



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

ASHA WINFIELD & TEAIRRA EVANS | LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

INTERACTIVE, INTERDISCIPLINARY, INTERSECTIONAL: CREATING & CULTIVATING QUILTS OF IDENTITY

ABSTRACT:

Participants will explore Bronfenbrenner's Socioecological Model and Sabia's Bio-Socio-Ecological to understand how various environmental systems influence development. The workshop will engage participants in a quilting exercise, applying the models to their complex layers of their identity. Quilts often convey stories and preserve history, with specific colors and patterns symbolizing family heritage, life milestones, and cultural identity. This workshop seeks to foster deeper insights into ecological factors that shape behavior and decision-making through an arts-based activity.

THEMATIC FOCUS: LEARNING THE CHORDS | PLAYING AROUND | RESONANCE

BIO(S):

ASHA WINFIELD

Asha S. Winfield, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor at LSU's Manship School of Mass Communication. Winfield is a critical/cultural media scholar with a focus on the stories (creation, rituals and practices) of Black individuals and groups occurring in the media, culture and society. As a researcher and filmmaker, she aims to use intersectionality, counternarratives, and Black feminist thought to frame and center the experiences of Black people as they relate to audience reception through meaning-making and identity-making. Ultimately, Winfield uses storytelling as a historical and contemporary tool of research and resistance.

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TEAIRRA EVANS

Dr. Teairra Z. Evans is an Assistant Professor at Louisiana State University, holding joint appointments in the Departments of Psychology and African and African American Studies. She earned her Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology from the University of Alabama. Dr. Evans' research explores cognitive factors such as working memory and decision-making, with a focus on how these processes are influenced by race, age, and sociocultural factors. She teaches a service-learning course that connects students with local communities, fostering practical applications of classroom knowledge. Dr. Evans is dedicated to conducting community-engaged research that is mutually beneficial for the researcher and community.