

42ND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Colonialism, Resistance & Reconciliation

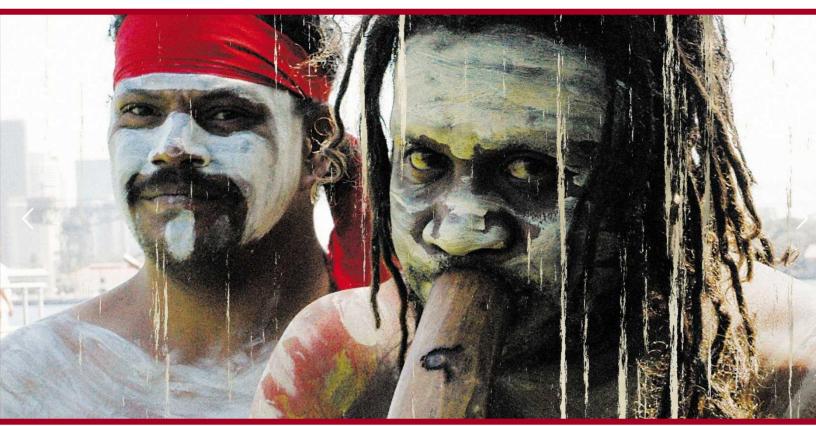


Photo credit: Tribal Warrior Aboriginal Corporation

Sydney Melbourne Uluru

Australia

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National Association of Black Social Workers

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August 15, 2019

Greetings and Welcome,

I am honored to have you join NABSW for our 42nd Annual International Education Conference themed: "Colonialism, Resistance, and Reconciliation in Australia" as we journey to Melbourne, Sydney, and Uluru for an experience which will both endarken and enlighten us. In 2008, Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd made a formal apology to indigenous Australians for their Stolen Generations.



Throughout history, all people, all over the world have shared in a universal reality: the common fact that we all belong to a culture of origin. Equally important is the reality that countless cultures coexist globally. The uniqueness of any culture unifies its members in a commonality of shared beliefs and values which progresses at irregular but, none the less, timeless intervals. Culture is a vehicle that forms the cradle of a peoples essential being and collective consciousness. They are bonded by their shared culture as it provides a collective identity.

Although it has been deeply buried over time, as an Afrikan people we share a cultural consciousness with indigenous Australians because we have a common origin. While our cultural identity is interdependent, interconnected, and interrelated, its continuity was impeded due to our enslavement, the Middle Passage, and sustained Maafa. Like all Africans, indigenous Australians are bonded in the human-nature relationship while sharing a deep spiritual and cultural connection to the land. Being forced from their traditional lands, and having their cultural and spiritual practices abridged, strained the cohesion of their culture.

We are visiting a land where the origin of the first humans to populate it is often a matter of debate. However, anthropologists believe they arrived as a result of the earliest human migrations out of Africa with the most generally accepted date for first arrival between 40,000 - 80,000 years ago.

When we venture out from Melbourne and Sydney to Uluru, let us not lose sight of our humility and humbleness. As our educational journey takes us throughout Australia, let us be ever mindful of our "Stolen Generations" and what it truly means "To Be African."

In the Spirit of the Ancestors,

Cheikh Ahmadou Banba Mbacké

Cheikh Ahmadou Banba Mbacké National President



THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2019

11:00am - 12:15pm Registration & Orientation

12:15pm - 2:15pm La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council

Visit to the land council of the La Perouse Aboriginal community- the longest functioning Aboriginal community in Sydney. Many descendants of the original families continue to live within the La Perouse community maintaining their cultural connection to the coastal Sydney region. Here, we will be received by a local elder with a traditional *Welcome to Country* ceremony, followed by a tour of the grounds and an explanation of the organization's history, current work, and future objectives.

3:00pm HotelCheck-In

7:00pm Welcome Dinner

Meet in the hotel lobby to walk over to our dinner venue as a group.



Photo Credit: La Perouse Aboriginal Land Council

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2019

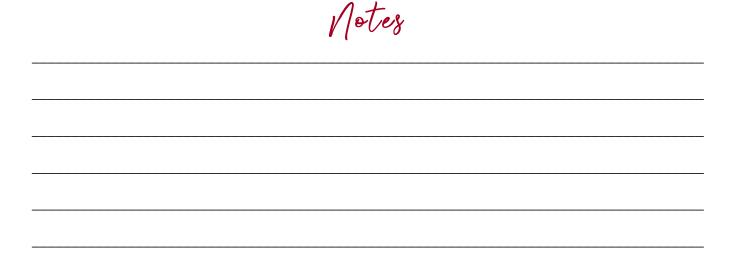
6:30am - 9:15am Breakfast

9:30am - 12:00pm Redfern Community Project Workshop

Known as the "Black Capital of Australia" and the epicenter of Aboriginal activism, the Redfern neighborhood was once a fringe suburb and refuge for immigrants. This workshop will examine Sidney's cultural beginnings and highlight Redfern's pioneering role in social and political activities in the aboriginal community.

12:30pm - 4:00pm Bangabaoui Experience Rolling Workshop

This workshop will introduce us to the pre-colonial coastal lifestyle of the Cadigal, Guringai, Wangal, Gammeraigal and Wallumedegal that occupy the territory that is now known as Sydney, including fishing methods, food gathering techniques, as well as landmarks significant to the aboriginal community. This workshop is set aboard the *Mari Nawi* harbor cruise boat. Bring good walking shoes, an umbrella and/or a raincoat for use on the island during wet weather. Lunch is included.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2019

6:30am - 9:00am Breakfast

9:30am - 11:30am Workshop by Jataun Rollins, LCSW

The Cost of Acculturation, Assimilation and Appropriation: Lessons to Shape a New Narrative for Change Across the World

This presentation, conducted by NABSW member, Jataun Rollins, LCSW, highlights the impact of acculturation, assimilation and appropriation within the context of people across the globe who have been chronically disenfranchised for centuries as a result of colonialism. This presentation is intended to be a jumpstart to carry forth a new mission, a new charge to share resources and connections that embolden one another to "rise up and resist" cultural hegemony and its results. Read more about Jataun Rollins, LCSW on page 14.

12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch Break

1:00pm - 4:00pm Art Gallery of New South Wales

The collections of this museum are enormously rich and varied. They are a fascinating barometer of the evolution of taste and style, and of changing social, cultural and even political values. Among many, this museum houses the Yiribana Gallery, which presents a selection of works from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collection. Yiribana means 'this way' in the language of the Eora people and acknowledges the location of the gallery on Gadigal land. The collection represents artists from communities across Australia, celebrates Indigenous Australia's enduring cultural heritage, and its myriad contemporary expressions.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2019

6:30am - 10:00am Breakfast

9:00am - until Day Open for Independent Exploration

Explore the biggest city in Australia at your own pace. Travelers are free to follow their own whims, or plan your perfect sight-seeing itinerary with one of the following day passes:

Hop-on Hop-off Sydney Bus Tour! This tour covers the main highlights of the city and makes over 23 stops, including the famous Sydney Opera House, Bondi Beach, Sydney Tower Eye, St. Mary's Cathedral, and much more!

Captain Cook Hop-on Hop-off Cruise! Relax and enjoy magnificent views of the Opera House and Sydney Harbour Bridge, and watch sailing boats, cruise ships and ferries bustle across the sparkling water. Or, jump off at any of the 11 stops, like Luna Park, Taronga Zoo, Shark Island, Watsons Bay, and Fort Denison, to name a few (entry fees not included).

Blue Mountain Explorer Bus! Explore the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area of Katoomba, Leura and more with live commentary by friendly driver-guides! The bus runs at 30-minute internals and drives you to the best lookouts, adventurous bush walks, and majestic waterfalls at your own pace. Cover wonderful attractions like the Three Sisters, Scenic World, Waradah Aboriginal Centre and more.

MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019

6:30am - 7:30am Breakfast

7:45am Bus Departs for Sydney Airport

Virgin Australia Flight 830 (Departs 10:00am) for Melbourne

Notes



MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019

11:35am Flight Arrives in Melbourne

1:00pm Lunch

3:00pm Hotel Check-in

4:00pm Melbourne City Tours

Get the inside scoop on Melbourne's history and highlights with one of two entertaining tour options:

MELBOURNE SIGHTS TOUR (2.5 HOURS)

Discover the history of Melbourne, from its Indigenous beginnings to the city it is today. You'll uncover the stories behind the landmark buildings, scenic gardens, iconic lanes, arcades and street art.

CULTURE CAPITAL TOUR (1.5 HOURS)

Go off the beaten path and uncover the secrets behind Melbourne's famous culture. We'll take you through Melbourne's best hidden lanes, arcades, street art and architecture. Unearthing Melbourne's identity and discovering the hidden side to Melbourne.



Image: Aboriginal water totems of Murray cod, long neck turtle, short fin eel and platypus that represent the four corners of Victoria. Courtesy Mick Harding.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2019

6:30am - 8:30am Breakfast

9:00am - 10:30am Cultural Workshop by Graham Briggs

This cultural workshop will provide participants with an historical context relative to the local traditional owners of the regions, the First People's Treaty, and local efforts to promote cultural resilience and resist cultural hegemony. Participants will participate in an interactive demonstration of several important local traditions. The workshop will be conducted by Graham Briggs, Executive Director of Aldara Yenara in Victoria, Australia. Please read more about Graham Briggs on page 13.

10:45am -12:45pm Workshop by Dr. Johnnie Hamilton-Mason

Healing Stories: Comparing Narrative Therapy with Aboriginals and African Americans
This workshop, led by NABSW member Dr. Johnnie Hamilton-Mason, will cover Narrative Therapy- an approach informed by post-modern, feminist, empowerment and liberation models. It stresses the importance of the impact of everyday stories on peoples' lives, the social forces shaping personal narratives, and the ways these forces can marginalize, and obscure our lived experiences. The aim of this workshop is to provide a historical overview and demonstrate the basic tenets of Narrative Therapy from the perspective of Aboriginal and African Americans communities. Read more about Dr. Hamilton-Mason on page 13.

1:00pm - 2:30pm Lunch Break Discussion with Erica Lambert, MNT During this lunch break presentation, Ms. Lambert will tell us about her work as an Aboriginal health facilitator within a mainstream organization. Ms. Lambert uses narrative practices throughout her grass root work with Aboriginal communities, using decolonizing methodologies and bringing forth indigenous epistemologies. This activity is intended to be an interactive discussion and professional exchange. Read more about Ms. Lambert on page 14.

2:45pm - 4:30pm Roundtable Discussion Led by Nicholas Haney State of the Black Family in U.S. & Australia

Contemporary African people arrived on Australia's shores in 1787 with European visitors, and later came as skilled sugar workers to advance a fledgling sugar industry. Notwithstanding, the formation of a durable Black African community in Australia is a relatively recent phenomenon. This roundtable discussion moderated by Nicholas Haney, MSW, consists of professionals and members of the African diaspora living in Australia. Topics include, race relations, discrimination, and the personal experiences of the participants. Read more about Nicholas Haney, MSW on page 13.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2019

6:30am - 9:15am Breakfast

10:00am - 12:00pm Melbourne Indigenous Transition School (MITS)

Visit this unique school for indigenous students making the difficult transition from remote or regional communities to schools in larger metropolitan communities. MITS seeks to empower Indigenous students who decide to take this difficult step. An initiative by dedicated individuals within the education sector and the Indigenous community, MITS has developed a new model for education of Indigenous students from remote and regional communities across Australia.

12:30pm - 1:30pm Lunch

2:30pm - 5:00pm Werribee Open Range Zoo

Spend the afternoon marveling at the variety of wildlife in natural settings. Enjoy a guided safari across open savannah, which is included with general admission.

5:00pm NABSW Black Family Ritual Closing Ceremony

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2019

6:00am - 7:00am Breakfast

7:10am

Bus Departs for Melbourne Airport

Jet Star Flight 644 (Departs 9:45am) to Uluru Virgin Australia Flight 23 (Departs 11:35am) to Los Angeles

Notes



THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2019

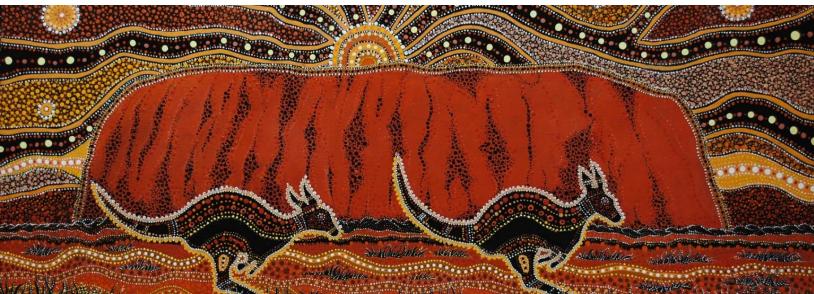
12:15pm Flight Arrives at Ayer's Rock Airport

1:45pm Lunch

3:00pm Hotel Check-in & Afternoon Independent Time

The Ayer's Rock Resort has over 101 tours and experiences available (many at an additional cost). Take some time to explore the compound and visit the **Visitor Tours & Information Center** to find out everything that this sprawling resort has to offer. The Visitor Center closes at 7pm.

Also, do not miss the **Mulgara Gallery** located at Sails in the Desert to get a glimpse into the unique world of Australian and Indigenous arts and crafts. The gallery offers a superb selection of original dot-paintings, artworks, hand-crafted glassware, jewelry, pottery, textiles, metal and leatherwork, and showcases a range of Central Australian Indigenous art representing the many different regional styles. The gallery closes at 5pm.



Artist: Danny Eastwood

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2019

6:30am - 9:45am Breakfast

10:00am - 11:00am Bush Yarn Storytelling

Welcome to the Circle of Sand, the Indigenous heart of Ayers Rock Resort. You'll become captivated by the yarns told by an Indigenous storyteller of Aboriginal history, culture and traditional techniques used on the land. Depending on the season, learn about traditional bushtucker or an Indigenous man's

"survival kit" including weapons such as katjii (hunting spears), tjutinpa (clubs), kali (boomerangs) and miru (spear thrower). Location: Town Square Lawn

11:00am - 1:00pm Lunch On Your Own & Free Time

1:00pm - 2:00pm Bush Food Experience

Learn about Australian and local native bush foods with a tasting of seasonal seeds, fruits and spices. Your knowledgeable guide will describe how for centuries the Indigenous people used the bush for food. You'll find out about the uses of certain plants, fruits, grains and spices and about traditional food preparation methods. Enjoy a cooking demonstration of a recipe using some of the ancient native bush ingredients. *Location: Wintjiri Arts & Museum*

3:00pm - 4:00pm Ecological Tour & Arts at Wintjiri Museum

This tour introduces participants to the history, wildlife, and geology of the area. The museum is dedicated to indigenous inspired artwork and features a different Artist in Residence every month. Watch the artist at work and discuss her body of work and personal inspirations. *Location: Wintjiri Arts & Museum*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2019

6:30am - 10:30am Breakfast

Times TBA Uluru Independent Exploration

Get up close to Uluru, the region's amazing natural rock formation and move around to the various sites at your own pace, with a National Park Pass. Visit the Cultural Centre and learn more about the history and geology of our fascinating rock formations as well as the local Anangu Indigenous culture. This day, lunch will be on your own. *Location: Pick up from Sails in the Desert Lobby*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2019

6:30am - 9:00am Breakfast

Time TBA Gardening in the Outback (if time permits)

Enjoy a leisurely morning walk to Imalung Lookout for one last glimpse of Uluru, followed by a journey around the magnificent Desert Gardens to learn the intricacies of an outback garden. *Location: Desert Gardens Hotel Reception*.

10:00am Check-out & Transfer to Ayer's Rock Airport (AYQ)

Due to the difference in time zones, flights will depart Australia and arrive back to the U.S. on the same day, Sunday, August 25, 2019. Virgin Australia Flight 1628 (Departs 1:50pm) to Los Angeles

Cultural Disclaimer

Ayer's Rock Resort indigenous staff and performers are traditional people with strong cultural obligations. In the event of some major unforseen cultural event, such as ceremonial duties or bereavement, some activities may become unavailable. We will do our best to make appropriate substitutions.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION



OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS

Mission Statement

The National Association of Black Social Workers, Inc., comprised of people of African ancestry, is committed to enhancing the quality of life and empowering people of African ancestry through advocacy, human services delivery, and research.

National Association of Black Social Workers, Inc. will work to create a world in which people of African ancestry will live free from racial domination, economic exploitation, and cultural oppression. In collaboration with national, international, and other appropriate groups, NABSW will continue to leverage its collective expertise to strategically develop capacity of people of African ancestry to sustain and flourish. NABSW's vision is guided by the Principles of the Nguzo Saba, which are

Unity, Self- determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith, and the Seven Cardinal Virtues of Ma'at, which are Right, Truth, Justice, Order, Reciprocity, Balance, and Harmony.

Code of Ethics

As Black social workers we commit ourselves, collectively, to the interests of our Black brethren and as individuals subscribe to the following statements:

- I regard as my primary obligation the welfare of the Black individual, Black family, and Black community and will engage in action for improving social conditions.
- I give precedence to this mission over my personal interest.
- I adopt the concept of a Black extended family and embrace all Black people as my brothers and sisters, making no distinction between their destiny and my own.
- I hold myself responsible for the quality and extent of service I perform, and the quality and extent of service performed by the agency or organization in which I am employed, as it relates to the Black community.
- I accept the responsibility to protect the Black community against unethical and hypocritical practice by any individual or organizations engaged in social welfare activities.
- I stand ready to supplement my paid or professional advocacy with voluntary service in the Black public interest.
- I will consciously use my skills, and my whole being as an instrument for social change, with particular attention directed to the establishment of Black social institutions.

History

NABSW International Education Conference

NABSW's International Education Conference (IEC) is the brainchild of its first President, Cenie "Jomo" Williams, who himself coordinated many of these conferences. The first was held in Nassau, Bahamas in 1975 and his dream to travel to Africa was realized in 1980. The IEC Committee would like to acknowledge all the NABSW members who have coordinated IECs over the years and thank them for their service and for their many years of leadership, promoting international education and travel for thousands of NABSW members and friends. We give a special remembrance to Margaret Penn who transitioned January 7, 2019 and Dr. Sandra Tilly Mitchell who transitioned June 23, 2019. Together they co-chaired IECs for over 15 years.

Other past IEC chairs include Marie Smith, Aramintha Grant, Stella Brown, Zelma Smith-Pressley, Past President William T. Merritt, Grace Minter, Angela Jenkins, Sevaughn Banks, and Toni Oliver. We are indebted to our past co-chairs for coordinating the following experiences, beginning in 1975:

Africa – Senegal, The Gambia, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Egypt, Kenya, Togo, Benin, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, and Morocco; as well as, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Barbados, St. Thomas Virgin Island, Trinidad & Tobago, St. Lucia, Grenada, St Kitts, Belize, Venezuela, Aruba, Spain, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Brazil, Panama, Costa Rica, United Kingdom, France, Cuba, Dominican Republic, and Haiti.

This year, the 42nd International Education Conference will be held August 13-25, 2019. Designed and curated by Diaspora Travel Experiences, LLC, in conjunction with the current IEC Committee (see page 15), the conference will be held across three (3) Australian cities: Sydney, Melbourne, and Uluru.

The conference theme is "Colonialism, Resistance and Reconciliation in Australia." This theme embodies NABSW's focus on the experiences of Africans and First Peoples that are often ignored in travel experiences, in particular in Australia. Our activities will be facilitated by subject matter experts and will explore issues related to colonialism, indigenous rights and national reconciliation efforts.

Conferees will travel to Sydney and Melbourne, with an optional extension to Uluru. Uluru is a massive sandstone monolith in the heart of the Northern Territory's arid "Red Centre". Uluru, thought to have started forming around 550 million years ago, is sacred to the Aboriginal people of the area and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

William Gosse, the first non-Aboriginal person to "discover" Uluru named it Ayers Rock in 1873, after Sir Henry Ayers, the Chief Secretary of South Australia at the time. It was "officially" renamed Ayers Rock/Uluru in 1993, becoming the first feature in the Northern Territory to be given dual names. In 2002, the names were reversed to Uluru/Ayers Rock at the request of the Regional Tourism Association in Alice Springs, which is currently the "official" name.

The National Association of Black Social Workers is a non-profit, membership organization founded in May 1968. Membership is available to persons of Black African ancestry who, regardless of profession, share similar concerns regarding health, welfare and socio-political issues in the Black community and throughout the African Diaspora. For more details, visit www.nabsw.org.

About the Presenters



Graham Briggs is the Executive Director of Aldara Yenara (Yorta Yorta for "Leading the Way"), a proudly Aboriginal owned organization focused on improving the lives of clients through improved education, employment and positive lifestyle opportunities. Aldara Yenara provides services in the following areas: alcohol and drug abuse, family violence, education, employment, out of home care, mentoring and support, and diversion from negative behavior.

Mr. Briggs is an experienced Facilitator with a demonstrated history of working in the Community Development & Training industry. Skilled in Training Delivery, Management, Community Engagement, Organizational Development, and Recruiting, he has an Advance Diploma focused in Political Science and

Government from Swinburne University of Technology.



Dr. Johnnie Hamilton-Mason is a Professor at Simmons College School of Social Work. She teaches Advanced Clinical Practice, Realities of Racism and Oppression, Leadership, Political Strategies for Clinical Social Workers Practice, Practice with Immigrants and Refugees, and Qualitative Research. From 2004-2007, Dr. Hamilton-Mason served as Director of the Doctoral Program at SSW and expanded her leadership from 2008-2011 as Co-Director of the Urban Leadership Program in the School of Social Work. In 2005 she co-founded the SSW's Pharnal Longus Academy for Undoing Racism. From 2001 through 2008, she served as a Harvard University W.E.B. DuBois Institute non-resident fellow in African American research.

Her scholarship, publications and research interests are primarily on African American Women and Families, the intersection of cross-cultural theory and practice, Anti-Racism and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. She has a recent co-authored book, Tourse, R., Hamilton-Mason, J. & Wewiorski, N. (2018). *Systemic Racism in America: Its Perpetuation through Scaffolding*. With over twenty-five years of full-time teaching experience, she continues to enhance her teaching through clinical practice in urban agencies, as well as through consultation and education locally and internationally.



Nicholas Haney, MSW is the Director of Innovare Consultancy Services providing a range of supports for Aboriginal, culturally diverse and mainstream organizations. For over 25 years, Nicholas has worked with children, youth and families providing counselling, mediation and early intervention family support. He has managed NGO staff and services for over 15 years across not-for-profit community welfare sectors in the United States and culturally diverse Sydney and regional Victoria communities.

Mr. Haney holds a Master of Social Work, Bachelor of English, Graduate Diploma in Family Dispute Resolution, Restorative Group Conference Convenor

and Results Based Accountability Trainer. He has considerable expertise in the development, training, delivery and evaluation of programs and organizations with presentations at:

- Australasian Results Based Accountability Conference (Sydney)
- 18th Annual International Mental Health Conference (Gold Coast)
- Department of Human Services State Planning (Victoria)
- Research Summit Indigenous Empowerment and Prosperity in the Goulburn Murray Region
- Industry Capability Network Victoria

His passion is for promoting self-determination and inclusion through communication, reflection and humor in and outside of client practice.



Erica Lambert, MNT (*Te Paatu, Te Aupouri*) has worked across Aboriginal communities in Melbourne for over 20 years, as a therapeutic practitioner, community worker in Aboriginal health, external supervisor, and Indigenous researcher. She is committed to challenging the dominant western paradigms and investigating how people's lives are further marginalized by racism, colonial patriarchy and oppression through gender, race, ethnicity and class.

Ms. Lambert received a Master of Narrative Therapy and Community Work. Her practices are informed by decolonizing, anti-oppression, Maori feminism, an ethic of transparency and accountability, culturally informed by and with cultural obligation as an indigenous person. Her ancestral lands are located in

the Far North Island of Aotearoa, New Zealand, traditionally named *Te Hiku O te Ika* ("the tail of the fish"). She draws inspiration from a Maori proverb recited by Sir Mason Durie, "it's never about one person," *Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini.* "A warrior never stands alone but stands with many." And in Ms. Lambert's words, "it takes a whole community to effect and sustain change."



Jataun J. Rollins, AM, LCSW is the Immediate Past President of the Chicago Association of Black Social Workers where she has been an active member since 2004. She has worked in the field of social services for over 27 years in child welfare, public benefits, with the intellectually disabled, early childhood, higher education, clinical supervision, fatherhood development, career coaching, consultation and project management. She was recently selected as a delegate for an exchange program in Shanghai, China to represent Chicago Sister Cities in October 2019 looking at elder care and their systems for support.

Ms. Rollins co-authored a book with eight other dynamic women entitled *U.G.L.Y. Uncovering God's Love for You*. She followed that book venture with a

self-published text, What's Funny About Dementia? Laugh to Keep From Crying, that earned a Royal Dragonfly Award. In her spare time, she crafts dolls & brooches and conducts research for individuals to assist them in connecting their family roots. Her life's work has always been in service to help others navigate a new narrative built on their demonstrated strengths and resiliency. She is a mother of two children and resides in the Chicagoland area.



International Education Conference Committee

Deborah Y. Fitch
Erica N. Pettis
Janet Bryan
Willie Davis
Michael Guynn
Sondera M. Malry
Anyika Nkululeko, Co-Chair
J. Toni Oliver, Co-Chair, Immediate Past President

Workshop Presenters

Graham Briggs
Dr. Johnnie Hamilton-Mason
Nicholas Haney, MSW
Erica Lambert, MNT
Jataun J. Rollins, LCSW

Collaborating Organizations & Consultants

Art Gallery of New South Wales
Ayer's Rock Resorts

Four Points Sheraton Docklands (Melbourne)
The Gujaga Foundation
La Perouse Aboriginal Land Council
Melbourne Indigenous Transition School
Nicholas Haney, MSW
Redfern Community Centre
Sydney Harbour Marriott Circular Quay
Tribal Warriors, Inc.
Werribee Open Range Zoo

About the Organizer

Diaspora Travel Experiences is a full-service consulting company that specializes in group travel programs, faculty-led study abroad, and professional conferences abroad with a special focus on experiences, academic topics, and issues pertinent to the African Diaspora.

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