

Fact Sheet

Rite of Passage Program:

The Rite of Passage is an awareness program for youth and adults. The program has been designed to help youth know more about their mystical nature and physical passages they are living through. It has been adapted to help boys and girls understand who they are psychologically and what they are about socially, culturally and spiritually. The program helps them to experience breakthroughs in their psyche and awaken an ultimate awareness they already possess but has been lying dormant within one's sub-consciousness.

There is an epidemic of negative behavior occurring in schools, neighborhoods and families among American youth. This epidemic is caused by a lack of purpose and direction and an unwillingness to learn and respect authority as the system has failed them. These misguided youth have been driven off the path of success that is their inheritance and legacy. This inheritance need to be taught to our youth in practical ways for them to understand their individual and collective purpose. The practical experiences will allow youth to access the forces of the universe for Good which will not allow them to fail.

The Rite of Passage is a process for self-discovery will be used with youth. However, it can be enhance for adult development. Self-discovery leads to self fulfillment and enrichment. When adults discover their purpose and meaning for existence, they will assume their positions as leaders, mentors, role models, elders and volunteers for the youth. When youth discover their purpose and meaning for existence, they will cease to engage in self-destructive activities such as irresponsible sex, bullying, gang activity, drugs and abuse.

The course compares the cultures of African American and African on the continent in the context of the African Diaspora in search for personal reawakening and reawakening of community strengths. The course discusses ritual behavior in relationship to life stages of an individual and group developmental process in the African world. It will enable youth and adult to discover and develop the specific rituals that make possible the transition from childhood to adolescent, to maturity, to an experience elder.

Awakening is an experience of conscious raising and transformation. It implies the whole range of growth and possibility that stems from Afro centric Culture—be it African or African American. Through reflection on life experiences, the individual arrives at a new sense of self, and of community, which evokes a feeling that one can success at anything she or he put their mind, spirit and physicality into. By reawakening an individual the community gains the ability to strive and soar beyond ordinary limits in order to reach its purpose or full potential.

Adapted from African Centered Rites of Passage: