



***UPLIFT* Volume 4, No. 3 Fall 2023** **CRESTSprogram**



Are You Ready to Do Something Different This Fall?

Fall 2023 is here, and CRESTSprogram is poised to help you implement new approaches, assessment tools, and interventions in all that you do to promote academic success and emotional well-being in Black children (and other children of color) throughout the year! Are you ready to place culture at the center of your teaching, parenting, clinical practice, and/or research activities? If so, CRESTSprogram is here to guide you through that process through our "videos on demand" library, our tailor-made training programs, coaching, mentoring, and/or wide resources. Together, we can get the 2023-2024 school year off to an amazing start!

In this issue of UPLIFT, you will find information about CRESTSprogram's commitment to addressing your immediate and long-term training needs, an overview of our recent and upcoming events, and updates about important topics (i.e., staffing changes, trademark applications, etc.). We hope that the information contained in this issue of UPLIFT keeps you "in the know" about CRESTSprogram! You are a valued part of our CRESTSprogram family!

Have Immediate Training Needs?
CRESTSprogram to Your Rescue!

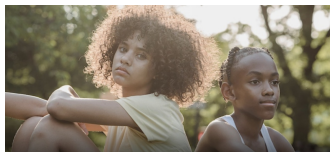


Do you have funds that need to be expended prior to the end of the current fiscal year (09/30/2023 or 12/31/2023)? You can relax because CRESTSprogram is here and poised to meet with you ASAP to do the impossible - design and implement a training program for you and your school district, organization, company, school, clinical or research team, etc. If you can pull your team together, we can get the training completed!

Click [HERE](#) to email us about your immediate training needs!

UPCOMING EVENTS

CRESTSprogram's Fall 2023 Training Schedule: Live, Free, & Virtual Events!



**"Left out, Held Back, and Invisible":
Amplifying the Voices
of Afro-Latino Youth**

Date: October 17, 2023

This training event will include an engaging discussion by expert panelists who will explore the unique intersection of Afro and



**"Locs, Wigs, & Everything Between":
Black Women/Girls &
Emotional Wellness**

**Date: November 14,
2023**

In this training event, Dr. Cirecie West-Olatunji and Dr. Constance West will provide an overview of the often unaddressed



**"Infusing Black History
& Culture into Your
Holiday Celebrations"
(Part III)**

**Date: December 12,
2023**

The holiday season is a perfect time to engage in

Latino cultures as it relates to the academic achievement and emotional well-being of Afro-Latino youth. Don't miss out on this incredible chance to amplify the voices that have been left out, held back, and invisible for too long!

[Register Here!](#)

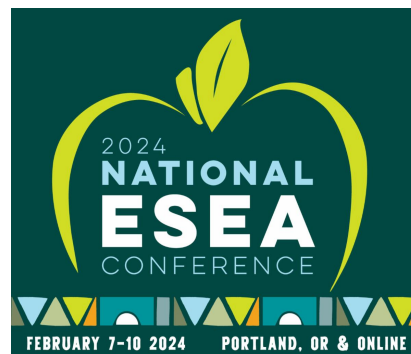
race-based trauma that Black women and girls often experience related to their hair. In addition, these presenters will identify culture-centered, trauma-informed interventions to be used to promote resilience in Black women and girls.

[Register Here!](#)

activities aimed at enhancing Black children's racial identity by infusing Black history and culture into their holiday plans! As in previous years, this training session is HIGHLY INTERACTIVE giving participants the opportunity to "show and tell" about their favorite culture-centered holiday items and/or activities!

[Register Here!](#)

2024 ESEA Conference: Coming Back Even Better!



The CRESTSprogram team has been attending the national ESEA conference for the past two years. At the 2023 national ESEA conference, Dr. Cirecie West-Olatunji and Dr. Constance West conducted a promotional presentation that was well attended and highly rated by attendees. We are pleased to announce that Dr. West-Olatunji will serve as an invited speaker at the 2024 national ESEA conference to be held in Portland, Oregon. Dr. West-Olatunji's presentation, entitled, "Hidden in Plain Sight": Giving Voice to the Experiences of Minoritized Children" will be conducted on 02/07/2024 at 4:15 p.m. As before, Dr. Constance West and other key members of the CRESTSprogram team will be accompanying Dr. West-Olatunji to this conference. We will have a booth in the exhibit hall, where we will meet conference attendees, host giveaways and contests, and answer questions. **Additionally, we will have several resources on hand, including copies of our CRESTSprogram concept papers, newsletters, resource lists, etc.** 2024 is just around the corner! We hope to see you in Portland in February at the 2024 national ESEA conference!

Recent Events

Emancipatory Research Symposium: July 2023



Dr. Cirecie West-Olatunji (center) and the esteemed Emancipatory Research symposium presenters and attendees

CRESTSprogram is happy to have co-sponsored the Emancipatory Research (ER) Symposium, with The Center for Traumatic Stress Research and the Center for Equity, Justice, and the Human Spirit at Xavier University of Louisiana. The ER Symposium (held in July 2023 in New Orleans, LA) was created to cultivate a space where researchers could come together to share their collaborative work with like-minded researchers and active members of this community. The keynote speakers for the event were Fiona Cram, Ph.D., Kaupapa Maori researcher and evaluator, and Tepora Emery, Ph.D., a Kaupapa Māori researcher, evaluator, and teacher. We were very happy to see one attendee in particular, L'Tonya "Tonnie" Weatherspoon (a consultant with the United Way of Atlanta). Ms. Weatherspoon is a graduate of our CRESTS-Liberate credentialing program and was sponsored by the Broward Educational Research Alliance (BERA) through a Kellogg Foundation grant. We look forward to more graduates of our CRESTS-Liberate credentialing program in attendance at next year's symposium.

Recent Sales Events



CRESTSprogram hosted several recent sales events, including a flash sale and two one-day sales. In June 2023, we hosted our first flash sale in which we offered our ["African-Centered Counseling Theories" course](#) at a discounted rate (i.e., 50% off the regular price). Later, we featured our [CRESTSprogram first aid kits \(featuring brown skin shade-inclusive bandages\)](#) in a July 2023 flash sale and a September 2023 one-day sale. Overall, we were pleased with the outcomes of these activities. Thank you for your support and participation! Please be on the lookout for future announcements about CRESTSprogram sales events!

Staffing Updates

This year is definitely one of transitions. We bid a sad farewell to Dr. Ashlei Petion who has been with us since our inception in 2020. Dr. Petion began as our first Graduate Research Assistant and then was promoted to a Research Fellow after earning her Ph.D. in counselor education and supervision from Georgia State University. Ashlei has been such a major contributor in her roles with us and we wish her well as she continues her career journey. This year also marks the transition of our most recent Social Media Intern, Madison Brydie. Madison contributed a lot to our visibility through her social media posts last year. Unfortunately, Madison's schedule prohibits her from continuing with us this academic year. We appreciate her contributions and wish her well in her academic pursuits.

Of course, this means that we are now looking for creative and capable individuals to join the CRESTSprogram team. We have been interviewing candidates for the Social Media Intern position and hope to announce the name of our new hire very soon. We have also selected someone for the Research Fellow position and will be sharing the name of that professional with you shortly. As always, we encourage you to refer people you know who might be a good fit for our company and would benefit from our resources and mentoring. We think we are a great company to grow with.

Trademark: Community-Stakeholder-Scholar (CSS) Model

Last year, we submitted a trademark application for the term, Community

Stakeholder Scholar (CSS) Model. After nearly a year of waiting, our application was published in the Official Gazette on August 1st by the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) as of 9/1/2023. Yay! Next, we should receive a Notice of Allowance sometime in October, just a few weeks away. We are so happy to be able to share knowledge about emancipatory research with community people, non-profit organization staffers, academicians, and others.

Explore the CRESTSprogram Communiversality!



Credential Courses

CRESTS-Liberate is an Emancipatory Research™ credentialing program designed to inform anyone engaged in research about culturally marginalized communities on how to address the inherent Eurocentrism and bias in conventional research methodologies.

[Enroll Now to Decolonize Your Approach to Research!](#)



Build Your Knowledge and Skills Courses

Click on a topic or topics to learn more!

[Putting the \(R\)ace in ACES” \(Parts I & II\)](#)

[Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Black Mothers: Even the Strong Get Weary](#)

[5 Africentric Parenting Skills That Correlate to High Academic Achievement](#)

[Unseen & Unheard: Rising Suicide Rates Among Black Children](#)

[Decolonizing Mental Health Training to Effectively Work with Black Youth](#)

[Culture-Centered Mondays](#)

[African-centered Counseling Theories](#)

[Resiliency in the Midst of Uncertainty](#)

Pre-Order Credential Courses

Whether you are mental health professional, parent, or educator you can be among the first to emerge yourself in a



culture-centered, trauma-informed care professional development program. CRESTS-Achieve is designed to better equip educators, parents, and mental health professionals to promote academic excellence and emotional well-being in Black youth (and other children of color).

[CRESTS-Achieve: For Individual Mental Health](#)

[Professionals](#)

[CRESTS-Achieve: For Individual Educators/Parents](#)

OVERVIEW OF CRESTS-Achieve



CRESTS-Achieve (a subsidiary of CRESTSprogram, LLC) is a **culture-centered, trauma-informed care professional development program**. CRESTS-Achieve is designed to better equip educators, parents, and mental health professionals to promote academic excellence and emotional well-being in Black youth (and other children of color).

Our most unique feature is that CRESTS-Achieve *places culture at the center of trauma-informed care*. It is specifically designed to decrease intergenerational trauma and enhance resilience, including healing from race-based trauma and other types of trauma unique to Black youth (and other children of color).



OUR SERVICES

CRESTS-Achieve provides services at a variety of levels,

including:

- **INDIVIDUAL LEVEL LEARNING: VIDEOS ON DEMAND**
 - **DISTRICT/SCHOOL/GRADE/COURSE LEVEL: Training, consultation, assessments, technical assistance, and coaching to help build skills and support system-level change**
 - **MERCHANDISE** and products to encourage, inspire, and remind you of your devotion to supporting black youth
 - Quarterly **NEWSLETTER: Stay up to date with CREST happenings**
 - Free **RESOURCES** (concept papers, videos, podcasts, and factsheets) to keep you inspired and learning
-

We Welcome Your Support!



We welcome your financial support to encourage the growth of our mission and activities to promote academic excellence and emotional well-being in Black children and adolescents.

Donate Now!



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