

SCCAAS

South Carolina Council For
African American Studies



THE BEACON: GUIDING EXCELLENCE IN EVERYONE'S EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

2010 SCCAAS CONFERENCE: FEB 4-5, COLUMBIA, SC

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QUICK HITS

- Harriet Barber House:
Hopkins, SC
www.harrietbarberhouse.org
- Wayne State University—
Institute for the Study of the
African American Child
www.coe.wayne.edu:16080/isaac/isaacsite/index.html
- Chicago Library database of
African American and African
Studies Journals
<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/su/afam/journals.html>

SCCAAS will host its 2010 Conference **Thursday, February 4th & Friday, February 5th** at the Clarion Hotel and South Carolina ETV in Columbia, SC.

Our theme of *African American Studies in the Digital Age* will look at how teachers can use emerging technology effectively in the classroom for all subject areas. The South Carolina Department of Education will be providing professional development opportunity for 100 classroom teachers to attend the conference.

SCCAAS welcomes this year **Dr. Rick Kittles** as the Keynote Speaker. Dr. Kittles co-founded the DNA

genealogy research company, African Ancestry, Inc.

Dr. Kittles will be speaking February 4th at the SCCAAS Conference Dinner. All dinner guests registered by November 5th will be entered in a drawing to receive their DNA African ancestry profile. **Five guests will receive this prize worth over \$300.** The results will be presented by Dr. Kittles at the dinner.

Registration begins **September 18, 2009.** Renewing and new SCCAAS members will receive a discount on conference registrations.
www.SCCAAS.org.



African Ancestry, Inc.

Founders:
Gina Paige and Dr. Rick Kittles

African Ancestry
5505 Connecticut Avenue
NW, #297
Washington, DC 20015

Sales:
202-723-0900, ext. 4013

www.AfricanAncestry.com

CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS

Individuals are hereby invited to submit applications to present concurrent sessions at the 2010 **South Carolina Council for African American Studies** Conference. Our theme of *African American Studies in the Digital Age* will look at how teachers can use emerging technology effectively in the classroom for all subject areas.

Workshop sessions during this year's conference will provide participants with new and exciting ways to utilize technologies in the classroom to support African American Studies.

The hallmark of a SCCAAS conference is providing workshop attendees with practical information and

resources that can immediately be used in the classroom.

To submit a proposal visit the SCCAAS website to download an application. **Proposal deadline is October 2nd.** Accepted proposals will be notified by October 16th.

www.SCCAAS.org

SPOTLIGHT: 2009 CONFERENCE PRESENTER

WRITTEN BY: JENNIFFER STRICKLAND-POOLE

The 2009 Conference offered a variety of sessions related to the theme: Remembering the Past, Relevance to the Present, Sustaining the Future. One of the most interactive sessions was the one conducted by Dr. Robert Kirton, Mr. Jesse Outen and Mr. Eric Brown. These gentlemen introduced us to **Black Achievers Determined to be Different (BADD)**.

BADD is “an interactive challenge program based on proven research principles designed to increase achievement and success in a culture of brotherhood and belonging” (Kirton, Outen, Brown, 2009). This session was attended by many participants who all raved about information that was shared and learned.

As scholars and researchers

continue to compile data that addresses the plight of African American males in schools today organizations such as BADD strive to debunk the deficit stereotypes that these young men are facing on a daily basis.

BADD's developers have created a “comprehensive approach for maximizing the potential of our Black males and motivating them towards personal growth and future



2009 Conference Registration Table

SHARING BEST PRACTICES: NATIONAL HUMANITIES CENTER TOOLBOX LIBRARY

In the spring the South Carolina Department of Education will be sponsoring professional development workshops featuring The National Humanities Center Toolbox Libraries and other resources.

The Toolbox Libraries are “online collections of primary resources—historical documents, literary texts and works of art thematically organized with notes and discussion questions.”

Preliminary assessment data EOCEP (SC End of Course

Examination Program in US History) and former Palmetto Achievement Comprehensive Test (PACT) reveals that one of South Carolina’s weaker areas is the period of U.S. History from 1865 to 1930 and 1945-Present. These workshops will provide teachers with the professional development in both content and easily accessible on-line materials to help improve instruction and student performance.

Eight regional workshops will be held in the S2Mart Regions. The basic structure for

the workshops include a two-day, 9-3pm session with a history and literature scholar. Each session will provide content and on-line instructional materials that relate to South Carolina Social Studies Academic Standards for grades 3-12.

Teachers will also receive professional development points.

Subscribe with the SCCAAS Listserv to make sure you receive advance notice at SCCAASgroups@yahoogroups.com.

NHC Toolbox Library:

<http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org/pds/index.htm>

ATTACKING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

WRITTEN BY: GINETTA HAMILTON

The academic achievement gap is under attack in Richland County.

SCCAAS Participated in the Richland County Education Association’s, **Closing the Achievement Gap Summit** held Thursday, July 30, 2009 at the RCEA office in Columbia.

RCEA’s Summit hosted organizations and education partners displaying materials featuring strategies and goals for closing the

achievement gap. Urica P. Floyd, Executive Director of SCCAAS, conducted a workshop highlighting a variety of resources that SCCAAS has available to assist educators, as well as interested key players in closing the academic achievement gap that exists as documented by standardized test results.

African American/minority students as well as students receiving free and reduced lunch are under-represented

in advanced classes; they score lower than their counterpart in core subject areas, and thus experience a higher dropout rate.

To get involved with the attack on the achievement gap, contact the RCEA at 421 Zimacrest Dr., Ste 310 Columbia, SC 29210 (803) 772-1530

South Carolina Education Association
<http://www.thescea.org/>



2009 Conference

SCCAAS

PO BOX 7774

Columbia, SC 29202

E-mail: MyCouncil@SCCAAS.org

Web Site: www.SCCAAS.org

Join the SCCAAS Listserv:

SCCAASgroup-subscribe@yahogroups.com



**G U I D I N G E X C E L L E N C E I N
E V E R Y O N E ' S E D U C A T I O N**

**SCCAAS
MEMBERSHIP**

The SCCAAS Membership Committee is initiating its 2010 membership drive.

Due to our efforts last year, we were able to see new faces from almost 100 South Carolina teachers at our conference. We look forward to doubling those numbers this year.

Our committee has developed several fresh ideas to reach all school districts in South Carolina. This year we are even seeking a greater student membership.

For an application visit SCCAAS at www.SCCAAS.org.

**NEW BOARD
MEMBER**

New Board Member:
Welcome to our newest board member.

Secretary
Arthur McClendon
Walterboro, SC

Board Vacancies:
1 High School Rep
2 Middle School Reps

To fill one of these vacancies please contact SCCAAS. Indicate which position and include your contact information and a short bio.

Email:
mycouncil@sccaas.org

SPOTLIGHT: 2009 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

SCCAAS was honored to have **Dr. Stephanie Mitchem** as the keynote speaker at our February 2009 conference held in Columbia at South Carolina ETV.

Dr. Stephanie Mitchem is the Director of the African American Studies program at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Mitchem has a commitment to liberatory educational practice. She teaches contemporary theology and women's studies, emphasizing the experiences and perspectives of black women.

She shares a joint appointment with her home department of Religious Studies and with the Women's and Gender Studies Program at USC.

Mitchem's general research interests include

- Contemporary religious thought, with emphasis on feminist and anthropological/ethnographic methodologies
- Women in the African Diaspora.
- Postcolonialism, class, and African American

religious thought and experience.



Dr. Mitchem— 2009 Conference

<http://www.cas.sc.edu/afra/faculty/mitchem.html>