

A Lecture-Discussion Series on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & the Global Dimensions of Education

AKIN'S AFRO IN AFRO-BRAZILIAN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE: TOWARD AN ANCESTRAL ECO-PEDAGOGY



Monday, September 27th • 12:00 - 1:00 PST • [Zoom Registration](#)

Based on the English translation of her Afro-Brazilian children's book "O Black Power de Akin" ("Akin's Afro"), Dr. Kiusam de Oliveira (a.k.a. Ms. Kiusam), explores the significance of the book in Brazilian and Afro-Brazilian children's literature and demonstrates how *Akin's Afro* serves as a counter-narrative that reframes Black/Afro-Brazilian children's identities. Ms. Kiusam further suggests ways in which multicultural and anti-racist teachers can work from what she calls "Pedagogia Eco-Ancestral" ("Eco-Ancestral Pedagogy") in the service of human and Black/Afro-Brazilian liberation. Carolina Marchi, the book's translator, will co-facilitate the discussion and discuss "Akin's Afro" translation journey from Portuguese to English. The session, co-sponsored by the SDSU Behner Stiefel Center for Brazilian Studies, will be facilitated in English, Portuguese, Portuguese, Spanish, and Spanglish!



Kiusam de Oliveira, Ph.D. (a.k.a. Ms. Kiusam) is a Brazilian intellectual and writer who is highly prized in the field of Children's Literature. Aiming to heal her inner child, she has found in literature a way to respond to the world's delicate issues concerning human development and ethnic-racial topics. She holds a MA degree in Psychology and a Ph.D. in Education from Universidade de São Paulo (USP). Acting as a multi-artist, since the 1980's she has been part of the *Movimento Negro Unificado (MNU)* – the Unified Black Movement. Ms. Kiusam has published four books and she is now working on seven new titles. This is very important to mention: she loves herself - her black skin, her coily hair, her afro, her rounded nose and her black-currant eyes. It is from this self-love that Ms. Kiusam uses her creative energies so that every Black child can love herself. As a writer, she is committed to writing books that validate Black people's identities.



Carolina Marchi is multidimensional. An educator *through* - not *of* - languages for 20 years, she is also a cultural producer, which makes her walk through different academic and professional fields to build bridges so that treasures can reach people across a variety of cultural, linguistic and academic/professional backgrounds. Carolina has been to 7 countries around the world and is passionate about how languages can bring people together. As such, she works to use English as a code to link people together around important issues. She is the mother of Antonio Bento and João Francisco, and the boys are a great inspiration for her. Carolina sees Art-Culture-Education as a lifestyle. She is the Director of Maria Sol Produções, a company dedicated to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion through the arts.