



Dr. Ometha Lewis-Jack

Workshop: Mental and Emotional Letting Go: A Difficult Executive Functioning Process

Dr. Ometha Lewis-Jack is currently a tenured Associate Professor and Chairperson of the Department of Psychology at Bowie State University. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, Master of Science and Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Howard University where she specialized in Clinical Neuropsychology. Dr. Lewis-Jack (A.K.A Nana Atei Asiedu) is a trained and graduated priestess/healer in the Akan Tradition. She is a licensed Clinical Psychologist and Neuropsychologist. Her research interests include the role of spirituality in the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders. She also researches how the neuropsychological sequelae of brain injuries among African Americans are portrayed differently from other ethnic groups, based on cultural variables. Her recent work has been on the relationship between personality styles, executive functioning, and learning outcomes among students at a HBCU. Dr. Lewis-Jack has been able to incorporate traditional African principles and healing practices into her teachings and therapeutic work. Her goal is to help people establish a healthy balance between their physical, mental, and spiritual lives.



Tracey Battle

Workshop: *Empowering Young Voices: Leadership Skills for Tomorrow's Change Makers*

Tracey earned her B.S. in Electronic Media Journalism from North Carolina A&T State University. She then continued her education by earning a Master's degree in Urban Education from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. With a deep passion for education, Tracey has made significant impacts on school culture and achievements nationwide as both a teacher and a school leader.

Over the past five years in educational leadership, she has dedicated her efforts to providing optimal support for students, emphasizing social-emotional needs, trauma-sensitive practices, and restorative justice to redefine student success. Her commitment to these areas led her to work at the college level, including serving at Bowie State University, where she co-created restorative practice structures within higher education.

Tracey is also an author and the founder of Restore2Rebuild, LLC, an education consultancy that focuses on supporting institutions in implementing restorative justice and healing practices.



Dr. Ashley Griffin Gilchrist

Workshop: Transformative Learning: Applying Fishbowl Restorative Practices in the Classroom

Ashley Griffin Gilchrist is an esteemed assistant professor in the Behavioral Sciences and Human Services department at Bowie State University, where she also coordinates the Child and Adolescent Studies program. With a distinguished background in restorative justice, Ashley is an IIRP-trained facilitator and a dedicated faculty fellow at the Restorative Justice and Practices Institute.

Dr. Gilchrist's extensive experience includes being a Senior Fellow of Transformative SEL at the Center for Academic Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL), where she advanced transformative social-emotional learning initiatives. Her research and practice focus on the relationships between race, education policy, and the development of Black children, families, and teachers. She has made significant contributions through her research, teaching, and publications. Dr. Gilchrist's work has been featured in over 90 news articles, including The Washington Post, The Atlantic, NPR, Hechinger Report, Education Week, and African-American-focused publications like Black Enterprise and The Root. She has presented her work at numerous conferences and to congressional legislators and their staffs across the country.

Ashley holds a Ph.D. and Master's degrees in Developmental Psychology from Howard University, a bachelor's degree in psychology from Georgetown University, and certificates in Nonprofit Executive Management and Large Scale Assessment in Education from Georgetown University and the University of Maryland College Park, respectively. She is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated and a devoted mother and wife. Her commitment to equity and restorative practices has established her as a respected voice in education and social justice.



Dr. Tyreese McAllister

Workshop: Empowering Minds: A Restorative Approach to Mental Health and Healing

Dr. Tyreese R. McAllister has over 25 years of experience, providing quality mental health services. She specializes in emergency mental health helping individuals experiencing both crisis and/or traumatic events. Tyreese has a Masters of Art in Counseling Psychology and a Post Masters Certificate in Addiction Counseling from Johns Hopkins University. She is licensed in DC, Maryland, and Virginia, and holds the specialized certification that allows her to supervise counselors seeking supervision for licensure. She is a Certified Sex Offender Treatment Provider (CSOTP) and Certified Clinical Trauma Treatment Specialist. Her areas of expertise are crisis, post-traumatic stress disorder, and grief. In addition to counseling individuals experiencing psychiatric disorders and crisis, Tyreese is skilled at helping individuals work through some of life challenges, specifically anger management, conflict resolution, coping skills, stress management.



Tanielle Parker

Workshop: *Restorative Practices Roadmap: Bringing Policy to Life in a K-12 Nonpublic Private Separate Day School*

Tanielle Parker, an educator with over 19 years of experience, is pursuing a doctoral degree in Special Education Leadership at Bowie State University. Her innovative approach, rooted in a strong background in special education, has driven positive change in educational systems. As the Special Education Chairperson in Prince George's County Public Schools, she shapes policies promoting inclusivity and equity. Her expertise in special education law, curriculum development, and instructional strategies has improved student outcomes and program effectiveness.

Tanielle's career includes roles as a special education and general education teacher in DC, New York City, and Prince George's County, Maryland. In New York City, she was a curriculum writer for Harlem Academy. In DC, at Friendship Public Charter Schools, she launched initiatives like small group inclusion lesson plans, science of reading training, and behavior management programs. These experiences gave her insights into the challenges facing students with disabilities, helping her ensure that the students on her 130+ caseload reach their potential.



Laurie Anderson-Smith

Laurie Anderson-Smith is a compassionate educator with over 29 years of experience in education. She is an accomplished visionary leader with expertise in planning and program development. She graduated from George Washington University with both her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees in Education and Human Development. Ms. Anderson-Smith is currently a Doctoral candidate at Bowie State University and holds an Advanced Professional K-12 Teaching certification as well as Administrator I and Administrator II certifications.

She has served as a K-12 teacher (general and special educator), Instructional Specialist, Educational Administrator, Autism Program Supervisor, Vocational Coordinator, Grant Writer, and Adjunct Professor. She has presented at various conferences and workshops regarding special education, most recently presented at Arizona State University and Jamaica regarding methods of teaching and safely transporting students with special needs. Ms. Anderson-Smith is currently employed as a Nonpublic Instructional Specialist with Prince George's County Public Schools.



Dr. Carmen Johnson

Workshop: Hearing from Our Youth in Our Community

For 25 years, Dr. Carmen Johnson has dedicated herself to empowering diverse communities through social, civic, and economic initiatives. She champions financial responsibility and generational wealth as key to communal success. As a passionate advocate for social justice and civic engagement, Carmen champions the rights of marginalized groups, including mothers, children, seniors, the disabled, veterans, and the incarcerated. In 2018, she co-founded Helping Ourselves to Transform to promote social justice and grassroots civic engagement. Carmen tirelessly researches, analyzes policies, and drafts legislation to address injustices. She educates and advocates for the voiceless, with her lobbying efforts resonating at all levels of government. Carmen has given lectures at universities like Harvard, Yale, and American University, and authored *The Pretense of Justice* in 2022, along with three teacher workbooks for law, psychology, and sociology students. Carmen holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy, a scholar of Metaphysics, Science of the Mind, and Mental Science, a paralegal with advanced studies in criminal justice. She is pursuing certification as an American with Disabilities Legal Advocate. Carmen serves on multiple boards and committees, including the Council for Court Excellence, the National Bar Association, American Bar Association, United Nations and a congressional advisory board for Congressman Glenn Ivey. She is working on a second book about the challenges faced by professionals, particularly women, returning from incarceration. Her journey, inspired by her wrongful conviction and three-year confinement, fuels her mission to advocate for marginalized communities.



James Allrich,
Principal, Argyle Middle

James Allrich is a student-centered principal committed to ensuring each child's success through equity, collaboration, and excellence. Leading a whole-school technology magnet for nine years, he advocates for social-emotional, anti-racist practices. His leadership extends beyond the school, serving on professional boards. Recently, he was named a Washington Post Principal of the Year finalist and Maryland's Secondary Principal of the Year (2023). He is pursuing a doctorate at Bowie State, researching Restorative Justice in schools.

Workshop: Restorative Justice: Strategies to Build and Sustain School Culture

Anita Lopez,
Restorative Justice Coordinator, Argyle Middle School

Anita Lopez is the Restorative Justice Coordinator at Argyle Middle School. A former special educator, Anita now focuses on supporting students through restorative practices. In addition to her work with students, she is dedicated to building the capacity of staff to effectively implement restorative justice in their interactions and classrooms.





Bobby Morgan

Workshop: No More Broken Black Boys: Restorative Practices as Racial Repair

With his captivating and thought-provoking style, Bobby sparks action and amplifies influence. Driven by a profound passion for education, Bobby's mission is to nurture trailblazing educators, equipping them with essential tools and mindsets for success. His approach to professional growth is not only engaging but also fun, encouraging innovative teaching techniques. Specializing in empowering educators across diverse settings, Bobby excels in fostering inclusive, transformative learning environments. His firm belief in giving every student opportunities to thrive guides his work. Whether captivating audiences on stage or inspiring students in the classroom, Bobby's infectious enthusiasm for education leaves a lasting positive imprint on the future of learning.



Dr. Jay Barnett

Workshop: He-Man VS Human: (Mental & Emotional Maturity)



Dr. Fania Davis

Workshop: Community Healing through African-Centered Restorative Justice: Oakland's Story