

## *Speakers*

**Jessica Wei Huang** was most recently the Principal of [June Jordan School for Equity](#) where she served as a teacher and school leader since 2006. She found a passion for education after receiving a Bachelor's of Foreign Service from Georgetown University and went on to receive a Master's of Secondary Education from Stanford University. She has seventeen years of combined teaching and leadership experience in public schools in San Francisco. Jessica believes that facilitating cross-cultural and diverse conversations around personal identity and culture is a powerful way to build community and understanding in educational settings. Jessica has co-facilitated professional development for school districts and non-profits in creating and sustaining a culture of equity and anti-racism and is also a certified coach for ACSA (Association of CA School Administrators). In 2018, Jessica and her family made the decision to leave the SF Bay Area to full-fill a lifelong dream of living and working abroad. Jessica is currently living and teaching in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, where the maternal side of her family is from.

### **Coach Ashleigh**

Ashleigh is originally from Minneapolis, Minnesota. She discovered yoga in 2011 after the loss grandmother. She often feels that yoga allowed her to remember her purpose and passions in life while also allowing her to feel challenged and focused on herself for a small moment in her very busy and active life. Ashleigh is passionate about physical and mental health and wellness.

Ashleigh is a certified instructor and has been practicing yoga for 9 years. In Ashleigh's class students will experience a rigorous and challenging workout that will build physical and mental strength and tone muscles throughout the whole body. Ashleigh crafts playlists that include R&B, Hip Hop, and Pop music. Ashleigh also loves themed playlists and classes.

**Danau Tanu**, Ph.D., is currently an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Western Australia and was recently awarded a Japan Foundation Fellowship to conduct postdoctoral research at Waseda University in 2021. Danau wrote the first and only book on structural racism in international schools: [Growing Up in Transit: The Politics of Belonging at an International School](#). She is also a Co-Chair of the [Families in Global Transition \(FIGT\) Research Network](#) and a Co-Founder of [TCKs of Asia](#). List of publications: [www.danautanu.com](http://www.danautanu.com)

Born and raised in Burundi, **Doline Ndorimana** is an international educator, a language consultant and a University lecturer with 14 years of experience teaching French and EAL in different International and Business schools from different countries. She is a ECIS MLIE



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(Multilingual Learning in International Education) committee member, a CIS accreditation evaluator and is part of the WomenEdBeLux steering committee.

She currently resides in Luxembourg and works at the International School of Luxembourg. Apart from her passion for language learning, she is a great advocate of student's voices and works at amplifying their voices by creating a culture of imperfection and vulnerability in schools.

Doline is a Learning 2 and Google Summit workshop leader who strongly believes in the power of diversity and inclusion as well as the importance of minorities within faculty and leadership in international schools, which foster lifelong learning and global citizenship

**Larisa Sharifi** (she/her/hers) has her B.A. in French from Columbia University and her M.S. in Reading from SUNY Albany. She also has certification in Educational Leadership from The College of New Jersey, with a focus on professional development and organizational culture. As a TCK educator, and after 15 years in international teaching and leadership, she is driven to focus on the emotional health and wellbeing of students **and** teachers. She believes that equity work should be joyful and pleasurable and is interested in how emergent strategy can be applied to educational community organizing. Yoga, walks in minimal footwear, and spending time with her 2-year-old daughter Ayla keep her (relatively) grounded during this COVID moment. She currently lives in Hannover, Germany.

**Benjamin Doxtdator** is a citizen of the Oneida Nation of the Thames (Haudenosaunee Confederacy). As an educator, he values creating the conditions for his students to think critically and compassionately. Benjamin teaches English Language Arts in the Middle School at The International School of Brussels. Follow him on Twitter [@doxtdatorb](https://twitter.com/doxtdatorb) and read his writing on the intersection of politics and pedagogy at [www.longviewoneducation.org](http://www.longviewoneducation.org)

**Estelle Baroung Hughes** is the director of the NGO Africa Learning International focused on SDG 4 (Quality Education for All) in Africa and a teacher currently working at the International School of Geneva. She is also a blogger and a musician. As a Cameroonian citizen, Estelle is passionate about the cultural wealth of her 250 languages country. The focus of her NGO is to honour the diversity of African nations by supporting culturally responsive education on the continent. As an educator, Estelle specializes in international education. She is a teacher, a researcher, and an educational coach. Her motto is 'changing the world by inspiring one student, one teacher and one school community at a time.'

**Christina Nelson** is currently a Professional Learning Specialist with WIDA's international program. In this role she facilitates various professional development opportunities for educators of multilingual learners such as the WIDA Institute and international conference workshops. She has taught and advocated for multilingual learners all over the world starting in Lawrence, Kansas, before continuing her career in Ecuador, Turkey and Vietnam. Christina's fascination with issues surrounding educational equity and social justice inspired her to work directly with teachers as a collaborative teaching partner, team leader and professional development facilitator. As a leader and woman of color, Christina strives to equip teachers with the tools necessary to combat bias, ethnocentric practices to provide an equitable, inclusive education for all students.

**Mariana Castro** serves as the current Deputy Director at the Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER) at the University of Wisconsin. She brings more than 30 years of experience in the field of education in the areas of curriculum and instruction, language development, teacher preparation and professional learning. As a woman and leader of color, Mariana integrates her background as an educator, her passion for working with multilingual children, youth and their teachers, and her commitment for social justice into her work. Mariana has served in various leadership positions at WIDA since 2006 where she has infused her vision of social justice in her work in policy, research, and development. Mariana has a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her current research is about the language practices of multilingual students, curriculum and instruction in multilingual educational contexts, teacher professional learning and family engagement.

**Vijay Ramjattan** received his PhD in Adult Education and Community Development from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, a division of the University of Toronto. The central theme of his research concerns the intersections of language, race, and work. This has taken the form of studies highlighting the salience of race and racism in English language teaching and more recent research pertaining to accent as it relates to race, migration, and workplace learning. Vijay is a member of the Language, Culture and Justice Hub at Brandeis University. He is also active on Twitter (@Vijay\_Ramjattan).

**Shewa Dedeke** is an international educator and Returned Peace Corps Volunteer. As a writer and public speaker, Dedeke uses her experiences as a Nigerian-American to highlight the challenges unique to Black people worldwide. To learn more visit [Shewadedeke.com](http://Shewadedeke.com).



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**Heidrich Nichols** is a Grammy nominated artist, platinum winning arranger and international music educator reinvented as an IB CTE teacher, presenter and instructional designer.

Building on experiences in her recurring role as the “one Black friend”, Hedreich designs learning experiences for educators that help them create more inclusive classrooms. Her YouTube series [Small Bites](#) is one way she reaches her audience. In addition to hosting #SmallBites, Hedreich is currently writing a book on equity strategies for Solution Tree, and has just completed part of a school library series on Antiracism and the Black Lives Matter movement for Cherry Lake Publishing.

When not teaching, writing or speaking on social justice issues, Hedreich spends time reading, being a mom to @swisschrisonbass and spending time with friends, family and goddog Harper.

As a former third culture kid, **Amanda Bates'** interest in navigating cross cultural spaces and identity started young. Her American-born, African raised perspective continues to have an influence as she provides the creative direction behind The Black Expat as well as the Global Chatter podcast.

Amanda is also a higher education professional and currently oversees Career Services and Professional Development at NC State's College of Veterinary Medicine. Her career has also included serving as founding director of a college access center for low-income students in Richmond, VA, piloting and implementing a university career services program in Qatar, and teaching English as a second language in Cameroon.

Amanda has an MBA from the University of Mary Washington and a M.Ed in Counselor Education from Virginia Commonwealth University. She has travelled to five continents, lived on three and unabashedly continues to champion the underrepresented.

**Shwetangna Chakrabarty** is an International educator currently working in Guangzhou, China. She has 15 years of experience in teaching different curricula in different countries. She has held multiple positions as an international educator; Curriculum Coordinator, University Counsellor, Capstone/Research Project Manager, CIS/NEASC Accreditation Coordinator, IB Examiner, TIE Blogger and Teacher. She teaches mathematics and business management to the International GCSE and International Baccalaureate (IB) students. She has a degree in education and a Master's in Business Administration, she is also a certified college counsellor. She is passionate about developing a culture of internationalism in education and be a change-maker and thought leader in international education.

**Dr. Vernita Mayfield** hails originally from Los Angeles, California, where she began her career teaching elementary school. As a teacher, Mayfield found her first love serving and supporting students who have been historically marginalized. Since then, she has continued to do so through numerous positions of service, including secondary school principal, researcher and lecturer, and educational consultant at state and national levels.

In 2012, she founded Leadervation Learning to support organizations seeking to build leadership capacity, particularly in marginalized communities. The company evolved into a vehicle supporting leaders at all levels to understand and dismantle inequitable systems and organizations by building the cultural competency of staff.

**Yvette Cuenco** is a Filipino American Bay Area native and also calls Brooklyn, NY home. Yvette has worked overseas for the past 10 years in Uzbekistan, Thailand, China, and currently the United Arab Emirates. She has a Master's degree in Social Work and worked as a clinical social worker in a Brooklyn public school-based day treatment program prior to moving overseas. Yvette is passionate about exploring the impact of diversity, equity, and inclusion on her work as a counselor and supporting school communities in addressing these issues. She is an International School Counselors Association task force member, an active member of Professional School Counselors of Color (PSCOC), Brothas & Sistas Working at International Schools and Association of International Educators and Leaders of Color (AIELOC). More recently, Yvette has been invited to join the International Schools Services (ISS) Task Force on Recruitment focused on dismantling racism and designing an equitable international schools recruiting system. Yvette is excited to collaborate with like-minded educators who seek answers to the hard questions and work towards the greater good of the different communities we belong to.

International educator, pedagogical leader, cognitive coach and teacher trainer. **Angeline Aow** co-founded the @WomenEdDE German country network and works at Berlin International School in the role of PYP Coordinator (Upper Elementary). She is passionate about concept-based learning and teaching, developing and implementing learning frameworks that address diversity and access to learning, promoting intercultural understanding, multilingual learning and teaching and supporting and empowering female educators on their educational leadership journeys.



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**MaryAnn DeRosa**, Ed.D is a passionate progressive educator who has over 20 years of experience working in the classroom as a lead teacher, special educator, and instructional and SEL coach. As a teacher leader and teacher trainer, she has led professional development on a variety of topics, including Designing instruction to include all learners, Social Emotional Learning, Equity and Inclusion, Culturally Responsive Teaching and Cultivating Creativity. She earned her doctorate from Northeastern University in Boston, concentrating in course work on social justice and equity in education. Always from a change agent lens, her research is focused on fostering creativity and designing inclusive and engaging learning environments.

MaryAnn spent a majority of her career teaching in Washington DC public schools, where she taught in inclusion settings as well as in a dual-language immersion school. She has also taught in international schools in China, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Italy. Most recently, MaryAnn served as a Curriculum Design Consultant for Relay Graduate School of Education where she contributed to the development and design of a foundation course “Creating a Culturally Responsive and Inclusive Classroom.”

An experienced international educator, **Pam Nasorri West** has worked across multiple types of schools in America and Europe. With whole child education and diversity inclusion as her core skill, she has taught as a classroom teacher, mentor teacher and IB PYP Coordinator over the last/for over 20 years. Continually compelled to shift her perspective from information to action, she facilitates workshops, courses and professional development promoting learning environments that address motivations, reflections and the identities of the whole child.

Pam has studied in North America, Asia and Europe and holds a BA from Boston College and a MA from Michigan State University. She embraces learning from diverse perspectives and aims to bridge the divides that underscore unconscious bias. A global citizen, Pam has roots in America and is currently based in Italy.

A dual US/UK national and third culture kid, **Kyra Kellawan** began her career in international education in 2006, working for a US college in London. She joined the marketing team at King’s College London in 2008, eventually overseeing UK and European student recruitment activities. Six years ago she switched to the “other side of the desk”, taking up her first college counselling position at the Lycée Français in New York, followed by teaching and guidance roles at United World College Costa Rica, and most recently, Head of Careers at Aloha College in Spain. With a unique dual perspective on international recruitment, she now consults for

universities, schools and ed-tech organisations alike. She hosts a podcast on innovation in education, The PilotEd, and is a regional lead for the WomenEd network in Spain.

**Sulaiman Jenkins** holds a Master's Degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from New York University's Steinhardt School of Education. Sulaiman has been fortunate to have published on a range of linguistic and language-related issues ranging from language policy to discrimination in ELT, and he has published numerous articles with Oxford University Press's ELT Journal. His research interests are second language writing, plagiarism in ELT, sociolinguistics, culture, and language, and he has recently finished writing his first book, *Life is RAW: The Story of a Reformed Outlaw*.

**Alysa Perreras** is a multilingual educator and facilitator focused on constant learning and consistent engagement in the work of abolitionist teaching and dismantling systems of injustice in hopes of radical liberation for all.

As a woman of Color and a child of Colombian and Filipinx immigrants to the United States, she learned, on a both a personal and institutional level, how systems of oppression operate. As a cisgender, US passport holding, native English speaker, amongst others identity markers, she also experiences and understands the ways in which privilege grants opportunity and access. This intersectional lens is brought into all the work she does both as an educator and equity consultant. Dismantling the systems of oppression around her, even the ones that grant her unearned privilege, is both a deeply personal passion and professional pursuit. Over a decade in education, her work includes classroom teaching, curriculum and course design, adult learning and coaching, strategic planning and consulting, all through an antibias, antiracist and justice centered lens. She has presented on the work of justice and equity education at various conferences both in the USA and in Latin America.

She has a master's degree from SUNY Buffalo and is currently pursuing her PhD in Education for Social Justice through the University of San Diego.

**Ayodele Harrison** is a trained civil engineer turned international educator, facilitator, and consultant. He is a Senior Partner, Education with CommunityBuild Ventures. Ayodele has over 20 years working in the field of education, which includes 16 years serving as a classroom teacher in public and private schools in the United States and South Africa. Ayodele has over 10 years of experience leading dynamic experiential learning workshops for organizations and institutions including ASCD, the National Association of Independent Schools, Atlanta Public



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Schools, The Fellowship-Black Male Educators Convening, Georgia State University, and the Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color.