

2017 Activities Summary

January 1, 2017 - March 31, 2017

Quick Description (Quarter-at-a-Glance)

- Guest Lecturer at Rice University in Houston, Texas.

Roles & Development of Praxis

- ★ As an **Educator**, teaching **about causes** themes advocated for, including both informal and formal educational institutions.

Values-at-Work

- Using M.A. in Special Education, Dr. Onaiwu undertook teaching as a guest lecturer.
- Involving different age groups in social awareness and education.

Events Timeline

- Guest Lecturer at Rice University in Houston, TX.
 - ◆ March 1

Dr. Onaiwu later returned to Rice University for the Center for the Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality as a Visiting Scholar from 2020-2023.

- Lunches of Love
 - Ongoing project from 2016 - 2019 twice annual.
 - K-12 and college student volunteers.
 - Collaborative with Texas State Technical College (TSTC) and the nonprofit. Lunches of Love (LOL) committed to helping end childhood hunger in Fort Bend County by providing a free nutritious sack lunch during extended school holidays and weekends."
 - Lunch bag decorating sessions and food donation drives.
 - Feeds thousands of impoverished children at over 20 public schools and satellite locations.



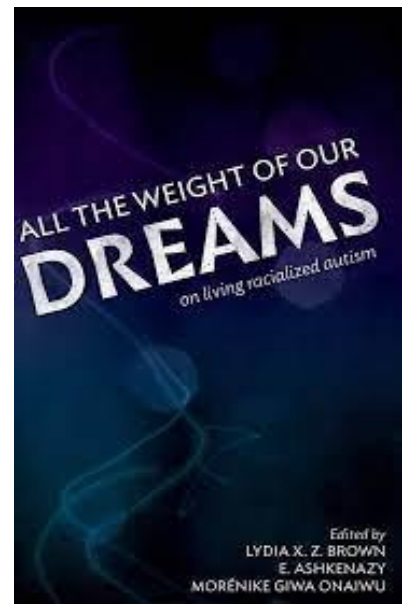
- Community presentations to help support and encourage prospective entrepreneurs, especially young adults, people with disabilities, women, and people of color.
 - Also with Texas State Technical College & delivered by University of Houston Texas Gulf Coast Small Business Development Center Network specialists.

April 1, 2017 - June 30, 2017

→ Published *All the Weight of Our Dreams: On Living Racialized Autism* as Co-Editor

Quick Description (Quarter-at-a-Glance)

- Critical Care Symposium at Rice University in Houston.
- 8th Annual Autism Conference & Expo at Georgia State University..
- 2017 Annual ACTG Network Meeting in Washington, DC
- Publishing of *All the Weight of Our Dreams: On Living Racialized Autism*.



Roles & Development of Praxis

- ★ **Increasingly leadership roles** and recognition as a **public speaker** on a national and global scale, as presentations, panels, and keynote addresses expand.
- ★ **Panelist** for university symposium followed by being the **keynote speaker at the 8th Annual Autism Conference** hosted at Georgia State University.
- ★ **Ongoing support** and participation with Advancing Clinical Therapeutics Globally (ACTG).
- ★ Besides ongoing commitment to ACTG, **taking on** more leadership by **planning, presenting, and facilitating** at the annual **ACTG** networking event.
- ★ **Anthologizing co-editor** of writings and art from sixty-one people of **color**, from seven countries, addressing life with **autism**.

Values-at-Work

- As passion and commitment to causes is recognized, more leadership roles and speaking engagements open up, allowing for a larger platform to advocate.
- Drive and commitment to push awareness and promotion of causes, including intersections of diverse marginalizations are included in public conversations.
- As new opportunities come up, other long-term commitments remain an active focus, also with increasing leadership positions.
- Inclusion and representation by anthologizing a book with contributions from sixty-one people of color from seven countries addressing life with autism.

Events Timeline

- Symposium for Disability Care--Critical Care Symposium/Disability Interventions in the Logics of Cure--Panelist at Rice University in Houston, TX
 - ◆ April 8
- State Autism Conference & Expo of Georgia/8th Annual Autism Conference & Expo--Keynote Speaker at Georgia State University
 - ◆ May 18
- Compiled and published an anthology of sixty-one autistic writers and artists of color writing from seven countries. Published with DragonBee Press. *All the Weight of Our Dreams: On Living Racialized Autism.*
 - ◆ June 19
- Networking Event --2017 Annual ACTG (Advancing Clinical Therapeutics Globally) Network Meeting --Facilitator, Presenter, Planner (Community Sessions and Network Plenary) in Washington, DC
 - ◆ June 29

In Their Words

In the June 2017 Blog for Advocacy Without Borders, on World Refugee Day, they announced the publishing of their book:

This WRD we are happy to announce the availability of a new multicultural resource. "All the Weight of Our Dreams: On Living Racialized Autism" is the first and only anthology of autism and people of color. Containing essays, poetry, artwork, and personal accounts of 60 people from seven different countries from age 3 to 60, not only will this anthology provide a platform for an often underrepresented group, it will also help to raise money for a financial assistance program that will exclusively serve people of color on the autism spectrum. The fund is slated to launch next year, and donations of any amount are welcome! Please contact us to learn more about this exciting endeavor; we are proud to help to promote and support this project.

July 1, 2017 - September 30, 2017

Quick Description (Quarter-at-a-Glance)

- Reading and Signing of *All the Weight of Our Dreams: On Living Racialized Autism* for The Autistic People of Color Fund.
- Presenter at College Leadership Conference.
- TASH (advocates for disability community) podcast.

Roles & Development of Praxis

- ★ **Reading and Co-Author Signing** copies of *All the Weight of Our Dreams: On Living Racialized Autism* for The Autistic People of Color Fund, focusing on books about the **intersection of race and autism**.
- ★ Presenting at a **leadership** conference as an advocate and activist.
- ★ Acting as a **guest speaker** for a **podcast** serving the **disability community**.

Values-at-Work

- Co-editing and contributing to the very first anthology written by people living at the intersection of race and autism, a grossly overlooked population.
- Amplifying voices of people of color living with autism, within and without the intersecting communities.
- Representing and communicating the importance of the intersectionality of marginalization while presenting at a college leadership conference.
- Communicating through various mediums, platforms, and audiences to bring awareness and promote awareness and conversations about disability and intersections with other minority populations.

Events Timeline

- Book Reading and Signing--*All the Weight of Our Dreams: On Living Racialized Autism*/Autism Women's Network & The Autistic People of Color Fund as Co-Editor
 - ◆ July 1
- College Leadership Conference--Texas College Student Leadership Conference/Texas College--Presenter
 - ◆ September 1
- Podcast--TASH (advocates for disability community) podcast--Guest Speaker
 - ◆ September 1

Featured Event

The Autistic People of Color Fund was created in conjunction with the Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) and the publication of *All the Weight of Our Dreams: On Living Racialized Autism*. The goal was for the profits from the anthology to be contributed to the fund, as a way to self-fund the advocacy of the very population the anthology was created to represent.



October 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017

Quick Description (Quarter-at-a-Glance)

- Keynote for Neurodiversity Navigators at Bellevue College
- Parent/Child Health Event and IRB Review supporting breastfeeding

Roles & Development of Praxis

- ★ Promoting **positive associations** while also addressing the realities faced by the **neurodiversity community**, delivered keynote address at Bellevue College.
- ★ Promoting **positive** perceptions about **breastfeeding**, as well as making sure **people of color** and **lower income** have **access** to resources and information to support breastfeeding and proposed research is ethical and safe.

Values-at-Work

- Expressing challenges faced by people whose difference might create a sense of marginalization, while also instilling hope for inclusivity and being valued.
- Ensuring the health of parents who breastfeed and their infants by promoting education, support, and positive perceptions.

Events Timeline

- Harris County Public Health Social Justice in Breastfeeding Event and IRB Review to help promote awareness, education, and healthy choices.
 - ◆ October 1
- Keynote for Neurodiversity Navigators (the Neurodiversity Center at Bellevue College) in Bellevue, WA
 - ◆ October 21

Featured Event

Keynote for Autistic Present Annual Symposium with Bellevue College's Neurodiversity Navigators and Autistic Women and Nonbinary Network (AWN). Dr. Onaiwu's involvement with AWN began in 2014. As the keynote speaker for Neurodiversity Navigators, they were acting in the role of Chair for Autism and Ethnicity, and also as Assistant Project Coordinator and Editor of *All the Weight of Our Dreams: On Living Racialized Autism*.

Although their involvement with AWN goes back to 2014, it increased substantially going forward.

Details

665 people responded

Event by Neurodiversity Navigators at Bellevue College and Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network

Neurodiversity Navigators at Bellevue College

Duration: 6 hr

Public - Anyone on or off Facebook

Autistics Present: A Symposium on Autistic Culture & Identity (For All)

Register for In-Person OR Live Stream here: <https://pci-forms.bellevuecollege.edu/asn-conference.../>... See more

Bellevue, Washington