



SHEMARIAH J ARKI, EdD

www.shemariaharki.com ● bookme@shemariaharki.com ● 216.346.8730

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Shemariah J. Arki identifies as an educator, an activist and an organizer. Currently serving as an instructor in the Department of Pan African Studies at Kent State University and the founder of the Ellipsis Institute for Women of Color in the Academy at Case Western Reserve University, she is an intersectional feminist scholar with expert knowledge and skills to develop, implement, facilitate and evaluate curricula that promote institutional equity, communication, and access for traditionally marginalized students and families. Shemariah received her BBA and MEd from the American Intercontinental University and her EdD from Northeastern University. Dr. Arki's dissertation research centers the voices of northeast Ohio youth as they respond to hate, particularly in the wake of #BlackLivesMatter.

As an auto/ethnographic researcher and creative non-fiction writer, her work centers cultural epistemologies and the construction of a #BlackCommaFeminist pedagogy. Shemariah is one of five editors for the forthcoming textbook, *Teaching Brilliant and Beautiful Black Girls*, curated to position classrooms as places of radical transformation and to amplify the voices of the Black girls who inhabit them. In addition, she is working to edit a volume, *Gender and Sexualities in Ghanaian Societies*, forthcoming in 2021.

Shemariah also serves outside the academy as the Founder and Lead Experience Curator for Sankofa Circle Studios, where she engages creative entrepreneurs through a variety of channels with one goal: lift as you climb. Shemariah also serves on the boards of Stonebrook Montessori School and Shooting Without Bullets. Most recently, Shemariah's work is has been recognized by the office for Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity at Case Western Reserve University (2019 Diversity Collaboration Excellence Award), Who's Who in Black Cleveland (2016-2019), Kaleidoscope's 40 under 40 Club and by the Kiwanis Club at High Tech Academy. A proud Clevelander and mom of Solomon Tafari and Malcom Saadiq, Shemariah enjoys traveling, yoga and creating memories with her family.

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EDUCATION

Northeastern University, College of Professional Studies

Doctor of Education: Curriculum, Teaching, Learning and Leadership (2019) Doctoral Thesis: A Critical Discourse Analysis of the Stop the Hate! Youth Speak Out Essay Contest

University of Pennsylvania, Center for The Study of Race & Equity in Education

Graduate Certificate, Penn Equity Institute for Doctoral Students (2015)

American InterContinental University

Master of Education: Leadership of Educational Organizations (2013) Thesis: Taught to Oppress or Educated to Liberate: Implementing Culturally Relevant Teaching Into Teacher Training Programs

American InterContinental University Bachelor of Business Administration (2003)

Core Competencies:

Intersectional Feminism

Critical Pedagogies Diversity

Equity and Inclusion

Pan Africanism Hip Hop Sensibilities

Teacher Preparation

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2020

Post-Doctoral Scholar in Intersectional Feminisms, Case Western Reserve University, African and African American Studies Department and Women and Gender Studies Department Classes Taught African and African American Feminism

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TEACHING EXPERIENCE - CONTINUED

2018-present

Instructor, Kent State University, Department of Pan African Studies, Classes
Taught: Freedom Is a Constant Struggle: Diasporic Movements for Black Liberation
Race, Class and Feminist Thought The Black Experience I & II

2009; 2014-2017

Substitute Instructor, Cleveland State University College of Urban Affairs Classes
Taught Managing Urban Diversity

2010-2012

Instructor, Ashland University/Society For The Prevention of Violence Classes
Taught: Foundations for Social Justice Education

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Volumes

Arki, S.J. (Ed). (forthcoming 2021). Gender and Sexualities in Ghanaian Societies. Landham, MD: Lexington.

Arki, S. J., Delano-Oriaron, B., Moore, E. J., Michael, A., & Penick-Parks, M. W., Swindell, O. (Eds.). (forthcoming 2020). The guide for Teaching Brilliant Black Girls. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin.

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PUBLICATIONS - CONTINUED

Referred Book Chapters

Arki, S. J. (2017) Ruminations from a #BlackMommyActivist. In Moore, E.; Pennick Parks, M. and Michael, A., (Eds.) The Guide for White Women Who Teach Black Boys. Corwin Press.

Arki, S. J. (2016) Teachers as Activists: Using a Black, Feminist Pedagogy to Prevent Classroom Bullying. In Osanloo A., Reed, C. and Schwartz, J., (Eds.) Creating and Negotiating Collaborative Spaces for Socially-Just Anti-Bullying Interventions for K-12 Schools. Information Age Publishing

Electronic Publications

Arki, S. J. (2015, April 22). Lucky. Sista Sinema.
<http://www.sistahsinema.com/#!/Lucky/c1s20/553851780cf226d45e97b946>

Creative Works

"Sweet Cinnamon Sisters",GODBODY by Dakari Akil (2016)

"White Women...." White Women, Black Women by Jane Critlaw (2016)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & FELLOWSHIPS

Inaugural Flora Stone Mather Post-Doctoral Scholar in Intersectional Feminisms,
2019-2020

Case Western Reserve University – Cleveland, OH
Develop programs and community-based projects that center women of color; teach an undergraduate course; seek an secure opportunities to continue publishing and research agenda
Research Supervisor: Dr. Angela Clark Taylor, Director, Flora Stone Mather Center for Women,
Case Western Reserve University

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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & FELLOWSHIPS

School Quality Engagement Ambassador, 2015 – 2018

Cleveland Transformation Alliance – Cleveland, OH

Dissertation research with students and families in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District promoting school choice.

Research Supervisor: Dr. Steven Lake, School Quality Project Manager, Cleveland Transformation Alliance

All Access Community Organizer Consultant, September 2016

New Voices For Reproductive Justice – Cleveland, OH

Provide support for New Voices' National All Access team by producing two local accompanying

events - the #TrustBlackWomen Pep Rally and Boat Ride.

Research Supervisor, LaTasha Mays, Founder/Executive Director, New Voices for Reproductive Justice

Community Researcher, 2015 – 2016

Social Justice Institute's Voicing and Action Project

Dissertation research with high school students and families in the East Cleveland City School

District on social justice and activism.

Research Supervisor: Dr. Rhonda Y. Williams, Founder and Director, Social Justice Institute, Case Western Reserve University

Thematic Seminar Fellow: Reading Social Justice -The Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards, 2017/2019

Cleveland Humanities Council and Baker Nord Center for Humanities at Case Western Reserve University

Fellow, PRISM: A Racial Equity Leadership Program and Summer Learning Laboratory, 2016

Neighborhood Connections & the Community Innovation Network at Case Western Reserve University

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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & FELLOWSHIPS - CONTINUED

Fellow, Ohio Political Leaders Fellowship, 2012
The Center for Progressive Leadership

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chief of Staff + Manager of Special Projects, Office for Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity, Fall 2018
Case Western Reserve University - Cleveland, OH

Founder, 2018 – Present
Ellipsis Institute for Women of Color in the Academy – Cleveland, OH

Founder, 2017-Present
The Sankofa Circle – Cleveland, OH

Co-Founder, Black Womyn Think Tank, 2016 – Present
The White Privilege Conference/The Privilege Institute – Green Bay, WI

Education & Equity Consultant, 2012 – Present
Compass Consulting Services - Cleveland, OH

Interim Director, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Center, 2014 - 2015
Case Western Reserve University – Cleveland, OH

Founding Director, 2012 - 2015
Excellence Management Group – Cleveland, OH

Faculty, Richmond Institute for Educational Equity, 2012
Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities, National Federation of Just Communities

Managing Director, Leadership Development and Strategic Initiatives - 2012

Senior Program Director, 2010 – 2012

Program Director, School & Youth, 2009 - 2010

Program Specialist, High School, 2006 - 2009

The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio – Cleveland, OH

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE - CONTINUED

Events Manager, 2006

Recruitment Outreach Manager, 2005-2006

City Year - New York, NY

Residence Hall Director, 2004 – 2005

Myers University – Cleveland, OH

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Lebovis, H. (2019, June 26). A Group of Black Women Share Their Stories of Living, Working and Surviving in Cleveland [Cover Story]. **Cleveland Scene**. Retrieved from <https://m.clevescene.com/cleveland/a-group-of-black-women-share-their-stories-of-living-working-and-surviving-in-cleveland/Content?oid=30779562>.

Arki, S. J. (Guest Speaker) & Dixon, K.M., Edwards, A.M., Lewis, J.C., and Thompson, V.J. (Hosts/Producers). (2019, April 19). Blk Womyn Voices: Intersectionality [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <https://soundcloud.com/blkwomynvoices/intersectionality>

"Shooting Without Bullets." The Sound of Ideas. National Public Radio. Aired January 11, 2017. <http://www.ideastream.org/programs/sound-of-ideas/president-obama's-farewell-ballistics-lab-shooting-without-bullets> (begins at the 36:00 mark)

"Parents Roundtable: Talking To Your Kids About #BlackLivesMatter." The Mark Steiner Show. Aired August 8, 2016. <http://www.steinershow.org/podcasts/parents-roundtable-talking-to-your-kids-about-blm/>

"#CLEoverRNC: Protesters Expose Tale of Two Clevelands." Democracy Now. Aired July 22, 2016. http://www.democracynow.org/2016/7/22/cleoverrnc_protesters_expose_tale_of_two

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AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Excellence in Diversity Collaboration – Office for Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity at Case Western Reserve University

2019 - Award Recipient

The New Agency – Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland

2019 - Inaugural Cohort

Who's Who in Black Cleveland

2016-2019 - Award Recipient

"Could Be Bitter..."

2015 - Winner, Women's History Month Advertising Campaign

Kaleidoscope Magazine

2014 Recipient, 40 Black Professionals Under 40

High Tech Academy Kiwanis Club

2009 - Recipient, Outstanding Community Partner Award

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PRESENTATIONS

PAPER & PANEL PRESENTATIONS

Arki, S.J., Burton, H.E., Ngana, C., & Phelps, E. (2019) "Help Me Wrap My Weave Up: Theological Underpinnings of Head Wrapping for Women of Color." Paper Presented at the National Women's Studies Association National Conference. San Francisco, CA.

Arki, S. J., Branch, D., Brooks, L., Foreman, K., Horton, S., & Johnson, E. (2018). "Where Are We Now and Where Do We Go From Here?" Panel presentation at MLK50/Glenville 50: Commemorating the Glenville Uprising and its Legacy 50 Years Later Through the Lens of Four Generations, Social Justice Institute, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S. J. & Phelps, E. (2018) "Queer as Liberation." Paper Presented at the National Women's Studies Association National Conference. Atlanta, GA.

Arki, S. J. & Ragland, A. (2016). "Teachers as Activists & Activists as Teachers: Dismantling **White** Supremacy, Privilege and Oppression in the Classroom." Paper presented at the White Privilege Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Arki, S. J. & Roccoforte, E. (2016) "...Master's Tools...Master's House...": Using a Leadership Legacy Framework to Dismantle Oppressive Organizational Structures." Paper presented at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Annual Conference, Creating Change, Chicago, IL.

Arki, S. J. (2015). Dear #BlackCommaFeminist: A Conversation On Identity Construction. Paper presented at the National Association for Independent Schools' People of Color Conference, Tampa, FL.

Arki, S. J., Sankofa Waters, B., Moore Clemons, K., Duncan, J. A. C., & Butler, M. (2015). "Radical love: Intergenerational Black feminist dialogues to mentor and lead." Roundtable presented at the annual meeting of the National Women's Studies Association, Milwaukee, WI.

Arki, S. J. (2015). "Intergenerational Mentoring Circles: Healing for Women of Color." Paper presented at 3rd Annual Black Doctoral Network Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Arki, S. J. & Ragland, A. (2015). "Teachers and Activist & Activist as Teachers: Critical Education in the Wake of Black Lives Matter." Paper presentation at Critical Race Studies in Education Association Annual Critical Race Theory Conference, Nashville, TN.

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PRESENTATIONS

PAPER & PANEL PRESENTATIONS - CONTINUED

Arki, S. J. & Price, R. (2015). "Be...Yonce: From Southern Belle to Strong Black Woman." Paper presented at the White Privilege Conference, Louisville, KY.

Arki, S. J. (2015). "Taught to Oppress or Educated to Liberate: Building the case for Culturally Relevant Pedagogy." Paper presented at National Association of African American Studies Association, Baton Rouge, LA.

Arki, S. J. (2014). "Taught to Oppress or Educated to Liberate: Building the Case for Culturally Relevant Pedagogy." Paper presented at Black Doctoral Network Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Arki, S. J. (2014). "Culturally Relevant Pedagogy: Education That Changes Students and Society." Paper presented at the University of Akron's Black Male Summit, Akron, OH.

Arki, S. J. & Washington, C. (2014). "Intergenerational Mentoring Circles: Healing for Women of Color." Paper presented at the White Privilege Conference, Madison, WI.

Arki, S. J. & Washington, C. (2014). "Intergenerational Mentoring Circles: Healing for Women of Color." Paper presented at The National Conference on Restorative Justice, University of Toledo Medical School, Toledo, OH.

Arki, S. J. (2011). "Beyond Diversity: Foundations in Social Justice Education." Paper presentation for the John D. O' Bryant National Think Tank Regional Conference, Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN.

CHAIR/MODERATOR

Crosby, A., Farmer, C., Gibbs, D., King, A., Miller, C., **Shemariah J. Arki, Moderator.** (2018) Recreating the Village – How We Rebuild. Panel presentation at MLK50/Glenville 50: Commemorating the Glenville Uprising and its Legacy 50 Years Later Through the Lens of Four Generations, Social Justice Institute, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

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PRESENTATIONS

CHAIR/MODERATOR - CONTINUED

Curcio, R., Ridgewell, N. M. C., Price, J. N., Ford, B., Crain de la Galarce, P.J., & Bhukhanawala, F., **Shemariah J. Arki, Chair.** (2016). Exploring Pedagogies for Developing a Critical Inquiry Stance to Teaching. Paper session of the American Educational Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C.

Van Wyk, B., Franklin, J. D., Tachine, A., Powell, J. S., Amazan, G., & Reynolds, N.B. **Shemariah J. Arki, Chair.** (2016). Racial Identities, Campus Climate, and Institutional Culture. Paper session of the American Educational Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Arki, S. J. (2016-2019). "Women of Color Series." Invited lecturer for the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S.J., Phelps, E. (2019) "Help Me Wrap My Weave Up: Theological Underpinnings of Head Wrapping for Women of Color." Invited salon speaker at Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S.J. & Diwan, N. (2019). "Showing Up and Showing Out: Identity Development for the Youth Serving Professional." Invited presenters for MyCom Out of School Time Professional Development Symposium, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S.J. (2019). "Dear #BlackCommaFeminist: A Conversation on Identity Construction." Invited presenter for the Provost Scholars Program, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S.J., Farmer, C., Jeans, M., McShepard, R., and Taylor, T. (2019) "Teaching Cleveland Institute: The History of Race and Ethnicity in Cleveland." Invited panelist for Teaching Cleveland Institute, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S.J. (2019). "Curating Your Circle of Mentors." Invited presenter for NOA-AGEP, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S.J. (2018). "Intergenerational Mentoring in STEM Fields." Invited presenter for NOA-AGEP, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

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PRESENTATIONS

INVITED PRESENTATIONS - CONTINUED

Arki, S. J. (2018) "Mask on...Mask Off." Commencement speaker for Richmond Heights High School, Richmond Heights, OH.

Arki, S.J. (2017). "Dear #BlackCommaFeminist: A Conversation on Identity Construction." Invited presenter school of graduate studies, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S.J. (2017) "Parenting In The Wake of #BlackLivesMatter." Keynote speaker for Transracial Journey's annual conference, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S. J. (2016) "Proclaiming Our Royalty." Keynote speaker for the African American Student Association at Case Western Reserve University's Annual Unity Banquet, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S. J., Addison, B., Brown, G., Cockrell, K., Multhrop, D., Worthy, J. and Zymler, R. (2016) "Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness." Invited panelist for Teach for America community roundtable Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S. J., Luminais, M. & Williams, R. Y. (2016) "What is Social Justice?." Invited lecturers for Shaw High School professional development, East Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S. J. & Taylor, T. L. (2015). "How To Be A Better Ally." Concurrent session for Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network of Northeast Ohio Annual Game Change Conference, Akron, OH.

Arki, S. J. (2015). "Dear #BlackCommaFeminist: A Conversation on Identity Development." Invited concurrent session at inaugural Movement for Black Lives Convening, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S. J. (2015). "People's Tribunal on Police Brutality." Panelist for Puncture the Silence StopMass Incarceration, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S. J. (2014; 2013). "Down with Adultism! Empowering Your Youth Through Voice And Choice!" Invited presentation for Educational Council After School Counts Off To a Great Start Conference, Akron, OH.

Arki, S. J. (2014). "Sustaining the Soul That Serves." Invited presentation for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Ohio Leadership Exchange, Sandusky, OH.

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PRESENTATIONS

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Arki, S. J. & Washington, C. (2013). "Engaging Students, Parents and Neighborhoods: Strategies for Engaging Older Youth." Invited presentation at MyComm Out of School Time Professional Development Symposium, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S. J., Hatten, A. Y., & O'Brien, M. Marsha Mockabee, Moderator. (2012) "Exploring Non-Academic Issues That Support College Readiness." Panelist at the Higher Education Compact Symposium, Cleveland, OH.

Arki, S. J., (2012; 2013). "Creating Inclusive Classrooms." Invited presentation for the International Summit on Conflict Resolution, Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland, OH.

SERVICE

DISCIPLINE/PROFESSION

National Women's Studies Association (2015-2016; 2018-present)

- General Body Member

The United Way of Greater Cleveland (2017-Present)

- Member, Financial Stability Impact Committee
- Member, RFQ Development Subcommittee

American Education Research Association (2015-2016)

- Reviewer of Proposals
- Session Chair/Moderator

The Privilege Institute (2012 – 2016)

- Member, Advisor Board

The White Privilege Conference (2008 – 2015)

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SERVICE - CONTINUED

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Handbook of Learning Analytics & Educational Data Mining (2016)

- Program Committee

Understanding and Dismantling Privilege (2015)

- Journal Reviewer

Student Mentorship

- Amya Ruiz, Senior, Community and Justice Studies, Allegheny College
- Sharhonda Greer, MA, Cleveland State University, College of Urban Affairs
- Amanda King, JD, Noah Webster Scholar, Case Western Reserve University School of Law
- Alice Ragland, PhD, College of Education and Human Ecology, The Ohio State University
- Erin Phelps, PhD Candidate, College of Arts and Sciences, Case Western Reserve University

COMMUNITY

Young Latino Network (2019-Present)

- General Body Member

NAACP -Cleveland Chapter (2019-Present)

- General Body Member

University School (2019-Present)

- Member, REACH Program Advisory Board

Stonebrook Montessori School (2019-Present)

- Parent Representative, Board of Directors

The Tamir Rice Foundation (2018-Present)

- Community Researcher
- Education Consultant

Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, Organizers and Allies Working Group (2017)

- Advocacy Subcommittee Member

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SERVICE - CONTINUED

SOUTH EUCLID – LYNDHURST PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (2015)

- 2nd Vice President, Rowland Elementary

Junior Achievement (2010 – 2015)

- Classroom Volunteer Facilitator for the Titan Program

Cleveland Heights High School (2012 – 2013)

- Member, Career Prep Advisory Committee

Sankofa Fine Art Plus (2012 – 2013)

- Member, Advisory Board

Urban League of Greater Cleveland Young Professional Organization (2012 – 2013)

- Member, Executive Board Member
- Chair, Service Committee

Out of Many, One: An Interfaith Celebration (2012)

- Member, Planning Committee

Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland (2012)

- Member, Best Practices Task Force

Power Up! Case Western Reserve University's Social Justice Institute's Student Leadership Conference (2011-2012)

- Member, Planning Committee

City Year Cleveland (2003 – 2005)

- AmeriCorps Member