



RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK Graduate School of Education



More Than Meets the Eye: Transforming Black Boys' STEM Identities through Liberatory Co-Design and Computational Making

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12:00pm–1:00pm
Wednesday, February 19th, 2025



Connect with colleagues during this in person presentation at the GSE (Room 124).

Lunch will be provided! Can't attend in person? Join us remotely via [Zoom!](#)

My research centers on exploring how liberatory co-design and computational making can empower Black boys in STEM through animation, game design, and storytelling. The Black Male Animation Lab is a pilot program where students use their passion for Transformers, comics, and anime to develop computational skills, creating animations and digital content. This work is about integrating identity and culture into STEM education to foster agency and equity.

Suggested Reading:

- Edouard, K., & Stewart, T. S. (2024). Show up and Show out, Young Homie: Performative Assimilation for Black Boys in the Face of Anti-Blackness in Informal STEM Environments. *Black Educology Mixtape "Journal"*, 2(1). <https://repository.usfca.edu/be/vol2/iss1/13>
- Edouard, K. (2024). Black Prompts not Included: AI Bias Impeding Real-Time Co-Creative Ideation in Black Students' Conceptual Design. In Lindgren, R., Asino, T. I., Kyza, E. A., Looi, C. K., Keifert, D. T., & Suárez, E. (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 18th International Conference of the Learning Sciences - ICLS 2024* (pp. 1366-1369). International Society of the Learning Sciences. <https://repository.isls.org/handle/1/10700>

Dr. Kareem Edouard is an Assistant Professor of Learning Technologies at the School of Education at Drexel University and Co-Director of The Informal Learning Linking Engineering Science & Technology (ILLEST) Lab. His research centers on computational making, creative play, and narrative storytelling, brought to life in his Black Male Animation Lab. This lab provides Black boys with the opportunity to tell their stories while honing computational skills, designing narrative tools, and building STEM competencies through culturally sustaining and equity-driven practices. His goal is to motivate Black students to pursue STEAM learning through culturally relevant informal STEM programs. Dr. Edouard is also currently a Creative Producer on the PBS KIDS show, *Work It Out Wombats!*, produced by GBH and Pipeline Studios. He is a former high school teacher who earned a Bachelor's degree in Media Education from DePaul University, a Master's degree in Teaching from the University of Southern California, and a Ph.D. in the Learning Sciences and Technology Design program at the Graduate School of Education from Stanford University.