



**Curriculum Vita  
October 2021**

**Instructor:** Toni Sturdivant, Ph.D., Assistant Professor

**Academic Department:** Curriculum and Instruction

**University Address:** Sowers Education South  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
PO Box 3011  
Commerce, TX 75429-3011

**Office Phone:** 903.926.6941

**University Email Address:** [toni.sturdivant@tamuc.edu](mailto:toni.sturdivant@tamuc.edu)

**Faculty Web Page Address:** [faculty.tamuc.edu/tsturdivant/](http://faculty.tamuc.edu/tsturdivant/)

**EDUCATION**

Doctor of Philosophy  
Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching, cognate Early Childhood Education  
University of Texas at San Antonio, 2020

Masters of Arts in Education  
Early Childhood and Elementary Education  
University of Texas at San Antonio, 2012

Bachelor's of Arts  
Linguistics, minor African and African American Studies  
University of Texas at Austin, 2008

Certifications: Texas Early Childhood through sixth grade, generalist

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2020-Present, Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University-Commerce  
2020, Teacher, Grade K, Lone Star Academy at Roscoe  
2020, Adjunct Instructor, Tarrant County College  
2019-2020, Adjunct Assistant Professor, The University of Texas at Arlington  
2019, Adjunct Instructor, Texas Woman's University  
2018-2019, Teaching Assistant II, The University of Texas at San Antonio

2017-2018, Teaching Assistant I, The University of Texas at San Antonio  
2015-2017, Professional Learning Specialist, City of San Antonio, Pre-K 4 SA  
2014-2015, Master Teacher, Grade Pre-K, City of San Antonio, Pre-K 4 SA  
2012-2014, Teacher, Grade Pre-K, San Antonio Independent School District

#### DISSERTATION/THESIS COMMITTEES

Dissertation Committee Member

Johnson, D. (in progress). Not in this house: How perceptions of masculinity affect the marginalization of same-gender-loving members in Black Greek Letter Fraternities. Department of Higher Education and Learning Technology. TAMUC.

#### PUBLICATIONS

##### Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Loewenstein, M., **Sturdivant**, T., & Thompson, J. (accepted). Learning through play in teacher education. *Young Children*
- Sturdivant, T.D. (forthcoming). Anti-Black microaggressions in a pre-kindergarten classroom. *Journal of Negro Education*.
- Sturdivant, T.D. (forthcoming). Now Read This: Supporting Racial Identity with Literacy-Based Math. *Teaching Young Children*
- Sturdivant, T. (2021). Are the Kids Alright? A Black Mother's Microethnography and How It Can Inform Early Childhood Educational Practices. *Language Teaching and Educational Research*, 4 (1), 45-58. Retrieved from <https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/pub/later/issue/62963/956807>
- Sturdivant, T.D. (2021). Racial awareness and the politics in play: Preschoolers and racially diverse dolls in a US classroom. *International Journal of Early Childhood*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13158-021-00289-5>
- Sturdivant, T. D. (2021) Complying and Resisting: A qualitative metasynthesis of the race and gender discourses found in the play of young children. *Journal of Educational Studies and Multidisciplinary Approaches*. 1(2), 85-96.  
Doi: <https://doi.org/10.51383/jesma.2021.10>
- Sturdivant, T.D. (2021). She's Not a Real Princess: A Preschool Teacher's Journey in Cultural Relevance. *Early Years*, 42 (1), 20-22
- Sturdivant, T. D.** & Alanis, I. (2019). Teaching through culture. *Journal of Multicultural Education*, 13(3), 203-214. doi:<http://dx.doi.org.libweb.lib.utsa.edu/10.1108/JME-03-2019-0019>
- Sturdivant, T.D.** & Alanis, I. (2020) I'm gonna cook my baby in a pot: Young Black girls' racial preferences and play behaviors. *Early Childhood Education Journal*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10643-020-01095-9>
- Sturdivant, T. D. (2020). Sociodramatic play with racially diverse dolls in a child development center. *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, 48(3) 10-14

##### In Review

Sturdivant, T.D. (in review). Lightening Skin and Straightening Hair: Racial Learning and

Negative Racial Identity. In review by the *Journal of African American Women and Girls in Education*.

## Books and Book Chapters

- Sturdivant, T.D. (forthcoming). *Just Play*. Brookes
- Sturdivant, T.D. (forthcoming). *I like Myself: Fostering positive racial identity in the early childhood classroom*. Redleaf Press.
- Sturdivant, T.D. (forthcoming). Play discourse as an opportunity for social justice action. In O.S. Jarrett, V. L. Stenhouse, M. M. Patte & J.A. Sutterby (Eds.), *Play and social justice across systems of inequity*. Peter Lang
- Sturdivant, T.D. (2021). Positive racial identity at home: A pocket guide for parents of young Black children. Self-published.
- Sturdivant, T.D. (2021). Positive racial identity at school: A planning guide for teachers of young Black Children. Self-Published

## Other Publications

- Sturdivant, T.D. (2021) The Powerful Role of Educators in Racial Identity Development. *Pangyrus LitMag*
- Sturdivant, T.D. (2021) What I Learned When I Recreated the Famous ‘doll test’ that looked at how Black kids see race. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/what-i-learned-when-i-recreated-the-famous-doll-test-that-looked-at-how-black-kids-see-race-153780>
- Sturdivant, T.D. (2018). Play with Free Stuff: No Batteries Required. NAEYC for Families Website. <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/blog/play-free-stuff-no-batteries-required>
- Sturdivant, T.D. (2016). Forget the Playroom... Take Them Outside. NAEYC for Families Website. <http://families.naeyc.org/content/take-them-outside>
- Sturdivant, T.D. (2015). Science Time Without Spending A Dime. NAEYC for Families Website. <http://families.naeyc.org/content/splash-splash-science-time-without-spending-dime>

<b>Presentations</b>
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## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- Sturdivant, T. (2021) Invited speaker for the Tennessee Educators of Color Fellowship Conference (September)
- Friedman, S., Grady, R., Konerman, R., Rogow, F., and **Sturdivant, T.** (2021). for National Association for Media Literacy Education annual conference Literacy and DAP: Stories from Early Child Classrooms; Guidance from NAEYC’s Position Statements (July)
- Sturdivant, T. (2021). Invited speaker for the NAACP, Garland Branch’s Education Forum. Black and Proud in 2021(June)
- Sturdivant, T. (2021). Invited speaker for Pre-K 4 SA Ignite Conference. Positive Racial Identity at School. (June)

- Sturdivant, T. (2021). Keynote Speaker for Tennessee Early Childhood Teacher's Association Statewide Conference. Where There are Superheroes There is Hope. (May)
- Pearson, T., **Sturdivant, T.**, Carson, A., Braden, E., Reynolds, A., & McGhee, E., (2021). Invited panelist for the American Educational Research Association. BIPOC Scholars Gone Missing: The Importance of Raising the Public Profile of Scholars of Color. (April) Online
- Sturdivant, T. (2021). Invited speaker for Doctoral Seminar at University of Texas at San Antonio. Beyond Sociocultural Perspectives. (February)
- Friedman, S., Wright, B., Alanis, I., **Sturdivant, T. D.**, & Mwenelupembe, A. (2020). Invited speaker for the National Association for the Education of Young Children's Virtual Institute. (Re)Imagining developmentally appropriate practice in a time of learning and crisis: A focus on equity and teacher context, why it matters, and how this impacts ECE preparation and reaching. (June) Online
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2018). Invited speaker for The City of San Antonio Pre-K 4 SA Department. Teaching for change: Cultural diversity in the early childhood classroom.. (June) San Antonio, TX.
- Dubre, V., Gay, K., Lyons, S. K., **Sturdivant, T. D.**, Taylor, L. (2018). Invited Panelist for Texas Library Association's Annual Conference. An anti-bias approach to literacy. (April) Dallas, TX
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2017). Invited speaker for Start Seeing Diversity Conference. Fostering positive racial identity in the early childhood classroom. (March) San Antonio, TX
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016). Invited Speaker for Alamo Area Reach out and Read Conference. The therapeutic value of nature. (April). San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016). Invited Speaker for the Start Seeing Diversity Conference. Appreciated, belonged, and celebrated: The abc's of culture in the classroom. (March) San Antonio, TX.

### **INTERNATIONAL & NATIONAL RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS**

- Sturdivant, T.D.** (2021). I'm Gonna Cook My Baby in a Pot: Young Black Girls' Racial Preferences and Play Behavior. Poster Presentation at the National Association for the Education of Young Children's Annual Conference. Virtual
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2021). I'm Gonna Cook My Baby: Black Preschoolers Rejecting Black Dolls. Presented at Sarah Lawrence College's Play's the Thing: Cultural, Contextual, Clinical and Community Perspectives on Children's Play Conference. Virtual
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2020). Doll Play and Racial Identity in Black Preschool Girls. Presented at The Association for the Study of Play (TASP). San Antonio, TX (Conference Cancelled)
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2018). Becoming culturally relevant: One teacher's journey. Presented at the National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI). Dallas, TX.

### **INTERNATIONAL & NATIONAL PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

- Thompson, J., Loewenstein, M., Pearce, N., & **Sturdivant, T.D.** (2021) Games Teachers Play. Presented at the National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators Summer Conference
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2018). Brain-Based and Color Blind?: The Parallels of Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and Brain-Based Learning. Presented at the National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI). Dallas, TX
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2018). Valuing Young Children of Color: The Anti-Racist Early Childhood Classroom. Presented at the Globalization, Diversity and Education Conference, Air Way Heights, WA
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2017). A space for everyone: Literacy in the anti-bias classroom. Presented at the National Latino Children’s Literature Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2017). Fostering positive racial identity in the early childhood classroom. Presented at the Highscope International Conference, Detroit, MI.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016). Fostering positive racial identity in the early childhood classroom. Presented at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA.

### **REGIONAL/STATE/LOCAL PAPER PRESENTATIONS, PANELS & POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

- Sturdivant, T.D.** (2021). Planning for Diversity: Creating Hands-On Standards-Based Experiences with Diversity in Mind. Presented at the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children’s Annual Conference. Galveston, TX
- Sturdivant, T.D.** (2019). Teaching through Culture. Presented at the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children’s Annual Conference. Frisco, TX
- Sturdivant, T.D.** (2019). One Teacher’s Journey to Cultural Relevance. Presented at the 9th Annual College of Education and Human Development Research Colloquium. San Antonio, TX
- Sturdivant, T.D.,** Skaggs, A, and Johnson, Stacy. (2018). Education and the Struggle for Social Justice. Presented at the Advancing Improvement in Education Conference. San Antonio, TX
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016). Natural artists: Integrating the arts and nature. Presented at the San Antonio Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, San Antonio, TX.

### **INSERVICE TEACHER WORKSHOPS**

- Sturdivant, T.D.** (2020, June). Valuing Diversity with Young Children. Presented as a recorded webinar to the faculty and parents at Discovery School, San Antonio, TX
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2020, January). Teaching diverse learners. Presented at the meeting of all faculty at Bedford Heights Elementary in Hurst Eules Bedford Independent School District, Bedford, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2017, September). Authentic assessment: Writing anecdotal notes.

- Presented at the Early Childhood Training and Resource Fair, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2017, April). Brain-based classroom management. Presented at the meeting of Playworks Child Development Center, San Antonio, TX
- Sturdivant, T. D.** & Henry, J. (2017, April). Building knowledge removing walls: Using nature to teach content. Presented at the meeting of pre-kindergarten teachers of Northside Independent School District, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** & Henry, J. (2017, March). Building knowledge removing walls: Using nature to teach content. Presented at the meeting of pre-kindergarten teachers of Northside Independent School District, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.**, Henry, J., Routin, S. (2017, February). Building knowledge removing walls: Using nature to teach content. Presented at the meeting of pre-kindergarten teachers of Northside Independent School District, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2017, February). Diversity and ethics in early childhood education. Presented at the meeting of the Discovery School, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2017, January). Cultural diversity: So much more than multicultural dolls. Presented at the Early Childhood Training and Resource Fair, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016, November). Center-wide expectations. Presented at the meeting of University Presbyterian Children's Center, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.**, Routin, S. (2016, November). Developing social and emotional skills. Presented at the meeting of pre-kindergarten teachers of Northside Independent School District, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** & Routin, S. (2016, October). Developing social and emotional skills. Presented at the meeting of pre-kindergarten teachers of Northside Independent School District, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016, October). Force and motion. Presented at the meeting of kindergarten teachers of Edgewood Independent School District, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016, September). Outdoor explorations and investigations. Presented at the Early Childhood Training and Resource Fair, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016, August). Outdoor explorations and investigations. Presented at the meeting of pre-kindergarten teachers of Harlandale Independent School District, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016, July). What's new with the Texas pre-k guidelines. Presented at the Pre-K 4 SA Summer Academy, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016, April). Appreciated belonged and celebrated: The abc's of culture in the classroom. Presented at the Pre-K 4 SA Saturday Academy, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.**, & Castro, M. (2016, March). Keeping children's natural curiosity alive with open ended art. Presented at the Pre-K 4 SA Saturday Academy, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2016, January). Bridging the gap: Developmentally appropriate and socially acceptable. Presented at the meeting of Gan Gani Preschool, San Antonio, TX.
- Sturdivant, T. D.** (2015, November). A teacher's guide to challenging behaviors.

Presented at the Early Childhood Training and Resource Fair, San Antonio, TX.  
**Sturdivant, T. D.** (2015, October). Appreciated belonged and celebrated: The abc's of culture in the classroom. Presented at the Early Childhood Training and Resource Fair, San Antonio, TX.

<b>Service</b>
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Editorial Board Member

2021-Present, Consulting Editor, National Association for the Education of Young Children  
2021- Present, Section Editor, International Journal of Modern Educational Studies  
2021-Present, Section Editor, Journal of Educational Studies and Multidisciplinary Approaches  
2018, Graduate Editorial Assistant, Dimensions of Early Childhood  
2014-2017, Advisory Panel, National Association for the Education of Young Children For Families Website

Peer Reviewer

2021, Peer Reviewer, *Early Childhood Education Journal*  
2021, Peer Reviewer, *International Journal of Research and Method in Education*  
2021, Proposal Reviewer for NAECTE (Summer, Fall)  
2019, Proposal Reviewer for NAEYC 2019 Professional Learning Institute  
2018, Proposal Reviewer for NAEYC 2018 Professional Learning Institute  
2017, Proposal Reviewer for TAEYC Annual Conference

Service to the Field/Community

2019, Graduate Advisor, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority (UTSA)  
2018, Scholarship Application Reviewer MLK Commission  
2017, Facilitator, TAEYC 2017 Conference  
2016-2018, Founder/Organizer, SA Kids Family Nature Club

Service at the Institutional Level

2021, Course Coordinator/Developer, ECE Family Course  
2021-Present, Member of Early Childhood Program Grant Committee  
2021-Present, Member of Early Childhood Program Master's Committee  
2021- Present, Member of Studio 360 Live and Learn Affinity Group Committee  
2021, Member of Dr. Duncan Guest Lecturer Committee  
2021-Present, Member of Texas A&M System DEI Community of Practice  
2021-Present, Member of COEHS Symposium Planning Committee  
2021-Present, Member of Instructional Specialist Graduate Certificate Committee

## Professional Memberships

2013-Present, Member, National Association for the Education of Young Children  
2013-Present Member, National Black Child Development Institute  
2017-Present, Member, American Educational Research Association  
2018-Present Member, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc.  
2020-Present, Member, National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators

<b>Fellowships, Scholarships, and Honors</b>
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2019-2020, Doctoral Fellowship, Department of Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching, College of Education and Human Development, The University of Texas at San Antonio.  
2019-2020, Graduate Student Grant, The Graduate School, The University of Texas at San Antonio  
2018-2019, Doctoral Merit Scholarship, College of Education and Human Development, The University of Texas at San Antonio  
2018-2019, Doctoral Fellowship, Department of Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching, College of Education and Human Development, The University of Texas at San Antonio.  
2018-2019, Graduate Student Merit Grant, The Graduate School, The University of Texas at San Antonio  
2017-2018, Doctoral Fellowship, Department of Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching, College of Education and Human Development, The University of Texas at San Antonio.  
2017-2018, Graduate Student Grant, The Graduate School, The University of Texas at San Antonio  
2011-2012, Graduate Student Grant, The Graduate School, The University of Texas at San Antonio

<b>Post-Secondary Courses Taught</b>
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### Undergraduate

ECE 3313: Play/Creativity/Learning | The University of Texas at San Antonio  
ECE 3603: Language/Literacy Acquisition | The University of Texas at San Antonio  
ECE 2123: Diversity in Early Childhood Education | The University of Texas at San Antonio  
EDUC 3301: Teaching Diverse Learners (Online and Face to Face) | The University of Texas at Arlington  
FS 3423: Play and Development in Early Childhood (Online) | Texas Woman's University  
TECA 1311: Teaching Young Children (Hybrid) | Tarrant County College District  
CDEC 1419: Child Guidance (Online) | Tarrant County College District



ECE 460: Early Childhood Curriculum (Online) | Texas A&M  
University-Commerce

ELED 447: Teacher Inquiry Projects and Assessment in Field | Texas A&M  
University-Commerce

ELED 452: Student Teaching in Field-Based Teacher Ed | Texas A&M  
University-Commerce

ECE 366: Learning Environments | Texas A&M University-Commerce

#### Graduate

ECE 6423: Advanced Studies in Play (Online) | The University of Texas at San  
Antonio