Diversity Leadership in a Global Society

March 9, 2016 | 12:30-7pm
McGinley Center

Presented by:
The Office of Multicultural Affairs

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY
Office of Career Services
Hello friends,

Welcome to the 2016 Diversity Leadership in a Global Society Conference. Through this year’s theme “Coming to the Table: Facing Your Fears,” we hope to empower students to celebrate their own personal difference while embracing what differentiates others. Sometimes the greatest barrier to embracing others is FEAR. Fear they may not embrace us, fear we are not good enough, fear our difference is not important, fear we may say something wrong, fear we will be hurt, fear we will fail, fear…fear…fear. The list could go on and on. Thus, each of us must come to the table, understand that we deserve to be there, and face our own fears. This will open us up to be truly inclusive, to celebrate the power and promise of our collective difference and create a world of work and life where inclusion is our natural inclination.

We would like to extend a special thanks to Mark Naison and the Bronx African American History Project for their support of our conference, specifically bringing Kevin Powell as our keynote speaker. Additionally, without the willing support of the various employers and special guests outlined in the brochure, we would be unable to offer this important event. We would also like to acknowledge the hard work of the staff from the Offices of Career Services and Multicultural Affairs as well as our partners across the entire Fordham community, who have assisted us in planning and promoting the conference. We would like to thank Russell A. Broome, Gabelli School of Business ’67, for his ongoing support of our diversity initiatives and giving us the opportunity to first launch the conference in 2013. Without the ongoing support and the Fordham community this conference would not have been possible and we hope students will benefit greatly from the day.

Please take note of our other Diversity Leadership in a Global Society Initiatives, including the Interdisciplinary Competition (submissions due March 16th). $5,000 in prizes will be awarded to winners and their work will be shared and celebrated at the Networking Banquet on April 6th. Email Stefany Fattor at sfattor@fordham.edu for more information.

Please enjoy your time today and open yourself up to new ideas and opportunities you may discover.

Sincerely,

Stefany Fattor
Director
Career Services

Juan Carlos Matos
Assistant Dean & Director
Office of Multicultural Affairs
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm - 1:10pm</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introduction for The Reverend Joseph M. McShane, S.J. Stefany Fattor Director of Career Services</td>
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<td>1:15 pm - 1:30pm</td>
<td>Welcome Remarks by The Reverend Joseph M. McShane, S.J. Fordham University President</td>
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<td>1:30pm - 1:45pm</td>
<td>Blessing By Joan Cavanagh, Director of Interfaith Ministries</td>
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<td>1:45pm - 2:00pm</td>
<td>Introduction to Workshop Day Juan Carlos Matos Assistant Dean &amp; Director Office of Multicultural Affairs</td>
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<td>2:00pm - 2:15pm</td>
<td>Transition Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15pm - 3:15pm</td>
<td>Early Afternoon Workshop</td>
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<td>3:15pm - 3:30pm</td>
<td>Transition Break</td>
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<td>3:30pm - 4:30pm</td>
<td>Late Afternoon Workshop</td>
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<td>4:30pm - 5:00pm</td>
<td>Final Workshop Wrap Up</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:15pm - 6:45pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
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<td>6:00pm - 6:05pm</td>
<td>Introducing Keynote Speaker Dr. Mark Naison, Department of African American Studies</td>
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<td>6:05pm - 6:35pm</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker Mr. Kevin Powell</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:45pm - 7:00pm</td>
<td>Closing Remarks Juan Carlos Matos Assistant Dean &amp; Director Office of Multicultural Affairs Performance by Maria Aponte</td>
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Preparing for a culturally competent conversation with the future workforce

Presented by George Walker Director of Diversity of Diversity & Inclusion at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

George Walker has worked extensively in social justice and philanthropic causes, as an employee and volunteer. In February 2012, President Barack Obama appointed him to be a member of the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), where he continues to serve. Recently, he was appointed to the American Leadership Council for Diversity in Healthcare (ALCDH). He was selected to serve as a German Marshall Memorial Fellow for the spring of 2010, representing the US and learning about transnational partnerships on a variety of issues. George is a graduate of Morehouse College (BA History) and The Divinity School, Duke University (M-Div). He is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ (UCC).

George is the Director of Diversity & Inclusion at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. This position serves as the institutional leader on diversity goals and programs. Prior to MSK, George served as the Vice President of Strategic Partnerships at the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund and Institute. He is a proud former volunteer of the U.S. Peace Corps in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

A native of Memphis, Tennessee George lives with his family in New York City.
Office of Multicultural Affairs Fordham University
Leadership Efficacy Matters: Self-Efficacy and Leadership Capacity in the Workplace.

This session purports to distinguish and discuss self-efficacy and leadership capacity in the workplace. Through presenter discourse, group discussion, video clips, and reflective activities, attendees will understand the importance of self-efficacy and leadership capacity as well as associated benefits and challenges that can affect career and educational aspirations.

Presented by Ijeoma Nwaogu, Ph.D.

Ijeoma Nwaogu is the Assistant Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Ijeoma believes that in order to be an effective leader, one must possess multicultural awareness, knowledge, and skills. Ijeoma earned both her M.Ed. degree in College Student Affairs Administration and doctorate in Counseling and Student Personnel Services from the University of Georgia. For her dissertation, Ijeoma studied the experiences affecting the development of multicultural competencies among student leaders. Ijeoma obtained Bachelor’s degrees in Psychology and Sociology from Georgia State University.
Mark Naison is Professor of History and African American Studies at Fordham University. He is the author of six books and over 200 articles on African American politics, labor history, popular culture and education policy. Dr. Naison is the founder of the Bronx African American History Project, one of the largest community based oral history projects in the nation and brought his research into more than 30 Bronx schools before his community history programs were pushed out by school closings and test based ratings of schools and teachers. A co-founder of the Bronx Berlin Youth exchange, Naison’s articles about Bronx music and Bronx culture have been published in German, Spanish, Catalan, and Portuguese as well as English and he recently published a novel, Pure Bronx, co-written with his former student Melissa Castillo-Garsow, and a book of essays entitled Badass Teachers Unite. His seventh book, in publication with Fordham University press, is Before the Fires, An Oral History of African American Life in the Bronx from the 1930’s to the 1960’s.

Naison has a long history of activism beginning with the Congress of Racial Equality and Students for a Democratic Society in the 1960’s, through community organizing initiatives in Brooklyn and Bronx neighborhoods, through more recent activity connected to the Occupy movement and the defense of public education. He comments regularly on education issues through his blog, withabrooklyncents.blogspot.com as well as on LA Progressive, History News Network, The Washington Post “Answer Sheet,” He has founded or co-founded three education activist sites on Facebook -“Dump Duncan,” “Occupy Teach for America” and the wildly successful “Badass Teachers Association.”
Early Afternoon  Session 4  2:15pm 3:15pm  McGinley  235

Presenter Dr. Oswaldo Benavides - Sociology & Anthropology Department

Workshop Title: The Politics of Identity.

This workshop will be an opportunity to understand the particular elements that make up who we are, how we see ourselves and others in the on-going production of identity. Particular emphasis will be placed on the manner that race, class and gender contribute to our identification, and how these elements are intertwined with elements of political and personal forms of desire and nostalgia.

Dr. Benavides is Professor of Anthropology, Latin American and Latino studies, and, International Political Economy and Development, at Fordham University, as well as, Chair of the Sociology and Anthropology Department. He also was the founding director of the Liberal Arts Program at Fordham’s London Center at Kensington. His research has been supported by grants from the Woodrow Wilson National Foundation, National Science Foundation, Wenner-Gren Foundation, Social Science Research Council and the Andrew R. Mellon Foundation. His initial interest in the past provided him an extensive archaeological practice excavating both Inca sites in the Andes and the Roman site of Pompeii in Italy. This initial interest in the politics of the past is present in his first book, Making Ecuadorian Histories: Four Centuries of Defining the Past, (University of Texas Press, 2004), which is a study of the role of history in legitimizing the transnational concerns of Latin American social movements, including the state. His second book, The Politics of Sentiment: Remembering and Imagining Guayaquil, is a case-study of Raymond William’s hypothesis of structures of feeling as a tool of internal domination (UT Press, 2006). His third book, Drugs, Thugs and Divas: Latin American Telenovelas and Narco-Dramas, (UT Press, 2008) investigates the cultural dynamics of melodrama as it is used to re-signify the changing legacy of Latin American identity in a transnational context. He has written over 40 articles which have appeared in edited volumes and scholarly journals.
Early Afternoon Session 5 2:15pm 3:15pm  
McGinley 234

Presenter **Dr. Ann Higgins-D'Alessandro** - Psychology Department

*From Failure to Thriving: Transforming Feelings and Thoughts to Create Pathways to Success*

This one-hour workshop enables participants to understand their failure experiences and the power that feelings of failure have to inhibit their moving ahead. Personal activities and mini-commentaries are used to teach how to break the Fear Cycle (from fear to inaction to inexperience to inability; John C. Maxwell) and take the YOU out of failure by seeing the world of possibilities that is opened up by defeat. Breaking the Fear Cycle releases energy, enables trusting others, and taking risks—it opens the future. To conclude, participants generate strategies to optimize successfully realizing a future goal. Throughout the workshop participants develop a language of failure to thriving, a useful tool set for their futures. Handouts are distributed.

Ann Higgins-D’Alessandro is Professor of Psychology and faculty member of the Applied Developmental Psychology Doctoral Program, Fordham University, New York, USA. In 2013, with undergraduates, Elizabeth Henderson and Sarah O’Brien, she designed the Failure to Thriving Workshop, a 1 to 2 hour activity that develops participants’ understanding of their failures, the relationship of failure to future success, and builds coping and thriving skills. This is one of the first Idea Labs developed by the Fordham Social Innovation Collaboratory (FSIC), a university-wide initiative to foster innovative problem-finding and problem-solving skills and develop “changemaker” attitudes among students, faculty, administration, and support staff. Fordham is one of 30 universities accepted as an Ashoka social innovation and changemaker campuses (Ashoka, https://www.ashoka.org/); Dr. Higgins-D’Alessandro sits on the FSIC management board.

Prior to coming to Fordham, she was Senior Researcher for 9 years at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Center for Moral Development and Education, conducting research with Lawrence Kohlberg on the effects of experimental democratic, civic high school interventions—see Power, Higgins, & Kohlberg; Lawrence Kohlberg’s Approach to Moral Education, 1989.
Viacom
Presenters Angela Keck, Ariana Saccente, & Kimberly King

ENRICHING THE MIX

Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) practices are important in today's workplace in light of changing demographics, globalization, the war for talent, and consumer requirements. At Viacom, we bring people together, celebrate differences and through these connections become a stronger business. We encourage everyone to think boldly, share often, build community and enrich the mix. Our mission is to foster an environment of inclusiveness, which holds leadership accountable for creating, developing, promoting and championing a diverse, multicultural workforce where all employees can achieve and contribute to the company's success. We are a global company at the center of creative entertainment and media, and our diverse, passionate, employee base is the engine to our success. To fuel this engine, the Office of Global Inclusion has put concentrated efforts behind creating an organized, scalable diversity & inclusion infrastructure within Viacom. It starts with senior leadership support, is championed by our Global Inclusion Advisory Council (GIAC), and is carried through day in and day out by our eight Employee Resource Groups (ERGs), which consist of AMP, The BEAT, Emerge, Fusion, HERE, The ParentHood, Somos, and Thursday Think. During Viacom’s workshop, several ERG leaders will share their insight and experience on how D&I has evolved in their groups and share key objectives, goals, and initiatives that are most important to their membership.
Angela Keck

MANAGER, CONSUMER PRODUCTS FINANCE

Viacom Kids & Family

Angela Keck started her career at Viacom as a Corporate Finance intern in June of 2011, the summer before graduating with her M.S in Applied Financial Mathematics. She landed back at Viacom as a Financial Analyst in January of 2013 as part of the Nickelodeon Finance Team, and shortly thereafter, she joined Thursday Think, the ERG for professional’s manager-level and below. In November of 2013, she was promoted to Senior Financial Analyst, taking on the financial planning and analysis for Nickelodeon Research, Publicity, Integrated Marketing and other niche areas of the business. In the summer of 2014, she interviewed and was accepted as a Thursday Think Board Member, helping coordinate events under the leadership of two Co-Chairs. All of this led up to a big 2015. Shortly after the merger of Nickelodeon into Viacom Kids & Family (Nickelodeon, TVLand and CMT), she was promoted to Manager of Consumer Products Finance, elected Co-Chair of Thursday Think and graduated with her MBA in International Business from Florida Institute of Technology. She is currently an active Co-Chair planning the Executive Speaker Series, putting out a monthly newsletter and hosting networking events. In her spare time, she plays in a competitive adult kickball league and does graphic design.
Ariana Saccente
COORDINATOR, GLOBAL INCLUSION
Viacom Media Networks

Ariana Saccente started her career at Viacom as the intern for the Office of Global Inclusion in January 2013. During her internship, Ariana worked closely on the domestic and international launch of the company’s newest Employee Resource Group HERE, focused on supporting the female employee population. She was hired by the department upon graduating from Wagner College with a Bachelor’s degree in Arts Administration and quickly promoted to coordinator less than a year later. In her current role, Ariana partners with all of Viacom’s employee groups; coordinates the monthly CEO breakfast series; and assists the OGI team with company-wide initiatives including the launch of the new Global Inclusion website and Give Back & Get Down (Viacom’s annual holiday giving event). In her spare time, channeling her own experience growing up with deaf parents and siblings, she volunteers at the Sign Language Center where she focuses on working with children of deaf adults.
Kimberly King

Kimberly King is a creative media juggernaut with established credentials as a writer, editor, copywriter, talent producer, marketer and integrated strategist across various communications platforms including broadcast, print, radio and online/digital. Currently, KK serves as the Senior Manager, Brand Solutions at BET Networks, a division of Viacom Media Networks. Here she leads the operations and production process for various integrated advertiser/agency activations across broadcast, digital and in market platforms, in addition to developing creative and innovative opportunities that drive brand affinity and increase revenue.

KK has held esteemed positions within the magazine publishing industry including Managing Editor with The Source and Editor-in-Chief of Impact (a division of Vanguarde Media, Inc.), the former 25-year-old music industry trade publication. This versatile writer and editor’s byline has been viewed on the pages of the Essence, Playbill, The Source, The Amsterdam News, NV, Savoy, Smooth and Honey magazines. As a copywriter/producer and integrated strategist, KK’s taglines, scripts and creative integrations have appeared on BET and Centric through a variety of promos, print ads, digital and broadcast marketing initiatives and programs. Her copywriter successes have been documented to include the 2007 Emmy Award winning BET pro-social Rap-It-Up campaign, while her integrated producer contributions have garnered advertising and production placements with PromaxBDA Promotion, Marketing & Design Awards and the Telly Awards.

KK holds a Professional Certificate in Digital Media Marketing from New York University and will receive her Master of Science in Integrated Marketing from New York University in May 2016. The wife and mother to her 4 year old son Cooper, KK is also a contributing author to the Kensington Books installment Souls of My Young Sisters: Young Women Break Their Silence with Personal Stories That Will Change Your Life. Her offering “Fear & Faith Can’t Exist in the Same Space” chronicles her journey to embracing faith.
Blueprints for Success – Everyone deserves an opportunity to succeed while bringing their whole self to work.

In this interactive workshop the panel will discuss how diversity and inclusion are the cornerstones of JPMorgan Chase corporate culture. When employees feel comfortable and valued, they are more engaged, more productive, and more motivated to deliver great service and share innovative solutions. Fostering an environment of respect, inclusiveness, open communications and fairness is fundamental to our success and our ability to become
Patricia David is a Managing Director and the Global Head of Diversity for JP Morgan Chase. She is responsible for developing and implementing a diversity strategy for the organization in line with the business strategy.

She is responsible for working with key business partners to design, implement, track and report on the ROI of various diversity initiatives.

She oversees the diversity committees of the core businesses in collaboration with HR and senior leaders. She is also responsible for communicating diversity efforts within the organization through various means.

She also has responsibility for working with the HR community to implement Affirmative Action plans and ensure compliance.

In March 2002, she was the recipient of the YMCA “Black Achievers in Industry” award and in November 2005, she was the recipient of the YWCA “Women Achievers” award.

She has been featured/interviewed in several diversity publications. She sits on the board of the United Negro College Fund as proxy for JP Morgan Chase and is a member of the Executive Leadership Council (ELC).

Born in Birmingham, England, Ms. David received a B.S. in Finance and Economics with a minor in Accounting from Fordham University in 1981.
Edward J. O’Connor

Asset Management - Global Head of Planning, Reporting & Analysis

New York, NY

Ed works in Asset Management Finance and is responsible for the Planning, Reporting and Analysis group. In this role, Ed works closely with the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and the Asset Management Operating Committee (AMOC) to develop plans, reporting, tools and analysis that support the division’s strategic decision making.

Ed is a graduate of Fordham University and New York University’s Stern School of Business. He is married, has three children and lives in New Jersey. On weekends, Ed enjoys training for the occasional triathlon and watching his children compete in high school athletics.
Carol Parks Clancy

Carol is a Vice President at JP Morgan Chase with over 20 years experience in financial and management accounting, in addition to project management. Currently she is working on projects related to internal and external reporting for the firm. Carol has extensive global experience and spent four years in London in working as the controller for the JPM Asset Management subsidiary and London Private Bank. She also spent time working in Geneva, Tokyo and Hong Kong in various financial positions.

Carol is very active with the youth in her town having coached youth basketball and baseball. She has also held the following positions: member of the Board of Directors for the Scotch Plains Baseball; Commissioner on the Scotch Plains Recreation Commission; member of the Board of Trustees for St. Joseph’s School for the Blind in Jersey City and most recently was a member of the Scotch Plains Library Board of Trustees. She is also a member of Fordham University FAST program which is comprised of alumni who assist the Office of Admission in recruiting the next Freshman class at college fairs.

Carol holds an MBA and BS in Finance from Fordham University Gabelli School of Business. She is married with two sons.
**Derek Holley**

Derek Holley is a Managing Director at J.P. Morgan and the Field Exam Executive. The Field Exam team performs onsite collateral reviews for prospective and existing clients of J. P. Morgan’s Asset Based Lending (“ABL”) business. In addition, the Field Exam team performs collateral reviews and due diligence services for Commercial Banking customers in the Middle Market & Specialized Industries and Corporate Client Banking & Specialized Industries, for Corporate and Investment Bank asset based transactions and the Business Banking Group.

As national manager Derek oversees a team of 55 examiners, managers and administrative professionals located in ten locations across the US. Derek has held positions in Credit Policy, Middle Market Banking and Special Credits during his nearly 22 years of service with J.P. Morgan and its heritage institutions.

Derek earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from St. John’s University (N.Y.) and is a Certified Public Accountant in NY State.
In a field based on exploring and expressing new viewpoints and different ideas, the publishing industry depends upon the rich and varied backgrounds of the people who work within it. To expand the breadth and depth of ideas in publishing and to bring these ideas to the broadest possible audiences, publishers look to attract and develop a diverse workforce—one that includes individuals from every race, ethnic background, national origin, disability, veteran status, age, religion, gender, political affiliation, family status and sexual preference. For self-expression and artistic creativity to truly thrive, the publishing industry strives to constantly inject fresh talent into every facet of the business—embracing inclusivity for its own merits, but also for the benefit of each publishing endeavor, its staff, and potential readers around the world. More than just a special initiative, a commitment to diversity is an integral part of the business of books, for it taps into the wealth of perspectives, experiences, and viewpoints that propel a successful publishing enterprise—and a healthy society.
Tina Jordan

Tina Jordan has held the position of Vice President for the Association of American Publishers since December 2006. As the New York Office Vice President, Ms. Jordan’s responsibilities include oversight of AAP’s Trade Publishing Division activities, whose mission is to create and support national efforts which advocate reading, increase book buying in all formats, or stimulating ideas contributing to heightening awareness of the commercial and contributions of book publishing on a national and global scale. Ms. Jordan manages the AAP’s programming initiatives of larger and independent publishers, library marketing, international sales, BookExpo America participation and AAP’s Get Caught Reading literacy campaign.

As the AAP’s resident statistics facilitator, Ms. Jordan was also one of the key architects in the building of the highly regarded BookStats Annual and StatShot Monthly statistical products on behalf of book publishers launched in 2011 and 2012 respectively, the industry’s most comprehensive source of book publishing industry data. In addition, she manages various AAP educational programs, diversity and recruitment in publishing, and philanthropic initiatives. In 2008 Ms. Jordan was featured in book publishing’s trade magazine Publishers Weekly as one of the top 50 professionals age 40 and under.

The value of a published book is far more than the cost of the paper it may (or may not) be printed on. The value is in the discovery, curating and sharing of the best in ideas and stories. Publishers are investors of good ideas, looking for the most meaningful, and the most original. The role of the publisher is to invest in good writers and good books, connecting authors to readers.

Publishers encourage and impress upon a national cultural dialogue, amplifying ideas beyond an individual’s scale to the stage of collective consciousness. Publishers bring to generations of readers quality content that drives both education and entertainment to forward a thriving societal economy.

Prior to joining AAP, Ms. Jordan was Special Events and Public Relations Director for BookExpo America, the nation’s book trade convention, where she was responsible for strategic planning and special programming for author-related events and media relations. A native of Connecticut and a graduate of Cornell University with a degree in history, Ms. Jordan, also held corporate communications positions at the Proskauer Rose, and Cleary Gottlieb law firms, the National Basketball Association, and Ogilvy & Mather Public Relations.
Late Afternoon Session  3:30pm –4:30pm   McGinley 236
Office of Multicultural Affairs Fordham University

Mr. Juan Carlos Matos Assistant Dean & Director

LGBT Identity: A round Table Discussion about being OUT in the Workplace

This open discussion will provide students the opportunity reflect on their desires and fears with regards to being out in the workplace. Juan Carlos will share some tips and strategies to consider when applying to jobs and to have participants understand what their non-negotiables are.

Juan Carlos is the Assistant Dean and Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. He feels that the Jesuit tenet of Cura Personalis, care for the whole person, is integral in diversity and inclusive work, and is a core reason for him wanting to join OMA at Fordham University. Before coming to Fordham, he attended New York University, where he received a MA in higher education and student personnel administration.

Juan Carlos attended the University of Miami for his undergraduate career, where he earned a BA in public relations and sociology. Juan Carlos is very passionate about multiculturalism and how we, as a society, can move toward looking at intersections of identity, and how each of us can play a role in making the world a better place for everyone. He oversees the day-to-day OMA operations at both Rose Hill and Lincoln Center campuses.
Kevin Powell is one of the most acclaimed political, cultural, literary and hip-hop voices in America today. Kevin is a native of Jersey City, raised by a single mother in extreme poverty, but managed to study at Rutgers University in New Brunswick thanks to New Jersey’s Educational Opportunity Fund. Kevin has gone on to be the author of 12 books, including his newest title, *The Education of Kevin Powell: A Boy’s Journey into Manhood*. It is a critically acclaimed and brutally honest memoir about his life, including his youth. In 2018, he will publish a biography of Tupac Shakur, the late rapper and controversial American icon. Kevin's writings have also appeared in CNN.com, Esquire, Ebony, The Huffington Post, The Washington Post, Rolling Stone, The Guardian, ESPN.com and Vibe Magazine, where he worked for many years as a senior writer, interviewing such diverse public figures as Tupac Shakur and General Colin Powell.

Kevin routinely appears in interviews on television, radio, and in print and on the Internet discussing major issues of our time. As an activist, he is the president and co-founder of BK Nation, a new national, progressive, multicultural organization focused on such issues as education, civic engagement, leadership training, health and wellness, social media, arts and culture, and job and small business creation. Kevin was also a Democratic candidate for Congress in Brooklyn, New York, his adopted hometown, in 2008 and 2010.

Kevin routinely travels nationally and globally as a public speaker, at colleges and corporations, at various institutions, and a wide range of communities. Recent speaking engagements include stops at Microsoft headquarters, Stanford University, the U.S. Department of Justice, the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the "March on Washington," a one-week residency at the American University in Nigeria, visiting lecturer positions at Central State University and Virginia State University and as Hip-hop Scholar-in-Residence at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. On behalf of the United States Department of State, he toured Japan lecturing on the relevance of Dr. King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech in the 21st century. Kevin also visited Wales in the United Kingdom for a series of lectures and workshops on the 100th birthday of 20th century poet Dylan Thomas, and the connections between Welsh and American poetry and spoken-word traditions. As a result, he was named the International Ambassador for the Dylan Thomas Centennial in America for 2014.

As a pop culture curator, Kevin produced the first exhibit on the history of hip-hop in America at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio, which toured America and overseas. As a humanitarian, Kevin's work includes local, national and international initiatives to end violence against women and girls (including a very well-regarded appearance on The Oprah Winfrey Show highlighting domestic violence); and he has done extensive philanthropic and relief work, ranging from Hurricane Katrina to earthquakes in Haiti and Japan, to Superstorm Sandy in New York, to his annual holiday party and clothing drive for the homeless every December since 9/11.

As an acknowledgement of Kevin's life of public service and his dedication to literature and the arts, Cornell University recently became the owner of The Kevin Powell Collection, documenting nearly 30 years of his work to date in print, photos, videos, books, handwritten notes, speeches, and select memorabilia.
Closing Performance by Maria Aponte
Musical Accompaniment by Chacho Ramirez

Maria Aponte

Chacho Ramirez
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