

ACCEYSS

Keynote Speakers & Host Biographies

Morning Keynote Speaker: Rev. Anthony Evans, President - National Black Church Initiative

Originally from Savannah, Georgia, an advocate for justice, at an early age, while as a student in Vermont, Reverend Evans mobilized local colleges to raise over \$15,000 to help fund the investigation of the Atlanta child killings in the early eighties. After which, Reverend Evans earned a bachelor's degree in religion in 1981 from Middlebury College in Vermont. He was ordained in 1982 and went on to earn a Master's of Divinity in 1988 from Howard University School of Divinity. Shortly after earning his Masters, Reverend Evans became President of the National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) in 1992 and for the past twenty-five years he has devoted his expertise to leading the organization, working tirelessly on social and economic justice issues facing the black faith community.

Under Reverend Evans' leadership, NBCI has brought together a coalition of 150,000 churches from across the country, including over 15.7 million African Americans who join together to fight against health disparities, promote financial literacy, protect babies from abuse and neglect, and help preserve the environment. Reverend Evans remains a tireless advocate of the African American community and is determined to preserve the moral authority of the black church's voice. Reverend Evans has provided expertise and guidance related to health disparities in all stages of planning and project implementation to ensure cultural sensitivity of project materials and to support participation and engagement of African American and other minority families. He serves as a liaison with the Black Churches at all four recruitment areas and helps to identify churches and facilitate recruitment of community service providers at these churches. Reverend Evans has assisted in program evaluation to improve community uptake, and manuscript preparation to disseminate research.

Keynote Luncheon Speaker: Commissioner Aaron S. Demerson

Aaron Demerson serves as the Commissioner Representing Employers for the Texas Workforce Commission. Governor Greg Abbott appointed him to the three-member Commission on August 20, 2019. In his role, Commissioner Demerson serves as an advocate for over 620,000 Texas employers and over 3 million small businesses. Commissioner Demerson's team is devoted to serving as the first line of resources for all Texas employers. His office provides a variety of tools including employment law conferences and an employer hotline to help businesses start, grow and thrive in Texas. Demerson is also devoted to supporting the economic development and education that helps advance the skilled workforce that Texas demands.

Host: Dr. Shetay Ashford-Hanserd - TXST OWLS and ACCEYSS Network

Dr. Shetay Ashford-Hanserd (affectionately known as Dr. Shetay) is Chair/Associate Professor in the Department of Organization, Workforce, and Leadership Studies at Texas State University (TXST). Since 2016, she has served as a Principal/Co-Principal Investigator of research programs funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and U.S. Department of Agriculture yielding ~\$3M. She is transforming her research into action as Director of the TXST ACCEYSS Research Lab and Founder/President of ACCEYSS, which serves as the fiscal sponsor and backbone organization of the Association of Collaborative Communities Equipping Youth for STEEAAM Success (ACCEYSS). ACCEYSS is a coalition that helps faith-based and grassroots organizations with curriculum, resources, and funding to close the STEEAAM equity gap in underserved communities.

As a sought-out expert in community and workforce development, Dr. Shetay has been an invited TEDx speaker, panelist, and presenter at over 40 international and national conferences including the International, Vocational, Education and Training Association, Association for Career and Technical Education, International Conference on Urban Education, Association for the Study of African American Life and History, and Race,

Ethnicity, and Place. Her research agenda focuses on equity and broadening participation of Blacks and Hispanics in the STEM and computing (STEM+C) workforce pipeline. Recently, she was recognized as an early NSF CAREER scholar awardee for her research on broadening participation of Black and Hispanic women in the P-20 STEM+C workforce pipeline (Award No. 2046079, \$843,895, 2/1/2021-1/31/2026).

Panel 1 Bios:

Pastor Edward Lewis Hanserd, Heavenly Soundz Music / CFHOP / ACCEYSS Network

Edward Lewis Hanserd is a minister of the Gospel, music teacher, composer, and classically trained pianist. In 2019, he and his wife, Dr. Shetay Ashford-Hanserd, founded Heavenly Soundz Music. Heavenly Soundz Music is a ministry that encourages artists, writers, dancers, poets, musicians, and worshippers to create in the moment something new that will bring glory, honor, praise to Jesus Christ the Son of God. His new debut album called “Ambient Sounds in His Presence” does just that.

Lewis’s musical training began at the age of 9. His tutor was renowned organist and pianist, Violet Gibson, who once played at the wedding of Prince Charles and Princess Diana. When he turned thirteen, he decided to begin playing in his church, devoting his musical talent to God. He enveloped himself in gospel and jazz while learning the cello and violin. This devotion to music and God led to many doors of ministry. He was able to play piano in nursing homes, several churches and become a Child Evangelists. As a classically trained musician he won various piano competition awards in the Midwest. During that time, he received a music scholarship to attend North Park University in 1993.

While attending North Park University, in Chicago, he had the privilege to tour Europe and the United States with his college choir. He performed his self-arranged piece, “Glory, Glory,” which led to an invitation to perform at Chicago’s famed Orchestra Hall. This opened many doors for Lewis after graduation. He was given a full scholarship to attend North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago. During that time the United States Naval Training Center asked him to serve as the music director for its Protestant chapel. While in this role, Lewis led worship, directed music, and ministered to over one thousand recruits each month.

Lewis gave His life to Jesus Christ at a very young age, and was born again, spirit-filled at the age of 19. He has always loved helping people through music and knew this was a gift from God to interpret through his instrument the sound he hears from heaven. A few years back one day before leading worship he had an open vision where Jesus was dressed in a white suit. Jesus came and sat next to Lewis on a white grand piano bench and begin showing Lewis how to play the piano. This was a life changing experience for him and has motivated him to be yielded to the Holy Spirit while playing the piano.

Currently, Lewis is Pastor of Consuming Fire House of Prayer in San Marcos, TX along with his wife Dr. Shetay Ashford-Hanserd. He also works as a piano instructor/composer for Heavenly Soundz Music. Recently, Lewis decided to pursue a Master’s Certificate in Music Therapy. Nearly a year ago, he married Shetay, a decision that has resulted in perpetual bliss. They are now expecting their first little girl, Shekinah Gloria Hanserd, in January 2020.

Elder Curtis Marshall, Martin Memorial COGIC

Curtis Marshall was born in Tifton Georgia and graduated from Tift County High School in 1982. In July 1982 enlisted in the US Army and went on to serve for over 20 years of service and went on to retire. He is a combat veteran on two combat tours. After active-duty military went to serve three years as an Army civilian contractor (KBR) in Kuwait, Iraq, and Dubai in our nation’s second conflict with Iraq. He served 14 years with the Department of Defense Civil Service (Joint Base San Antonio Fort Sam Houston Texas) with the active-duty military as a civilian civil service before last year being promoted and transferred to the Veterans Administration in Austin Texas. He has 38 years of government service to our nation and within two years will be retiring after 40 years of service.

During the years 2001 to 2003, Curtis Marshall and his wife ran a mission outreach at 1212 North Givers in San Antonio in the projects of Wheatley Courts out Anointed Refuge Ministries called Take to the Streets 501(c)(3). He has been married for 37 years to Ellis J. Marshall and they have 3 daughters and four

grandchildren. He has served the last 6 years as Texas Southwest Coordinator for Men of Change 501 (3) c nonprofit organization out of Greenville North Carolina men's mentorship program. During the past 3 and half years he served on the ministerial staff of the Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Dr. Paul Thompson Sr. In April this year, he and his wife were appointed as the Pastor of the Martin Memorial Church of God in Christ in Luling Texas under the Texas Southwest Church of God in Christ Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction where Bishop Maurice Green Jr is the Presiding Bishop.

Dr. Aimee Roundtree, Associate Dean for Research and Promotion - Texas State University / Board Member of ACCEYSS Network

Aimee Kendall Roundtree teaches courses in usability research, medical and science writing, digital media and technology, Web publishing and accessibility, visual design, and technical communication. She has helped with social media campaigns for organizations including the Association of Teachers of Technical Writing and Connexions journal. She also serves as a medical writer and qualitative researcher in the Texas Medical Center, where she has participated on research teams at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Baylor College of Medicine, and the Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies. She worked as a communications specialist for the Texas Medical Foundation and public relations officer for Air Combat Command at Langley AFB. She is currently working on several projects, including research into emergency incident reporting, big data methodology for text mining, usability for underserved communities, and technical and simulated data in public discourse.

Areas of Interest: Usability Research, Technical/Science/Medical/Visual Communication, Digital Media, Health, Nonprofit.

Charlie Haraway, MBA, ABD | Founder & CEO, Millennia Park LLC

Charlene Drinkard Haraway, respectively known as Charlie Haraway, has a purpose driven response to improving the quality of education and entrepreneurial systems through enhanced technical training, back-office support, and client relationship management.

Ms. Haraway is an alum of The University of Texas at Austin, obtained an MBA from Baylor University, and is a doctoral candidate in Business Administration. She has over 17 years of business operations and finance experience consisting of 8 years of private-industry banking and 9 years of experience in the charter school and non-profit environment. She has been responsible for managing budgets and analytics up to \$150M. She has previously held roles such as Market Support Consultant at Wells Fargo where she oversaw 18 branches compliance and internal auditing, Federal Program Coordinator at Harmony School of Excellence, Finance Manager at KIPP Texas & Harris School Solutions, Chief Financial Officer for Texas Empowerment Academy, and Founder and CEO of Millennia Park. Recently, Millennia Park helped a deserving school district close on a \$39M new facilities campaign and oversees the fiscal governance of the construction project. Additionally, she is currently a Texas SBOE certified educator and a previous registered provider of Texas Education Agency school finance training.

She is an advocate for staying current with professional development and believes we are all life-long learners, whether young or "seasoned". She has a strong passion for people, social responsibility, and servant leadership and finds every opportunity to execute that. Ms. Haraway has sat on several boards, facilitated financial literacy training and/or provided hands on work for organizations like T-STEM Advisory Committee with Harmony School of Excellence, National Black MBA and National Society of Hispanic MBA, Links Inc., Ronald McDonald House Charities, Top Ladies of Distinction Inc., Houston Area Food Bank, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. to name a few. She has also served as the first President-elect of the Wells Fargo Greater Austin Diversity Council and currently serves on the Junior Achievement FEM Forum committee.

Her work with the nonprofit sector is fueled by the philosophy that in order for us to thrive as a community we must continue to focus on improving the rigor and access of resources, tools, and education for all. We have to continue to take seriously the investments needed in the advocacy and education systems so that we can excel at producing highly qualified, global-thinking, and diverse, future generations in a worldwide marketplace. This can only happen when organizations are first financially and operationally sound. Charlie has executed on this philosophy with the founding of Millennia Park LLC offering charter schools and non-profits highly specialized finance and operations services.

Haja Scott, Business Coach & Consultant | Accounting, Empowerment & Organizational Development Small Business | Non-Profit | Ministries | NxtLevel Development, Inc

Haja Scott is an entrepreneur at heart! She is the Executive Director of NxtLevel Development, Inc and Of Lace and Grace Ministries, the owner and founder of Toombas Jeans & Denim Wear and the founder of Gallery One Point LLC. She holds a BBA in Accounting from Texas State University and has worked as an accountant in both the public and private sector for over 20 years.

As an accounting and business consultant, Haja's goal is to serve as a resource for small business and non-profit clients by guiding

them through their unique business development process, which includes:

- ✓ Extracting ideas and undeveloped vision in their heads and establishing them on "paper"
- ✓ Evaluating their goals in order to design a path that best suits them
- ✓ Identifying strategies that work for their organizations
- ✓ Assisting them in filing pertinent business registrations and building accounting processes
- ✓ Training them on how to analyze their businesses in order to avoid pitfalls
- ✓ Position them for strategic growth

NxtLevel is a woman-owned, minority-owned, faith-filled enterprise. Their mission is to build organizational structures with the RIGHT foundations! They service a variety of businesses in various industries, yet have a desire for educating disadvantaged and underrepresented populations. They are focused on small businesses and non-profit platforms that are in need of strategy, resources and direction to stabilize their organizations and re-position them for growth. Through solid business planning and careful analysis, NxtLevel takes the vision that you "see" in your head and bring it into realization!

Panel 2 Bios:

Terrell Simpson, President & CEO - Mitas Electronics

Texas A&M Undergraduate: Aerospace Engineering | University Texas @ Austin: MS Science & Technology Commercialization

Serial Entrepreneur with over 32 years of industry experience. Start-ups include Auto Paint & Body (College Years), Analytical Investment Group (1990s), Mitas Electronics (2009). Mitas Electronics is a global manufacturing operation that delivers time-to-market and time-to-scale interconnect supply chain solutions to American OEM and Small and Medium business. Since inception the company has grown revenues to \$5M annually.

Our mission is the lead in the use of Digital Technology to drive Advanced Manufacturing Research in Interconnect Technology to enable low cost, distributed manufacturing within communities throughout the United States.

SaulPaul's Bio:

SaulPaul is a 3X GRAMMY Nominated Musician with a Message. He has also presented 3 TEDx Talks, performed at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts and been featured on America's Got Talent. His life story of transitioning from tragedy to triumph has been told on screen via the documentary Tower to Tower as well as via his memoir Be The Change.

Recognizing an inherent responsibility to give back, SaulPaul founded the SaulPaul Foundation. The SaulPaul Foundation is a launchpad for young people. And a platform for community members to serve as community leaders through acts of kindness, volunteerism and philanthropy.

Most recently, SaulPaul founded Change Water, a socially conscious bottled water company that donates to the local community with each case of water sold.

Whether via art, entrepreneurship or community service, SaulPaul is committed to #BeTheChange.
#

Bianca Neal Bio:

Bianca Neal is a storyteller, consultant, and co-founder of SaulPaul Productions. Bianca has more than 15 years of experience working with nonprofits, government agencies, and corporations. Though her clients and partners have always been diverse, her focus has always been singular: Racial Equity.

Currently a doctoral student obtaining her Ed.D. in Higher Education Leadership at St. Edward's University, her focus is on Changemakers and Social Entrepreneurship. Bianca is committed to developing systems that optimize talent development as well as mentoring and coaching for leadership success with an emphasis on organizational leadership and social change.

Panel 3 Bios:

Dr. Joni Charles, Texas State University / Board Member of ACCEYSS Network

Joni Seaton James Charles is an Associate Professor of Economics in the McCoy College of Business Administration at Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas. Dr. Charles graduated from Howard University and Purdue University.

Teaching Interests: Microeconomics, Environmental Economics and Management

Research Interests: Groundwater governance and groundwater management, Grassroots organization, Collaborative partnerships, and participatory decision making on water-related issues.

Lakeisha Sneed, LNC, MSN, FNP-C

Lakeisha Sneed is a Phenix City, Alabama native, WOG, and over 18 years in various areas of the Healthcare system as a Registered Nurse, Board Certified Family Nurse Practitioner, and Legal Nurse Consultant.

Heavily, believes and functions in the power of intercessory, prayer, healing, and deliverance through teaching, balance in sound doctrine through the Word of God and Healthcare knowledge, experience.

Lakeisha is the Owner of L.M. Sneed Nurse Consultant, LLC; Founder of Non Profit Y.I.T.S. (Youth in Training for Servitude and Stewardship) and Founder Non-Profit C.P.R. (Christ Complete Provision and Restoration), International LLC.

Lakeisha is an active coach, board member of other Non-profit organizations that is very active throughout the United States. Lakeisha is currently working on her Doctorate of Nursing.

Having personally been the survivor of mental and physical health illness. Lakeisha is deeply rooted, dedicated, through her massive passion to support, provide community service, educate, and advocate for mental and physical well being. These resources are to educate various socioeconomic cultures, youth, employees, and families from injustices and healthcare disparities.

Rona Walton, Parent Life Coach

A living example of success, Walton is the founder and Partner of "Rant with Rona", a trusted business resource and advocacy for trauma-based mothers. She can inspire over 1,000 followers on social media outlets. Walton has been recognized by several local community organizations for her community and professional contributions. Additionally, she is the recipient of a fellowship with Black Girl Ventures. Walton received her Life Coach certification from Light University. Also, within that same time frame-secured her position with Leadership Austin - Emerge Class 2020. After receiving her certification in Nonprofit Leadership and Management from Austin Community College Center for Nonprofit Studies, she partnered with Power 2 Prosper and Brent Business Advisory.

Tracey Mixon, FNP

Tracey Mixon is a certified Family Nurse Practitioner, certified functional medicine health coach, and Founder of Desire To Live Now. After a lifelong battle with autoimmune disease, Tracey was introduced to Functional Medicine in 2012 which not only transformed her health but her life. Tracey became a nurse practitioner to help anyone who desires to optimize their health with lifestyle medicine and combat health disparities amongst minority communities.