

Carol Bebelle

It became really important for us to try to get the people who are preparing them for that world, these early educators, to understand how powerful the work that they're doing with them is and how important it is for them to understand and value culture as an important part of what it is that they were doing with the kids. And so that's kind of where both Kuumba and the Institute for Cultural Education came. You know, the importance of understanding that all of this specific knowledge and psychology that had taught us about the importance of belonging, and had taught us about the importance of attachment, that these things needed to be brought to bear and to have these people who were teaching the kids to be reminded of it. And so that they shouldn't wind up being in schools where the kids don't even see themselves on the wall. That there is an intentional effort to bring them in touch with people who look like them who are accomplishing things in the world.