

KIDOGO A. KENNEDY, ED.D.

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Professional Narrative

Kidogo A. Kennedy is a dedicated educator and interdisciplinary scholar with over 20 years of experience teaching communication, identity politics and social justice at Cal State Los Angeles. Committed to student-centered and inclusive pedagogy, Dr. Kennedy designs collaborative curricula that integrates the scholarship of experts from communities historically marginalized by race, class, and gender constraints. With a strong foundation of social justice and leadership principles, she excels in creating dynamic learning environments that foster critical thinking and empower students to engage with pressing societal issues. Recently, Dr. Kennedy has shifted gears and applies her administrative and academic expertise within the museum ecosystem. Currently she shapes the pathways of entry for collegiates and professionals in the department of Education and Public Programs for the Los Angeles County Museum (LACMA) where she directs the department of Academic Programs and Partnerships stewarding fellowships, and museum to university collaborations which bridge interdisciplinary research, art, and activism to preserve cultural heritage, inspire dialogue, and imagine new futures.

Professional Experience

Founder and CEO, The Kennedy Approach: Education & Communication Consulting, LLC. (2013 – Current)

<https://www.thekennedyapproach.com>

Los Angeles, CA

- Design content to inform over 500 corporate and educational professionals,
- Assess corporate and educational culture systems to create and implement interactive/tailored IDEA (inclusion, diversity, equity, and access) and social justice trainings to facilitate dialogue regarding change.
- Deepen awareness pertaining to cultural competency in corporate and educational environments.
- Provide consultation and faculty support in the development of culturally responsive and inclusive syllabi.
- Design and implement signature youth development workshops to serve over 500 youth using art to explore identity.
- Coordinate all administrative and budgetary details aligned with sole proprietorship.

Recent/recurrent clients: *City of Los Angeles, Commissions and Community Engagement, Trunkee Community College District, New Directions for Youth, Hart Public School District, Santa Clarita Valley Adult Education, KIPP Charter Schools, Santa Monica City College, New Horizons, American Association of University Women, Los Angeles City College, and Crenshaw High School.*

Director, Academic Programs and Partnerships, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (2025-Current)

- Design and lead interdisciplinary, equity-centered curricula integrating university-level learning experiences for undergraduates and graduates from various backgrounds from multiple institutions to explore professional practice within the museum ecosystem.
- Direct fellowship-based academic programs (including Mellon-funded initiatives) that engage students in research writing, public scholarship, and critical analysis grounded in LACMA's permanent collections and exhibitions.
- Build and manage university partnerships with faculty and academic departments, aligning museum-based learning with Communication, Education, Ethnic Studies and Art History curricula through co-designed syllabi, site-based seminars, and cohort programs.

- Mentor and assess diverse cohorts of students using learning outcomes, reflective practice, and research-based evaluation, supporting academic growth, professional identity formation, and pathways into graduate studies and cultural leadership.
- Translate scholarly and curatorial research into accessible, teachable content, producing learning materials, interpretive frameworks, and public-facing scholarship that advance critical inquiry into culture, representation, and civic responsibility.

Docent (Guide II), California African American Museum (2024 – 2026)

- Serve as the first point of contact for guests.
- Ensure guests have a pleasant, safe, and informative visit.
- Monitor assigned galleries, assist in the setup and breakdown of workshops ensuring that all necessary materials, equipment, and resources are prepared and organized.
- Participate in the planning research and development of exhibition specific tours, gallery activities, and family workshops to create an engaging and informative experience for visitors.
- Conduct hands-on art workshops for scheduled groups.
- Maintain and organize the information desk and use word processing software to document visitor attendance.

Director, Cal State University, Los Angeles (2022 – 2024)

Early Entrance Program (EEP)

- Manage daily operations of the Early Entrance Program through a process of forecasting and ensuring adherence to university financial guidelines.
- Negotiate vendor agreements and pricing structures to secure favorable terms.
- Provide an academically rigorous, social, and supportive environment for highly gifted students.
- Set strategic programmatic goals aligned with institutional priorities to enhance the program's impact and visibility.
- Provided academic advising and personal mentoring to early admitted undergraduate and graduate students, ensuring their success in a university environment.
- Designed initiatives to address the unique social, emotional, and intellectual needs of gifted youth transitioning to college life.
- Collaborated with faculty to tailor course offerings meeting the needs of advanced learners.
- Promoted interdisciplinary and advanced coursework to challenge students and foster intellectual growth.
- Supervised full time staff, graduate, and undergraduate student workers, fostering professional growth, and ensuring efficient program support services.
- Serve as the primary academic advisor for EEP students in collaboration with major specific advisors across campus.
- Delegated responsibilities effectively to ensure all program components operated seamlessly.
- Engaged with parents, educators, and the broader Cal State system to promote EEP and recruit qualified candidates.
- Developed partnerships with local school and organizations to support gifted youth.
- Evaluated program outcomes and individual student outcomes using data to refine and improve services.
- Reported findings to university stakeholders to advocate for resources and support.

Accomplishments

- Guided 2 cohorts of gifted students, many of whom achieved academic distinction, professional milestones.
- Introduced new strategies to address the social and emotional challenges faced by early college entrants improving student well-being and adaptability.
- Developed workshops and events bridging academic learning, leadership, social justice, and life skills preparing students for long-term success.

Director of Education, Greater Crenshaw Educational Partnership (GCEP) – Los Angeles, CA (2008-2010)

- Collaborate with LAUSD administrators, faculty, and community organizations on behalf of GCEP to facilitate comprehensive educational initiatives designed to support/increase learning and academic outcomes for at risk high school community.

- Delivered instruction for diverse high school student population including second language groups.
- Collaborate with GCEP partners to secure and subsequently manage educational grants.
- Facilitate on-site instructional and professional development program focusing attention on topics such as: implicit bias & microaggressions within academic spaces.
 - Implemented training to reduce implicit bias.
 - Co-constructed on-campus micro partnerships between school-site learning communities
- Evaluate programmatic effectiveness of community college concurrent enrollment program to identify appropriate course offerings.

Accomplishments

- Established the first concurrent enrollment program with varied course selection in (UC: CSU) transferable courses: Survey of Art History; African American Studies; Elementary Spanish I.
- Reorganized academic support programs (AVID/TRIO) offered by College Career Center
- Facilitated educational partnership between school, parents & West Los Angeles Community College.

Instructional Experience

Performance Responsibilities

- Provide quality instruction in accordance with established curriculum, course outlines and syllabi.
- Create and maintain a safe, rigorous, and brave space for learning including collaboration, the free exchange of ideas and critical thinking.
- Maintain established standards of professional conduct including but not limited to maintaining relevance in the field, professional development and effective record keeping.

Adjunct Assistant Professor, California State University, Los Angeles College of Ethnic Studies, Pan-African Studies, Department of (2016 – Present)

Courses Instructed

- Race, Class, and Gender
- Critical Race Theory
- Globalization, Race and Class
- Ethnicity and Race in the Americas
- Dynamics of Change in the Developing World
- Gender & Race in the U.S.
- Women of Color in the U.S.
- Rethinking Stereotypes of the Welfare Queen
- Black Feminism/Womanism
- Hip Hop as Political Expression

Adjunct Assistant Professor, California State University, Los Angeles College of Arts and Letters, Communication, Department of (1998 to Present)

Courses Instructed

- Oral Communication
- Argumentation
- Foundations: Intersecting Identities and Relationships
- Oral Communication
- Sex Roles in Communication
- Sex and Gender in Language and Literature
- Intercultural Communication in the Civic Context
- Qualitative Research Methods
- Race, Class, and Gender in Communication
- Communication & Social Justice

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Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Southern California (2006 – 2020)
Rossier School of Education, Ed.D./M.A./PASA Programs

Courses Instructed

- Diversity
- Application of Theories of Learning to Classroom Practice
- Framing the Social Context of High Needs Schools
- New Media Literacies in High Needs Schools
- Challenges in Urban Education
- Politics of Difference

Fellowships/Research

Cal State University, Los Angeles DHSI Exito, Co-lead for Gateway Course Redesign (2023-2024)

https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/Final_Title%20V%20Logic%20Model%20post.pdf

- Redesigning lower division gateway course COMM 1200: Argumentation to improve completion rates and eliminate equity gaps.
- Utilized a student-centered and instructional theory approaches to emphasize the strength of identity and cultural wealth of Cal State LA students.
- Design and implement faculty development workshop to highlight new features of the course redesign and instructional resources developed specifically for the course.

Cal State University, Los Angeles DHSI Exito Faculty Fellow for Inclusive Teaching (2021-2022)

<https://www.calstatela.edu/provost/exito/%C3%A9xito-faculty-fellows>

- Collaborate with a team to implement *Inclusive* course facilitation.
 - Create an *Inclusive* course faculty survey using Qualtrics.
 - Evaluate faculty survey results.
 - Provide recommendations to develop a course of action to increase faculty participation by 25%.
- Instruct live and online trainings for 100% of *Inclusive* faculty participants.
- Maintain weekly team building and collaboration sessions for *Inclusive* faculty participants.
- Negotiate bi-weekly meetings with Grant Directors and Faculty Fellows to collaborate and develop instructional materials.
- Write and orally present quarterly/monthly reports.

Delta Research and Educational Foundation (2022 – 2024)

The 22 Researchers Working Group

<https://deltafoundation.net/research-education/>

- Launch research projects utilizing the NIH *All of Us* Workbench
- Collaborated to host national research symposium titled “Advancing Health Equity in the African American Community: Strategies for Promoting Ethical Practices and Addressing Health Inequalities.”
<https://deltafoundation.net/2024/05/31/national-research-symposium-a-seat-at-the-table-shaping-the-health-equity-narrative-on-friday-june-7-2024/>
- Collaborated with team to host 4 lunch and learn webinars.
- Led the process for securing 10 new institutional DURA and multiple researcher registrations.

Fellow, PEARL National Leadership Program (2021-2022)

- Design and execute research for a community centered wellness project designed to explore the ways in which gender and race disparity may impact African American and/or black women residing in the United States during their birthing years.
 - Organize and plan the execution of the project.
 - Apply critical race and muted group theories within an action-research framework to explore possible challenges and best practices impactful for transforming high infant/maternal mortality rates.

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- Write and deliver report at PEARL Fellows Conference.
- Complete 60 hours of course work including weekly meetings.

Delta Research and Educational Foundation (2014-2016)

Delta Teacher Efficacy Campaign – Project Manager

<https://deltafoundation.net/dtec-tag/>

- Managed the west coast region of an innovative initiative designed to increase teacher efficacy student academic achievement.
- Implemented a model using a multi-prong approach utilizing an introspective professional development model; modules highlighting implicit and explicit bias and the whole child approach to support teacher effectiveness.
- Recruited and trained academic facilitators.
- Designed and host 2 community-centered town hall advocacy sessions.
- Developed the instructional design and implemented 4 workshops targeting: cultural competence, stereotype threat and equity.
- Manage, prepare, and explain fiscal expenditures and budgetary reports.

Vivian A. Ware Research Fellow (2012 – 2013)

<https://deltafoundation.net/vivian-a-ware-research-fellowship/>

- Assess educational programs determining the perceived effectiveness.
- Utilize qualitative and quantitative methodology to design, implement and present the findings for an original.
- Write and orate final report at the 2012 National Convention

**Instructional Fellowship, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
(2006-2008)**

Motivation and Learning Strategies EDUC 110

- Provided instruction related to self-regulation, goal setting, learning strategy and academic motivation for incoming freshman with conditional acceptance.
- Provided students with evaluation and feedback, maintained grading database, and review appropriate academic records to prescribe appropriate support services including tutoring, disability resources, counseling/psychological services.
- Implemented an established curriculum and provide educational/career counseling in accordance with course expectations and university guidelines.
- Maintained weekly advisement with students o Provided academic/educational counseling for incoming freshman from disparate ethnic, language and economic backgrounds considered underserved.

**Graduate Research Assistant, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
(2006-2008)**

- Research conditions and factors which may influence academic outcomes for historically underserved low socio-economic status students of Latino/Chicana and African American backgrounds.
- Compiled annotated bibliographies and constructed literature reviews from peer-reviewed journals.
- Maintained research database and transcribed notes for Rossier Teacher and Education Governance (TEG) committee meetings.
- Shadowed clinical track associate professor during preparation and presentation of lecture.
- Consistently identified relevant research subsequently incorporated into curriculum.
- Mentored/advised doctoral level students in dissertation writing and editing process.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, California State University, Los Angeles
(1998 – 2000)**

- Provided instruction related to speech writing, rhetorical analysis, persuasion, and effective research techniques.
- Provided students with evaluation and feedback, maintained grading database, reviewed appropriate academic records to suggest appropriate support services including tutoring, disability resources, counseling/psychological services.
- Implemented an established curriculum and provided educational/career counseling in accordance with course expectations and university guidelines.
- Maintained weekly advisement with students.
- Provided academic/educational counseling for incoming freshman from disparate ethnic, language and economic backgrounds considered underserved.

Leadership

- Cal State University, Los Angeles, Director at Large, Alumni Board of Directors, 2024-2026
<https://www.calstatela.edu/alumni/about-us>
- Cal State University, Los Angeles, Inclusive Excellence and Equity Fellow, 2023
- Cal State Los Angeles, Critical Course Redesign, Co-Lead, 2022-2023
- Cal State University, Los Angeles, College of Arts and Letters, DEI Taskforce, 2022 – 2023
- Cal State University, Los Angeles, Exito! Inclusive Teaching Fellow, 2021-2023
<https://www.calstatela.edu/provost/exito/%C3%A9xito-faculty-fellows>
- Amen-Ra Theological Seminary, Director at Large, Board of Directors, 2021-2023
- Cal State Los Angeles, College of Ethnic Studies, Curriculum Committee, 2021 – 2023
- Cal State University, Los Angeles, College of Ethnic Studies, Educational Policy Representative, 2021-2022
- Cal State University, Los Angeles, College of Ethnic Studies, College Curriculum Committee, 2020 - 2023
- Statewide California Community College DEI Workgroup, Representative, 2021-2023
- Cal State University, Los Angeles, College of Ethnic Studies, Steering Sub-Committee, 2020

Volunteer/Affinity Group Membership

Member, Phi Beta Kappa (2024 – Current)
Volunteer, Downtown Women’s Shelter (2022 – Current)
Member, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated (2012 – Current)
Member, National Communication Association (2000 – Current)
Volunteer, AmeriCorps (1996 – 1999)

Publications

Kennedy, K. A. (2023). I came to the world to bring you color. In J. Deitch (Ed.), *The Hippest trip in America* (pp. 39-48). Pacific and Jeffery Deitch.

Kennedy, K. A. (2016). Ruminations from a teacher’s teacher: Pedagogy and Justice. *Phillis: The Journal for Research on African American Women* (4)1, p. 64-69.

Kennedy, K. A. (2010). *Kenneth B. Clark* in Great Lives from History: African Americans. Encyclopedia Entry. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press.

Kennedy, K. A. (2010). *John H. Clarke* in Great Lives from History: African Americans. Encyclopedia Entry. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press.

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Kennedy, K. A. (2010). *Kimberle Crenshaw* in *Great Lives from History: African Americans*. Encyclopedia Entry. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press.

Kennedy, K. A. (2010). *Harriet Tubman* in *Great Lives from History: African Americans*. Encyclopedia Entry. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press.

Kennedy, K. A. (2008). *Validating FOLA: A randomized writing experiment*. University of Southern California.

Kennedy, K. A. (2005). (Re)Storying Yoruba cultural myth to unify the double conscious of African American women in the U S in T. Falola & A. Genova (Eds.), *Orisa: Yoruba Gods and spiritual Identity in Africa and the Diaspora* (p. 355 – 365) Trenton, N.J.: Africa World Press, Inc.

Presentations/Conferences/Interviews

Kennedy, K.A. (2026, May 11). Co-Creating the Living Archive: Designing New Pathways for Museum Education [Conference Presentation] Museum Educators of Southern California 2026 Annual Institute <https://www.mesconline.org/2026-annual-institute>

Kennedy, K. A. (Moderator) (2024, November 12) *Queering Pan-African Studies: Acknowledging intersectional identities, histories, and practice* Bolekaja #6 [Audio Video Podcast]. YouTube.

Kennedy, K.A. (Interviewee) (2024, May 18) *To whom much is given, much is expected* Think Like a Genius: The Wonderkind S2:E2 [Audio Video Podcast]. <https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/s2e2-to-whom-much-is-given-much-is-expected/id1743819202?i=1000656017520>

Kennedy, K.A. (Interviewee) (2024, April 29) *The kids are not quite all right* Think Like a Genius: The Wonderkind S2:E1 [Audio Video Podcast]. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/5YB76w6Sv6aucsjEbfAPxQ>

Kennedy, K. A. (Moderator) (2023, November 29). *Bolekaja: Black women and the radicalization of Black liberation praxis* #4 [Video Podcast]. YouTube.

Kennedy, K. A. (Moderator) (2022, March 19), *Bolekaja: Pan Afrikan Expressions of Black Identity* #3 [Audio Video Podcast]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KHNgNVXL2as>

Kennedy, K. A. (Moderator) (2022, February 26). *Bolekaja: Afrikan Spirituality* #1 [Audio Video Podcast]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/eMSPrUpfjWI?si=uxYqJs0gT5rIE76k>

Kennedy, K. A., Chukwudifu, A. L. V., and Suarez-Grant, J. (2022, April 27-29). *Skilled online facilitation of equity-focused discussions* [Conference Presentation] Peralta Community College District 2nd Global Online Equity Conference <https://www.calstatela.edu/ce1/conference-presentations>

Kennedy, K. A. (2021, November). Transformative Positionality: The importance of race/gender and interrogating politicized identities. Panel presentation for the National Communication Association Conference in Seattle, Washington.

Kennedy, K. A. (2020, November). Resistance, value, and identity: Diversity instruction at a “Primarily white institution.” Panel presentation for the National Communication Association Virtual Conference.

Kennedy, K. A. (2020, November). At the crossroads of urgency and conversion: Online experiential learning. Panel presentation for the National Communication Association Virtual Conference.

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Kennedy, K. A. (2019, November). Storyin' creation: Etiology, divine myth and intersectional trauma experienced by women of African descent. Panel presentation for the National Communication Association Conference presented in Baltimore, Maryland.

Kennedy, K. A. (2019, November). The more things change, the more they stay the same: Surviving hate, then and now. Panel Respondent for the National Communication Association, African American Communication and Culture Division in Baltimore, Maryland.

Kennedy, K. A. (2016, September). Building Bridges: An intercultural interrogation of West African and black American voice. Radio interview for LASU radio, Lagos, Nigeria Africa.

Kennedy, K. A. (2015, February). Culture, narratives, and education: Values in sharing voice. Speech presented for Delta Kappa Gamma Chi State Area XIII Conference, Cal Poly Pomona, CA.

Kennedy, K. A. (2014, July). Africa must rise again: Utilizing historical knowledge systems to envision a new future. Speech presented for Benue State University, Makurdi, Nigeria, Africa.

Kennedy, K. A. (2014, March). The life and times of Henrietta Lacks. Speech presented for the American Association of University Women, Whittier, California.

Kennedy, K. A. (2014, February). The life and times of Henrietta Lacks. Speech presented for the American Association of University Women, Long Beach, California.

Kennedy, K. A. (2013, July). Vivian A. Ware Fellowship Report: 100 years forward. Research presented at Washington, D. C. Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

Kennedy, K. A. (November 2010). The enriching experience of teaching/mentoring non-traditional community college students. Panel Presentation presented at the National Communication Association Conference in San Francisco, California.

Kennedy, K. A. (February 2005). Beyond Beyonce: Shaking the myth. Speech presented at Young African American Women's Conference in Pasadena, California.

Kennedy, K. A. (2004, November). Stereotypes and reality: Convergence and communication in U.S. cultural communities of African Americans and Africans residing in America. Speech presented at Lagos State University, Ojo, Nigeria, Africa.

Kennedy, K. A. (2004, December). Re-storying Yoruba cultural myth to unify the double-conscious of African American women in the U. S. Speech presented for Adeniran Ogunsanya College of Education, Otto, Ijanikin, Nigeria, Africa.

Kennedy, K. A. (2004, February). The internalization of popular stereotypes. Speech conducted from California State University, Los Angeles. Los Angeles, California.

Education and Professional Development

- EQ-i2.0 + EQ 360 Certification, Mental Health Systems, Inc.
- Adult Mental Health First Aid, National Council for Mental Well Being
- Inclusive and Ethical Leadership Certificate, University of South Florida
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace Certificate, University of South Florida
- Certificate of Effective Teaching, Association of College, and University Educators (ACUE)
<https://www.calstatela.edu/cetl/acue-showcase>
- Ed.D., Educational Leadership/Educational Psychology, USC
- M.A., Communication Studies, CSU, Los Angeles
- B.A., Speech CSU, Los Angeles

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References Available Upon Request