

## **NAME's Mission:**

NAME, the National Association for Multicultural Education, is a non-profit organization that advances and advocates for equity and social justice through multicultural education.

## **NAME's Objectives:**

- To provide opportunities for learning in order to advance multicultural education, equity, and social justice.
- To proactively reframe public debate and impact current and emerging policies in ways that advance social, political, economic, and educational equity through advocacy, position papers, policy statements, and other strategies.
- To provide the preeminent digital clearinghouse of resources about educational equity and social justice.

## **NAME's Origins:**

**The idea for NAME** emerged in 1990 under the leadership of Rose Duhon-Sells, who challenged members of the Association of Teacher Educators (ATE) at their annual meeting to find a way to harness the membership's passion for social justice and equality in our nation's schools and classrooms. Dr. Duhon-Sells urged her colleagues to create a new organization to unite individuals and groups in the pursuit of multicultural education. The organization should encompass every level of education, include all academic disciplines, and reach out to the full spectrum of institutions and occupations involved in teaching and learning. ATE's Multicultural Education Special Interest Group answered Dr. Duhon-Sells' call to action and went to work. Under the group's guidance, NAME was quickly organized and then officially launched at a national conference held in conjunction with the 1991 ATE meeting in New Orleans.

## **NAME Today:**

**NAME in 2013** is an active, growing organization with over 1,500 members from the U.S.A. and international community. Our members serve at every level of teaching and administration: preschool, elementary, secondary, college, and university. Vocational educators and training professionals in business and industry also participate as full-fledged members in the common quest for social justice and equality.

**Local chapters of NAME** at the state and community level are active in promoting our ideals and advancing our mission. We encourage educators and activists to join this grassroots movement and organize a new NAME chapter in their hometown, region, or state.

**The achievement of NAME's goals and objectives** is supported by funds from membership dues, conference registration fees, donations, and the volunteer work of members. A growing membership base and increased income have allowed us to develop a publication, *Multicultural Perspectives*, and establish a national

office in Washington, D.C. NAME continues to host national and international conferences and provide leadership in dialogues on equity, diversity and multicultural education.

### **NAME's Members:**

**Our membership** is diverse and accomplished. Who are we?

Professional educators and specialists, including early childhood, classroom and higher education faculty, administrators, psychologists, social workers, counselors, curriculum specialists, librarians, scholars, and researchers.

Persons affiliated with teacher education, ethnic studies, ESL and bilingual education, social science, anthropology, liberal and fine arts programs, and other departments, colleges, and schools with an emphasis on multiculturalism.

**You are welcome to join us** in the challenging mission of advancing and advocating for social justice and equity in education.



### **the Sankofa Bird....**

a symbol of spiritual and intellectual ties between the wisdom of past generations and the moment at hand – each of us as a participant in the life of our culture and society, returning to the past to find all that is good in the legacy of our ancestors ... and bringing these good things to bear on the present ... and moving toward a better future.

**Rooted deeply** in the art and iconography of the Asante tribe of the Akan peoples who live along the west coast of Africa, the Sankofa Bird looks backward with the egg of the future in her beak. In the Akan language of present-day Ghana, sankofa means “to reach back and get it.” The symbol has become a powerful image of transformation in contemporary African-American thought. It evokes ancestral wisdom and stands for realization of self and spirit. It is written that within the symbol of the Sankofa Bird, one can visualize concepts of self-identity, personal and societal redefinition, and a vision of unity in community. The Sankofa symbolizes an understanding of one’s personal destiny and the collective identity of the larger cultural group.

NAME is a registered 501-c.3 non-profit organization.

NAME's Federal Tax ID # is 72-119-3754.

### **NOTE:**

This article was prepared by the Arkansas Chapter of NAME and is linked to this web address:

<http://www.corndancer.com/vox/gnosis/multied4/multi4-nameark.html>