



## The Black Intellectual Tradition and the Great Conversation with Dr. Anika Prather

Introduction: Anika's Journey into Bringing a Classical Education to the African American Community

### Outline:

#### History and Introduction

- In the late 70s Anika's brother and Anika herself experienced a great deal of blatant racism. They were taught that they were cursed and that they were subservient to those who were white.
- Anika was called back to a predominately white school, in Montgomery County public schools.
- She received a Master's degree in Music education and a Master's degree in Theater from NYU.
- She just started her PhD when her parents started a classical school in a predominately black school with predominately black students.
  - Through an encounter with a great books class, Anika realized that the great books were about humanity.
- She received a degree in Liberal Arts from St. John's College.
- She wondered, "How are the great books relevant to the African American people?"
- God has a higher call to unity, being connected to each other. The works of the cannon (of great books) are part of all of humanities' heritage.