



BUILDING BRIDGES

A ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL INITIATIVE

CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAM: WEST COAST



STEVENSON



CATE SCHOOL

THE THACHER SCHOOL



HARVARD WESTLAKE SCHOOL



BUILDING BRIDGES

SPRING CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAM

The Building Bridges Career Exploration Program is a groundbreaking initiative designed to provide aspiring educators with a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of independent schools. This program caters to future teachers' curiosity and professional development needs by offering them insightful and hands-on experience within diverse independent educational institutions. Through a carefully structured curriculum, participants gain valuable insights into the distinctive locations, departments, philosophies, teaching methodologies, and student-centered approaches that are the hallmark of these schools. Participants will observe and collaborate with experienced educators, fostering a deep understanding of the innovative practices that independent schools employ. The program will provide you with in-depth insight and knowledge of these dynamic and empowering environments and help guide you in the ever-evolving field of education to determine if this path is right for you.

Dwayne Pina,
Building Bridges Program Director



WELCOME!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the West Coast for the Building Bridges Spring Career Exploration Program. Building Bridges creates opportunities for learning and exploration, the strengthening of networks, and the broadening of professional avenues. St. George's School and our Partner School Network are 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 independent schools. We are thrilled to work with Stevenson, Cate, Thacher and Harvard-Westlake, enabling us to broaden the reach and impact of Building Bridges. We are excited to meet you and collaborate 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, St. George's School



SCHOOL OVERVIEWS

STEVENSON SCHOOL

3152 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953



- All gender boarding and day school: grades PK - 12
- Number of Students: 775
- Boarding students: 53%
- Students of color: 54%

CATE SCHOOL

1960 Cate Mesa Road, Carpinteria, CA 93013



- All gender boarding and day school: grades 9 - 12
- Number of Students: 303
- Boarding students: 80%
- Students of color: 54%

THE THACHER SCHOOL

5025 Thacher Road, Ojai, CA, 93023



- All gender boarding and day school: grades 9 - 12
- Number of Students: 250
- Boarding students: 95%
- Students of color: 55%

HARVARD-WESTLAKE SCHOOL

700 N Faring Road, Los Angeles, CA, 09977



- All gender day school: grades 7 - 12
- Number of Students: 1,620 (745 Middle, 875 Upper)
- Students of color: 55%

PARTICIPANTS

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



Dwayne Pina, St. George's School
Building Bridges Program Director
dwayne_pina@stgeorges.edu



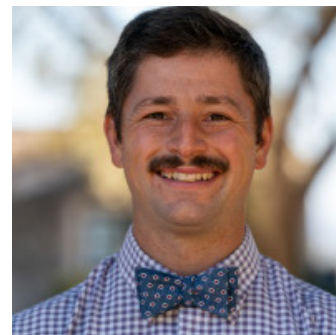
Christian Garris, The Thacher School
*Director of Multicultural Outreach;
Associate Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion*
cgarris@thacher.org



Janine Jones, Harvard-Westlake School
Assistant Head of School for Community and Belonging



Jacob Rivers, Stevenson School
*Co-Director of Equity and Inclusion,
English Faculty: Upper Division*
jrivers@stevensonschool.org



Troy Shapiro, Cate School
Dean of the Faculty, Science Teacher
troy_shapiro@cate.org

PARTICIPANTS

PARTICIPANTS

Kamren Adams, Howard University
Mathematics major

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

Da'Quan Brown, Morehouse College
Educational Studies major

Avyance Ervin, Morehouse College
Program Assistant

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

Asa Gourdine, Morehouse College
Educational Studies major

Jada Holloway, Spelman College
Sociology with a minor in Public Health

Darnisha Johnson, Howard University
Music Education major

Dr. Katina January-Vance,
Howard University, School of Education
Director of School and University Partnerships

T'Ari Jones, Clark Atlanta University
Early Childhood Education major

Awesi-Nyale Keita, Clark Atlanta University
Elementary Education major

Brooklyn King, Howard University
English major

Dr. Kristin Moody, Morehouse College
Director of Academic Programs & Strategic Initiatives

Evan McCrary, Morehouse College
Educational Studies major

Torrien Nelson, Morehouse College
Educational Studies major

G'Khyri Patterson, Morehouse College
Educational Studies major

Jasmine Prime, Howard University
English major

Marchellos Scott, Morehouse College
Educational Studies major

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

Morgan Willis, Howard University
Mathematics major

ITINERARY

STEVENSON SCHOOL

Monterey, CA

Sunday, April 21

- 9 a.m. Stevenson Van Pick up Group from San Francisco Airport to Casa Munras Hotel
- 11:30 a.m. Stevenson Vans Pick up Group from San Jose Airport to Casa Munras Hotel
- 1 p.m. Drop Off at Hotel
- 5:25 p.m. Walk from Hotel to Heirloom Pizza
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner at Heirloom Pizza

Monday, April 22

- 8 a.m. Stevenson Bus Pick up group to Pebble Beach Campus
- 8:15 - 8:45 a.m. Breakfast *Reid Hall*
- 8:45 - 9:50 a.m. Speakers and Q & A *Treasure Room*
Isa Aguirre, *Co-Director Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion*
Susan Khanna, *Director of Human Resources*
Amy Graham, *Director of Enrollment Management*
Phillip Koshi, *Dean of Students*
Sarah Koshi, *Director of Community Education*
Lucy Stockdale, *Director of Residential Life*
Deirdre Newell, *Director of Counseling*
Shanae Vaifanua-Pace, *Associate Director, Student Support & Wellness*
Justin Clymo, *Athletic Director*
Galen Mergliano, *Director of Outdoor Education*
- 9:50 - 10:30 a.m. Coffee with black student union (BSU) *Treasure Room*
- 10:30 - 11:40 a.m. Upper Division Classroom Observations
Art, Steph Pratt, Main *Art Studio*
Spanish, Zeila Frade, *Talbott 102*
Spanish 3 Honors, Carolina Fabry, *Talbott 104*
English, Rosanna McCormick, *Talbott 202*
Digital Fabrication, Mike Boone, *Talbot 115*
Algebra Honors, Germano Diniz, *Talbott 211*
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Lunch with Aimee Bates, Head of Upper Division, and JD Gladden, Dean of Academic Life *Reid Hall Patio*
- 12:30 - 1 p.m. Pebble Beach Campus and Faculty Residence Tour with Franco Pacheco and Allen Garner, Assistant Directors of Admission *Meet at Fire Pit*

ITINERARY

Monday cont'd

- 1:05 - 1:25 p.m. **Stevenson Bus Pick up Group from Pebble Beach Campus to Carmel Campus**
- 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. **Classroom observations Lower (PK-4) and Middle (5-8) Division**
See handout for details.
- 2:30 - 3:15p.m. **Speakers and Q & A** *Cottage Lawn*
Nifemi Ogunsuyi, *Head of Lower Division*
Molly Bozzo, *Interim Head of Middle Division*
Tyler Brown, *Dean of Middle Division*
Alex Pattenaude, *School Counselor (PK-8)*
- 3:15 - 4 p.m. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion** *Cottage Lawn*
Jacob Rivers and Isa Aguirre, *Co-Directors of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion*
- 4 - 4:30 p.m. **Carmel Campus Tour**
Susan Rymzo, *Director of Admissions, Lower and Middle Division*
- 4:30 p.m. **Stevenson Bus Pick up Group from Carmel Campus to Pebble Beach Campus**
- 4:45 - 5:30 p.m. **Free time** *Treasure Room, Rosen*
Optional – Boys Varsity Lacrosse *Athletic Fields*
- 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Dinner with President and Upper Division Department Chairs** *Treasure Room, Rosen*
- 7:30 p.m. **Stevenson Bus Pick up Group from Pebble Beach Campus to Casa Munras Hotel**

Tuesday, April 23

- 8 a.m. **Stevenson Vans transport group to Pebble Beach Campus**
- 8:30 - 9 a.m. **Breakfast** *Reid Hall*
- 9 - 10 a.m. **Closing Conversation and Q & A** *Treasure Room*
- 10:10 - 10:50 a.m. **Assembly** *Wandke Amphitheatre*
- 11 a.m. **Stevenson Vans transport group to Salinas Amtrak**
Boxed lunch provided.
- 6:15 p.m. **Cate vans pick up group from Santa Barbara train station and drive to dinner**
Restaurant TBD
- 8 p.m. **Cate vans drive group to Cate School and move into Pierce House**
- 9 p.m. **Schedule review for Wednesday, class sign-ups, and prep for lunch discussion**
Cate vans drive chaperones to Holiday Inn Carpinteria

ITINERARY

CATE SCHOOL

Carpinteria, CA

Wednesday, April 24

- 7:30 a.m. **Breakfast** *Booth Commons*
- 8 a.m. **Inquiry and Inclusive Teaching at Cate** *Booth Commons*
Annalee Salcedo, *Dean of Academic*, joined by teacher hosts of D/E Block Classes
- 8:30 a.m. **Class visits and department break-outs**
- 10:45 a.m. **Assembly** *Hitchcock Theater*
- 11:15 a.m. **Lunchtime conversations by topic with students** *Booth Commons*
- 11:50 a.m. **College Counseling at Cate** *College Counseling Office*
Maude Bond, *Director of College Counseling*
Margot Dorion, *Senior Associate Director of College Counseling*
Amy Giles, *College Counselor*
Sara Boardman, *College Counseling Office Manager & Test Coordinator*
- 12:20 p.m. **Lunchtime conversations by topics with students resume** *Booth Commons*
- 2 p.m. **Life at a PWI as an educator of color** *85' House*
Presenters TBD

Afternoon/Evening Options

- 3:30 - 5 p.m. **Sports practice**
- 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. **Deeper dive with specific division**
Meet with academic department, administration, admissions, college counseling, DEI, and/or health services.
- 3:30 - 5 p.m. **Carp State Beach downtime**
- 5:15 - 8 p.m. **Public Service Night at PATH**

- 6 p.m. **Dinner with BSU and HLA, 10-15 from Thatcher** *Pierce House*
- 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. **Dorm duty**

ITINERARY

THE THACHER SCHOOL

Ojai, CA

Thursday, April 25

- 7 a.m. **Depart Cate to drive to Thacher**
- 7:45 a.m. **Drop off luggage / Schedule for the day** *Thacher Room*
- 8 a.m. **Breakfast w/ BSU Students and Faculty** *Dining Hall*
Dr. Gina Greene, *History Department, Community Service*
Dr. Kendrea Hart, *Director of Counseling and Wellness*
Christian Garris, *Director of Multicultural Outreach; Associate Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion*
- 8:45 a.m. **A Conversation with College Counseling** *Thacher Room*
Maria Morales-Kent, *Director of College Counseling*
Czarina Hutchins, *Associate Director of College Counseling*
- 9:15 a.m. **Welcome by Jeff Hooper, Head of School, and Philosophy Presentation** *Thacher Room*
Bill McMahon, *Director of Enrollment and Planning*
- 10:05 a.m. **Class Visits**
- 11:15 a.m. **Lunch with Fisher Fellows & Tim Sullivan, Dean of Faculty** *DH - West Patio*
Nicole Chung, *Fisher Fellow - Science*
Edgar Arceo, *Former Fisher Fellow - Science*
Miguel Wise, *Fisher Fellow - History*
Ali Rahman, *Former Fisher Fellow - English*
- 12 p.m. **Break**
- 12:30 p.m. **Campus Tour**
- 1:30 p.m. **Speed Networking**
Sepideah Mohsenian-Rahman, *Director of DEI; Counselor*
Justin Arnold, *Director of People Operations*
Megan Carney, *Director of Student Life*
Tracy Miller, *Associate Head of School; Director of Studies*
Jeff Hooper, *Head of School*
Tim Sullivan, *Dean of Faculty; Upper School Dorm Head*

ITINERARY

Thursday cont'd

- 2:30 p.m. **Outdoor / Afternoon Program** *Khale Arena / Outdoor Chapel*
Cam Spaulding, *Director of Backcountry Program*
Jason Carney, *Director of Afternoon Programs*
- 3:15 p.m. **Group Photo** *Outdoor Chapel*
- 3:30 p.m. **Horse Experience** *Barns/Arenas*
- 4:15 p.m. **Depart Thacher to LA via Bus**

HARVARD-WESTLAKE SCHOOL

Los Angeles, CA

Friday, April 26

- 8:15 a.m. **Depart hotel**
- 8:45 a.m. **Arrive at Harvard-Westlake School**
- 9 a.m. **Welcome**
- 10 a.m. **Day School Panel/Fair**
- 11 p.m. **Departure Flights**



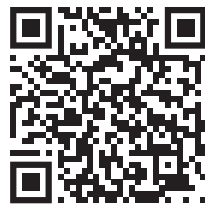
LEARN MORE



To learn more about each school's DEI strategic initiatives
use the QR codes below:



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Cate School
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The Thacher School
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*Associate Director of Admission,
Associate Director of Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion*
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Harvard-Westlake School
Janine Jones
*Assistant Head of School for
Community and Belonging*

www.stgeorges.edu/buildingbridges
[Instagram: sg_buildingbridges](https://www.instagram.com/sg_buildingbridges)

TESTIMONIALS

Kyle Mason, **Cate School**

Director of Admission & Enrollment

On Building Bridges

- “ Building Bridges is such an amazing initiative. It’s something that many of us, meaning black professionals in independent schools, have been thinking about, speaking about, dreaming about, and wanting to see happen for years. And to have St. George’s do this, bring this into fruition is a dream come true. The ability to expand the opportunities for black professionals who want to enter the world of education and the ability to share the independent school avenue with people is mind-blowing because **most of black America is unaware that this world exists**, let alone they can work in it and build a lifestyle.
- “ The partnership that Cate has created with Building Bridges only expands and builds upon what we have been trying to do since 2008, and it makes our work that much easier and affirms everything we are doing on this campus.”
- “ Programs like Building Bridges continue to put independent schools in a position to be a place where every child who is eligible to handle the rigor of that school can feel like they belong, they can feel like they are supposed to be there and that someone is going to champion you. They can feel like these (independent schools) are for you”

Randy Person, **Cate School**

English Teacher, Assistant Dean of Students

On Impact of Building Bridges

- “ The impact of having this HBCU cohort on Cate’s campus is immediate and immense, and it won’t only last a day or two while they are on campus; rather, my mind will be wondering about its endless possibilities.”

On Cate’s involvement

- “ I’m in a great position to speak to that. As a Cate alum, when I was a student, I was so affirmed in who I was. People saw me. They raised me. They celebrated who I was. And at the same time, no one pushed me to explore my blackness in the way that I needed to. In part, that’s why I’m back at Cate as a faculty member, to be that representation pushing students to think about their culture... Partnering with Building Bridges helps that same goal. **These future educators are so affirmed in their identity** and are driven by sharing what they know and their experiences with like-minded people with the same identities and with those with different identities. The impact of having Building Bridges prospective teachers on campus is so important to the future of boarding schools.”

Troy Shapiro, **Cate School**

Dean of Faculty, Science Teacher

On Building Bridges

- “ When we heard about Building Bridges’ mission to create stronger ties between HBCUs and the life and work at a boarding school, we knew this was a perfect match with what we have been hoping to do. It’s been a strategic initiative for most boarding schools and certainly Cate for a long time to improve the diversity of our faculty, making sure our students are represented.”



TESTIMONIALS

Janine Jones, **Harvard-Westlake School**

Assistant Head of School for Community and Belonging

Impact of Building Bridges

“ The Building Bridges program is absolutely incredible. All of LA day, schools that were represented kept raving about the event. The HBCU students were so **wildly impressive with the authenticity in which they showed up** in that room. It was something that the **heads of our schools needed to see.**”



Laura Ross, **Harvard-Westlake School**

Head of School

Impact of Building Bridges

“ **This lunch (Building Bridges Event) was SO POWERFUL.** Thank you for organizing it, and I’m excited to see what we can do to build an LA day school cohort to carry this forward.”

Alona Scott, **The Buckley School**

Head of School

Impact of Building Bridges

“ The Building Bridges program participants were so inspiring. I hope all of them land in independent schools, but if nothing else, I hope they come away from the Building Bridges program as ambassadors for our schools. **The impact will be like the butterfly effect. Culture will change.**”

Ja’Tavius Anderson, **Morehouse College, Class of 2025**

Education Studies Major, Double minor in Biology & Spanish

Impact of Building Bridges

“ Where I’m from, I’ve only seen public and charter schools. **Through Building Bridges, I’ve learned so much about independent schools.** The schools that we have visited encompass what I believe in as a teacher: an environment that balances a child’s mental well-being, happiness, and academics.”



TESTIMONIALS



Morgan Willis, Howard University, Class of 2025

Mathematics Major

Impact of Building Bridges

“ This program (Building Bridges) has been eye-opening to me because I didn’t know too much about independent schools, especially boarding schools. Knowing there are other opportunities out there with **safe and inclusive spaces** for us is inspiring.”

Nor Harwell, Cate School, Class of 2025

Impact of Building Bridges

“ When I learned about the Building Bridges visit, I was jumping up and down. **I was so excited to meet students from HBCUs because, at Cate, not a lot of students go to HBCUs.** I was thrilled to hear and learn about their experiences and to have the opportunity to talk to the amazing five women who attend Howard.”



Victoria Darko, Cate School, Class of 2025

Impact of Building Bridges

“ As a black high school student, it was amazing to see a group of black college students who are thriving and interested in the field of education. **Not knowing much about HBCUs prior to this experience, I can confidently say I have learned a lot and I am considering applying to a few.** This experience not only gives black high school students an understanding of what it is like to go to a school/institution where they are the majority, but also shows them that there are HBCUs full of culture and diversity that are just as prestigious as other schools. I really enjoyed this experience, because I feel that Stevenson’s Black Student Union was able to **connect with the college students easily and form a great bond.** My favorite part of the HBCUs students’ visit was when they all sang multiple versions of the happy birthday song when finding out it was my birthday. It was a memory that will always stick with me, because of how unplanned yet meaningful it was.”





BUILDING BRIDGES

A ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL INITIATIVE

SUMMER TEACHING & LEARNING INSTITUTE College Student Application

ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL AND BUILDING BRIDGES invites you to our annual Summer Teaching & Learning Institute. The four-night, five-day residential retreat is designed for early-career BIPOC educators. This conference aims to create an inclusive and supportive environment for aspiring educators to enhance a sense of belonging and nurture professional growth through workshops, networking, and social events.

Building Bridges has partnered with the [Pipeline Cooperative](#), “a network of schools and BIPOC educators who connect directly with colleges to inform, mentor, and grow the next generation of teachers at independent schools.” Educators from this organization will be on campus hosting a networking sessions at the conclusion of the program.

Building Bridges is a reciprocatory recruitment and retention program designed for future educators of color to increase access and exposure to independent schools and enhance awareness of enrolled high school students to historically Black colleges and universities.

SUMMER 2024 PROGRAM APPLICATION

Dates: July 30, 2024 – August 3, 2024

Location: St. George's School, Middletown RI

Prospective Candidates: Future educators; Class of 2024, 2025, or 2026

Application Deadline: May 21, 2024

Building Bridges will cover all expenses.

APPLY NOW. Click the link below or scan the QR code to the right.

[Summer Teaching & Learning Institute Application](#)



Please pass this flyer to any students who would be interested and benefit from such a program.

www.stgeorges.edu/buildingbridges



BUILDING BRIDGES

A ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL INITIATIVE

SUMMER TEACHING & LEARNING INSTITUTE Early Career Registration

ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL AND BUILDING BRIDGES invites you to our annual Summer Teaching & Learning Institute. The conference will provide an inclusive and supportive space for early career BIPOC educators to expand their community and spark professional growth through workshops, networking, and social events.

The program will conclude with an event hosted by the [Pipeline Cooperative](#); a network of schools and veteran BIPOC educators who connect directly with young professionals to mentor and grow the next generation of teachers at independent schools.



Learn more about the
Pipeline Cooperative:

<https://www.pipelinecooperative.org/>

Dates: July 30, 2024 - August 3, 2024

Location: St. George's School, Middletown RI

Tuition: \$1500

Lodging & Meals: Provided on campus

Prospective Candidates: First, Second, and Third year BIPOC Educators

TAKE PART IN AN IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

The institute will include an opening and closing keynote address, active workshops led by experienced facilitators designed to give participants innovative strategies and skills to thrive in the profession, and quality time for bonding among the attendees. By exploring and redefining your "WHY" as an educator of color, you will leave the institute better prepared to show up as your full authentic self and equipped with the tools to ensure all your students thrive.

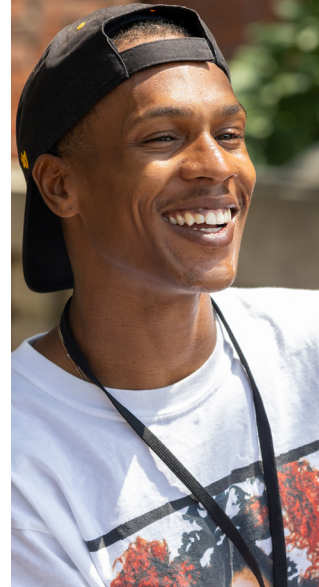
With access to Newport's spectacular coastal scenery, beaches, downtown waterfront activities, and the [Newport Jazz Festival](#), **St. George's School Summer Teaching & Learning Institute** hopes to cultivate career-long relationships for early career teachers of color.

SIGN UP NOW. Click the link below or scan the QR code to the right.

[Summer Teaching & Learning Institute
Registration](#)



www.stgeorges.edu/buildingbridges



BUILDING BRIDGES

Invest in diversity, equity, and **education.**

