

IKG PRESENTS...
THE CULTURAL
IMPERATIVE PROGRAM



**WE INVITE YOU TO
HOST A CIP SITE
IN YOUR COMMUNITY!**

THE CULTURAL IMPERATIVE PROGRAM



SHAPING THE MINDS THAT WILL RESHAPE AMERICA AND THE WORLD

MISSION

To increase cultural awareness and enhance critical thinking skills among high school students of color through academic and social emotional learning.

PROGRAM PURPOSE & OVERVIEW

The **Cultural Imperative Program (CIP)** is the outgrowth of monthly sessions Anthony Browder conducted with high school students in San Jose, California between 2014 and 2018, in partnership with A Black Education Network (ABEN). Each month students read, discussed and wrote reflection papers on essays in two of Browder's publications. In 2018, Debra Watkins, partnered with Mr. Browder to expand the Cultural Imperative Initiative (CII) and successfully piloted the Cultural Imperative Program (CIP) as Saturday academies in four cities. In 2019, CIP was introduced as a national program along with a new student-centered culturally relevant curriculum to further support the program mission of increasing cultural awareness and enhancing critical thinking skills among high school students of color through academic and social emotional learning.

Critical thinking skills are essential to academic success and influence how students navigate their day-to-day activities. A foundation of cultural awareness is built upon learning historically accurate interpretations of African history and culture, which positively impact the student's self-image and behavior, and strengthens their connection to African and African American people, places and things. As a result of participating in the **Cultural Imperative Program**, students enhance their critical thinking skills and develop cultural awareness by reading, analyzing, and discussing a variety of texts.

Students participating in the program are referred to as the **Browder Scholars**, embodying the leadership and scholarship of the program's founder, Anthony Browder. Throughout the program students read selected articles from Mr. Browder's book, **"From the Browder Files: 22 Essays on the African American Experience"** and view introductory videos. Through text analysis and open discussion, Browder Scholars will learn to think critically, communicate effectively, and engage in meaningful dialogue with their peers and adults. Students will engage in independent and cooperative group activities that will allow them to reflect on required readings through creative expression, written reflections, a student-led seminar and more. Browder Scholars are given a safe space to talk about culturally relevant information that is often omitted from school curriculum.

Browder Scholars are taught by CIP site coordinators and facilitators. All CIP Staff will receive video training from the CIP Co-founder and National Director, along with additional support as needed throughout the program. CIP Staff are required to read and become familiar with the text they will review with their students in order to facilitate organized, meaningful and engaging sessions.

Session facilitators serve as role models who have an opportunity to shape the lives of young people and direct them towards a positive and productive path in life.

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PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Students:

- a. Recognize the importance of self-determination and personal accountability in achieving personal goals and academic success
- b. Exemplify self-confidence and a sense of pride in being “Black” or of African ancestry
- c. Develop a stronger connection to African and African American history and culture
- d. Recognize the feelings and perspectives of others and use effective communication skills to create positive and meaningful interactions
- e. Explain the major contributions of African people to world history, culture and civilization

Parents:

- a. Actively participate and engage children in discussions about program content
- b. Support and reinforce program goals and expectations

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

- 1) Program licensing (annual fee)
- 2) Copies of the program textbook for up to 5 staff and 20 students
- 3) A curriculum guide for teachers/facilitators
- 4) A workbook for each student
- 5) Digital access to session videos featuring Anthony Browder
- 6) PowerPoints to guide monthly sessions (includes embedded videos)
- 7) Training videos for each CIP session, live virtual check-ins and meetings** throughout the program, as well as a debriefing at the end of the program
- 8) Pre- and postsurvey for students and parents/program survey for staff



For more details, please contact us at:
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