

Short Biography of CRYSTAL A. deGREGORY, PH.D.

A historian and storyteller whose research interests include black higher education and college student activism, DR. CRYSTAL A. deGREGORY is an associate professor of history and the founding director of the Mary McLeod Bethune Center for the Study of Women and Girls at Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Known for her collaborative advocacy and entrepreneurial leadership, she is also the founder and director of two digital storytelling projects HBCUstory and Dorian and Beyond, a digital storytelling project of Hurricane Dorian in The Bahamas. This gifted orator and sought-after commentator offers a wide range of expertise on multiple topics, including race, women and girls, history, culture, education, and of course, historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

Hailed “young sister leader” by Spelman College and Bennett College President Emerita Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, Dr. deGregory’s words have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *USA Today*, *TIME*, *Orlando-Sentinel*, *The Tennessean*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Market Watch*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Lexington Herald-Leader*, *The Key Reporter*, *Nashville Scene*, *The Atlanta Voice*, *Tri-City Defender*, *The Houston Chronicle*, *EducationDIVE*, *INSIGHT Into Diversity*, *The Nation*, and *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* and she has presented to audiences at TEDx, SXSWedu, the Southern Festival of Books, the Nashville Public Library, Nashville Public Television, and numerous American colleges and universities.

A proud native of The Bahamas and a Phi Beta Kappa alumna of the historic Fisk University, she also earned Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in history from Vanderbilt University, and a Master of Education from Tennessee State University. Among her myriad professional and civic affiliations is membership with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

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