

THE GRACE JAMES ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE

NOVEMBER 17TH, 1:00 - 2:30 PM EST | [JOIN ZOOM MEETING](#)

The Nystrand Center of Excellence in Education supports and facilitates education reform through its outstanding special programs and initiatives. Strong community partnerships are the heart of our success and serve as an inspiration for those who work so diligently to provide a better education for our children. It is our mission to continue with transformation through collaboration by leading the discussion on education reform, policy, research, and practice.



MODERATOR:
Dr. Geneva Stark
*Director of the Nystrand
Center of Excellence in
Education*

FEATURED PRESENTERS:



Mrs. Ronda Cosby
*Principal at the Grace
James Academy of
Excellence*



Melanie Page *Assistant
Principal at the Grace
James Academy of
Excellence*



LaTonya Frazier-Goatley
*Assistant Principal at the
Grace James Academy of
Excellence*



Shashray McCormack
*Cultural Humility Coach at
the Grace James Academy of
Excellence*



Shauna Evans
*Academic Instructional
Coach at the Grace James
Academy of Excellence*



Labron Horton
*School Counselor at the
Grace James Academy
of Excellence*



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Dr. Geneva Stark - Moderator

Dr. Geneva Stark is the current director of the Nystrand Center of Excellence in Education and Clinical Professor. Prior to joining U of L, Dr. Stark served as a Diversity Equity and Poverty Administrator for Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS). Dr. Stark served in JCPS as a District Coordinator in Human Resources, principal, and assistant principal. She was also 1 of 4 individuals selected as a KDE Superintendent Fellow for Bullitt and Shelby County. She serves on the board of directors for the National Alliance of Black School Educators, former president of GLABSE, member of NAACP, League of Women Voters and NCNW. She has served as a mentor to students, teachers and administrators at the local, state and national level. Follow Dr. Stark: @WhoDat40047



Mrs. Ronda Cosby

Ronda Cosby, is an inclusive and innovative leader with a passion for equity. In her 28 years in education, Mrs. Cosby has passionately advocated for the whole child and has been driven by disrupting the status quo of legacy practices on behalf of children. She has been an elementary teacher, elementary counselor, middle school assistant principal, elementary principal and currently a middle school principal. After 21 years of leadership, she opened Grace James Academy of Excellence. As a collaborative leader, Mrs. Cosby could not accomplish opening a brand new school without her an amazing team of educators. She is grateful for the opportunity to lead the all girls STEAM Academy through an Afrocentric and gender specific perspective. Follow Dr. Cosby: @RondaCosby



Melanie Page

Melanie Page is of the Assistant Principals at the inaugural Grace M. James Academy of Excellence STEAM middle school for girls in Louisville, Kentucky. Within her 14 years in education, she has passionately shared her expertise with teachers across the nation through technology, equity, and personalized learning that promotes anti-oppressive learning environments. As she begins her journey as a leader of this school with an Afrocentric and Gender-specific she looks to create a pathway for other educators to "rethink" school as we know it. Follow Melanie: @mspacesays



LaTonya Frazier-Goatley

LaTonya Frazier-Goatley is a native of Louisville Kentucky and an educator with over 20 years of experience. She has a passion for serving underrepresented populations and ensuring equitable access for all. Currently, she serves as one of the assistant principals at the newly founded Grace James Academy of Excellence middle school, where she helps the students and staff live out the mission to empower, activate and illuminate academic excellence.



Shashray McCormack

Shashray McCormack has 17+ years in education. She is a cultural humility coach at Grace James Academy of Excellence and in her position she desires to challenge power imbalances by recognizing that each person (student, family, community and teacher) brings something different to the traditional ways of doing things. By her definition she helps people to liberate themselves from themselves. Follow Shashray: @InspireShashray



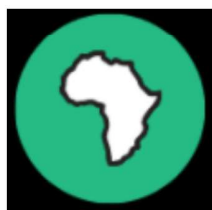
Shauna Evans

Shauna Evans has 10+ years of experience in education in the areas of online content/curriculum development and management, teaching, and instructional coaching. She is the Academic Instructional Coach at Grace James Academy of Excellence. Her mission is to help teachers design learning experiences that empower students to be co-teachers, co-creators, critical thinkers, and change agents in their community and beyond. Follow Shauna: @MrsShaunaEvans



Labron Horton

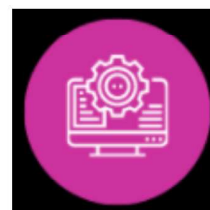
Labron Horton is proud School Counselor at the Grace James Academy of Excellence. She is an educator of over 20 years that has a passion for helping students reach their full potential. Mrs. Horton's mission is to meet the social, emotional, and academic needs of students by empowering them with the academic and social skills they need to be conscious productive citizens of society. Follow Labron: @labron_horton



The 6 themes of our Afrocentric Framework use driving questions to help our students see themselves, their histories, and the world around them through



Many gender-specific research based strategies are utilized to remove barriers and empower student voice. These strategies and instructional practices create



STEAM is embedded through collaboration, creativity, communication, and critical thinking. Each learning space is interdisciplinary, by exposing



With an academic approach focused on teaching at high levels and scaffolding for students to meet standards and expectations; every student will