



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

**ANGELA DENISE MENSAH nee PRATER, PhD, |
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS - FAYETTEVILLE**

BEYOND RESILIENCE: STUDENT-LED PATHWAYS TO BELONGING AND COMMUNITY

ABSTRACT:

The UARK Girls Group with Beauty Redefined: Beyond Resilience is a student-led service-learning initiative empowering young women to challenge beauty standards, cultivate resilience, and foster belonging. Using the Mind–Body–Spirit framework, the program integrates workshops, reflective writing, and enrichment activities to create safe, transformative spaces. This session highlights how service-learning can build pathways from individual empowerment to collective community engagement, offering transferable strategies that advance equity, compassion, and civic learning. empowerment.

THEMATIC FOCUS:

Floods and Droughts: Too much of one thing, not enough of another. How complimentary partnership can fill the gaps.

Gauging the Waters: Using research and assessment to course correct or gain deeper insight.

BIO:

Angela Mensah, Teaching Assistant Professor at the University of Arkansas, directs the UARK Girls Group, focusing on service-learning, resilience, and student empowerment.

