

ļespējamā Misija

Keynote Speech | 90-120 minutes

Saturday, October 12th, 2019

Lessons Learned from Becoming a Conscious Educator *with Conscious Roots*

What does it mean to teach as your full, authentic self? How do you best serve students who may be very different than you? How do you most effectively work with adults who may not share the same backgrounds as you? Together, Nady and Porscha have close to thirty years working in education in the US South and have been an active part of the restructuring of the New Orleans educational system post Hurricane Katrina. Throughout their journey in rebuilding their home city, they've learned powerful lessons along the way in terms of what it takes to create a positive, lasting, change that serves to uplift people and not oppress them. They've distilled their findings into easy-to-apply strategies that they've found work in classrooms across the globe. During this keynote session, you'll learn and practice tips that you can implement in your classroom on Monday that will empower you to create a welcoming, inclusive space for all of your students.

Bios

Nady Persons

Inspired by their own personal experience as a first generation high school and college graduate, and by their experience being the big sister to someone who lives with multiple significant disabilities, Nady moved to New Orleans in 2002 to teach students in special education. They have spent the past seventeen years working in education most recently designing professional development workshops, retreats, and executive coaching for clients locally and globally through their start-up, Conscious Roots, that they founded together with Porscha Williams. You can find Nady and their partner Porscha speaking about topics such as implicit bias, gentrification, and microaggressions on their weekly radio show, Conscious Roots Radio, which is broadcasted live on WHIVfm. In their free time, Nady consults with local non-profits, teaches yoga, plays in a couple bands, and works on their 140-year old home.

Porscha Williams

Porscha co-founded Conscious Roots after working in education for 8 years as a teacher, coach of teachers, and team manager. She is dedicated to bringing high quality, culturally responsive education to our most vulnerable populations. Porscha deeply believes that all education, especially education concerning equity and inclusion, should be available to everyone regardless of background or economic privilege. She is honored to work alongside Nady to make that a reality through their business, Conscious Roots. In her free time, Porscha is working on obtaining her trauma-informed life coaching certification. She also moderates panel discussions, performs in a dance troupe, and enjoys making new recipes.