



Dr. Lystra Richardson is renowned speaker, author, and consultant with over two decades of experience in leadership and coaching. Dr. Richardson has coached business executives, engineers, doctors and educators in personal and professional development and keynote speaking. She also coaches adolescents at college preparatory schools, new college graduates in workplace navigation, stay at home parents, and adults dealing with midlife challenges

Dr. Richardson gained experience as an educator leading Connecticut schools in K-12 and College, including the New Haven Public Schools and several years at the Yale Child Study Center. She served as a professor in the Department of Educational Leadership & Policy Studies at Southern Connecticut State University, where she taught courses in the Sixth-Year Program, the Doctoral Program and the Superintendents' Program. Courses include Leadership Development, Organizational Development, Supervision, Learning Theory, Curriculum Development, Politics of School Administration, District-Level Instructional Leadership, and School Change among others. Dr. Richardson's primary research interests are leadership development and student achievement. She is currently Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Richardson holds a Ph.D. in school leadership from The University of Connecticut. She has served on the boards of Amistad Academy, Achievement First and is presently a board member of Elm City Preparatory School - an Achievement First School. She has also served on the boards of Cold Spring School, New England School Development Council (NESDEC), and the New Haven Public Education Fund. She is also a member of several national professional organizations.

A frequent international speaker who has travelled in Europe, South America, the Caribbean and throughout the United States, Dr. Richardson is one of the leading voices on leadership development training. She has authored or co-authored more than two dozen publications in premier research journals and one book, *The Power of Poetry for School Leadership*.

Dr. Richardson resides in Connecticut with her husband where she enjoys four wheeling, gardening, and cooking Caribbean cuisine including from her native Tobago.