environment for from 2007 - 2017. In that role she engaged residents and youth in fighting environmental racism and for clean more sustainable environmental policies and programs.

As an organizer for CBE, her outreach and recruitment work helped build a strong core resident leaders and a broad support base of youth, students, and community partners in the Oakland area. She organized the first CBE 'Love Yo Mama Earth Day' in 2009 in collaboration with community partners in deep East Oakland, a community suffering deeply from the present global ecological crisis, bringing information and resources to youth and residents that typically lack access.

Nehanda was part of the leadership team at the inception of East Oakland Building Healthy Communities (EOBHC) in 2009. Nehanda served on the interim steering committee, and EOBHC manager during her tenure with this initiative. She helped lead the initiative for over 10 years, shepherding its implementation for each phase of the project.

Leaving EOBHC in 2021, Nehanda joined the Black Cultural Zone as the Community Engagement Lead. In April 2022, she semi-retired and continues to consult with the BCZ to create a Liberation Education Leadership Program.

Nehanda is a Pan-Africanist and as such, has been taking college and high-school students to Ghana, West Africa since 1996. She serves as Co-coordinator of Merritt's "Black Consciousness Raising Tours of Africa and the African Diaspora. Nehanda has traveled to over 10 African countries as well as the Caribbean and Central America.



Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud

Master Educational Leader, DEI Expert,
And Critical Race Theory Writer

Co-founder of The Village Demands, Dr. Stanback Stroud, served more than 35 years as an educator. She began her career in education as a professor of nursing at Rancho Santiago College (now Santa Ana College). She later became the Mission College Dean of Workforce and Economic Development, Skyline College Vice President of Instruction, and President, before being appointed Chancellor of the Peralta Community College District. Her successful tenure as College President included leadership in establishment of the Skyline College Promise, the Equity Institute, the SparkPoint Center, and the Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning—as well as capital improvements, a new baccalaureate degree, diversification of faculty and staff, and successful fundraising.

Named President Emerita by the San Mateo County Community College District Board of Trustees, Dr. Stanback Stroud is highly regarded for her work on student equity and diversity; education/industry collaboratives; economic empowerment and anti-poverty strategies; community workforce and economic development; and regional and state educational policy. Dr. Stanback Stroud served as the President of the State Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.

Dr. Stanback Stroud served as a presidential appointee on the President's Advisory Council on Financial Capability for Young Americans for President Barack Obama. In recognition of her work on equity, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges established the Regina Stanback- Stroud Diversity Award, a state-wide award that honors faculty whose work demonstrates a commitment to diversity, equity and social justice. In recognition of her leadership, the Western Regional Council on Black American Affairs established the Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud Leadership Achievement Award, awarded to individuals committed to leadership excellence and social justice.

Dr. Stanback Stroud has a rich history of board service in philanthropy, including serving on the boards of the Peralta Colleges Foundation, the San Bruno Community Foundation, the San Mateo Community College Foundation, and the United Way of the Bay Area. Dr. Stanback Stroud currently serves as a board member of Base11, a non-profit company that partners with industry, academia, and philanthropy to deploy a STEM Accelerator model. Dr. Stroud also serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Sierra Nevada Journeys, a nonprofit organization that delivers innovative outdoor, science-based education programs for youth to develop critical thinking skills and to inspire natural resource stewardship. Dr. Stanback Stroud also has served as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Mills College Educational Leadership Doctoral Program and as an adjunct professor in the San Francisco State University Educational Leadership Doctoral Program. Her areas of scholarship include the intersection of critical race theory, black feminist thought and women's leadership. Dr. Stanback Stroud has published works on women of color in leadership, workforce and economic development, and antipoverty strategies in the community colleges. She holds a Doctorate and Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Mills College, a Master's Degree in Human Relations from Golden Gate University and a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing Sciences from Howard University in Washington DC.

Thank you



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