

# DARNELL FINE

40 Woodlands Street 41, SINGAPORE, 738547 (347) 746-0446 DARNELLFINE@GMAIL.COM

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## CAREER SUMMARY

Darnell Fine is a trained instructional coach and teacher support specialist who facilitates curriculum, instruction, and assessment workshops throughout the U.S. and internationally. An educator by trade, he applies radical imagination to the profession of teaching and learning. He seeks to empower educators and teacher educators to critically examine their practices and celebrate their successes in the classroom.

## EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

2008	<b>Bachelor of Arts</b> , Africana Studies/Teacher Education Brown University, <i>Providence, RI</i>
2012	<b>Teacher Support Specialist Endorsement</b> Georgia State University, <i>Atlanta, GA</i>
2018	<b>Master of Arts</b> , Creative Writing (Non-Fiction) City University of London, <i>London, UK</i>
Forthcoming—2022	<b>Doctor of Education</b> , Educational Leadership USC Rossier School of Education, <i>Los Angeles, CA</i>

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2018-Present **SINGAPORE AMERICAN SCHOOL**, *Singapore, SG*

### **Instructional Coach** (6th-8th grades)

- Led professional development in-service, training and discussion groups
- Coached teachers in collaborative practices including facilitation of learning focused meetings

### **Chair of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Planning Team** (PS-12)

- Planned and designed internal professional learning for +700 faculty and staff
- Crafted action plans and led equity initiatives for whole-school community

### **Assistant Director of Summer Semester** (*Formerly* PS-12)

- Provided leadership in the organization, delivery, and observation of +150 teachers and instructional assistants
- Supported coherent and consistent learning experiences for a total enrollment of 4411 students

### **Team Leader** (*Formerly* 6th Grade)

- Designed interdisciplinary curricula in collaboration with Math, Science, PE, and ELA teachers
- Facilitated professional learning meetings using protocols and equitable practices

### **Social Studies Teacher** (*Formerly* 6th Grade)

- Developed inquiry-based curricula driven by student questions
- Embedded conceptual understandings into curriculum, assessment, and learning activities

Fall 2014-Spring 2018 **THE AMERICAN SCHOOL IN LONDON**, *London, UK*

### **Head of English Department & English Teacher** (Middle School)

- Designed units that developed students' higher-level cognitive skills
- Facilitated workshops on best practices and methods in the English curricula

### **Diversity Coordinator**—ASL Campus (K-12)

- Planned and administered professional development workshops for 200+ faculty/staff

- Founded and spearheaded social justice council in the middle school

**Social Studies Teacher** (7th Grade)

- Innovated curriculum using inquiry-based, conceptual framework
- Integrated content literacy skills in the teaching of history

Fall 2013-Spring 2014

**THE BERKELEY CARROLL SCHOOL**, *Brooklyn, NY*

**English/History Teacher** (6th grade)

- Counseled admin on the use of protocols in creating the humanities department
- Created and facilitated curriculum for the 5th/6th grade affinity groups

Fall 2008-Spring 2013

**ATLANTA NEIGHBORHOOD CHARTER SCHOOL**, *Atlanta, GA*

**Humanities Teacher—English/Language Arts and World Studies** (6th/7th grades)

- Developed interdisciplinary curricula with differentiated instruction
- Designed and implemented student-centered, project-based activities

**Multicultural Coordinator—ANCS Campus** (K-8)

- Designed multicultural programming initiatives
- Facilitated discussions centered on diversity and pluralism

**Mentor Teacher—Georgia State University Education** (Post-Secondary)

- Coached preservice teachers on effective classroom practices
- Assisted in the development of unit plans using the Backwards Design model

**Critical Friends Group (CFG) Coach—ANCS Campus** (Faculty & Staff)

- Facilitated monthly meetings with colleagues to examine curricula and instruction
- Implemented protocols to promote equitable discussions among faculty/staff

Spring 2008

**THE MET HIGH SCHOOL**, *Providence, RI*

**Learning Through Internship (LTI) Mentor** (9th-12th grades)

- Assisted in the development of mentees' 21st-century skills and their application to their cultural context
- Provided extensive feedback on interdisciplinary portfolio exhibition project

Fall 2007

**FEINSTEIN HIGH SCHOOL**, *Providence, RI*

**After School Instructor & Student Teacher—Writing Club and History/Social Studies** (9th-12th grades)

- Collaborated with English and Science departments to design interdisciplinary lesson plans
- Launched a Writing Club to increase student literacy using poetry and Hip Hop

Summer 2007

**BROWN SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL**, *Providence, RI*

**Lead Teacher—History/Social Studies** (9th-12th grades)

- Created multicultural curriculum, drawing on ethnic and women's studies
- Increased student literacy skills using Social Studies texts

Summer 2006

**BREAKTHROUGH ATLANTA**, **THE LOVETT SCHOOL**, *Atlanta, GA*

**Dean of Students—Middle Level** (6th-8th grades)

- Designed staff training sessions with Program Director and Dean of Faculty
- Provided 90+ students with academic and behavioral counseling

**Mentor Teacher—Elective Teachers** (Post-Secondary)

- Provided feedback/resources for lesson plans and observed classroom practices
- Evaluated each elective teacher through one-on-one conferences/final assessments

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Fall 2020-Present

**WOODWARD ACADEMY**, *Atlanta, GA*

**Curriculum Reviewer**

- Introduced a concept-based framework for rethinking and revising K-12 curriculum
- Recommended strategies for embedding an anti-bias, culturally responsive pedagogy into curriculum design

Fall 2019-Present

**SEE LEARNING/EMORY UNIVERSITY**, *Atlanta, GA*

**Curriculum Reviewer & Cultural Research Reader**

- Examined the relevance of lessons and conceptual frameworks used to design curricula
- Unearthed assumptions and biases embedded in curricula and research

Summer 2018-Spring 2020

**KIRKUS MEDIA/AMAZON PUBLISHING**, *New York, NY*

**Cultural Research Reader**

- Reviewed manuscripts of bestselling authors
- Provided critical feedback on bias related to race, class, and disability

Summer 2015-Fall 2016

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS**, *Washington, DC*

**Arts Education Panelist**

- Reviewed 70+ education grant proposals
- Assessed the impact of social justice and arts education across the U.S.

Spring 2013-Summer 2015

**THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER**, *Montgomery, AL*

**Teaching Tolerance Advisory Board Member**

- Advised leadership on publication materials discussing current issues in education
- Explored new instructional strategies focusing on diversity and social justice

Spring 2014

**SOLUTION TREE PRESS**, *Bloomington, IN*

**Manuscript Reviewer**

- Reviewed manuscript *Cultural Literacy for the Common Core*
- Evaluated its connection to culturally relevant and culturally responsive pedagogy

Summer 2014

**TEACH FOR AMERICA**—PHOENIX INSTITUTE, *Tempe, AZ*

**Diversity & Curriculum Program Consultant**

- Conducted professional development for faculty advisors, mentor teachers, and corps members
- Counseled admin team on the structure and implementation of program

Spring 2011-Spring 2013

**ATLANTA YOUNG WRITERS INSTITUTE**, *Decatur, GA*

**Creative Director & Lead Instructor**

- Collaborated with program director to launch summer writing intensive
- Coordinated year-round poetry seminars with the assistance of nationally-renowned writers

Summer 2008

**THE SEPTIMA CLARK COMMUNITY POWER INSTITUTE**, *Atlanta, GA*

**Action Team Leader**

- Instructed youth on creating workshops that effectively engaged fellow community members
- Designed workshops & curriculum regarding Atlanta's local history and social activism

Spring 2006-Fall 2007

**AFRICANA STUDIES DEPARTMENT**, BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

**Teaching Assistant**

- Undertook interim professorship duties for AF99: Constructions in American Theatre
- Assessed academic development of 54 undergraduates in the course AF88: Evolution of Music

Fall 2005-Spring 2008

**DEAN OF THE COLLEGE**, BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

**Head Writing Fellow**

- Tutored 70+ undergraduates in 6 writing courses using training in composition and pedagogy
- Supervised and mentored 5 writing fellows on giving appropriate and timely feedback

Fall 2005-Spring 2008

**THIRD WORLD CENTER**, BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

#### **Minority Peer Counselor Coordinator**

- Supervised 30+ minority peer counselors after being promoted to higher-level position
- Conducted workshops for 400+ incoming 1st years on topics—sexism, racism and heterosexism

#### **Black Heritage Series Programmer**

- Fostered a campus in which students of color felt comfortable celebrating cultural heritage
- Equipped students with academic resources to succeed at the university-level

#### **African Sun Copy Editor & Staff Writer**

- Edited and commented on magazine submissions for the magazine
- Published poem in the Fall semester of 2004 addressing diversity issues at Brown University

Fall 2005-Spring 2008

**SWEARER CENTER**, BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

#### **College Guidance Project Advisor**

- Assisted Hope High School students on college application processes
- Conferred with high school guidance counselors to progress monitor college-bound students

#### **City Brothers Mentor**

- Planned learning activities to engage middle school students with college campus life
- Counseled Providence middle school students on racial, social, and academic issues

Summer 2005

**ATLANTA LEGAL AID SOCIETY**, Decatur, GA

#### **Legal Intern**

- Drafted affidavits for marginalized clients, transcribing formal complaints against Georgia Regional Hospital-Atlanta
- Assisted attorneys in legal investigations and research related to gentrification in downtown Atlanta

Fall 2005-Spring 2006

**UNIVERSITY STEERING COMMITTEE ON SLAVERY AND JUSTICE**, BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

#### **Student Researcher**

- Investigated role Brown University's founders played in the slave trade, whether implicitly or directly
- Acknowledged in Brown University's Slavery and Justice Report for committee research

Fall 2004-Spring 2008

**rites & reason theatre**, BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

#### **Coordinator of Rites & Reason Theatre Archive Project**

- Created the preliminary archiving system for theater for all Africana Studies/Rites & Reason productions
- Supervised 3 undergraduate and 2 high school students in the archiving process

#### **Leader of WORD! Performance Poetry Group**

- Coordinated full productions and smaller performances in the Providence community
- Facilitated weekly meetings of 30+ poets, many of which went on to be world-renowned artists

#### **Theatre Stage Manager**

- Managed the theater light board and supervised the actors for the slave-musical "Testimony of the Quilt"
- Stage managed for "The Candle-makers of Kletsk"—a play about the military conscription of Jews in 1838 Belorussia

## **PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS**

2020

"A Map to Becoming an Anti-Racist Leader"—INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF DAKAR, *Virtual*

2020

"Ending Black Suffering"—DIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE, INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SERVICES, *Virtual*

2019

"Asia Lite: International by Occident"—LEARNING 2 ASIA CONFERENCE, *Nanjing, CN*

2019

"Developing Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy"—LEARNING 2 ASIA CONFERENCE, *Nanjing, CN*

2018

"Exploring the Perspectives of Others: Debiasing Training"—SINGAPORE AMERICAN SCHOOL, *Singapore, SG*

2018

"We Make the Path by Walking"—SINGAPORE AMERICAN SCHOOL, *Singapore, SG*

2018

"My Pedagogic Evolution"—ONEGOAL CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PEDAGOGY SUMMIT, *Boston, MA*

2018 **“Do You Even Teach??: Inquiry and Constructivism in the Classroom”**—ONEGOAL CPR SUMMIT, *Boston, MA*

2015 **“Equity, Social Justice, & Cultural Competency”**—ECIS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, *Barcelona, ESP*

2014 **“The Multiple Dimensions of Culturally Responsive Teaching”**—ACHIEVEMENT FIRST, *Brooklyn, NY*

2014 **“Culturally Responsive Practices in the Classroom”**—TEACH FOR AMERICA, *Birmingham, AL*

2014 **“Building Diversity & Social Justice”**—THE HUN SCHOOL, *Princeton, NJ*

2013 **“Foundations of Culturally Responsive Pedagogy”**—TEACH FOR AMERICA, *Denver, CO*

2013 **“Learning to be Culturally Responsive Teachers”**—NORTH CAROLINA STATE, *Raleigh, NC*

2013 **“Multicultural Education in the Classroom”**—SOURCES CONFERENCE, *Atlanta, GA*

2013 **“Equity and Improving Achievement”**—SOUTHERN EDUCATION LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE, *Peachtree City, GA*

2013 **“Rise/rīz/ Writing: Slam Poetry as an Expression of Ascent”**—RENFROE MIDDLE SCHOOL, *Decatur, GA*

2013 **“Teaching Social Justice in the Humanities”**—AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE, *Decatur, GA*

2013 **“I & Others: Writing About Identity”**—BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

2013 **“Culturally Responsive Teaching”**—THE PEW CENTER, *Washington, DC*

2013 **“Conversations About Leading”**—U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, *Washington, DC*

2012 **“Protest Art: A Constructivist Toolkit for Teaching the Arts”**—CES FALL FORUM, *Providence, RI*

2012 **“Students Voicing Need for Culturally-Relevant Spaces”**—GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY, *Atlanta, GA*

2012 **“VOX Media Café Poetry Workshop”**—VOX TEEN COMMUNICATIONS, *Atlanta, GA*

2012 **“Poetry & the Self: Using Spoken Word to tell Life Stories”**—LIBERTY THEATER, *Columbus, GA*

2012 **“Social Justice Pedagogy in the Middle School Classroom”**—GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY, *Atlanta, GA*

2011 **“Starting the Dialogue: African-American Art”**—OGLETHORPE UNIVERSITY, *Atlanta, GA*

2011 **“How Can We Make Our Words Matters?”**—NATIONAL CIVIL WAR NAVAL MUSEUM, *Columbus, GA*

2011 **“Writing with Personification: How to Bring Objects to Life”**—CENTRAL LIBRARY, *Atlanta, GA*

2011 **“Classroom Management in Middle Level Education”**—GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY, *Atlanta, GA*

2010 **“Blood Dialing: Conflict Minerals in the Congo”**—EMORY UNIVERSITY, *Atlanta, GA*

2010 **“Designing a Constructivist Curriculum”**—THE LOVETT SCHOOL, *Atlanta, GA*

2008 **“Building Bridges: Diversity & Tolerance Workshop”**—CHOATE ROSEMARY HALL, *Wallington, CT*

2008 **“Developing Student Talent in the Social Studies Classroom”**—BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

2007 **“Strategies to Increase Student Participation”**—CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL, *Providence, RI*

2007 **Introduced President Ruth Simmon’s Boldly Brown Campaign speech**—GEORGIA AQUARIUM, *Atlanta, GA*

2007 **Introduced Cornel West’s Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture**—BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

2007 **“Teaching Composition with Graphic Organizers”**—THE WHEELER SCHOOL, *Providence, RI*

2007 **“Assessing Literacy Skills in the Social Studies Classroom”**—BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

2006 **“Culture, Society, and the Writing Process”**—BROWN UNIVERSITY, *Providence, RI*

## PUBLICATIONS & INTERVIEWS

- 2020 “On Reading Silence.” Article, THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATOR (TIE) ONLINE
- 2015 “TT Awardee Spotlight: Darnell Fine.” Blog Post, TEACHING TOLERANCE
- 2015 Interviewed for the *Teaching Tolerance* article “Making Space” by Monita K. Bell
- 2017 Interviewed for *Literacy Today* article “A Classic Debate” by Emily Chiariello
- 2015 “Teaching After the Napa Valley Wine Train Incident.” Blog Post, TEACHING TOLERANCE
- 2014 “An Open Letter to America’s Public School System.” Blog Post, EDWEEK.ORG
- 2013 “Giving Students a Voice in the Testing Debate.” Blog Post, EDWEEK.ORG
- 2013 “Teacher Cheating: A Byproduct of Submissive Testing Culture.” Blog Post, EDWEEK.ORG
- 2010 “Blood On Your Cell Phone.” Performance Poem, NATIONAL POETRY SLAM
- 2010 “Wings Soaked in Molasses.” Page Poem, IN MOTION MAGAZINE
- 2010 “I Am Not a Revolutionary.” Performance Poem, DECATUR BOOK FESTIVAL
- 2010 “Open Letter from Saturn’s Oil Moon, Titan.” Performance Poem, DECATUR BOOK FESTIVAL
- 2006 “Inkblots.” Original 17-Character Play and Musical, RITES & REASON THEATER
- 2005 “Internalization of White Superiority.” Thesis Paper Analyzing Hughes’ Mulatto, BLACK THEATRE NETWORK
- 2004 “I Pose Some Questions.” Page Poem, THE AFRICAN SUN LITERARY MAGAZINE

## AWARDS & HONORS

- 2018 **The Sunny Neutze Prize**—awarded for exceptional achievement and dedication to the American School in London demonstrated by sustained performance of diversity work over an extended period at the School
- 2013 **Mellon Mays Fellows Professional Network Video Contest Winner**—awarded by the Mellon Mays Fellows Professional Network for a video outlining teaching at the Atlanta Young Writers Institute
- 2013 **Teaching Tolerance Culturally Responsive Teaching Award**—awarded by the Southern Poverty Law Center for support of students from diverse racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds
- 2008 **The Charles Nichols Award**—awarded by Brown University for outstanding academic work
- 2008 **The Anna Julia Cooper Award**—awarded by Brown University for leadership and stewardship in the Africana Studies Department
- 2008 **George H. Bass Academic Award**—awarded by Brown University for outstanding theatre work at Rites & Reason Theatre
- 2008 **Rhett S. Jones Legacy Award**—awarded by Brown University for outstanding contribution to institution building
- 2008 **The Alfred H. Joslin Award**—awarded by Brown University for exemplary contributions to the quality of student life, representing the very best of the institution in the areas of character, involvement, and impact
- 2007 **Marsha Z. West Rising Senior Award**—awarded by Brown University for exemplary contributions to Rites & Reason Theatre and the Africana Studies Department as a junior

2005 **New Pioneer Award**—awarded by Brown University for exemplary contributions to Rites & Reason Theatre and the Africana Studies Department as a first year

2005 **Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship**—awarded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for demonstrating a commitment to eradicating racial disparities in higher education