

8205 Sullivan Hill Rd.
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Psychology: Cognition and Development
Emory University, Atlanta, GA.
2016

***Research Expertise and Interests:** Impact of Inequity and Access on the Opportunity Gap; Organic Organizational Development; Culturally and linguistically diverse learners; Cognitive mechanisms underlying early language & literacy acquisition; [Ties between Social-emotional Learning and Literacy](#); Language and Reading Disabilities; Assessment Design & Practices; User Experiences and e-Learning; Adult Learning; Quantitative methodology; Education Policy*

Ph.D. Coursework: Educational Policy Studies: Research, Measurement, & Statistics
Georgia State University, Department of Educational Policy Studies & Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education.
2006-2009

Master of Education: Behavior and Learning Disabilities
Georgia State University, Department of Educational Psychology & Special Education
Atlanta, GA.
2006

Bachelor of General Studies, Focus: Elementary Education & Sociology
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
2001

KEY COMPETENCIES SKILLS

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE
ORGANIZATION AND PROGRAM START-UP EFFORTS
RESEARCH AND PROGRAM EVALUATION
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND EXPERT ADVISEMENT
PUBLIC SPEAKING/PRESENTING
WRITTEN COMMUNICATION & TECHNICAL WRITING
STRATEGIC PLANNING AND BUDGET FORECASTING/ANALYSIS
QUANTITATIVE METHODOLOGY AND DATA ANALYSES
MIXED METHODS METHODOLOGY AND ANALYSES
HUMAN CAPITAL STRATEGIES
SPECIAL EDUCATION AND MULTILINGUAL LEARNER POLICY AND PRACTICE
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE
ASSESSMENT & RUBRIC DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION
COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND ADVOCACY
FRENCH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

CERTIFICATIONS & OTHER CREDENTIALS

Executive Certification in Social Impact Strategy

University of Pennsylvania

Begins January, 2021

Nonprofit Management Certificate

GA Charter Schools Association, Atlanta, GA

Completed June 2014

Professional Certification in governance, business, finance and overall management geared toward non-profit organizations

Georgia TKES & LKES Educator and Leader Evaluator Credentialed

Completed Spring 2014

Georgia Certified Early Child Care Trainer - Level III

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL)

Code: TR-BFTS-2998

Georgia Educator Certificate # 464302, Level T-7, GA Professional Standards Commission

All grades (P-12), all subjects Early Childhood Education and Special education

EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE

Founder & CEO

Choice-filled Lives Network, Inc.

2018-present

Founder and CEO of a social change organization geared toward providing capacity transfer and support to other nonprofit and/or social change mission-driven organizations. Choice-filled Lives Network, Inc. works to disrupt the systems, mindsets and inequitable distribution of access that perpetuate the opportunity gaps that are destroying the fabric of our nation and world.

The Mission is: to ensure that the resources, innovations knowledge, and benefits of research-based best practices in leadership, organizational development and pedagogy in the birth-5 and kindergarten - 12th grade sectors are equally distributed and accessible to all children, particularly those who have experienced generational lack of access to educational opportunities. We work toward meeting our mission through the following **CORE** tenets:

- Capacity Building and Cooperative Economics
- Organizational Development
- Research & Evaluation
- Educational Best Practices

The Choice-filled Lives Network Vision is: *To eradicate educational and societal opportunity gaps, by providing mission-aligned educational leaders and organizations with access to the resources, capacity, cultural capital and networks necessary to support all children in determining their own destinies and leading Choice-filled Lives.*

The mission and vision serve as the fabric of the organization, and our core values serve as the thread maintaining the fabric's integrity. Our core values ensure that our work remains mission aligned and focused on **FREEDOM** and choice for all children:

- Fortitude
- Responsibility

- Empathy
- Equity
- Diversity
- Opportunity
- Mindfulness

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

Sr. Consultant /Advisor - Education Initiative

Nov. 2019 - Present

Director, Research & Implementation

April 2019-Nov. 2019

Senior executive, transitioned to advisor, for a National Social Change/Technology Philanthropy founded by Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, Dr. Priscilla Chan. Responsible for shepherding the research-to-practice pipeline and leading a cross-functional team to work toward meeting the organizational mission: "...to find new ways to leverage technology, community-driven solutions, and collaboration to accelerate progress in Science, Education, and within our Justice & Opportunity work." Responsibilities have included, but not been limited to:

- Leading and collaborating with cross-functional teams (tech, product development, learning science, research and data) to strategize and develop scalable solutions to societal barriers to opportunity and equity
- Serving as a subject matter expert/internal consultant to research and data science teams, product development teams and communications teams
- Securing and sustain external partnerships with community agencies, higher education/ research entities, private sector social-change organizations and others to advance the mission.
- Managing a robust higher education, research and practice philanthropic investment portfolio on behalf of the organization
- Collaborating on cross-functional teams to strategize internal organizational development structures and functions
- Publishing manuscripts, white papers, Op-Eds or other timely and relevant content that is aligned to the organization's mission, impact and work
- Serving as a "face" and spokesperson for the organization's Education reform work
- Providing Key Note Addresses; Presenting at conferences & facilitating panel discussions as invited

Atlanta Speech School, INC and The Rollins Center for Language & Literacy

Chief of Research, Innovation & Learning

2016-2019

Director of Research and Innovation

2015-2016

Served as a Chief Research and Innovation Executive for historic non-profit organization and independent school founded in 1938. Responsible for a variety of administration and supervisory functions, in addition to ensuring that the organization's 4 lab schools, 5 clinics, and professional learning and development outreach arm, (*The Rollins Center for Language and Literacy, which focuses on educational reform at scale through e-learning solutions*), remained mission aligned and grounded in research and best practices in: language & literacy, disabilities, early childhood education, curriculum design, cognitive development, intervention science, the speech and hearing sciences, adult learning, and organizational development; Developed and nurtured research and community partnerships and collaborated on internal and external research study design and implementation. Specific duties and responsibilities included, but were not limited to:

- Served as member of the organization's senior executive team, collaborating with the Executive Director, Chief Academic Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and Director of Human Resources around strategic planning, program development, staffing, and fiscal planning and oversight
- Directed and led the research and innovation division of the organization to ensure research-to-practice pipeline remained scientifically current, valid, reliable, mission aligned, and impactful; Set vision and direction and oversaw all external evaluation efforts organizational-wide
- Responsible for leading vision and direction for organization's reform strategies at scale; supervised cross-function teams consisting of content matter experts/directors, technology specialists, instructional designers, curriculum specialists, and educational coaches.
- Led the vision and direction for the Rollins Center's education reform initiatives and served as a liaison between the organization and the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning and Georgia Department of Education and other community agencies
- Invited to serve as a member of the GA Department of Education's Literacy Faculty Think Tank that is guiding the language and literacy reform PD strategy for the state of Georgia
- Served as a consultant and strategist to both internal and external stakeholders and partners at the district, public health, and state/national/international partners for educational transformation efforts at scale
- Supervised Directors of 4 lab schools, 5 clinics, and Extracurricular Programs in collaboration with Chief Academic Officer
- Spearheaded groundwork for the development of a research and policy center that will serve as an internal mechanism for both basic and applied research-to-practice connections in a variety of language and literacy areas
- Conducted and published research, presented at conferences, and maintained higher education affiliation
- Wrote and secured federal, state, and foundation grants
- Chaired the Professional Development Committee to develop and implement Professional Learning strategies that are grounded in current research and are mission-aligned
- Spearheaded groundwork for development of annual, national professional development and research conference on language and literacy development
- Collaborated with Human Resources Director to develop data tools and to vision and design best practices for succession planning and other internal metrics
- Developed frameworks for progress monitoring and assessment tools; Developed strategic data plans organizational-wide; Responsible for development and oversight of internal data management systems and processes

AWALA Enterprises, LLC
Independent Consultant
2014-2018

Senior Organizational Consultant who utilizes quantitative and qualitative methods to drive decision making and critical outcomes for organizations with social change-driven missions. Assist schools, small businesses and non-profit organizations with projects related to: training and development, human resources development and strategy, market analysis, organizational development, start-up efforts, evaluation, and sustainable practices. Specialize in in the following areas:

- Organizational Needs Assessments, Program Evaluations & Programming Initiatives
- Human Capital Strategies, Capacity Building & Transfer, and Succession Planning
- Market Analyses and Data Management Plans
- Professional learning and development in a variety of areas (cultural competency, board governance, management practices, early childhood development, best practices in language & literacy, special education and compliance, etc...)
- Strategic Planning and Grant Writing/Management (federal/state/foundations)
- Charter School Petitions and Business Plans

- Organizational Innovation, Organizational/Team Culture, Organizational Compliance, Diversity, and Organizational “Blue-printing.”
- Budget Forecasting and Fiscal Management

The GLOBE Academy, Inc.

*Executive Director and Founding Board Chair
2009-2014*

Executive Director and founder of dual-language immersion charter school. Responsible for the setting the vision, mission, and direction of the organization in founding years through start-up and implementation; developed the charter petition, including curricular plan, and facilitated the charter approval process as board chair for 4 years prior to entering into Executive Director position. Responsible for overall oversight and accountability of all instructional functions of the school, as well as collaboration on operational functions with other leadership team members. Functional areas included: Curriculum and Instruction, Human Resources, Fundraising & Development, Stakeholder Communication, Communication with state and local government officials, and more as follows:

- Oversight and management of \$4.5 Million operating budget
- Data collection, analysis, and reporting for documenting measurable goals and objectives in charter contract and making data-driven programming decisions
- Responsible for supervision, oversight, and professional development of staff of over 50 employees, including Head of School and Curriculum Specialists
- School accreditation efforts
- Development of Instructional strategic plan, including setting the vision and direction for the school to be in alignment with overall school mission and vision
- Compliance with all state and federal laws governing schools
- Strategic planning and communication with state (GA DOE) and local (district) authorizers
- Oversight of curriculum and instruction including special programs such as special education, gifted education, 504 plans, RTI, and the SST process
- Completion of State Department of Education Annual Report and other accountability measures required by state and district authorizers
- Accreditation Efforts
- Stakeholder communications

Teach For America

*Director, Research Partnerships
2012-2013*

Director on The Research Partnerships team, a national team nested within Teach For America’s Public Affairs & Engagement team. Research Partnerships manages a diverse portfolio of research-related projects with internal teams and external partners, such as research evaluation contractors, university-based researchers, and graduate students. Additionally, the team is charged with the production of several annual research products and serves as an internal consultancy resource for data and research related matters. Duties and responsibilities included:

- Creating proposal for national Diversity research agenda
- Partnering with various teams to provide fast-paced support to members of other national teams on the use of complex data in external-facing statements or other products

- Managing a portfolio of research partnerships, some national in character, some aligned with regional interest and need
- Spearheading team relationships with a variety of national teams and initiatives (e.g., Early Childhood Education, Alumni Affairs, etc...)
- Writing briefs and other products that help other organizations reckon with external research in the sphere of public affairs
- Maintaining functional knowledge base of the various data sources available within the organization, and how this data can be brought to bear on research questions driven by the goals of continuous improvement (internal) and building knowledge (external)
- Representing the organization and engage the research community at a variety of conferences and events (e.g., American Education Research Association annual conference)

Family First Enterprises, LLC - DBA: Little Linguists International Preschool
Senior Advisor/Education Director
2008-2012

Served as Lead Consultant and Education Director for the development and launch of a private, dual-language immersion birth-5 preschool. Responsibilities and accomplishments included:

- Setting the vision, mission, and direction of the organization to launch the organization; hiring, training, and leading a staff of approximately 25 employees
- Establishing a solid organizational culture, policies and practices within the founding school that allowed the organization quickly grow and scale to additional locations
- Data collection and analyses; Research collaborations with external partners; program development
- Wrote \$1.7 Million Early Head Start Grant that was recommended for funding
- Led center through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Accreditation Process
- Curriculum Development and Mapping
- Fundraising/Development
- Stakeholder communications

**HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS AND
 INSTRUCTOR EXPERIENCE**
(courses below)

Yale University
Haskins Laboratories
Affiliated Research Scientist
2020-present

Affiliated research scientist with renowned research center, with an emphasis on cognitive development, particularly language and literacy development.

Georgia State University
College of Education: Communication Sciences & Disorders
Faculty Member (Part-time Instructor)
2016-2020

Taught graduate level courses in the College of Education and Human Development

Spelman College
Department of Psychology
Faculty Member (Part-time)
2014-2015

Taught Introductory Psychology course sequence and Cognitive Psychology course for a faculty member on leave

Argosy University
Psychology Department
Adjunct Faculty (Part-time)
2010-2011

Online faculty member with Argosy University.

- Taught several semesters of Psychology 180: Interpersonal Effectiveness

GA State University
Departments of Educational Psychology & Special Education and Early Childhood Education
Joint Clinical Faculty Member
2006-2009

Jointly-appointed clinical faculty member in college of education at GA State University. Responsibilities included:

- Developing new courses and creating course syllabi for founding dual-certification program in early childhood education and special education that was launching
- Teaching courses in special education and early childhood education
- Engaging in educational and intervention research
- Supervising and coaching a load of approximately 20 pre-service teachers per semester

**ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL
CONSULTING & SERVICE**

Curriculum and Training

Facilitate discussions of diversity, cultural competency, internal biases, and race/class dynamics with teachers and teacher leaders with schools, systems, and other organizations.

Early childhood education best practices training for Bright From the Start, Department of Early Care and Learning. Certified to facilitate state-approved trainings for early childhood learning centers' administration and staff. *Georgia Certified Early Child Care Trainer III, Trainer Code: TR-BFTS-2998*

Grant Writing

Charter School CSP Planning and Implementation Grant (2013). Wrote **\$650,000** federal grant proposal that was funded on behalf of The GLOBE Academy, Inc.

Walton Family Foundation Grant for Charter Schools (2010). Wrote **\$30,000** foundation grant proposal that was funded on behalf of The GLOBE Academy, Inc.

Georgia Department of Education Charter Schools Planning Grant (2010). Wrote **\$8,000** planning grant proposal that was funded on behalf of The GLOBE Academy, Inc.

Administration for Children and Families-Office of Head Start (2009). Wrote **\$1.7 Million** Federal grant proposal that was recommended for funding on behalf of Family First Enterprises.

Curriculum and Textbook Preparation

Advised as Senior Subject Matter Expert on the development of whole child-based social-emotional integrated curricula into content areas for Summit Learning Program Charter Network. National, US (2019-2020)

Wrote end-of-chapter question scoring rubrics for instructor's edition in: *Psychology: from inquiry to understanding (2nd Edition)*, (2010). Lilienfeld, S.O., Lynn, S. J., Namy, L. L., & Woolf, N. J.

Reviewing

Reviewer, The Reading League Journal. Syracuse, NY. 2019-present

Reviewer, Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Panel 14 - Language: Biological, Perceptual, & Cognitive Bases, 2013

Reviewer, Council for Exceptional Children Conference. Boston, MA. April 2008

Reviewer, TED: Council for Exceptional Children Conference. Milwaukee, WI. November 2007

PUBLICATIONS

Kenner, B. B., Terry, N.P., Friehling, A., & Namy, L. L. (2017). Phonemic Awareness Development in 2.5- and 3.5-year-old children: Evidence of Emergent, Receptive Knowledge and Skills. *Reading & Writing*, 30(7), 1575-1594.

PUBLICATIONS

(In Preparation)

Kenner, B. B., Friehling, A., & Namy, L. L. (in preparation). *Cognitive and Sociocultural Predictors of Receptive Phonemic Awareness Development in 2.5- to 4.5-year-old Children: Implications for Theory and Practice.*

Kenner, B. B. & Namy, L. L. (in preparation). *The Basis for an Iconicity Advantage in Symbol Learning at 26 Months: The Special Case of Printed Symbolic Media*

Kenner, B. B. and Mims, S. K. (in preparation). *Constructing the Reading Brain: A Cognitive, Developmental and Sociocultural Framework.*

Kenner, B. B., (in preparation). *Organizational Blueprinting: Building a Sustainable Organizational Culture from Inception to Launch*

Kenner, B. B., (in preparation). *What to Expect When Birthing a School: The Trimesters of Organic Organizational Development in Educational Settings*

Kenner, B. B. & Ubiles, J. (in preparation). *The Language Immersion Preschool (LIP) Project: Benefits of a dual-language immersion program on preschool children's neurological and language development.*

Calhoun, M.B., Kenner, B. B., Logan, J., Hunter, C.V., & Miltenberger, S. (in preparation). *Oral reading fluency and word level difficulty: Is counting words correct per minute enough?*

PODCASTS

[What's Going On in my Kid's Brain?](#) Podcast delivered for the National PTA Association (Air Date: April, 21, 2020)

[The Ties Between Social Emotional Learning and Language & Literacy Development.](#) Podcast delivered for Voyager Sopris Learning (Air Date: May 7, 2020)

PRESENTATIONS, PANELS, & POSTERS

Kenner, B. B. (October 2019). *Building Blocks for Learning*. Invited panelist at the 2019 iNACOL Convening, Palm Springs, CA.

Kenner, B. B. (October 2019). *Threads in the Quilt of Success: Why Social-emotional Learning and Language & Literacy are Inextricably Tied*. Invited talk presented at the Reading League Conference, Syracuse, NY, October 17, 2019.

Kenner, B.B. (August 2019). *A Whole Child Approach to Education*. Invited Panelist at the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) Convening.

Kenner, B. B. (April 2019) Yale University: Education Leadership Conference. Invited Panelist, New Haven, Connecticut.

Kenner, B. B., (February 2018). *Each Child, Every Child: Keeping the Promise of Language and Literacy for a Lifetime through Research & Innovation*. Invited talk presented at the Annual Atlanta Speech School Guild Luncheon., Atlanta, GA.

Kenner, B. B., Terry, N. P., Friehling, A. H., & Namy, L. L. (April, 2017). *Phonemic Awareness Development in 2.5- through 4.5-year-old children: Evidence of Emergent, Receptive Knowledge and Abilities*. Poster presented at the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD), Austin, TX.

Namy, L.L., Tzeng, C. Y., Kenner, B. B., & Nygaard, L. C. (July, 2011). *Cross-Linguistic Sound Symbolism in Language Learning*. Presented at the International Association for the Study of Child Language, Montreal, QB.

Namy, L.L., Tzeng, C. Y., Kenner, B. B., & Nygaard, L. C. (March, 2011). *Cross-Linguistic Sound Symbolism in Language Learning*. Presented at the Society for Research on Child Development, Montreal, QB.

Kenner, B. B., Heilbrun, A. M., & Namy, L. L. (March, 2010). *Arbitrary symbol learning at 26- months*. Poster presented at the meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies. Baltimore, MD.

Kenner, B.B. (November, 2008). *Direct Instruction and emergent literacy activities for beginning readers*. Presented at the meeting of the 2nd Annual New Educator Induction Conference. Atlanta, GA.

Terry, N. P., Godley, C. G., & Kenner, B. B. (May, 2008). *It's never too early to Get Ready to Read!* Presented at Annual meeting for the International Reading Association. Atlanta, GA.

Kenner, B. B., Calhoun, M.B., & Henrich, C. (February, 2008). *Oral reading fluency and word level difficulty: Is counting words correct per minute enough?* Presented at The Pacific Coast Research Conference. Coronado Beach, CA.

Kenner, B. B. (December, 2007). *Differentiation of Instruction in K-5*. Presented at the the 1st Annual New Educators Induction Conference. Atlanta, GA.

Kenner, B.B. & Cannon, J. (2007, November). *Preparing teachers for inclusive settings: Models of collaboration in higher education*. Poster presented at the meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED): Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Conference. Milwaukee, WI.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Harvard University Center for Education Policy Research: Strategic Data Project Fellow Finalist, Sept. 2015 (Deferred)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Program Evaluation Fellow Finalist, July 2015 (Deferred)
National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention, April 2010
Invitation to International Gold Key Honors Society, Fall 2007
Outstanding Masters Student in Special Education, Georgia State University, May 2007
Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education, May 2006
Teacher Hope Scholarship, August 2003-May 2006
University of Michigan, Oklahoma City Alumni Assoc. Scholarship, August 1997-August 2001

AFFILIATIONS

Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD)
Social Enterprise Alliance (SEA)
American Evaluation Association (AEA)
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
Society for Language Development
International Literacy Association
International Dyslexia Association (IDA)
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
International Conference on Infant Studies
Jack & Jill of America, INC.

DETAILED COLLEGE TEACHING (Courses) and PRE-SERVICE EDUCATOR SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE

Spring 2019 Literacy for Students with Disabilities (EXC 7190), GA State University, Instructor
Fall 2018 Literacy for Students with Disabilities (EXC 7190), GA State University, Instructor
Spring 2018 Literacy for Students with Disabilities (EXC 7190), GA State University, Instructor

- Fall 2017 Literacy for Students with Disabilities (EXC 7190), GA State University, Instructor
- Fall 2016 Literacy for Students with Disabilities (EXC 7190), GA State University, Instructor
- Fall 2014 Cognitive Psychology (PSYC 312), Spelman College, Instructor
- Fall 2014 Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 202), Spelman College, Instructor
- Fall 2011 Interpersonal Effectiveness (PSYC 180), Argosy University Online, Instructor
- Spring 2011 Interpersonal Effectiveness (PSYC 180), Argosy University Online, Instructor
- Fall 2010 Interpersonal Effectiveness (PSYC 180), Argosy University Online, Instructor
- Spring 2010 Interpersonal Effectiveness (PSYC 180), Argosy University Online, Instructor
- Spring 2010 Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 110), Emory University, Teaching Assistant
- Spring 2009 Language and Literacy in Early Childhood Education I (ECE 3600), Georgia State University. Co-Instructor
- Fall 2008 Language and Literacy in Early Childhood Education I (ECE 3600), Georgia State University. Co-Instructor
- Spring 2008 Reading Language Arts in Early Childhood Education I (ECE 3601), Georgia State University. Co-Instructor;
Mathematics Methods in Early Childhood Education (ECE 3607), Georgia State University. Co-Instructor.
- Fall 2007 Classroom Management I (ECE 3661), Georgia State University. Instructor.
Classroom Management II (ECE 3662), Georgia State University. Instructor.
- Summer 2007 Literacy for Students with Disabilities (EXC 7190), Georgia State University. Instructor.
- Spring 2007 Classroom Management II (ECE 3662), Georgia State University. Instructor.

Reading Language Arts in Early Childhood Education I (ECE 3601), Georgia State University. Co-Instructor

Mathematics Methods in Early Childhood Education (ECE 3607), Georgia State University. Co-Instructor

Exceptional Children and Youth (EXC 2010), Georgia State University. Teaching Assistant.
- Fall 2006 Classroom Management I (ECE 3661), Georgia State University. Instructor.

Fall 2006-Spring 2009: Field-based supervision of pre-service teachers in departments of Early Childhood Education & Special Education

K-12 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2005-2006 Stonewall Tell Elementary School. 4th Grade Self Contained and Resource Teacher, all core subjects
- 2003-2005 Neighborhood Charter School. 1st Grade Homeroom Teacher, all subjects

2002-2003 Lilburn Middle School. 6th & 7th Grade Resource Teacher
2001-2002 Aisha Shule/WEB DuBois Preparatory Academy. 4th Grade Homeroom Teacher, all
Subjects

REFERENCES
Available Upon Request