



Thursday, January 21, 2021*
Virtual Agenda

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8:30-8:45 A.M. Membership Business Meeting

- Introductions
- CAAA Minutes and Board Reports
- CSDE, CMEA, CAEA
- COA, CAAE, Arts for Learning, Verge

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

8:45-9:25 A.M. Guest Speaker: Dr. Tiffany Renée Jackson

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING THROUGH SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

MUSIC

9:30-10:00 Alicia Robinson Director of Performing & Visual Arts
Local Program Director, Turnaround Arts and Megan Brockway, Music Teacher, Bridgeport PS

10:00-10:30 Angela Griffin, Supervisor, Music and Performing Arts, and Sarah Grasso, Music Teacher,
Simsbury PS

10:30- 11:00 Leslie Imse, Music Department Chair, and Catherine Sullivan, Music Teacher, Farmington
PS, and Dr. Melissa Zych, Music Teacher, West Hartford PS.

11:00-11:15 Amanda Hanzlik, Director of Choral Activities, E.O Smith HS, Storrs, CT ACDA President

ART

9:30-10:00 Shannon Gagne, K-12 Art Department Supervisor, Simsbury Public Schools

10:00-10:30 Holly Constantine, Director of Art, Glastonbury Public Schools

10:30-11:00 Lisa Smith, Art Teacher, Windsor High School, presented by Marge Renno

11:00-11:15 Marge Renno, Art Teacher, Windsor High School

GUEST SPEAKER Dr. Tiffany Renée Jackson



Dr. Tiffany Renée Jackson is a groundbreaking, highly recognized classical and jazz singer, body builder, nutrition specialist and teacher. She was raised in New Haven, CT where she attended the Educational Center for the Arts before earning her Bachelor of Music from the University of Michigan, Master of Music and Artist Diploma from Yale University, Professional Studies Degree from the Manhattan School of Music and a Doctoral of Musical Arts from the University of Connecticut.

Dr. Tiffany Renee Jackson has an extensive, lauded singing career, spanning both classical and jazz. In the classical arena, after honing her craft with the Houston Grand Opera Studio, she sang with orchestras and symphonies around the world in Norway, Slovenia, Germany, and others as part of her Metropolitan Opera Study Grant and has been a featured soloist with many Symphony Orchestras including National Philharmonic Orchestra, Gotham City Orchestra, New Haven Symphony Orchestra, Greater Bridgeport Symphony and many others. She sings in premier festivals such as Tanglewood, Ravinia and Aspen Music Festivals and in many of the world's top venues including Carnegie Hall, making her debut in 2005. In addition, she has worked with and appeared with many internationally recognized artists.

In the jazz world, Dr. Jackson is known for her interpretations of the music of Billy Strayhorn and Duke Ellington. She has appeared at the Blue Note NYC and Dizzy's Club Coca Cola and Jazz at Lincoln Center. Dr. Jackson can be heard on recordings with Emmy Award winning pianist, composer and educator, Dr. Rex Cadwallader.

In addition to an illustrious career as a singer, Dr. Jackson has taken on other unexpected journeys that have come together to lead her to her current life work. In 2003, she was chosen to accompany Oprah Winfrey to South Africa where she met Nelson Mandela at the World Aids Day Concert in Cape Town. As a teacher, she has taught in several private schools including Greens Farms Academy and Choate Rosemary Hall where she is currently a voice instructor.

She has also received Certifications as a Sports Nutrition Specialist and Personal Trainer and brought her talents together in 2011 when she appeared on “America’s Got Talent”, performing as “Necessarydiva” the opera singing bodybuilder! These diverse paths led Dr. Jackson to create a one woman show, “From the Hood to the Ivy League” and establish a nonprofit organization, “Gift Purpose Passion Project Inc.” that helps students to hone their gifts, discover their purpose and nurture their passion. In addition, through her non-profit, this project will endeavor to provide resources to gifted musicians in underrepresented communities.

Recent performances include a virtual performance of her one woman show at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford, CT and Beechwood Arts in Westport, CT, the home of world-renowned pianist, Frederic Chiu.