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**SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION AS
PROTECTIVE INFLUENCES FOR VULNERABLE YOUTH
POPULATIONS IN ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS**



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Dr. Tammy Ellis-Robinson is assistant professor within the Divisions of Special Education and Educational Psychology and Methodology at the University at Albany. Prior to joining the faculty, she was a special education teacher for students with a range of disabilities in an urban high school and worked in theatre education with adults and children with and without disabilities through the Arts Center of the Capital Region. Her research interests include writing, classroom engagement, creativity, and social justice in the classroom. She is the founder and Executive Director of Skribblers Magazine Inc., a local nonprofit promoting literacy and self-expression. In her spare time Dr. Ellis-Robinson enjoys dancing, poetry, and spending time with family.



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