

# Teaching With A Cultural Eye

A cultural lens can drive new classroom practices

## Transform Instruction

**Brain fact: People learn best when they feel safe and known.** Today's urban educators need to develop the skills and awareness necessary to build strong relationships with students and families from diverse backgrounds.

Teaching With a Cultural Eye is a professional development experience for new or experienced teachers, principals, and administrators interested in moving **equity** to the center of their instructional practice.

Participants examine the ways that their own cultural identities influence their interactions with students, parents, and colleagues.

"I feel like this was a missing piece from teacher training. Many teachers go into the field with social justice and equity on the forefront of their mind, yet are unequipped to really affect change.

This training gave me the tools and framework to couple with my emotions and intentions."

**Wendy Lu-Carrol**  
Special Ed Teacher  
Berkeley, CA



## Topics Include

- **Cultural Competence Begins With Self-Reflection** | Build cultural awareness through self-reflection of our collective experiences and identities (race, ethnicity, socio-economic, gender, sexual orientation, language).
- **Building a Learning Partnership**  
Learn strategies for building personal connections with all students to support deeper learning. Increase cultural synchronization to develop stronger relationships with students.
- **Formative Assessments** | Explore the connection between strong learning partnerships and effective use of formative assessments to close learning gaps.
- **Seeing the Invisible: Systemic Oppression and Cultural Synchronicity**  
Understand the connection between systemic oppression and the lack of cultural synchronicity in many classrooms.

**Three opportunities to attend!**

**October 13-14, 2011 | March 1-2, 2012**

**June 21-22, 2012 | All in Oakland, CA**



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***“The metaphor of seeing through the cultural eye is about how one brings their work values, opinions, and beliefs; their prior socialization and present experiences; and their race, gender, ethnicity, and social class.” - James A. Banks***

**What do I understand about myself – *my beliefs, actions, values* – that shape my actions as a culturally competent educator? How can I build *learning partnerships* with my students as a pathway to support their deeper learning?**

## Research Base

The Teaching With A Cultural Eye framework draws from our extensive research in effective teaching practices, facilitation, leadership studies, child and adult learning, and cultural competence, and over 14 years of experience in whole school and classroom coaching.

## Recent Participants

- School and district teams working on equity or achievement gap initiatives
- New teachers: Participants in a teacher residency initiative; BTSA participants
- A charter management organization’s regional teaching staff
- Experienced teachers and principals

We can customize an Institute or learning series for your staff. Contact [sbrown@nationalequityproject.org](mailto:sbrown@nationalequityproject.org) for more information.

## Participants Say

“This has been one of the most valuable activities I’ve participated in for a long time. I felt uncomfortable, challenged, and inspired. This will make a major difference in my classroom!”

**Kathryn LaMance, 6th Grade Teacher  
Knox County Schools, TN**

“[I learned] how to integrate my understanding and practice of cultural competence into specific teaching moves that might address the needs of my lowest performing students.”

**Bob Adams Teacher / Math Chair  
Portola Middle School, El Cerrito, CA**

## Cost

**\$750** per participant; Fee includes meals and a resource binder. Individuals and teams are welcome; come on your own or with colleagues to strengthen your equity work in your school or district.



“The experiences and tools presented by The National Equity Project are key reminders of what our children need for success. If more students’ needs are recognized, honored, and worked with, I believe we will realize our goals of truly giving every child a high quality education.”

**Mason J. Musumeci, Teacher  
Oakland Unified School District  
Oakland, CA**