

Denisha Natasha Jones, PhD., J.D.
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EDUCATION

University of the District of Columbia

David A. Clarke School of Law

Juris Doctor

Washington, DC

May 2018

Indiana University

Doctor of Philosophy, Curriculum and Instruction

Bloomington, IN

July 2013

Dissertation Title: *From Receivers of Service to Givers of Service: Promoting Civic Engagement in Youth from Disadvantaged Circumstances*

University of the District of Columbia

Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education

Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership

Washington, DC

May 2003

May 2003

NONPROFIT EXPERIENCE

Defending the Early Years Inc.

Executive Director

National

July 2022-Present

- Report to and work closely with the Board of Directors to seek their involvement in policy decisions fundraising and increase the organization's overall visibility.
- Supervise the Director of Operations and Director of Communications and Outreach.
- Recruit and supervise DEY Intern.
- Implement and evaluate DEY strategic initiatives.
- Oversee fiscal health of DEY including seeking grants, fundraising, and working with treasurer to plan operating budget.
- Serve as DEY's primary spokesperson to the organization's constituents, the media, and the general public.
- Establish and maintain relationships with various organizations and strategically utilize those relationships to enhance DEY's mission.
- Oversee marketing and other communications efforts.
- Oversee organization Board and committee meetings.
- Review and approve contracts for services.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sarah Lawrence College

Guest Faculty, Art of Teaching

Bronxville, NY

August 2022 Present

- Teach Emergent Curriculum Fall 2022
- Teach Children, Families, and Identities Spring 2023
- Teach Foundations of Education Summer 2023

Director of Art of Teaching

July 2019-June 2022

- Oversee the graduate teaching program including recruitment of students, management of budget, and facilitation of program accreditation
- Coordinate instruction of courses and supervision of Art of Teaching students
- Develop clinical relationships with schools and establish partnerships with local school districts to provide a range of opportunities for Art of Teaching students
- Plan, instruct, and assess graduate courses in early childhood and elementary education
- Develop and enact the mission and vision of the Art of Teaching program within the larger community.
- Apply for and manage national and state grants

Trinity Washington University

Washington, DC

School of Education, College of Arts and Sciences

2016-2019

Director of Teacher Education, Assistant Professor, Program Chair

- Supervise the Teacher Education programs in the School of Education, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the School of Professional Studies
- Serve as advisor to 20-25 undergraduate and graduate students per year
- Mentor 4-6 student teachers per semester
- Engage in professional scholarship and service to the Trinity community
- Plan, instruct, and assess undergraduate and graduate courses in early childhood education and elementary.

Howard University

Washington, DC

Adjunct Faculty

2016-present

- Teach graduate course Diversity in American Education in the fall semester
- Teach undergraduate course Teaching Art, Health, & PE in Urban Elementary Schools in spring semester
- Teach other courses as needed including Research Methods in Curriculum and Teaching for graduate students

Curriculum and Instruction Department Lecturer

2011-2016

- Serve as Coordinator for the Elementary Education Program and Comprehensive Exam
- Plan, instruct, and assess undergraduate and graduate courses in early childhood education, elementary education, and secondary education.
- Principal Investigator for Office of State Superintendent of Education Teacher Quality Improvement Grant 2014-2015 \$100,000 and 2015-2016 \$60,000

Grossmont College

El Cajon, CA

Adjunct Faculty for Child Development

Spring 2011

- Planned and instructed one course on child growth and development
- Created infant/toddler observation practicum for 25 students
- Assessed achievement of 3 student learning outcomes for 25 students

Mira Costa College

Oceanside, CA

Preschool Director and Faculty

2009-2010

- Served as the director for the laboratory based child development center that served 173 families, had a staff of 30, and a budget of \$1.5 million dollars annually
- Taught 5 courses on child development
- Implemented professional development online training for 30 staff members using Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) curriculum materials
- Recipient of Community Organization Excellence in Special Education Award for commitment to inclusive early childhood education
- Mentored 10-15 students per semester

Indiana University

Bloomington, IN

Curriculum and Instruction Department

2004-2009

Associate Instructor/ University Supervisor/ Field Experience Supervisor

- Taught a course on Integrated Methods for Preschool Fall 06, Fall 07, and Fall 08
- Taught diversity course Fall 08 and Spring 09
- Coordinated and supervised field placements for 20 students for 5 semesters
- Served as University Supervisor for 3 student teachers Fall 07 and Spring 08
- Served as Counselor of Rho Nu Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi for five years. Helped recruit members by developing an online recruitment system, induct 100-150 members each spring, trained officers, provided support and guidance for chapter programming, and developed chapter budget

Peabody Early Childhood Learning Center

Washington, DC

Kindergarten Teacher

2003-2004

- Served as kindergarten teacher for 23 children in an inner-city DC Public School
- Implemented All About Me project to promote the individual achievements of each child and build a positive classroom environment
- Utilized Responsive Classroom, The Creative Curriculum, and DCPS Standards to implement a variety of lessons and assessments

LEGAL EXPERIENCE**DC Appleseed**

Washington, DC

Summer 2016 Intern

July- August 2016

- Draft an appendix on special education litigation in Washington DC
- Provide legal research on DC Statehood Initiative

- Provide legal research on Care First surplus case

The Advancement Project

Spring 2016 Intern

Washington, DC
February-April 2016

- Provide legal research to the Schoolhouse-to-Jailhouse team
- Assist with the implementation of youth convening on police in schools and immigration

PUBLICATIONS

Jones, D. & Mathews, S. A. (in press). The Black lives matter at school guiding principles: Fostering Black cultural citizenship through critical civic empathy. In K. E. Duncan (Ed.), *Civic in the margins: Civic teaching, learning, and life in communities of color*. Teachers College Press.

Mathews, S. A. & Jones, D. (6 April 2022). Black lives matter at school: Using the 13 guiding principles as critical race pedagogies for Black citizenship education. *Journal of Social Science Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jssr.2022.03.001>

Jones, D. (2022). Enacting cultural citizenship education for Black liberation: A dream for social studies education. In A. E. Vickery & N. N. Rodriguez (Eds.), *Critical race theory and social studies futures: From the nightmare of racial realism to dreaming out loud*. Teachers College Press.

Jones, D., & Mathews, S. A. (in press). Teaching the Black lives matter at school 13-guiding principles as cultural citizenship education for young children. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Jones, D. (2022). The freedom to play: Play as a tool for liberation. In O.S. Jarrett, V. Patte, & J. Sutterby (Eds.), *Play and social justice across systems of inequity*. Peter Lang Publisher.

Jones, D. (2021). Resisting neoliberal reforms in early childhood education: Play pedagogy as the antidote to GERM. In T. J. Brewer and W. G. Harman (Eds.), *The commodification of American education: Persistent threats and paths forward* (39-62). Myers Education Press.

Jones, D. (2021). A tool to prepare educators for ethical dilemmas. Book review [*Democratic Discord in Schools: Cases and Commentaries in Educational Ethics*]. *Theory & Research in Social Education*, 49(1), 141-144.

Jones, D. & Hagopian, J. (Eds.) (2020). *Black lives matter at school: Un uprising for educational justice*. Haymarket Books.

Jones, D. (2020). The impact of COVID-19 on young children, families and teachers.

- Defending the Early Years, Inc. <https://dey.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/The-Impact-of-COVID-19-on-Young-Children-Families-and-Teachers-A-DEY-Report-9-8-20-FINAL.pdf>
- Jones, D. (2019). Book review [*Teaching for Black Lives*]. *Oregon Journal of the Social Studies*, 7(1), 110-112.
- Jones, D. (2018). Research as resistance: Activist research as a framework and methodology for social change. In V. Wang and T. G. Reido Jr. (Eds.), *Handbook of research on innovative techniques, trends, and analysis for optimized research methods* (pp. 17-29). IGI Global.
- Jones, D. (2017). Friends, the club, and the Housing Authority: How youth define their community through auto-driven photo elicitation. In M. L. Boucher (Ed.), *Participant empowerment through photo-elicitation in ethnography: New perspectives and approaches* (pp. 117-138). Springer.
- Jones, D., Khalil, D. & Dixon, R. D. (2017) Teacher-advocates respond to ESSA: “Support the good parts—Resist the bad parts”. *Peabody Journal of Education*, 92(4), 445-465, DOI: 10.1080/0161956X.2017.1349479
- Jones, D. (2017). From theorizing in the ivory tower to creating change with the people: Activist research as a framework for collaborative action. *International Journal of Adult Vocational Education and Technology*, 8(2), 29-41.
- Jones, D. (2017). When all else fails, we must protect childhood. *Global Education Review*, 4 (3), 14-16. <https://ger.mercy.edu/index.php/ger/article/view/403>
- Jones, D. & Levin, D. (2016). Preschool suspensions do more harm than good. *Education Week*, 35(22), 26.
- Bond, N., Dagenais, R., Bolton, M., Cook, M., Gaffney, C., Jones, D., Pope A., Stewart, P. & Sterrett, W. (2014). The future of the teaching profession. Kappa Delta Pi Public Policy Brief. Retrieved from: http://www.kdp.org/aboutkdp/pdf/PP_Brief.pdf
- Mathews, S & Jones, D. (2011). Nathan Bond (2010 – Present): Journey Towards the Centennial Celebration. In O.L. Davis & M. Spearman (Eds.), *A Century of Leadership: KDP Presidents*. Kappa Delta Pi
- Boyle-Baise, M., Brown, R., Hsu, M.C., Jones, D., Prakash, A., Raush, M., Vitols, S. & Wahlquist, Z. (2006). Learning service or service learning: Enabling the civic. *International Journal of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education*, 18, 1, 17-26.

PRESENTATIONS

“Toward an Affirming Theory of Cultural Citizenship: Teacher’s Testimonials of Black Lives Matter at School”

- Conference Presentation American Education Research Association (AERA)
April 2022

“Teaching the Black Lives Matter at School 13-Guiding Principles as Cultural Citizenship Education for Young Children”

- Conference Presentation College and University Faculty Assembly
(CUFA/NCSS) Virtual November 2021

“Black Lives Matter at School and CRT and Our Schools”

- The Brainwaves Anthology Videos, September 2021
<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheBrainwavesChannel/search?query=Denisha%20Jones>

“Play as the Antidote: Betting on a True Play Revolution to Save the World!”

- Learning Through Play Symposium, September 2021

“Teaching Black Villages in ECE/Elementary”

- Teaching Black History Conference, July 2021

” Ensuring Black Success: Make Black Lives matter in School”

- The Center for Success Annual Conference, July 2021

“Anti-Racism in Early Childhood: Theory and Practice”

- New York State Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators, April 2021

“The Effects of COVID-19 on Teachers and Their Classrooms”

- Conference Presentation, American Education Research Association (AERA)
Virtual April 2021

“Teachers and Schools as Protective Factors to Mitigate Against Racial Trauma”

- Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth, August 2020

“The Black Lives Matter at School Pedagogy: Black History for Young Learners”

- Teaching Black History Conference, July 2020

“ECE Providers as Advocates: Raise Your Voice, Share Your Story, Protect Childhood”

- Conference Presentation Play Empowers Quarantine Conference, April 2020

“Building an ECE Advocacy Platform”

- Conference Presentation Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA),
February 2020

“Protect Childhood Advocacy Action 2020”

- Facilitator Defending the Early Years 7th Annual Organizing Meeting at NAEYC Conference Austin, Texas November 2019

“Doing the work: Amplifying Indigenous and ethnic studies in social studies education: *Teaching for Blacks Lives* as critical race pedagogy for social studies educators

- Conference Presentation College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA/NCSS) Austin, Texas November 2019

“Dilemmas of Advocacy in Social Studies Education: The “Advocate Identity Development” Dilemma

- Conference Presentation College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA/NCSS) Austin, Texas November 2019

“The Global True Play Revolution: How Early Childhood Education Can Save the World”

- Invited Speaker Oxnard College, California November 2019

“Our Voice as Advocacy Our Stories as Resistance: Liberating Childhood to Protect Childhood”

- Invited Keynote Speaker Little Chairs Big Differences Conference Brooklyn, New York October 2019

“Developing an ECE Policy Strategy”

- Facilitator Defending the Early Years Summer Leadership Organizing Institute Washington, DC July 2019

“Race, Representation, and History in Early Childhood Classrooms: Focus on Children’s Literature for the Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action”

- Conference Presentation Free Minds Free People Minneapolis, Minnesota July 2019

“Teachers’ Perspectives on Neoliberal School Accountability as Portrayed through Documentary Film”

- Conference Presentation, American Education Research Association (AERA) Toronto, Canada April 2019

“Race, Representation, and History in Early Childhood Literature”

- Invited Speaker Nordic Symposium Scandinavian House New York April 2019

“The Good Childhood for All: Making the Dream a Reality in the U.S.”

- Invited Speaker Longfellow Lecture Sarah Lawrence College April 2019

“Policy and Advocacy Approaches for Social Studies Education”

- Invited conference presentation College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Retreat Miami, Florida January 2019

“Building and Early Childhood Education Resistance in your Community”

- Defending the Early Years Interest Forum at NAEYC Annual Conference Washington, DC November 2018

“Defending the Early Years: Promoting Quality Experiences and Equitable Policies in Your Classroom, School, Local Community and Beyond”

- Panel Discussion The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Washington, DC November 2018

“The Racist Origins of Standardized Testing and the Racist Idea of Black/Brown Inferiority”

- Conference Presentation Network for Public Education Indianapolis, Indiana October 2018

“Defending the Early Years: How are we protecting young children from the global education reform movement, privatization of public schools, online preschools and more?”

- Conference Presentation Network for Public Education Indianapolis, Indiana October 2018

“Restoring Justice through Trauma Informed Practices in Early Childhood Education”

- Conference Presentation Network for Public Education Indianapolis, Indiana October 2018

“Fighting for Educational Equity is all We Got!”

- Conference Presentation New York Collective of Radical Educators (NYCORE) New York March 2018

“Panel Discussion on the OECD International Early Learning and Child Well-Being Study”

- Invited Speaker Hunter College, New York April 2018

“Teacher Organizing in the Struggle for Public Education: A Conversation with Teacher Activist Organizations”

- Invited Speaker American Education Research Association (AERA) New York April 2018

“Eugenics, Standardized Testing, and White Supremacy: How High-Stakes Testing Reinforces White Privilege and Fuels Anti-Blackness”

- White Privilege Conference Grand Rapids, Michigan April 2018

“Activist Research as a Framework for Collaborative Action”

- Conference Presentation College University Faculty Assembly (CUFA/NCSS) San Francisco, California November 2017

“Reclaiming Public Education: Preparing Critically Conscious Teachers to Resist Corporate Education Reform”

- Critical Questions in Education Conference Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania October 2017

“Teacher-Advocates Respond To ESSA: Resist the Bad Support the Good”

- Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education Convocation Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania October 2017 (poster session)

“When All Else Fails, We Must Protect Childhood”

- Invited Keynote Presenter Thomas H. Wright Lecture Sarah Lawrence College, New York July 2017

“School Privatization and the Illusion of Interest Convergence: Why We Must Change the Narrative”

- Free Minds Free People Baltimore, Maryland July 2017

“Play for All or Play for the Rich and Privileged?”

- Invited Speaker American Scandinavian Foundation Good Child Symposium, New York November 2016

“Developing Cultural Competence in Schools”

- New Jersey Educators Association Conference Atlantic City, New Jersey November 2016

“The Impact of School Reform Mandates on Low Income Children”

- National Association for the Education of Young Children, Los Angeles California November 2016

“Inside Educational Organizing and Activism”

- American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC April 2016

“Preparing and Supporting Teachers in a Diverse Democracy”

- American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC April 2016

“T.E.S.T. Not Play is a Four-Letter Word: Putting Children and Families at the Center of Education Reform”

- Network for Public Education Third Annual Conference, Raleigh, North Carolina April 2016

“Competency Based Education: What is it and How to Stop It from Coming to Your State”

- Network for Public Education Third Annual Conference, Raleigh, North Carolina April 2016

“BATs: Cultural Competencies in the Classroom and Beyond”

- Network for Public Education Third Annual Conference, Raleigh, North Carolina April 2016

“Rethinking the Goal of Teacher Evaluation to Improve Teacher Quality”

- Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children (DVAEYC) Early Childhood Conference, Philadelphia April 2016

“The Social Justice Toolkit for Badass Teachers”

- New York Collective of Radical Educators (NYCORE) Annual Conference, New York March 2016

“Building an ECE Community for Activism”

- Defending the Early Years Interest Forum at NAEYC Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida November 2015

“Charter Schools, Education Reform and the Future of Democratic Education”

- Invited Keynote Presenter at College University Faculty Association (CUFA) Annual Meeting, New Orleans November 2015

“The Perils of Claiming Education is a Civil Right: Resisting the Narrative of Reform”

- Critical Questions in Education Conference Baltimore, Maryland November 2015

“What if I Told You Cultural Competence Was Just Good Teaching?”

- BATs Congress Washington D.C., July 2015

“Moving Teachers from Colorblind to Culturally Competent: Harnessing the Power of Social Justice Education”

- Invited Presenter Rainier Educators of Color Network, Seattle, Washington, May 2015

“BATs and Social Justice”

- Network for Public Education Conference, Chicago, Illinois April 2015

“The Impacts of Policies and Reforms on the Education of Young Children”

- Kappa Delta Pi Webinar, March 2015”

“Grassroots Strategies for Engaging in Test-Based Resistance”

- New York Collective of Radical Educators (NYCORE) Conference, New York, March 2015

“Badass Teachers and Social Justice”

- BATs Rally Washington, D.C. July 2014

“The Future of the Teaching Profession”

- Network for Public Education Conference, Austin, Texas March 2014

“Dispelling the Colorblind Myth: Embracing and Affirming Diversity”

- Kappa Delta Pi Biennium Convocation, Indianapolis, Indiana November 2011
- CAPP Foundation Center Based Webinar Series, December 2010

“From Receivers of Service to Givers of Service: Promoting Youth Civic Engagement”

- AERA Annual Meeting in San Diego, California April 2009

“Implementing Reggio Emilia Principles in American Preschools: Two Case Studies”

- University of Maryland, Baltimore County McNair Research Conference, October 2002
- Ronald E. McNair 11th Annual National Research Conference Delavan, Wisconsin, September 2002, Poster Presentation
- The Pennsylvania State University McNair Conference, August 2002

WORK EXPERIENCE

West ED

San Diego, CA

California Inclusion and Behavior Consultant

Jan. 2011-Aug. 2011

- Participate in the two week Train the Trainer Event sponsored by the Center for the Social and Emotional Foundation for Early Learning
- Participate in the California Inclusion and Behavior Consultant webinar and regional training
- Provide multiple site visits to early childhood program
- Complete observation reports, site summary report, action planning form, and evaluation forms

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

The Badass Teachers Association

Interim Assistant Executive Director

2018-present

Founding Board Member

2015-present

Defending the Early Years

Co-Director

2020-2022

Director of Early Childhood Organizing

2018-2020

Advisory Board Member

2015-2018

Kappa Delta Pi, An International Honor Society in Education

Chapter Counselor, Theta Alpha

2015-2016

Member, Public Policy Committee

2009-2017

National Association of the Education of Young Children

Member 2003-present

UDC Black Law Students Association

Director of Community Service

2017-2018

Member

2015-2018

UDC Law Review

Managing Editor

2017-2018

Associate Editor

2016-2017

AWARDS/HONORS/FELLOWSHIPS

- UDC Alumni Legacy Award 2020
- Jack and Lovell Olender Foundation Earl H. Davis Award 2017
- Montgomery County Women's Bar Association Honorable Irma Raker Scholarship Recipient 2017
- College Professor of the Year, Academy of Education Arts and Science 2015
- Community Organization Excellence in Special Education Award 2010
- Daisy M. & Vivian L. Jones Fellowship, 2003-2004
- Phyllis Campbell-Newsome Student Leader Award, May 2003
- Ronald E. McNair Scholar, 2002-2003
- Paul C. Cooke Scholarship, 2002-2003

REFERENCES

Dr. Sarah A. Mathews

Assistant Professor C&I/ Social Studies Educ.

Florida International University

Department of Teaching and Learning

(305) 348-3223

samathew@fiu.edu

Dr. Diane Levin

Professor of Early Childhood Education

Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development

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Boston, MA 02215

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