Becoming an Agent of Change in Physics

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To receive Zoom connection information, register by 1pm on 4/23: https://forms.gle/KhTK3sAkJUpoPfEm7

Abstract: My path through physics is non-traditional in many ways, and it serves as an example of how the physics discipline can fail Black students even when we are seen as high achieving. In this talk, I will discuss my physics journey, and how I found myself in a career that is focused on pushing the field of physics to become a more equitable space for Black folks. Because my experiences resonate with research findings from studies I have conducted, I will use excerpts from my study participants to demonstrate some common themes of experience for Black physicists. I will wrap up the talk with some ideas about how other members of the physics community can learn to become an agent of change, and what ongoing initiatives are looking to make the field more equitable and just.



Dr. Simone Hyater-Adams is a physicist, artist, educator, and researcher with a passion for creating more opportunities for Black STEM students. After receiving her B.S. in Physics from Hampton University, she pursued graduate studies at the ATLAS Institute at the University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) where she was a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow. Following her time at Boulder, Simone worked as an Education and Diversity Programs Manager at American Physical Society working with their National Mentoring Community. Recently she accepted a position as the Director of Programs at STEM From Dance, a New York based non-profit that provides STEAM outreach to girls of color.