



**Pearl S. Buck International**  
BRIDGING CULTURES | CHANGING LIVES

## 2023 Empowering Equity Virtual Conference

### *Presenter Bios*



#### **Jarrod Schwartz, MSOD**

Jarrod Schwartz is the Founder and Principal Consultant of Equity Praxis Group, LLC. He is an educator and consultant with more than 30 years of experience working with schools, universities & colleges, nonprofit organizations, businesses, government, and communities.

Jarrod's unique approach draws upon the fields of social justice and organization development to foster inclusive, multi-stakeholder processes that result in organizational, community, and social change.

Before starting EPG, Jarrod served for almost 20 years as the founding Executive Director of Just Communities - a nonprofit organization dedicated to making the Central Coast of California a more inclusive and just region.

From the early to late 1990's, as the Program Director for The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ), Jarrod developed and led a comprehensive, multi-issue social justice leadership institute for youth that became a national model. He also led an initiative to dismantle racism in the St. Louis Region. In 2001, Jarrod was invited to California to launch a new NCCJ office to serve the communities of the Central Coast. In 2007, this organization became Just Communities.

Jarrod holds a Master's Degree in Organization Development from American University and the NTL Institute for Applied Behavioral Science. He is a past Associate of the A.K. Rice Institute for the Study of Social Systems and served as an Adjunct Faculty Member for Antioch University. Jarrod is a past board member of the Grex Center for the Study of Authority Dynamics of Social Systems, PUEBLO, and a past Commissioner for the Santa Barbara Human Relations Commission.

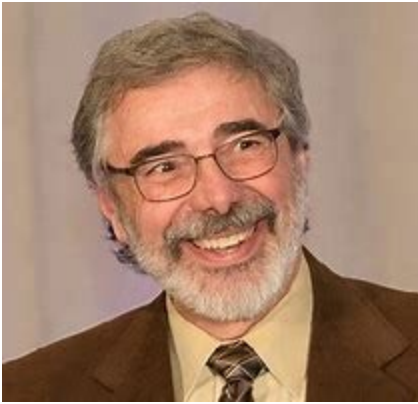


**Yanick Jenkins, MS** is the Executive Director for the Arthur O. Eve EOP Program at Buffalo State College. In this role, she has worked for over 20 years to help educationally and economically disadvantaged students both gain admissions to, and graduate from, college. Her program, though small in staff, has served thousands of students under her direction, providing them counseling, support, resources, and opportunities they need to succeed. Their students are highly diverse, coming from every background and identity, and through their efforts, EOP boasts a higher graduation rate than students admitted through traditional streams.

Ms. Jenkins is a leader in the WNY community and has served as a Program Facilitator for the National Federation for Just Communities of Western New York (NFJC) for 18 years. In this role, she leads workshops, seminars, and dialogue sessions for audiences of all ages and identities. Her expertise is in creating and maintaining safe spaces for dialogue and engaging participants in difficult conversations. She is passionate about DEI, and in her work for NFJC, she has led innumerable training sessions for schools & school districts, youth, businesses, leadership organizations, and government agencies.



**Kenneth Vargas, MS** is the Youth & Community Engagement Director for the Nation Federation for Just Communities of West New York. Prior to this, he served as Director of the Upward Bound Program at Buffalo State College where, for 12 years, he worked to create pathways to higher education for BIPOC and low income students. Long active in the DEI field, Mr. Vargas specializes in empowering young leaders, helping them overcome both the social and structural barriers they face, uniting them in this work, and activating them as agents for change. He is a master facilitator and program curriculum designer, and has delivered successful DEI programs and workshops for schools & school districts, Fortune 500 companies, businesses of every type, and local governments and agencies.



**Phil Hunsberger, Ed.D.**

Dr. Phil Hunsberger is co-owner and Senior Facilitator for Educational Equity Consultants (EEC). From 1971 until 1998, Dr. Hunsberger served as a teacher, principal, and central office administrator in the Sterling Unit #5 School District. In 1998, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) selected Dr. Hunsberger for reform work throughout the State. Dr. Hunsberger also served as the Coordinator of the Illinois State Board of Education RESPRO Region V grant. This initiative provided professional development for schools not reaching adequately yearly progress (AYP) in a sixteen county areas of southern Illinois.

He received his Bachelor of Science in Education and his Master in Science in Educational Administration from Northern Illinois University. His doctorate in Educational Leadership from National-Louis University, Wheaton Campus. In 1994, the National Association of Elementary School Principals selected Phil as the National Distinguished Principal from Illinois. He has served as the Director of the International Network of Principals' Centers and has presented for school districts and leadership centers throughout the country.

For the past fifteen years, Dr. Hunsberger through EEC. has chased his passion regarding social justice advocacy and anti-racist work. Most recently, he authored: Becoming a Social Justice Leader: Using Head, Heart, and Hands to Dismantle Oppression, Routledge Press, 2016.



**Elizabeth Williams-Riley**

Elizabeth is the founder of D.A.S.H. Consulting LLC, where her primary focus is Developing Assets for Successful Habits (D.A.S.H.). Elizabeth enjoys working in partnership with clients to develop comprehensive inclusion, diversity, equity, and asset-building (IDEA) learning, critical analysis, strategy-building, strategy execution, and coaching. Elizabeth is the former President and CEO for the American Conference on Diversity and served as the National Vice President of Programs for the National Conference for Community and Justice.

Elizabeth is an award-winning diversity and inclusion professional. She was named Girls Scouts of America 2015 Woman of Distinction, and 2013 Diversity Journal's Woman Worth Watching. Mrs.

Williams-Riley is the 2016 NAACP Corporate Community Service Award Winner as was presented the South Asian Business Alliance Network's Chairman Award. She is a connector and helps individuals navigate the complexities of living in an increasingly diverse society. She boldly tackles the nation's unfinished business of equity and inclusion. Her approach to dismantling systemic and institutional oppression is charismatic, engaging, and above all, thought-provoking.

Elizabeth is a sought-after D&I speaker, facilitator, and trainer working with companies from the public and private sectors to implement diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. She provides organizational development assistance, board development, and executive coaching. She has captured the attention of audiences across the country motivating thousands of individuals to chart a course of successful habits.

Elizabeth specializes in customized training, strategic planning, and experiential learning. She has worked with many of the nation's leading fortune 500 companies, foundations, colleges, and universities. Her work also expands into the finance, legal services profession, the arts, law enforcement, and education, healthcare, nonprofit, civic, and faith/religious sectors.



**Dr. Shemariah J. Arki**

Dr. Arki identifies as an educator, an activist and an organizer. Currently serving as an assistant professor in the department of Africana Studies and as the director of the Center for Pan African Culture, both at Kent State 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. In addition to earning a master and doctorate degree in education, Dr. Arki has also received a graduate certificate from the Penn Equity Institute for Doctoral Students from the Center for The Study of Race & Equity in Education at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Arki has been a certified Federal EEO investigator since 2017.

In 2019, Dr. Arki was enstooled as Bonyi Bofor (Queen Mother) Akosua Kalesea of the Igbaba lineage, in the village of Akapafu Todzi, Volta region, Ghana – the future home of Ellipsis International, a secondary school for girls. Serving as the founder and program director of the Ellipsis Institute for Womxn of Color in the Academy and as an auto/ethnographic researcher and creative non-fiction writer, her work centers cultural epistemologies and the construction of a #BlackCommaFeminist pedagogy. Dr Arki is one of the editors for Teaching Beautiful Brilliant Black Girls, curated to position classrooms as places of radical transformation and to amplify the voices of the Black girls who inhabit them. Her work has also been featured on Democracy Now! and Yahoo!

Dr. Arki also serves outside the academy as an ordained minister through the Universal Life Church and the Founder and Lead Experience Curator for Sankofa Circle International, a boutique non-profit providing capacity building to creative and social entrepreneurs. Dr. Arki also serves as the board co-chair of Shooting Without Bullets. Most recently, her work has been recognized by Preterm Cleveland (Mickey Stern Award), National Coalition of Black Women Greater Cleveland Chapter (She

Leads 100 Award-2020), Case Western Reserve University's LGBT Center (QGrad's Outstanding Faculty Award-2020) and the Office for Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity (Diversity Collaboration Excellence Award - 2019), Who's Who in Black Cleveland (2016-2019), Kaleidoscope's 40 under 40 Club (2015) and by the Kiwanis Club at High Tech Academy (2010).



**Jameel Rush** is the Director of Inclusion Programs for Google. In his role, he leads the organization that supports Google's employee resource groups, executive councils, and diversity programs for over 40,000 Googlers across the globe. Prior to his role with Google, Jameel held roles leading diversity, equity, and inclusion for Aramark and The Philadelphia Inquirer. He has over 15 years of global talent management and human resources experience having worked in leadership development, organizational development, HR Business Partner, and talent management roles across several public and private organizations



**Lieutenant Shawn Hill** is a 20-year veteran of the Santa Barbara Police Department. He is currently assigned to the Chief's Office and manages internal investigations, auditing, and is the liaison to civilian oversight of law enforcement. Some of his previous roles include serving in patrol, the detective bureau, training and recruitment, professional standards, and on the SWAT team. He earned a B.A. in English from Old Dominion University, an M.A. in criminal justice from Arizona State University and is currently a Ph.D. student at the University of California, Santa Barbara in the Department of Communication. His research interests include police culture, intergroup processes and their (us versus them) influence on police-public relationships, intergroup interventions, and overcoming implementation barriers to evidence-based approaches in policing.

Hill currently serves on the community policing committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, is a National Police Foundation Policing Fellow and a member of the Training, Education, and Standards (TES) Committee for the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement



(NACOLE). He most recently co-authored *VOICES: a theory driven intervention for improving relationships between police and the public*, and co-edited the interdisciplinary, international *Rowman & Littlefield Handbook of Policing, Communication, and Society*.



**Cain Davis** is the CEO of Diversified Consulting Concepts, LLC. He has served as a professional or executive for over 35 years at every level of government (city, county, state, federal & military) and the private sector as an expert in EEO, Diversity & Inclusion. He leverages his knowledge of soft skills with his experiences as a CEO of several large organizations, where he provided leadership for hundreds of employees. Audience participants receive realistic and reliable solutions for resolving workplace conflict, diversity and EEO concerns.



**N. Chineye (Chi) Anako** is the Regional Director, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, at Trinity Health of New England

N. Chineye (Chi) Anako is a public health practitioner whose work has focused on the intersection of public health and health equity solutions. Past initiatives include work on food security/life cycle, violence prevention in youth and cultural and linguistic programs. She is the Regional Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Trinity Health Of New England, a five-hospital system across Connecticut and Massachusetts, part of Trinity Health. Under her leadership, she led the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Initiative, which revised the patient demographic questions to be inclusive of all genders and sexual orientation on all hospital in-take forms and in EPIC system throughout the Regional Health Ministry (RHM). She also oversees the 3+1 Language Services Program. The program provides cultural and linguistic care to patients, especially those from marginalized groups.

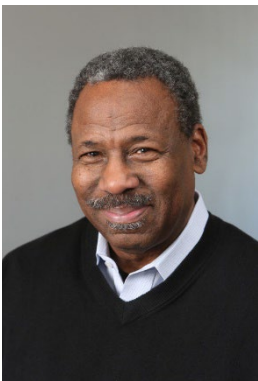
In addition to her role at Trinity Health Of New England, Chi currently serves on the board of the Connecticut Chapter for the National Association for Health Services Executives (NAHSE) and is also the immediate past-president. NAHSE is a healthcare organization that ensures greater participation of minority groups in the healthcare field. She also serves on the board of the Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA) and Copper Beech Institute (CBI).

Chineye has been awarded the 2021 LGBT Ally Award at the Tri-State LGBTQ+ Unity Summit by the Tri-State National Diversity Council for her work in the roll-out of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation initiative at Trinity Health Of New England. She was also the recipient of the 2021 Outstanding Service & Leadership Award in the Emerging Professionals category, issued by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC) and was most recently named as one of the 2022 Healthcare Diversity Leaders by the National Diversity Council. She holds a master's degree in Public Health with a concentration in Health Promotion from Southern Connecticut State University and a Bachelor of Science in Molecular Cell Biology from the University of Connecticut. She is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) and an EPIC Summer Scholar at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. Chineye Anako is an avid traveler and a native from Nigeria.

**Bill Cochran** is the former Police Chief of Topeka, Kansas



**Angie Snyder** is the Executive Director of Opus Peace



**Fred Miller** is the CEO and Lead Client Strategist for The Kaleel Jamison Consulting Group. Fred is the CEO of The Kaleel Jamison Consulting Group, Inc. He is an OD Network's Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, named a Pioneer of Diversity by Profiles in Diversity Journal, and received the Forum on Workplace Inclusion's Winds of Change award. In 2018, he was awarded an honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from The Sage Colleges. Co-author of five books and numerous articles, he is a past member of the Board of Directors of ATD, OD Network, NTL Institute, and Ben & Jerry's Homemade, Inc.; he currently serves on the board of Day & Zimmermann.

The Kaleel Jamison Consulting Group, Inc. was founded in 1970 by Kaleel Jamison (1931 - 1985). It is the oldest Organization Development (OD) firm and the oldest firm that has as a core competency inclusion, leveraging diversity and culture change. In 1993 KJCG coined the use of inclusion as a core concept for organization cultures.

In addition to his work with the Kaleel Jamison Consulting Group, he has been recognized as one of the Legends of Diversity by the International Society of Diversity and Inclusion Professionals (2012); Named as one of 40 Pioneers of Diversity by Profiles in Diversity Journal (August/September 2007); Noted as one of the forerunners of corporate change in *The Age of Heretics* (1996, Currency Doubleday)

Fred Miller has served on the following Board of Directors: Hudson Partners Advisory Board (2016-present); Pinchot (formerly Bainbridge Graduate Institute) (2011-2017); Center for Automated Technology Systems at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (2011-present); One World Everybody Eats Foundation (2008-2019), named Emeritus Board Member, 2019; The Sage Colleges (2005-2017); Day & Zimmermann (2004-present); Historic Troy 2020 (1999-present); Seton Health Foundation of Seton Health Systems (1997-2014); World Education, Inc. (2000-2011); Ben & Jerry's Homemade, Inc. (1992-2000); Association for Talent Development—formerly ASTD (1999-2001); Organization Development Network (1986-1994); NTL Institute (1977-1985)

An accomplished author he wrote *Safe Enough to Soar: Accelerating Trust, Inclusion, and Collaboration in the Workplace* (with co-author J. H. Katz, 2018, Berrett-Koehler); *Opening Doors to Teamwork and Collaboration: 4 Keys that Change EVERYTHING* (with co-author J. H. Katz, 2013, Berrett-Koehler); *Be BIG: Step Up, Step Out, Be Bold* (with co-author J. H. Katz, 2008, Berrett-Koehler); *The Inclusion Breakthrough: Unleashing the Real Power of Diversity* (with co-author J. H. Katz, 2002, Berrett-Koehler); *The Promise of Diversity* (managing editor; with co-editors E. Y. Cross, J. H. Katz, and E. W. Seashore, 1994, Irwin Professional Publishing)