

NATHALIE C. LILAVOIS, Ed.D.

Dr. Nathalie C. Lilavois has been an educator for thirty-four years in a variety of teaching and administrative capacities. She devoted her first 14 years as a classroom teacher in primary and secondary grade levels followed by a 20-year career as a building and district administrator. Her many accomplishments and accolades include a National Blue Ribbon School, the Black Celebration Award in Education, and the [Phi Delta Kappa International](#) Friends of Education Award. These awards recognize her dedication to education, empowerment, and civic responsibility.



Dr. Lilavois retired from her position as District Director of Elementary Curriculum for [Three Village Central School District](#) where she had orchestrated the expansion of the Pre-K Program to its five elementary buildings and developed a complementary Enrichment Program in 2019. In her role, she focused on curriculum alignment, professional development, and building capacity in the online teaching and learning environment. As schools reopened during the COVID-19 pandemic, she added administrator-in-charge of the Remote School to her responsibilities. She organized class rosters, schedules, teacher and parent information, and professional development for 21 remote classes, grades K-6, for 300+ students from all five elementary home schools.

Dr. Lilavois is the curator and executive producer of [TEDxDeerPark](#). She has curated successful TEDx events annually since 2017, even pivoting to a virtual platform in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic. TEDxDeerPark grew out of her desire to create a space for counternarratives to refute all the negative rhetoric about people of color, women, and immigrants that monopolized social media.

Dr. Lilavois is a contributing author to the anthology, [Love Letters to My Girls](#) which launched in November of 2020. Currently, she is currently working on chapters for two new writing projects, *Sisters Inspiring Sisters* and *Voices of the 21st Century: Caring, Conscious Women Who Make A Difference*, scheduled to launch fall 2021 and winter 2022, respectively.

Dr. Lilavois is the CEO/Founder of [Zahara Crown, Inc.](#), an educational consulting company that provides professional educational support, curriculum, and guidance to parents, teachers, tutors and homeschoolers to ensure high quality, positive, engaging learning experiences for students of color. Using her vast experience as an educator, Dr. Lilavois strives to level the playing field by empowering families with the educational and financial information, resources, and tools they need to be successful and build a strong legacy for their future. She is excited to devote her time and energy to this passion and continue networking to expand this important mission.

Dr. Lilavois completed her undergraduate degree with a dual major in elementary education and psychology at Hofstra University. She holds a master's degree in Developmental Psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University and a Doctor of Education in Literacy Studies from her alma mater, Hofstra University. Throughout her tenure as an educator, Dr. Lilavois has also been involved in the mentoring and development of future teachers as a professor at both public and private institutions of higher learning. As an adjunct professor, she has taught teacher education courses at Hofstra University, Queens College, York College, and Dowling College. She has worked with many pre-service and in-service elementary teachers to implement standards-based curriculum, develop programs, integrate technology, focus on literacy, create assessment rubrics, and promote differentiated instruction.

Additionally, she has presented at state and national venues, such as the International Reading Association; New York State English Council; Blue Ribbon Schools Conference; International Scholars' Forum, Hofstra University; New York State Reading Association; Northeastern Educational Research Association; and University of Pennsylvania Ethnography in Education Forum.

Dr. Lilavois is a former US Army Reserve Captain whose name was added to the Historic Roll of Honor by the [Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation](#) in June 2011. Located at the ceremonial entrance to Arlington National Cemetery, it is the only major national memorial honoring all women who have defended America throughout history.

Dr. Lilavois is active in non-profit organizations that reflect her passion and commitment to women, people of color, and youth. She is the President of the Executive Board of the [Malik Melodies Sisterhood Inc.](#) (MMSI), a non-profit organization whose primary focus has been to develop leaders and instill motivation, determination, and a sense of commitment within women who address issues that confront them in the educational and professional environment as well as in the communities where they reside. In 2019, Dr. Lilavois chaired the 2nd Annual WE LEAD: Empowering Our Girls Conference held at the Nelson Mandela School for Social Justice, Brooklyn, NY. This MMSI initiative was developed to highlight and address the needs and challenges girls face; promote girls' empowerment and the fulfillment of their human rights; and celebrate the National Day of the Girl Child.

Dr. Lilavois was inducted into the Suffolk Chapter of the [National Coalition of 100 Black Women](#) in 2016 and served on its Board as 3rd Vice President of Membership. Currently, she is an active member of the distinguished [Long Island Chapter](#), where she participated in the Economic Empowerment Forum to promote Census 2020 and moderated the Sisternomics Financial Literacy series in 2021. Dr. Lilavois is a member of the [Women's Diversity Network](#) (WDN), an organization whose advocacy areas include health equity, gender violence, and racial bias and systemic racism. At the 2019 WDN Summit, she presented *Cultural Connections: What are We Teaching our Children?* and in 2021, she served as the keynote panel moderator for *Cultural Tensions During the Pandemic*.

She is also a proud member of the prestigious [Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.](#), where she serves on the committees for Economic Legacy and The Arts for the [Zeta Nu Omega Chapter](#). Dr. Lilavois continues to pursue a wide variety of interests, including literacy education, multimedia educational technology, financial literacy, the arts, community activism, women's empowerment, gender and racial equity, youth development, social justice, and health & wellness. She is enjoying gardening, vacationing, home DIY projects, and spending time with her daughter, Brianna and furbaby, Piper.



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