

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

2016 Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy

Faculty Scholars & Scholar Coaches



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2016 Faculty Scholars & Scholar Coaches

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Ronald Beverly

Faculty Scholar

Department of Art

College of Arts & Sciences

Ronald Beverly, MFA is a photographer/digital imagist residing in the DMV (District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia) area for over 30 years. His academic studies produced a BFA from Howard University and an MFA from George Washington University. Inspired by the masters of large format film camera work, Professor Beverly developed a sensibility towards texture and detail by emphasizing tactile quality of the elements within the photographic composition while possessing the need to capture and finesse the elusive quality of light as reoccurring characteristics in his work. Over time Professor Beverly pursued a commitment to the craftsmanship, aesthetics and philosophies of photography while bridging the gap between conventional film and digital imaging. This level of commitment allowed Mr. Beverly to appear as a panelist/presenter during the 2011 and 2012 SECAC (Southeastern College Art Conference) annual conferences giving papers entitled “Pixel Chiaroscuro: The Advancements and Enhancements of the Analog Image” and “B.R.E.W.: New Work in Collaborative Art” respectively. Other recent accomplishments include commissioned pieces as part of a permanent installation in the MGM Casino Resort in Prince George's County, MD, a group exhibition at the Driskell Center titled *Convergence: Jazz, Film and the Visual Arts* at the University of Maryland/College Park, group exhibition at the LaGrange National XXVII annual in LaGrange, GA and a solo traveling exhibition entitled *A Point In Time* at the Black Creek Art Center in Hartsville, SC. and at the Black Rock Center for the Arts in Germantown, MD. Professor Beverly’s work was selected to be installed in designated spaces within the [MGM National Harbor Casino Resort](#) facility.

These opportunities as well as being a recent recipient of the Individual Artist Award from the Prince George’s Arts and Humanities Council provides encouragement and support to continue exploration refining bodies of work relevant to the artist vision and expression.

- Website: www.boxlightstudios.com



Jacqueline Carmichael

Faculty Scholar

Department of Art

College of Arts & Sciences

Jacqueline Carmichael, MFA, a native of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, holds a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Family Studies Psychology with a minor in Gerontology from Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, OK, and a Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) in Interior Design from the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK. An accomplished and certified designer with almost 20 years' experience in private practice, having done projects both regionally and abroad, she devotes a great deal of passion in cultivating future design professionals and encouraging lifelong learning. Professional teaching experience includes residential design, with an emphasis in kitchen and bath design. Other courses include "real world" experiential practices in color theory, lighting, materials and finishes, office interiors, and special research projects. Research interests entail evidence-based design (EBD), design psychology with an emphasis regarding African American identity and material culture, memory and place, universal and sustainable design, along with experiential object based learning.

Professor Carmichael serves as the Co-Faculty Advisor to the Howard University (HU) Interior Design student chapter of ASID, and HU Departmental Coordination Chair for the James A. Porter Colloquium. Community engagement includes American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), Peer Group, Architects for Humanity-DC (AFH-DC), Habitat for Humanity, and the Smithsonian Institution - National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). Professor Carmichael is currently submitting abstracts to the Interior Design Education Council and American Society Interior Design, and working on the James Porter Colloquium Fundraising Initiative.



Msia Kibona Clark

Faculty Scholar

Department of African Studies
College of Arts & Sciences

Msia Kibona Clark, PhD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of African Studies. She is a graduate of Howard University (PhD, 2006). Her research focuses on Hip Hop in Africa as cultural representation, and its use as social commentary. In 2013-2014 she was Fulbright Scholar at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania where she researched the use of social media by Tanzanian hip hop artists. Her research has included fieldwork in Ghana, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda. Since 2012, Dr. Clark has published several scholarly and non-scholarly articles and book chapters on topics relating to hip hop culture's intersections with social change, gender, and politics in Africa. These publications include guest editing a special edition of the *Journal of Pan African Studies on Hip Hop in Africa*, and co-editing the book "Hip Hop and Social Change in Africa: Ni Wakati." She designed and teaches the course, "Hip Hop and Popular Culture in Africa" at Howard University.

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Sharon Dowell

Faculty Scholar

Department of Rheumatology
Howard University Hospital

Sharon Dowell, MD earned her medical degree from the University of the West Indies and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Connecticut, followed by a fellowship in Rheumatology at the University of Maryland. She is an Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine at Howard University and is board certified in internal medicine and rheumatology: a subspecialty of Medicine that focuses on the diagnosis and management of musculoskeletal disease and systemic autoimmune conditions. Common diseases treated include osteoarthritis, gout, rheumatoid arthritis, chronic back pain, tendinitis and systemic lupus erythematosus. Dowell also has an interest in the role of patient education and health literacy in improving patient outcomes in patients with rheumatic diseases. She is spearheading a project that seeks to achieve treat-to-target goals in patients with rheumatoid arthritis and moderate to high disease activity through patient education and support in the rheumatology clinic. She currently participates in clinical research trials in lupus, rheumatoid arthritis and gout.

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Ruby Gourdine

Scholar Coach
School of Social Work

Ruby M. Gourdine, DSW, professor, received her BA degree from Howard University, her Master of Social Work degree from Atlanta University School of Social Work, and her doctorate from Howard University School of Social Work, which focused on Child Welfare and Health Systems. She currently serves as the Chair of the Direct Practice sequence and Co- HBSE I. Dr. Gourdine brings practical experience in the area of child welfare, having worked as an intake, adoption, foster care, and as a protective service worker in several states and at a various agencies including the District of Columbia. Dr. Gourdine served as Director of Field Education for 16½ years at Howard University School of Social Work. She has several funded research projects, and numerous publications in the areas of child welfare, school social work, females and violence and social work history. She was the guest editor for a special journal issue on “Parenting in the Twenty-First Century,” which was published in 2013. Her most recent publication (with Dr. Annie W. Brown) is entitled *Social Action, Advocacy and Agents of Change: Howard University School of Social Work in the 1970s* (2016), which chronicles the civil rights protest that led to the student unrest and subsequent curriculum renewal focusing on “The Black Perspective” at Howard University.



Lenese Herbert

Scholar Coach
School of Law

Lenese Herbert, JD, Professor of Law at Howard University School of Law, teaches *Social Media and the Law, Evidence, Criminal Procedure, Criminal Law, and Administrative Law*. Before entering law teaching, she served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia in both the Civil and Criminal Divisions, as well as federal agency counsel for The Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Her scholarship – which appears in a number of law journals and law reviews -- has *been* cited by legal and other scholars, lawyers, and courts. She is a co-author of *Constitutional Criminal Procedure: A problems-base casebook*, as well as *Lexis/Nexis Skills and Values: Criminal Law*, a practical, lawyering skills-based book. She is a frequent lecturer in academic and non-academic settings regarding prosecutorial discretion, policing, privacy, and social media. Her scholarly agenda focuses upon the use of the Fourth Amendment to conceal the scourge of race-based policing in the United States of America.



Fatima Jackson

Scholar Coach

Department of Biology
College of Arts and Sciences

Fatimah Jackson, PhD is a Professor of Biology and Director, Cobb Research Laboratory at Howard University. She received her PhD, MA, and BA (cum laude with Distinction in all Subjects) from Cornell University. Her doctoral dissertation research was on *The Relationship of Certain Genetic Traits to the Incidence and Intensity of Malaria in Liberia, West Africa*. She has conducted research on (and is particularly interested in): 1.) Human-plant coevolution, particularly the influence of phytochemicals on human metabolic effects and evolutionary processes and 2.) Population substructure in peoples of African descent, developing Ethnogenetic Layering as a computational tool to identify human microethnic groups and differential expressions of health disparities. Trained as a human biologist, Dr. Jackson has published extensively in such journals as *Human Biology*, *Biochemical Medicine and Metabolic Biology*, *Journal of the National Medical Association*, *American Journal of Human Biology*, *Annals of Human Biology*, *BMC Biology*, and most recently, the *American Journal of Public Health*. Dr. Jackson's research has been funded by: USAID, Ford Foundation, Huber Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, NIH (NIMHD and NHGRI), Wenner-Gren Foundation, and EPA. She has been awarded the Nick Norgan Award for 2009 Best Article Published in *Annals of Human Biology*. In 2012 she was the first recipient of the Ernest E. Just Prize in Medical and Public Health Research, Avery Research Institute, College of Charleston and Medical University of South Carolina (University of South Carolina). In 2012, she was also coined by Rear Admiral Dr. Helena Mishoe, National Institutes of Health, NHLBI and US Public Health Service for her superior research in health disparities.



Marie C. Jiguep-Akhtar

Scholar Coach

Department of Sociology and Anthropology
College of Arts and Sciences

Marie C. Jiguep-Akhtar, PhD is currently an Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Howard University. Her research interests encompass several areas, including gender, race/ethnicity, the life course, identity development, incarceration and “place” disparities in health outcomes and health behavior(s). Her research articles have been published in *Social Psychology Quarterly*, the *Journal of Black Psychology*, and the *Journal of Men's Health*. Her latest publication considered whether lower academic performance is associated with higher rates of substance use and with lower graduation, prospects for adolescents, and to identify which of these relationships might be stronger for African Americans and Hispanics than for Whites. Dr. Jiguep-Akhtar’s current work focuses on a) reducing substance abuse and transmission of HIV/AIDS among African American young adults ages 18-24 years on university campuses and their surrounding communities, and b) exploring the intersection of gender with social institutions, namely the criminal justice system and its impact on the health behaviors of young black adult males. Dr. Jiguep-Akhtar received her PhD in Sociology from Howard University in 2001.



Kehbuma Langmia

Scholar Coach

Department of Strategic and Legal Communication
School of Communication

Kehbuma Langmia, PhD is a Professor, Fulbright Scholar, and the incoming Chair in the Department of Strategic, Legal and Management Communication. A graduate from the Mass Communication and Media Studies Program at Howard University in 2006, Dr. Langmia has extensive knowledge and expertise in Information Communication Technology (ICT), International/intercultural/cross-cultural communications and Social Media. Since earning his PhD, he has authored over 23 publications in the form of books, peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, essays and conference proceedings. His latest paper is on a new theory he is testing titled “Social Media Teleco-presence Theory of Identity” in the *Journal of Social Media and Society*, May 2016. He is also the co-founder of the “Social Media Technology and Workshop Conference” hosted annually at Howard University.

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Celeste Malone

Faculty Scholar

Department of Human Development and Psychoeducational Studies
School of Education

Celeste Malone, PhD is an assistant professor and field experience coordinator for the school psychology program at Howard University. She received her PhD in school psychology from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. As part of her clinical training, she completed her predoctoral internship at the Baltimore Lab School and a postdoctoral fellowship in child clinical and pediatric psychology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Prior to obtaining her doctorate, Dr. Malone received her MS in school counseling from Johns Hopkins University. Her research focuses on multicultural competence in the training and practice of professional psychology and her dissertation examined the personal and professional characteristics related to the development of multicultural competence in school psychology trainees. She is extremely active in psychology professional associations. Her professional memberships include the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), the Maryland School Psychology Association (MSPA), the American Psychological Association (APA) and three divisions in the Association (2, 16, 45), and the Maryland Psychological Association (MPA). Additionally, Dr. Malone has served in several leadership roles in these organizations. She is currently on the editorial board for APA Division 16 (School Psychology) newsletter, *The School Psychologist*.



Bahiyah M. Muhammad

Faculty Scholar

Department of Sociology and Anthropology
College of Arts and Sciences

Bahiyah Muhammad, PhD is an assistant professor of criminology at Howard University. She teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. She received her doctorate from Rutgers University's School of Criminal Justice. Previously, Dr. Muhammad served as Director of the College Bound Consortium, a prisoner degree-granting program. Dr. Muhammad's major research interests are mass incarceration, familial imprisonment, the school to prison pipeline and youth reentry. She focuses specifically on those issues pertaining to children of the incarcerated. Her most recent work revolves around the success and resiliency among children of prisoners. During her participation in the *2016 Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy*, she is completing an article on the lived experiences among children of prisoners.



Denée Thomas Mwenda

Scholar Coach

Department of Psychology
College of Arts and Sciences

Denée Thomas Mwenda, PhD is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology. She received her Master's and Doctorate of Philosophy degrees in Clinical Psychology from Howard University's Department of Psychology. Dr. Mwenda is the PI for the Health Promotion Risk Reduction Research Center (HealthPARC), where she examines the biological, psychological, social, and spiritual factors associated with cardiovascular disease (CVD) and chronic kidney disease (CKD) risk. In addition, Dr. Mwenda collaborates with other research scholars in the areas of obesity and cognitive aging, mindfulness and stress reduction, as well as the influence of psychoneuroimmunology on health and disease. The hallmark of her approach to spiritual, psychological and physical health is recognizing and embracing the unique experiences to promote overall wellness. Dr. Mwenda teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in Individual Psychotherapy, Health Psychology, and Abnormal Psychology. She is a member of the American Psychology Association, Society of Behavioral Medicine, American Psychosomatic Society, and Gerontological Society of America. Dr. Mwenda is committed to the betterment of the human experience through research, training, and education in the fields of psychology and related disciplines.



Tracy Perkins

Faculty Scholar

Department of Sociology and Anthropology
College of Arts and Sciences

Tracy Perkins, PhD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Howard University. She specializes in social movements and the environment through a focus on environmental justice activism. Her current work analyzes the political evolution of California environmental justice activism since the 1980s. During the Summer Academy, she is preparing two sample chapters for her book, *Environmental Justice in the Golden State: At the Crossroads of Protest and Participation*. Dr. Perkins publishes in traditional scholarly spaces and also uses photography and the digital humanities to share her work. She has a MS in Community Development from the University of California, Davis, and a PhD in Sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. See more of her work at www.tracyperkins.org or follow her at:

- Twitter: @teperkins
- Academia.edu: <https://howard.academia.edu/TracyPerkins>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/tracyenfieldperkins>
- ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Tracy_Perkins4
- Social Science Research Network: http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per_id=2493986



Anita W. Plummer

Faculty Scholar

Department of African Studies
College of Arts and Sciences

Anita W. Plummer, PhD is an Assistant Professor of African Studies whose research focuses on African political economy, emerging markets, transnationalism and Sino-African relations. Her current book project, *Navigating Difference: Africa and China's Cultural and Political Geographies*, examines various local, national and transnational narratives of South-South cooperation. Before joining the faculty at Howard University, Dr. Plummer taught International Studies at Spelman College. She was a Mellon post-doctoral fellow in the Cultures in Transnational Perspective Program and Visiting Assistant Professor of Global Studies and Political Science at the University of California Los Angeles. She was also a fellow at the Carter G. Woodson Center Pre-doctoral fellow at the University of Virginia. She received her PhD in African Studies from Howard University in Washington, DC.



Sandra Shannon

Scholar Coach

Department of English
College of Arts and Sciences

Sandra G. Shannon, PhD is Professor of African American Literature in the Department of English at Howard University. Widely recognized as a leading scholar on August Wilson, she has published two seminal books on this major playwright: *The Dramatic Vision of August Wilson* and *August Wilson's Fences: A Reference Guide*. In addition, she has edited and co-edited several key essay collections on Wilson's work that include 1) *August Wilson and Black Aesthetics*, 2) *MLA Approaches to Teaching the Plays of August Wilson*, and 3) *August Wilson's Pittsburgh Cycle* (2016). Dr. Shannon has also edited a special issues of the *Zora Neale Hurston Forum* on August Wilson, and she has contributed numerous chapters on his works in collections such as 1) Alan Nadel's *May All Your Fences Have Gates: Essays on the Drama of August Wilson* and 2) *August Wilson: Completing the Twentieth-Century Cycle*; 3) Philip Kolin's *The Influence of Tennessee Williams*; 4) Harvey Young's *The Cambridge Companion to African American Literature*; 5) Harry Elam and David Krasner's *African American Performance and Theatre History*; and 5) Martin Middeke's *Methuen Drama Guide to Contemporary American Playwrights*. Her essays on August Wilson have appeared in *African American Review*, *MELUS*, *College Literature*, and *Theatre Survey*.

Dr. Shannon previously served as Editor of *Theatre Topics* journal and President of the Black Theatre Network. She is currently Editor of the *College Language Association Journal* and founding board member of *Continuum: The Journal of African Diaspora Drama, Theatre, and Performance*. In spring 2006 following August Wilson's death, she founded the Howard University August Wilson Society and, most recently, served as a key consultant in the making of the acclaimed PBS-American Masters documentary *August Wilson: The Ground on Which I Stand* (2015).



Indira S. Somani

Faculty Scholar

Department of Media, Journalism and Film
School of Communication

Indira S. Somani, PhD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Media, Journalism and Film at Howard University. Somani studies effects of satellite television on the Indian diaspora, specifically the generation of the Asian Indians who migrated to the U.S. between 1960 and 1972, and their media habits. She has been published in the *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, *International Communication Research Journal*, *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*, and the *Asian Journal of Communication*. For the fall of 2011, Somani was awarded a Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Fellowship to study the Western influence of Indian programming in India. Somani is also an award winning independent producer and director of documentaries about how Asian Indians maintain and preserve their cultural identity. Her most recent production is "[Crossing Lines](#)," a personal essay documentary about her struggle to stay connected to India after the loss of her father. The film has won numerous awards, screened in film festivals nationally and internationally, screened on PBS affiliates, and has also been distributed to more than 100 university libraries in the U.S. through [New Day](#) films. She has been a leader of the South Asian Journalists Association (SAJA), where she has also won several "Outstanding" awards on her coverage of South Asians in North America. Prior to joining Howard University, Somani was an Assistant Professor of Journalism at Washington and Lee University (Lexington, VA) and American University's School of Communication (Washington, DC). Somani earned her Master's in Journalism from the Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University in 1993, and her PhD from the Phillip Merrill College of Journalism, University of Maryland, College Park in May 2008.

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Shaolei Teng

Faculty Scholar

Department of Biology
College of Arts and Sciences

Shaolei Teng, PhD is an Assistant Professor of the Department of Biology at Howard University. He completed his PhD at Clemson University and has previously worked at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory as a Computational Postdoctoral Fellow. He now works primarily in Bioinformatics and Genomics. Dr. Teng's research interest is to develop and apply bioinformatics approaches for analyzing the genetic variations associated with human diseases and discovering biological knowledge hidden in the massive data sets. He is currently focused on three research areas including next-generation sequencing, machine learning and protein structure modeling. Dr. Teng is the author or co-author of 15 peer-reviewed papers in the field of bioinformatics.



Jennifer Thomas

Faculty Scholar

Department of Media, Journalism, and Film
School of Communication

Jennifer C. Thomas, MA is an assistant professor in the department of Media, Journalism and Film at Howard University, her alma mater. A former executive producer with CNN, she has more than 25 years' experience as an award-winning broadcast journalist and media consultant. She earned a Master of Arts degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Her research interests include the intersection of pedagogy and praxis in journalism. She is also researching the genesis and political implications of black beauty pageantry at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). A former "Miss Howard," she originated this study as a Moorland-Spingarn Research Center (MSRC) Summer Faculty Scholars Fellow.



Tracy Whitaker

Faculty Scholar
School of Social Work

Tracy Whitaker, DSW is an Associate Professor & Associate Dean for Academic and Student Advancement in the School of Social Work. Prior to joining the faculty of Howard University, Dr. Whitaker directed the Center for Workforce Studies & Social Work Practice at the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). In that role, she led the first national benchmark study of licensed social workers in 2004 and was the lead author of five reports emanating from that study. She also led the first compensation and benefits study of the social work profession in 2009. Dr. Whitaker has also served as the executive director of a transitional center serving women who were experiencing homelessness, substance addiction and mental health issues; as a court monitor overseeing the deinstitutionalization of St. Elizabeth's Hospital; and as the deputy director of a federally-funded, national resource center that examined issues related to the behavioral health of women across the life cycle. Dr. Whitaker is currently developing a practice book to help social work students more fully appreciate, discern, and articulate the values of the social work profession. Dr. Whitaker received a BA in Political Science, an MSW and a DSW from Howard University.



Yolonda Y. Wilson

Faculty Scholar

Department of Philosophy
College of Arts and Sciences

Yolonda Y. Wilson, PhD is an assistant professor of Philosophy at Howard University. She completed her PhD at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill, NC), and she received bachelor's and master's degrees from Howard University in Washington, DC. She held a prior academic appointment at Duke University in Durham, NC. Her research interests include bioethics, political philosophy, feminist theory, and race theory. This summer Dr. Wilson is a visiting scholar at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the Department of Bioethics. She is working with a research team on a few articles addressing the question of how bioethicists can think about and contribute to the idea of racialized violence as a health issue. Two articles have already appeared in the *American Journal of Bioethics (AJOB)*. She has also received a grant with a colleague at another institution from the American Philosophical Association (APA) in order to host a workshop on the philosophy of race/African American philosophy. This summer, Dr. Wilson will complete a journal article titled, "Second-Order Discrimination and Implicit Bias." The article is an exploration of how racialized discrimination shapes citizen interactions with agents of the state. Dr. Wilson is originally from Albany, Georgia.



Hessam Yazdani

Faculty Scholar

Department of Civil Engineering

College of Engineering, Architecture, and Computer Science

Hessam Yazdani, PhD is an assistant professor of civil engineering and the director of the Sustainable Infrastructure, Geotechnics, and Materials (SIGMa) Lab at Howard University. He received his PhD from the University of Oklahoma (OU) in December 2015.

Dr. Yazdani specializes in geotechnical engineering, multiscale design, characterization and simulation of materials, as well as optimization metaheuristics and data mining methods. He has published over 35 book chapters and journal and conference papers, and has received several competitive national awards including the best paper at the Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) Student Paper Competition in Phoenix, AZ and an ASTM International Project Grant in 2013.

Dr. Yazdani's current interdisciplinary research is on critical infrastructure and renewable energy systems. Critical infrastructure includes systems, facilities, and assets—such as roads and bridges, water supply, dams, telecommunications, and power grids—so vital that their destruction or incapacitation would have a debilitating impact on the security, economy, safety, health, or welfare of the public. Inspired by notable catastrophic failures of critical infrastructure systems across the globe that have served as a stark reminder of their vital importance in the prosperity and well-being of nations, Dr. Yazdani has focused his research on fostering sustainability and resilience in critical infrastructure by incorporating risk assessment and optimization into the design of interacting geotechnical and structural systems (e.g. tunnels and high-rise buildings in congested urban areas) and designing advanced materials using a combination of additive manufacturing (also known as 3D printing) and computational and laboratory experiments.



Royce Zachary

Faculty Scholar

Department of Theater Arts
College of Arts and Sciences

Royce Zachary, MFA completed his Masters at NYU Steinhardt/American Ballet Theater in Higher Education: Department of Music, Performing Arts Professions, and Pedagogical Studies. He received his BFA from Southern Methodist University, is a proud member of American Ballet Theatre's Project Plié and certified in the American Ballet Theatre National Teaching Curriculum with a concentrated methodological degree in Ballet Pedagogy: Anatomical Physical Performance and Measures of Injury Prevention.

Mr. Zachary is currently an Assistant Professor and Head Coordinator for the area of Dance Arts in Howard University's Department of Theatre Arts Program. He has also been on faculty of several professional/pre-professional training facilities in New York City such as Broadway Dance Center, the Alvin Ailey Extension Program, and the School at Steps on Broadway. Royce has received choreographic notoriety of his work through collaborations with Septime Webre and the Washington Ballet Studio Company, Kennedy Center: Millennium Stage, The Arc (DC), and the Heinz Poll Dance Festival to name a few. Mr. Zachary is a strong believer and advocate of giving back to community and youth of the world through his undying passion for teaching. He believes that unconditional caring, patience, and mentorship of our youth will ensure leaders of tomorrow.