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Sarah Porter-Liddell Named Dean of Students and Equitable Community at Simon's Rock, Wins First-Ever DEI Impact Awards from Smart Energy, and Publishes New Book

GREAT BARRINGTON, MA— Simon's Rock is excited to share Dr. Sarah Porter-Liddell has been named the new Dean of Students and Equitable Community. Formerly the Dean of Equity and Inclusion at Simon's Rock, Sarah Porter-Liddell has also been awarded the Catalyst for Change award from the first-ever DEI Impact Awards from Smart Energy. This news comes in conjunction with the publication of Porter-Liddell's first book, *A Black Girl with the Blues*, from Dorrance Publishing Co.



Dr. Sarah Porter-Liddell has served as the Dean of Equity and Inclusion at Simon's Rock for the past three years. Her work in higher education is continuously informed by her experiences not only as a black woman, but also as an academic. As one of the inaugural recipients of the Smart Energy DEI Impact Awards through Net Zero as a Catalyst for Change, Dr. Porter-Liddell has demonstrated a strong commitment towards equity and inclusion through her research and work. Dr. Porter-Liddell is an author, a scholar, and advocate for change.

Dean of Students and Equitable Community is a new position on Simon's Rock, crafted for and with Porter-Liddell. The aim for this position is to best serve all students by more intentionally including the work of diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of student life and the Office of Campus Life. In this role, Porter-Liddell will continue to oversee the Center for Equity, Inclusion, and Community and the Bias Response Team, and will also oversee the work of the Offices of Campus Life and Campus Safety.

Smart Energy Decisions announced the winners for their inaugural DEI Impact Awards, honoring efforts in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in clean energy. Nominations were accepted for DEI projects and industry influencers from commercial, industrial, institutional, and government organizations across a number of categories. Winners were selected by a number of judges, including both energy customer peers and industry experts. Porter-Liddell was awarded the “Catalyst for Change” award for her work as the Dean of Equity and Inclusion at Bard College at Simon's Rock.

Porter-Liddell also recently published her first book, *A Black Girl with the Blues*, with Dorrance Publishing Co. Through a rough period of depression, author Porter-Liddell wrote and expressed all she felt within this collection on survival; she writes real and raw emotions that we don't often get to see from black women experiencing during depression. As her depression lifted, Liddell became more reflective on her past and in her current work, she aims to provide a deeper look into the mind of one Black woman on a journey through pain, love, and anger. She wants to encourage other women to look inside of themselves and find the courage to address their pain and focus on healing.

To order *A Black Girl with the Blues* please follow this link:

<https://bookstore.dorrancepublishing.com/a-black-girl-with-the-blues/>

About Simon's Rock

[Bard College at Simon's Rock](#) is the only college in the country specifically designed for highly motivated students ready to enter college after the 10th or 11th grade. Simon's Rock offers a challenging program in the liberal arts and sciences, taught exclusively in small seminars by supportive, highly trained faculty, who are leading scholars in their fields. The College grants degrees in more than 35 majors. The Princeton Review's *Best 380 Colleges* rates academics at Simon's Rock higher than Harvard and Princeton.

[Bard Academy at Simon's Rock](#) is the nation's first two-year boarding and day program designed to prepare 9th and 10th graders to start college early. A student entering Bard Academy as a high school freshman will earn an Associate of Arts degree from Bard College at Simon's Rock after only four years and a Bachelor of Arts degree after only six years. The Academy curriculum is designed and taught by students' future college professors who are leading scholars in their fields.

[The Bard Queer Leadership Project](#) (BQLP) is a revolutionary, new Bachelor of Arts degree program designed for, and by, LGBTQIA+ college students to elevate LGBTQIA+ students and college graduates into leadership roles in school and across the workforce while serving as a space for actualizing educational practices designed for students to thrive. The centerpiece of BQLP is a four year dual major B.A. degree combining Queer Leadership with a second academic field.

For more information, visit simons-rock.edu and bardacademy.simons-rock.edu

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