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African American History Institute

By Dr. Alice J. Garrett



Believing that the rich history of African Americans is a source of pride and encouragement, the African American Institute at Saint Matthew AME Church held its first session in January, 2016 for students from the Raleigh North Community. The Institute is open to school age children and is held the 2nd Saturday of each month

during the regular Saturday Enrichment Tutoring Program.



The goal of the institute is to expose participants to the history of African Americans that is not taught in public schools and most often marginalized in history textbooks. Participants will be exposed to people, places, things, events, and documents that have

made our history the rich history it is today. Past community history makers and present day history makers in the Raleigh-Wake county area will be introduced to participants, as well as visiting instructors. The Black/Negro National Anthem will be learned and unpacked for learning so that, participants will always have a point of reference of African American History. The institute is opened to community residents and other participants who wish to attend.



Member Profile
Dr. Terrance Ruth

“My worth is worthless until I grow
 the worth of our youth”

...Dr. Ruth

Dr. Terrance Ruth is currently an administrator for WCPSS with a student population made of 100% Special Education students. Dr. Ruth is an education consultant for low performing schools through Phase III.

Dr. Ruth was a Research Associate and an Education Policy Communications Specialist at the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at North Carolina State University. He earned his PhD from the University of Central Florida in the college of Public Affairs. His research interest includes the theoretical fields of Globalism and Structuration with a focus on future projections in cultural perceptions. He acquired his Masters in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University. After receiving his MA, he entered education administration professionally as an alternative education Principal for 6 years under AMIkids. He earned his BA in History and briefly taught high school history and science. Terrance's entire administrative and teaching career served *the under-performing, misrepresented, adjudicated* youth.

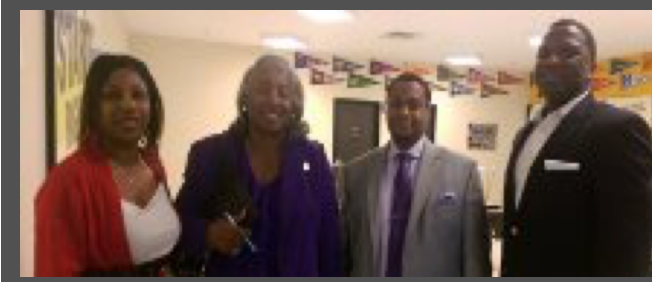
Dr. Ruth was engaged in the *Race to the Top Initiative* and the MSP project for the NCSU Friday Institute. Also, he is actively working on integrating concepts of space and time distinctions, as it relates to future perceptions of race.

Dr. Terrance Ruth is happily married to Mrs. Kiara Ruth and, they have a 2 year old son, Miles. Ideally, he foresees his research will impact the discussions that his son will have with his children. Observing the current paradigms that mobilizes networks, relationships and partnerships, it appears that there is a long journey ahead, when it comes to *westernized* race perceptions. Dr. Ruth hopes to contribute to that journey.

EdTalk Interviews Dr. Ruth

Our very own, Dr. Terrance Ruth did a radio interview on EdTalk. Dr. Ruth is a columnist at EducationNC and an alternative school principal. He talked about the realities of working in an alternative school, the impact of race and socioeconomic status on educational achievement and much more. *Please click on the link below to listen to that interview.*

<https://www.ednc.org/edtalk/2016/02/05/episode-2-interview-with-terrance-ruth/>



ALS TO OPEN NEW CHARTER SCHOOL IN SE

Central Wake High School (CWHHS) will open this fall for the 2016-17 school year at 1425 Rock Quarry Road in Raleigh. CWHHS is a charter high school with an accelerated learning model and curriculum for high school students, mainly ages 16-21 who are low-performing, “*under credited*”, dropped out or are dangerously close to dropping out of their traditional public schools. The School's design incorporates classrooms, each led by a certified teacher, with a blended model of traditional and on-line instruction. The classroom and school environment is designed specifically to address each student's unique learning needs.

Central Wake High School will operate on multiple, 4-hour block schedules meant to provide schedule options that accommodate life circumstances of each student. Targeted, face-to-face direct instruction will be conducted in small groups or individually to assist struggling students with further understanding and mastery of course content. Using supplemental reading, math, and foundational skills resources, this individualized instruction will address identified gaps in student learning which provides timely, appropriate

interventions and remediation. Generally, instruction will be set according to students' individual needs including test-taking skills preparation and foundational skills improvement. However, all students will be provided with a challenging, engaging, and aligned high school curriculum. Impressively, Central Wake High School is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). This means each student will graduate with a fully accredited high school diploma.

An essential ingredient of Central Wake High School will be the provision of social services and crisis intervention programming for students. Students will be provided with comprehensive, “wrap-around” social services, crisis intervention, and behavioral health services as they work through course work that prepares them for graduation as well as successful transition to post-secondary education, military service or the workforce. School leadership, faculty, and staff plan to work hard to understand and help to address the complex, often disruptive challenges students might face and that stand in the way of attendance and learning in other high school environments.



Dr. Thomas R. Easley, Director, Community for Diversity

The Diversity Digest recently interviewed Dr. Thomas Easley, director of the Community for Diversity and instructor in the College of Natural Resources (CNR). Dr. Easley discussed the programs and activities related to diversity that are currently taking place at the CNR. Find out about the many diversity-related programs and activities happening in CNR. To read the full transcript on his interview, please use the link below. <https://oied.ncsu.edu/main/thomas-easley-director-community-for-diversity/>

Flood Member Named 2016 “Woman of the Year”

Spectacular Magazine recently named Mrs. Chanda Branch the 2016 “Woman of the Year” in the *Arts and Culture* category. Chanda is an educator in the Wake County Public School System and, she is married to the newly elected Raleigh City Council member, Mr. Corey Branch. To read the complete profile on Mrs. Branch, please visit the link below.

https://issuu.com/spectacular/docs/march2016_online

Longview High School Collaborates with NCSU

The Flood Group Spotlight

Our Students, Our Efforts

The Flood Group & Wake County Schools partnered to address student suspensions and deficiencies surrounding equity. Follow-Up information is currently being prepared for members and the community to review.



Longview High School in Raleigh recently collaborated with Dr. Thomas Easley's Diversity and Agriculture class from NCSU. Students from NC State University took a trip over to Longview HS and gave insight on how to improve techniques on the school's farm. The NCSU students also held conversations with the high school's staff on the subject of diversity. The visit was facilitated by Dr. Terrance Ruth.

Flood Member Featured in N&O

One of our very own, Mr. Joseph Sansom was recently profiled as the “*Tar Heel of the Week*” in The News & Observer. Mr. Sansom currently serves as the community liaison to the Mechanics & Farmers board of trustees, as well as a member of the board of trustees at Shaw University. To see the complete transcript of his interview, please visit the link below.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/article/61487597.html>

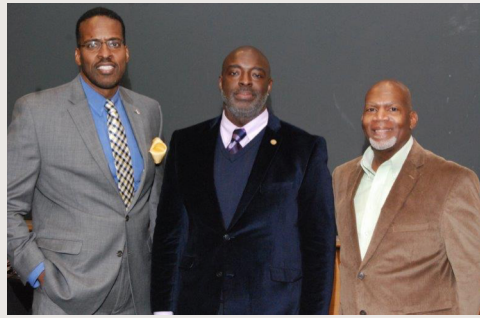


Raleigh-Durham UNCF Mayor's Masked Ball

The Inaugural Raleigh-Durham UNCF Mayors' Masked Ball is a premier fundraising gala and a major social event, focusing on raising public awareness and large corporate and individual donations to support deserving students through UNCF. Hosted by a diverse group of corporate sponsors and local businesses, it involves celebrities, dignitaries, civic leaders, volunteers, public officials, alumni and others who support UNCF's mission of investing in Better Futures® for us all by getting students to and through college. The Raleigh-Durham UNCF Mayors' Masked Ball benefits Shaw University and Saint Augustine's University

US Dept. of Ed. Community Meeting

In April, staff members from the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) visited the Wake County Public School System. The visit was part of a review of whether the discipline policies and practices of the school district discriminate against African American students on the basis of race. As part of its investigation, OCR provided the opportunity for students, parents of students, and other members of the community to share their experiences. OCR was particularly interested in hearing from members of the community to share their experiences with the district's application of its discipline policies and its use of positive behavior interventions and supports.



Flood Members Attend Trailblazers Event

The Wake County Board of Education's second annual 2016 Black History Trailblazers Celebration. This event is held to honor community members who played a pivotal role in desegregating public schools in Wake County. This event serves as the school district's annual Black History Month Recognition Program.

The event was held at the Marbles Kids Museum E. Hargett Street in Raleigh on February 19, 2016.

Both of The Flood Group's co-chairs, Mr. Mathias Bishop and Mr. Derrick Byrd, along with school board member Mr. Keith Sutton (also a Flood member) were present.



For information to be submitted in
The Flood Group Newsletter, email your editors:

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