



# BUILDING BRIDGES

A ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL INITIATIVE

**SUMMER TEACHING & LEARNING INSTITUTE**





# BUILDING BRIDGES

## SUMMER TEACHING & LEARNING INSTITUTE

We are excited to have you participating in the St. George's School Summer Teaching & Learning Institute. The conference is designed to provide an inclusive and supportive space for future and early-career BIPOC educators to expand their community and spark professional growth through workshops, networking, and social events. While on campus, you will explore your 'WHY' and leave the institute better prepared to show up as your full authentic self and equipped with the tools to ensure all your students thrive.

Dwayne Pina,  
*Building Bridges Program Director*

# WELCOME!



It is my pleasure to welcome you to St. George's Building Bridges Summer Teaching & Learning Institute. Building Bridges creates opportunities for learning and exploration, the strengthening of networks, and the broadening of professional avenues. St. George's is truly excited to host this pivotal program, providing opportunities for early career educators and students from historically Black colleges and universities to learn more about New England boarding schools. My colleagues and I are excited to meet you and partner with you in the days and years ahead.

With all best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Wirtz".

Michael C. Wirtz, *Head of School*



# PARTICIPANTS

## ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

**Dwayne Pina, St. George's School**

*Building Bridges, Program Director*  
[dwayne\\_pina@stgeorges.edu](mailto:dwayne_pina@stgeorges.edu)

**Dr. Kim W. Bullock, St. George's School**

*Director of Equity and Inclusion, STEM Teacher*  
*Building Bridges Advisory Team*

**Emmanuel Daring, St. George's School**

*Associate Director of Equity and Inclusion,*  
*Building Bridges Advisory Team*

**Melissa Mogollon, St. George's School**

*Assistant Director of Equity and Inclusion,*  
*English Teacher*

## FACILITATORS

**Varghese Alexander, Windsor School**

*Co-Head of School, Founder of the*  
*Pipeline Cooperative*

**Mark Boswell, MehtaCognition**

*Managing Director, Educator, Consultant,*  
*and Strategist*

**Justin Cerenzia, The Episcopal Academy**

*Buckley Executive Director,*  
*Center for Teaching & Learning*

**Dr. Danica Tisdale Fisher,**  
**St. Andrew's School**

*Dean of Inclusion & Belonging*

**Dr. Nicole Furlonge, Teachers College,**  
**Columbia University**

*Klingenstein Family Chair Professor of*  
*Practice in Education and Executive Director*  
*of Klingenstein Center*

**Dr. Anthony Perry,**

**The LAB School of Washington**

*Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion,*  
*and Belonging*

**Shelby Stokes, St. Luke's School**

*English Teacher; former Dean of Faculty at Riverdale*  
*Country Day School*

**Anika Walker-Johnson, Milton Academy**

*Director of Residential Life*

**Andrew Ward, Westpoint Financial Group**

*Chief of National Development*

# PARTICIPANTS

## PARTICIPANTS

**Ja'Tavius Anderson, Morehouse College**  
*Educational Studies with a double minor in  
Biology and Spanish*

**Elijah Bethune, North Carolina A&T**  
*African American Studies major*

**Dr. Nina Gilbert, Morehouse College**  
*Director for Morehouse Center for  
Excellence in Education*

**Asa Gourdine, Morehouse College**  
*Educational Studies major*

**Tre'von Henderson, Morehouse College**  
*Sociology major*

**Jarrius Jackson, Morehouse College**  
*Sociology and Communication Studies major*

**Eric James, Morehouse College**  
*Educational Studies major*

**Darion Johnson, Morehouse College**  
*Educational Studies and Sociology major*

**Darnisha Johnson, Howard University**  
*Music Education major*

**Michael Jones, Morehouse College**  
*Educational Studies major*

**Brooke Joynes, Pingree School**  
*Vocal Music Teacher*

**Awesi-Nyale Keita,  
Clark Atlanta University**  
*Elementary Education major*

**Chavi' Lassitier, Howard University**  
*Elementary Education major*

**Laila McCain, Brooks School**  
*History Educator, Admission Counselor*

**Torrien Nelson, Morehouse College**  
*Educational Studies major*

**Aleisha Sawyer, Spelman College**  
*Economics major*

**Bria Toussaint, Morehouse College**  
*Assistant Director of Academic Programs and  
Strategic Initiatives*

**Azmar Williams, Groton School**  
*History Teacher, Dorm Head*

# ITINERARY



## TUESDAY, JULY 30

- 1-3 p.m.**      **Arrival** *Main Common Room, Old School*
- 4 p.m.**      **Welcome** *Atrium, Academic Center*  
Mervan Osborne, *Associate Head of School for Student Life; St. George's School*
- 4:30 p.m.**      **SESSION 1: Navigating Independent Schools** *Atrium, Academic Center*  
Varghese Alexander, *Co-Head of School; Windsor School*  
*Founder of the Pipeline Cooperative*
- PANEL DISCUSSION**  
Dr. Kim W. Bullock, *Director of Equity and Inclusion, STEM Teacher; St. George's School*  
Dr. Danica Tisdale Fisher, *Dean of Inclusion & Belonging; St. Andrew's School*  
Anika Walker-Johnson, *Director of Residential Life; Milton Academy*
- 5:30 p.m.**      **Campus Tour** *Depart from Atrium, Academic Center*
- 6:30 p.m.**      **Welcome Cookout** *Front Lawn*
- 8 p.m.**      **REFLECTION: Your Why?** *Nash Common Room, Buell/Wheeler Dormitories*  
Sound Bath Meditation with Shaffani P. Terrell

# ITINERARY

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

- 6 a.m.**                    **OPTIONAL: Sunrise Yoga** *Surfer's End, Second Beach*
- 7:45-8:45 a.m.**        **Breakfast** *Nash Common Room, Buell/Wheeler Dormitories*
- 9-10:30 a.m.**         **SESSION 2: Cognitive Science in the Classroom** *The Davenport Room, Nathaniel P. Hill Library*  
Dr. Anthony Perry, *Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging;*  
*The LAB School of Washington*
- 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**      **ACTIVITY 1: YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE** *The Davenport Room, Nathaniel P. Hill Library*  
Andrew Ward, *Chief of National Development; Westpoint Financial Group*
- 12-2 p.m.**             **Lunch** *Nash Terrace, Buell/Wheeler Dormitories*
- 2-3:30 p.m.**         **SESSION 3: Your Philosophy of Education** *Room 23, Memorial Schoolhouse*  
Shelby Stokes, *English Teacher; St. Luke's School*  
*former Dean of Faculty; Riverdale Country Day School*
- 3:30-4:30 p.m.**      **Free Time**
- 4:45 p.m.**             **Group Photo** *Atrium, Academic Center*
- 5 p.m.**                 **Keynote Address** *Atrium, Academic Center*  
Dr. Nicole Furlonge, *Klingenstein Family Chair Professor of Practice in Education and*  
*Executive Director of Klingenstein Center; Teachers College, Columbia University*
- 6:30 p.m.**             **Dinner** *Front Lawn*
- 8 p.m.**                 **REFLECTION: How Do You Plant Your Garden?**  
Fire pit and S'mores



# ITINERARY

## THURSDAY, AUG. 1

- 7:45-8:45 a.m.      **Breakfast** *Nash Common Room, Buell/Wheeler Dormitories*
- 9-10:30 a.m.      **SESSION 4: Modern Grading: Grading Practices That Promote Equity, Inclusivity, Motivation, and Belonging** *Room 23, Memorial Schoolhouse*  
Mark Boswell, *Managing Director*; MehtaCognition
- 11 a.m.-12 p.m.      **ACTIVITY 2: Making Identity Visible** *Greenhouse Field*  
Dr. Danica Tisdale Fisher, *Dean of Inclusion & Belonging*; *St. Andrew's School*  
Anika Walker-Johnson, *Director of Residential Life*; *Milton Academy*
- 12-2 p.m.      **Lunch** *Nash Terrace, Buell/Wheeler Dormitories*
- 2-3 p.m.      **ACTIVITY 3: Reflection in Real Time** *Room 23, Memorial Schoolhouse*  
Mark Boswell, *Managing Director*; MehtaCognition
- 4:45 p.m.      **Dinner** *Nash Terrace, Buell/Wheeler Dormitories*
- 6 p.m.      **Newport Harbor Cruise** *Depart from Old School Front Circle*
- 8:30 p.m.      **Free Time** *Downtown Newport*



# ITINERARY



## FRIDAY, AUG. 2

- 9:30-10:10 a.m.**      **Breakfast** *Nash Common Room, Buell/Wheeler Dormitories*
- 10:15 a.m.**          **SESSION 5: From Algorithms to Access: Teaching & Learning in the age of AI**  
*Room 23, Memorial Schoolhouse*  
Justin Cerenzia, *Buckley Executive Director, Center for Teaching & Learning;*  
*The Episcopal Academy*
- 12:15 p.m.**          **Newport Jazz Festival** *Depart from Old School Front Circle*
- 8:30 p.m.**            **Free Time** *Downtown Newport*

## SATURDAY, AUG. 3

- 8:30-9:15 a.m.**      **Breakfast** *Nash Common Room, Buell/Wheeler Dormitories*  
Please have your luggage packed prior to breakfast.
- 9:30 a.m.**            **SESSION 6: Continuing to Navigate Independent Schools** *Main Common Room, Old School*  
Jim Hamilton, *Head of School; Berwick Academy*  
Dr. Kim W. Bullock, *Director of Equity and Inclusion, STEM Teacher; St. George's School*  
Varghese Alexander, *Co-Head of School; Windsor School*  
*Founder of the Pipeline Cooperative*
- 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**    **Closing Discussion** *Main Common Room, Old School*  
Dwayne Pina, *Building Bridges Program Director; St. George's School*
- 12 p.m.**              **Depart** *Old School Front Circle*

# SESSIONS



## **NAVIGATING INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS** Varghese Alexander

Whether you are the only or one of many, the first years of working at an independent school include pitfalls and opportunities that a number of us with decades in schools have experienced and helped usher newly minted teachers through. From ideas of what rigor means coming from an immigrant context to how to leverage retirement and other benefits, the first five years often determine the likelihood of longevity in the industry. Starting with broad strokes about his own experience, Varghese will then invite a panel of administrators to discuss their own path from imposter syndrome to creating their own cohort and now aiding with leadership decisions.



## **BRAIN-BASED CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING** Dr. Anthony Perry

This workshop focuses on the intersection between the science of learning and culturally responsive teaching practices, with a special emphasis on Zaretta Hammond's work, *Culturally Responsive Teaching and The Brain*. The goal is to provide participants with a foundational understanding and practical strategies to create inclusive, engaging, and effective learning environments.

**Pre-reading:** Chapter 3, "This Is Your Brain on Culture: Understanding How Culture Programs the Brain" (Zaretta Hammond, *Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain*)



## **CRAFTING A TEACHING PHILOSOPHY** Shelby Stokes

*"Philosophy is what you DO, not what you say. Philosophy and your teaching need to mesh."*  
- Jonas Soltis

*"Your teaching philosophy must keep you uneasy. How does it keep you in a perpetual state of becoming?"* - Maxine Greene

Being a reflective practitioner of what we value as teachers is essential, and we are always navigating the intersection between the "taught curriculum" (the content we teach) and the "learned curriculum" (the values and habits of mind we want students to embrace that are both discipline-specific and transdisciplinary).

This workshop will explore what goes into articulating a teaching philosophy. Most teaching positions in independent schools ask for a philosophy statement as part of the application process. We will start drafting a philosophy (for pre-service teachers) or revising a philosophy (for early career teachers). If you already have a philosophy, please bring it for some tinkering! Some questions we will pursue:

- What does it mean to be a practitioner of your discipline? What do exemplary practitioners of your discipline do, and why?
- What does your classroom look like from the learner's perspective?
- How do you make your values as an educator visible and actionable in your classroom? Does your pedagogy align with what you value as an educator? How do you know?

# SESSIONS



## **MODERN GRADING: GRADING PRACTICES THAT PROMOTE EQUITY, INCLUSIVITY, MOTIVATION, AND BELONGING** Mark Boswell

Conventional grading methods are inadequate in accurately capturing (and conveying) what students have learned. Not only that, these outdated practices amplify inequities inherent in our educational system and society. This interactive session will provide an overview of the history of traditional grading, a discussion of traditional practices, introduce more equitable/inclusive grading practices, and emphasize the need for updating grading systems to reflect contemporary values.



## **FROM ALGORITHMS TO ACCESS: TEACHING & LEARNING IN THE AGE OF AI** Justin Cerenzia

This presentation examines the impact of artificial intelligence on teaching and learning, with a focus on promoting equity and access in education. We will explore how AI technologies are shaping educational practices and discuss strategies to ensure these advancements support inclusivity. Through case studies and current trends, participants will gain insights into integrating AI effectively and ethically into their teaching environments.



# PIPELINE COOPERATIVE

We are a network of schools and educational practitioners of color from across the country who connect directly with local colleges in order to inform, mentor, and grow the next generation of teachers at independent schools.

## ***BROADEN THE PIPELINE OF TEACHERS OF COLOR AT EVERY LEVEL.***

- Create long term connections between independent schools and colleges/universities.
- Create a purpose for administrators of color to gather and calibrate best practices in hiring (and all things.)
- Strengthen the network between early career teachers of color and administrators of color to ensure the sustainability of the work.

**Varghese Alexander**, Co-Head of School, arrived at Windsor School in the Bahamas in 2021. A 20+ year veteran of boarding schools, Varghese has taught, coached, geeked out about technology, cooked for and helped onboard numerous faculty members into independent schools. He returned to the Klingenstein Summer Institute as co-lead teacher in teacher in 2013 and co-directed the program during his final three years of a 10-year run. Varghese is the founding director of Pipeline Cooperative.

**Mark Boswell** is managing director of MehtaCognition Consulting. Prior to MehtaCognition, Mark worked closely with Joe Feldman's (author of Grading for Equity) Crescendo Education Group and partnered with public and private institutions who were looking to shift grading practices. In 2016, at Galloway in Atlanta, Mark developed a professional development opportunity for educators of color pursuing leadership roles within independent schools called BOLD. Currently, he serves on the Board of Directors for Challenge Success and the Governing Board of The Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School.

**Dr. Kim W. Bullock** Dr. Kim W. Bullock is a native Washingtonian and has been at St. George's since 1996. She currently serves as the Director of Equity and Inclusion and as a member of the STEM faculty. She earned her B.A. in Biology from Hampton University and her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Florida. She is the inaugural holder of the W. Clyde Dorsey '70 Chair for Diversity, Inclusion and Leadership, coaches JV girls' basketball, serves as dorm parent and as a faculty advisor for the Young Women of Color and Insight Multicultural clubs.

**Jim Hamilton** is the Head of School at Berwick Academy. As a graduate of The Roxbury Latin School, Jim credits his independent school experience with transforming his life. He has dedicated his professional career to creating opportunities for students and the advancement of independent schools. Jim began his career at Brooks School. He then served as the Director of Admission and Financial Aid at St. George's School for nine years before returning to Brooks as the Associate Head for External Affairs, a position he held for five years before coming to Berwick. Now in his sixth year, Jim was recently elected to both the Headmasters Association and the Country Day School Headmasters Association. He currently serves on the board at The Roxbury Latin School, The Enrollment Management Association, and The Music Hall.

**Dr. Danica Tisdale Fisher** joined St. Andrew's School in 2022 as dean of inclusion and belonging. She is a DEIJ practitioner with 15 years of progressive experience in the development and oversight of academic programs, policies, and initiatives in higher education and independent schools.

**Shelby Stokes** will join the faculty of St. Luke's School in Connecticut as an English teacher this fall. She previously taught Upper School Humanities at St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, and Middle and Upper School English for thirteen years at the Fieldston School in the Bronx, where she was also the English department chair. During her eleven-year tenure at Riverdale Country School, she taught Middle and Upper School English and served as Dean of Faculty.

**Anika Walker-Johnson** is the Director of Residential Life at Milton Academy. She oversees all aspects of student residential life, including dormitory operations and programming. She is deeply committed to creating a healthy and positive living environment for Milton Academy students and the adults who support them. Previous, Anika was the Director of Equity and Inclusion at both Germantown Academy in Fort Washington, Penn. and Tabor Academy in Marion, Mass. Throughout her 20+ years of experience in independent school education, which began in the English classroom, Anika has promoted cross-cultural competency for school community members, facilitated community education events, served as a faculty and student mentor, and co-led recruitment strategies for increasing diversity among faculty and administrative hires.

# NEWPORT JAZZ FESTIVAL

All are welcome at Newport Folk Festival and Newport Jazz Festival regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, gender presentation, sexual orientation, age, body size, disability, appearance, religion, citizenship or pregnancy. We have a zero-tolerance policy for discrimination or harassment of any kind.

## WHAT TIME DOES EVERYTHING OPEN?

Gates: 10 a.m.

Food, crafts and merchandise: 10 a.m.

Music: 11 a.m.

Times subject to change.

## IF I LEAVE THE EVENT GROUNDS, CAN I GET BACK IN?

There is **no re-entry** to the festival grounds. The Fort Adams Visitors Center is located inside the gates, providing permanent bathrooms and an ATM. Please pack accordingly for the day.

## WHAT IS PROHIBITED?

- Discrimination or harassment of any kind
- Bags larger than 20" x 20" x 10"
- Glass containers
- Hard coolers
- Beach umbrellas or beach balls
- Unsealed beverages
- Alcoholic beverages
- Illegal substances
- Firearms
- Tools including knives, box cutters and Leathermen
- Pepper spray, mace, or any item that could be used as a weapon

## DIGITAL TICKETS

Newport Folk Festival and Newport Jazz Festival tickets are now all digital. Tickets will only be delivered via the DICE mobile app and your smartphone will be scanned at the gate. No PDF or paper tickets will be issued. Tickets will be delivered to your mobile phone closer to the event. Only the live ticket QR code from your DICE app on your mobile phone will be accepted at the gate. Screenshots, email confirmation and printouts are not valid.

## CAMERAS & RECORDING

Professional audio and video equipment are prohibited, as is audio-capturing. Please be courteous when using your cell phone or non-professional camera (no detachable lenses) to take pictures and video. We encourage you to keep cell phone and camera use to a minimum as to not interfere with others' experiences. Be present!



**NEWPORT JAZZ** 2024  
FRIDAY • AUGUST 2ND

ANDRÉ 3000 • KAMASI WASHINGTON • BRITTANY HOWARD • CORY WONG  
PJ MORTON • GALACTIC WITH IRMA THOMAS • MOONCHILD • CHIEF ADJUAH  
BILL FRISSELL FOUR FEATURING JOHNATHAN BLAKE, GERALD CLAYTON, & GREGORY TARDY  
AJA MONET • SUN RA ARKESTRA • KENNY BARRON TRIO  
BRANDEE YOUNGER • JALEEL SHAW • ANEESA STRINGS • CISCO SWANK

SATURDAY • AUGUST 3RD

DINNER PARTY FEAT. TERRACE MARTIN, ROBERT GLASPER, KAMASI WASHINGTON  
ELVIS COSTELLO • THIEVERY CORPORATION • SAMARA JOY • TERRACE MARTIN  
GHOST-NOTE • ARTEMIS • LIANNE LA HAVAS • STANLEY CLARKE N-4EVER  
ACID JAZZ IS DEAD W/ DJS ADRIAN YOUNGE, ALI SHAHEED MUHAMMAD (A TRIBE CALLED QUEST), & SPECIAL GUESTS  
DANILO PÉREZ, JOHN PATITUCCI, TERRI LYNE CARRINGTON, & RAVI COLTRANE: LEGACY OF WAYNE SHORTER  
JOHNATHAN BLAKE PENTAD WITH IMMANUEL WILKINS, JOEL ROSS, DAVID VIRELLES, & DEZRON DOUGLAS  
ANAT COHEN QUARTETINHO • THEO CROKER • RILEY MULHERKER • NICOLE ZURAITIS

SUNDAY • AUGUST 4TH

NILE RODGERS & CHIC • LAUFEBY • ROBERT GLASPER • NONAME  
CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE'S JAM JAWN  
WITH DIANNE REEVES, FRED WESLEY, STEVE JORDAN, RUSSELL GUNN, CHRISTIAN SANDS, & MORE  
MESHELL NDEGECELLO • SHABAKA • MAKAYA MCCRAVEN • JEFF PARKER  
CIMA FUNK • JULIUS RODRIGUEZ • ALEX ISLEY • KASSA OVERALL  
THE MESSTHETICS & JAMES BRANDON LEWIS • AMARO FREITAS • SUNDAY JAZZ

CELEBRATE OUR 70TH ANNIVERSARY • VISIT [NEWPORTJAZZ.ORG](http://NEWPORTJAZZ.ORG) FOR DETAILS

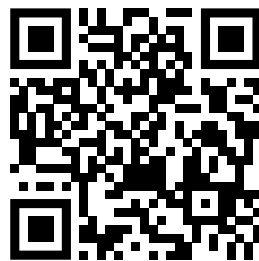
that could be used as a weapon

- Flag poles
- Professional audio, photography and video equipment (no detachable lenses)
- Laser pointers
- Pets
- Plastic bags
- Plastic straws
- Selfie sticks
- Canes and Trekking Sticks with metal points protruding from bottom (or concealed)
- Drones

# LEARN MORE



To learn more about St. George's School strategic plan use the codes below:



**Strategic Plan**

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Campus Safety: (401) 842-6666

Dwayne Pina: (401) 255-3482