



Awownow.org | Phone: 214-995-1927 Fax: 972-315-3524 | admin@awownow.org
AWOW Inc. a 501 (c) (3) and registered non-governmental organization (NGO)

A-WOW Inc.

2015 World Summit

Program Manual

July 26th – August 2nd, 2015



You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it.”

Maya Angelou (born 1928); Poet, Dancer, Producer, Playwright, Director, Author (In Loving Memory)

About US:



The essence of A-WOW Leadership and Development Programs is the impactful experiences of advance world understanding, goodwill, and access to an international network of support of leadership for girls worldwide. A-WOW offers and models innovation and global learning opportunities. Its participants are: exemplary girls and young women, who desire to become catalysts for change and have shown leadership and initiative in their school, university, community or organizations, but have had rare opportunities to develop those skills. In principle and in practice, A-WOW, an acculturated program, actively promotes multiculturalism and values diversity and inclusion. Its outreach currently extends to Ghana, Liberia, Costa Rica, Trinidad and Tobago, Nigeria, India and the United States “with a vision to expand to Austria, Europe, and the Americas”.

A-WOW, mission is to effectively represent the full diversity of women and girls and to expand access to innovative leadership and skills development opportunities as well as establish an enduring legacy for female organizations, businesses and leadership globally. Its aim is to educate, empower and enrich irrespective of social, religious or ethnic orientation.

A-WOW World Summit:

AWOW INC is a 501 (c) (3) and registered non-governmental organization (NGO). As an international female-based organization we prepare young women ages 16-24, to become global citizens and assume leadership roles in the community. While attending A-WOW programs, young women experience educational program, and are exposed to a wealth of learning opportunities.

This manual provides answers to general information and guidelines about the policies, procedures and the presentations occurring at the A-WOW 2015 World Summit.

A-WOW Inc. works towards to continually providing young women the resources for generating innovative idea along with valuable solution to positively impact communities. As a participant at this World Summit, we encourage you to thrive as you explore the depths of your capabilities as emerging leaders, volunteers and citizens in an ever-changing world.

2015 A-WOW World Summit Goals

1. Achieve personal and professional growth through action learning, educational programs and networking opportunities.
2. Establish a strong sense of one's; self, community and environment for building a leadership legacy.
3. Activate leadership skills and transform participants' abilities to positively impact global communities.
4. Expose young women to diverse cultural traditions and help increase gender equality and empowerment.
5. Provide educational programs for improving; physical and mental health, career building, communication and leadership skills

2015 A-WOW World Summit Location

Southwestern Methodist University (SMU)

6425 Boaz Lane, Dallas, TX 75205.

Campus Map: <http://www.smu.edu/AboutSMU/Maps>

Carolyn Wright

Carolyn Wright

Founder and CEO

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Introduction

What You Can Expect From This World Summit

- Opportunities for achieving personal and professional growth through action learning, educational programs and networking opportunities.
- Establishing a strong sense of one's; self, community and environment for building a leadership legacy.
- Activating your leadership skills and transform participants' abilities to positively impact global communities.
- Being exposed to other young women of diverse cultural traditions.
- The chance to help increase gender equality and empowerment.
- Provide educational programs for improving; physical and mental health, career building, communication and leadership skills.
- Respect from A-WOW staff and volunteers for your abilities as an emerging leader.

What the A-WOW World Summit Expects From You

You are encouraged to take advantage of the numerous opportunities for personal and professional development, to fully participate in the A-WOW community, and to live the values we espouse to.

A-WOW's Philosophy to Leadership

A-WOW's mission is to develop emerging leaders, ages 16-24 years old, from Ghana, Costa Rica, Liberia, Nigeria and the United States. A-WOW programs are designed to introduce concepts and tools that can be easily incorporated into *any* leadership role in *any* organization or community.

A-WOW programs methodology focus on the key skills and behaviors that contribute to the success of today's leaders. Based on extensive research on hundreds of global leaders across a variety of industries and international cultures, the AWOW creates a performance model providing a foundation of required skills and abilities for any developing leader who wants to leverage their strengths and positively transform their community.

North Central Texas College (NCTC) has endorsed the AWOW World Summit and believes it provides an overall framework for A-WOW participants programs. NCTC recognizes the educational value of A-WOW's curriculum and actively supports to help young women thrive, as they explore the depth of their capabilities as students, leaders, volunteers, friends and citizens in an ever-changing world.

A-WOW believes that young leaders must successfully navigate two realities;

1. The tension between the need to be business and people focused and
2. The tension between the expectations of possessing build personal and organizational capabilities and performing in a way to achieve positive results

When these two realities combine, it becomes apparent that four roles – each with specific traits – become necessary to lead in today’s global economy.

They are the roles of **enabler, strategist, specialist** and **champion**.

Enablers inspire people to act and motivate outstanding performance, because they know how to tap into the reserves of the minds, hearts and souls of people and how to activate their staff’s faith, drive and perseverance by creating a collaborative and inspirational workplace culture.

Strategists create the future of a community by visualizing it. They continuously ask “What’s next?” “Where else?” and “Why not?” Strategists seek large gains and are not afraid to take smart risks.

Specialists hunt for and gather ideas and opportunities before others are even aware of the need to do so. They study trends and technological developments and are focused consumers of knowledge and information.

Champions are leaders who personify corporate values and characterize the strength of the community. They stand up for what they believe in and have a strong orientation toward achievement. Champions hold high expectations that they and those around them will always push to achieve.

Welcome Orientation Policies and Procedures Summit Preview

Valuing of Diversity and Multiculturalism Policy

A-WOW supports professionalism and innovation.

The valuing of diversity and multiculturalism has been and will continue to be a fundamental principle within A-WOW Inc. Participation in A-WOW programs is based upon personal capabilities and qualifications without discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, citizenship, disability, or any other protected characteristic as established by law. A-WOW Inc. prohibits and will not tolerate any such discrimination or harassment.

This practice of the valuing of diversity and multiculturalism applies to all policies and procedures relating to recruitment and hiring, compensation, benefits, termination and all other terms and conditions of involvement.

A-WOW Inc. leadership has overall responsibilities for this practice and maintains reporting and monitoring procedures. Participant's questions or concerns should be referred to A-WOW Inc. leadership.

We expect that all members of the A-WOW Inc. community will interact and treat each other with dignity and respect. Thus, any conduct that is contrary to this policy is not acceptable and subject to disciplinary action.

Appropriate disciplinary action may be taken against any participant who willfully violates or belief of valuing of diversity and multiculturalism.

Definitions of Bullying Harassment

In order to ensure respect and prevent harm, it is a violation of World Summit policy for a participant to be harassed, intimidated or bullied by others in the program.

The purpose of this policy is to promote the development of a working environment in which harassment and bullying are known to be unacceptable and where individuals have the confidence to complain about harassment and bullying, should they arise, in the knowledge that their concerns will be dealt with appropriately and fairly.

US laws prohibit harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB). HIB is defined as any intentionally written message or image—including those that are electronically transmitted—verbal, or physical act, including but not limited to one shown to be motivated by race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity, mental or physical disability or other distinguishing characteristics, when an act:

- Physically harms a person or damages the person's property.
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with a person's education.
- Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment.
- Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Harassment and bullying can take a variety of different forms ranging from repeatedly ignoring a person or subjecting them to unwelcome attention, to intimidation, humiliation, ridicule or offence. More extreme forms of harassment and bullying include physical threats or violence. Behavior that may appear trivial as a single incident can constitute harassment or bullying when repeated, or in the context of the staff/participant relationship. Harassment and bullying may not always be intentional but are always unacceptable, whether intentional or not.

Racial harassment is usually although not exclusively directed at people from ethnic minorities. It may include jokes about, or gratuitous references to a person's color, race, religion or nationality. It can also include offensive remarks about dress, culture, or customs which have the effect of ridiculing or undermining an individual or fostering hatred and/or prejudice towards individuals or particular groups.

Sexual harassment can take the form of ridicule, sexually provocative remarks or jokes, offensive comments about dress or appearance, the display or distribution of sexually explicit material, unwelcome sexual advances or physical contact, demands for sexual favors or assault.

Harassment on the grounds of a person's sexuality may be aimed at heterosexuals but is more usually experienced by gay men and lesbians, transsexuals or bisexuals. Examples of harassment relating to sexuality are homophobic remarks or jokes, offensive comments relating to a person's sexuality, threats to disclose a person's sexuality to others or offensive behavior/abuse relating to HIV or AIDS status.

Harassment of people with disabilities can take the form of individuals being ignored, disparaged or ridiculed because of mistaken assumptions about their capabilities. Their disability rather than their ability can become the focus of attention and harassment can include inappropriate personal remarks, jokes or inappropriate reference to an individual's appearance.

Bullying is the exercise of power over another person through negative acts or behavior that undermines him/her personally or professionally. Bullying can involve; threatening, insulting, abusive, disparaging or intimidating behavior which places inappropriate pressure on the recipient or has the effect of isolating or excluding them. Bullying can take the form of shouting, sarcasm, derogatory remarks concerning academic performance or constant criticism and undermining. Hitting, name-calling, shunning, and shaming are all forms of bullying. Spreading rumors, gossiping and making threats are also forms of bullying.

The above list of examples is not exclusive and harassment can also take place on the grounds of a person's age, style of dress or any other characteristic that makes them different from the majority or from the person who harasses or bullies them. Although the terms 'harassment' and 'bullying' are not synonymous, the guidance in this policy relates to both issues and the term 'harassment' will be used from this point onwards to encompass both.

The over-riding principles in dealing with allegations or concerns of harassment are that they must be taken seriously, considered carefully and addressed speedily and where possible, in confidence.

Any participant who feels that they are the subject of harassment, either by a fellow participant, a volunteer, a member of staff or anyone else with whom they come into contact during the course of the World Summit, may wish to make a note of incidents, dates, times and any witnesses, for future reference. Any participant who considers themselves to have been the subject of harassment has the right to be listened to and to be given informed advice on how the matter may be resolved. There are usually a number of options. Anyone who feels they have been harassed is likely to wish to speak to someone with whom they feel they share something in common. For this reason they should be able to approach one of a number of different people within as part of the A-WOW team.

Should harassment occur in a group situation, the person in authority within the group has the responsibility to recognize harassment when it occurs and to take speedy action to stop it.

It is important that it is made clear to the perpetrator that such behavior is unacceptable to A-WOW and will not be tolerated. Silence or inaction can be seen as collusion and endorsement of such behavior. If the person in authority is the harasser, others within the group should support the individual being harassed in taking action to report the harassment.

The over-riding principles in dealing with allegations or concerns of harassment are that they must be taken seriously, considered carefully and addressed speedily and where possible, in confidence.

Bullying and harassment may occur on-line and could be considered as misuse of A-WOW Inc. computing services. This includes potentially discriminative or offensive material posted on public access websites or social networking sites. On-line harassment and bullying will be dealt with in the same way as in person harassment.

Participants who violate the spirit or letter of this policy are subject to disciplinary action up to and including being asked to leave the summit. The following are examples of conduct, which may result in discipline:

- Actions which violate this policy.
- Requesting others to violate this policy.
- Failure to promptly report a known or suspected policy violation.
- Failure to demonstrate the leadership and diligence needed to ensure compliance with A-WOW Inc.'s policies.

Violating this policy can also mean breaking the law and subjecting yourself or the A-WOW organization to civil sanctions (damage awards or fines). *

If you believe that you are being subjected to unlawful harassment you can:

- If you feel comfortable, tell the individual that his or her actions are not welcome and they must stop.
- If you feel comfortable, report the incident to an A-WOW Coordinator or Volunteer.
- In all cases, immediately report the incident to an A-WOW representative.

Day One- Sunday July 28th

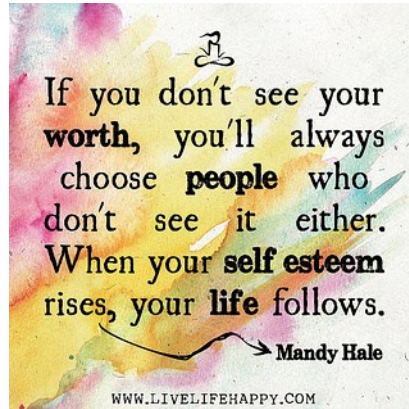
Celebrating A-WOW' 5th Anniversary DAY Cultural Exchange and Experience



1:00–02:00 p.m	Registration & Orientation
2:00 - 2:10p.m	Welcome Orientation Policies and Procedures Summit Preview
2:15 - 2:25p.m	AWOW Introduction
2:25 – 2:40 p.m	Welcome Address Greetings From Around the World
2:40–2:55 p.m	Introduction of A-WOW 2015 Ambassadors Candidates
3:00–3:10 p.m	Introduction of Keynote Speaker
3:35 – 3:55 p.m	Keynote Address – Kathryn Griffin
4:00– 4:10 p.m	Donor and Sponsors Acknowlegments
4:10–4:20 p.m	AWOW Team Acknowledgments
5:00– 6:00 p.m	Dinner
6:00– 8:00 p.m	Network and Dorms Setup
8:00–9:00 p.m	Zumba/Fitness challenge

Day Two - Monday July 29th

Individual Change, Understanding Self and Achieving Goals and Personal Development



7:30 - 8:00 a.m	Morning walk with Carolyn Wright
8:00 - 8:55 a.m	Breakfast
9:00 - 9:55 a.m	The Leadership:Challenge: The Role of Female Leaders Speaker: Rachel Proctor
10:00 -10:55 a.m	Self-Awareness: Who Am I? Identifying Personal Strengths
10:55-11:05a.m	Break
11:05-12:00p.m	Value of Setting and Achieving Goals You are young and fabulous and ready to take on the world. Setting and achieving goals will help take you anywhere you wish to be personally and professionally. Your first goal should be to attend this session. Speaker: Staci Flowers
12:05-1:00p.m	Lunch
1:00 -2:30 p.m	"ID Please..." Throughout various stages in our life - we are required to present (Id) identification via a birth certificate, drivers license, ssn, passport, etc to gain access to certain freedoms, responsibilities and rights as citizens. However, just because you have pieces of paper to identify you - doesn't necessarily mean that you know who you are and why you are here on this

earth. Yet, you are here on Purpose for a Greater Purpose and its my man dated mission for you to know not only who you are but whose you are!
Speaker:Marguritte S. Johnson

2:35-3:45p.m

What is Human Trafficking?
Speaker: Mosaic Family Services

3:50-4:00p.m

Meditation Break

4:05-6:00p.m

Be the Change You Want to See:
Strengthening Communities through Philanthropy and Volunteerism
Philanthropy and volunteerism have the power to make a positive impact on the lives of individuals, our communities and the world. Gifts of time, talent and treasure have made tremendous contributions to education, health care, social welfare, culture and the arts. By exploring the meaning and value of participants' charitable acts, this session seeks to promote purposeful giving; deepen understanding; strengthen commitment to philanthropy and volunteerism.
Speaker: Halima Leak Francis

6:10-7:10p.m

Dinner

7:15-10:00p.m

Mission Rescue 2015

10:00-11:00p.m

"Me Time" journal, unwind and prepare for tomorrow

Day Three -Tuesday July 30

College and Career Planning



- 7:30 - 8:00 a.m Morning walk with Carolyn Wright
- 8:00-8:55a.m Breakfast
- 9:00-10:15 a.m Bill Bernstien Mosaic Family Services
- 10:30- 12:00p.m SMU Information Session and Campus Walking Tour
Location:Office of Undergraduate Admission
Laura Lee Blanton Building, 2nd Floor
6185 Airline Rd.Dallas, TX 75205
- 12:10-12:50p.m Lunch
- 1:00-1:50p.m No Introduction Needed -The dangers of social media & its advantages
In this age of social media, I can know you before I even meet you.
This can be good or this can be bad.
Speaker: Maricia Johns
- 2:00-2:50p.m Wanted Visionaries! Apply Inside
Ever ask the question, "Do I have what it takes for college?" or wonder
how you could truly be successful in life after college? Join me in this
interactive workshop where you get to answer this question once and for
all, (plus a whole lot more). Together we will explore the "hidden jewels"
of career tracks, create a success kit, and get a head start on the career and
life of your dreams!
Speaker: Gabrielle Smith
- 2:55-3:05p.m Meditation
- 3:05-4:05p.m Using Credit Wisely -And it's dangers
Speaker: Sativa Leach

4:10-6:10p.m	Career Planning: Selecting a Career Based on Your Strengths In this interactive session, participants will take the career personality type assessment and investigate the strengths of each type, as well as career choices that compliment these strengths. Speaker: Emily Newsome
6:15-7:15p.m	Dinner
7:20-8:20p.m	Zumba with Rachel Mccants
8:25-10:00p.m	Mission Rescue 2015 –Human Trafficking
10:00-11:00 p.m.	“Me Time” journal, unwind and prepare for tomorrow

Day Four - Wednesday July 31

Collaborating with Community and Government

7:30-8:00 a.m	Breakfast
8:00-8:50 a.m	Load-Travel-Arrival-Unload
9:00-10:30 a.m	Collaborating Community and Government Visit City of Irving, Mayor Beth Van Duyne
10:30-11:20 a.m	Load-Travel-Arrival-Unload
11:25-12:45 a.m	Enterpenuer
12:45-1:45 p.m	Lunch
2:00-3:00 p.m	Vision Board – Chrystal Golden
3:00-3:15 p.m	Meditation Brain Break
3:20-4:20 p.m	How to Obtain Success in College and Life Pt. 2 Speaker: Dr.Zach Spencer
	How to Obtain Suceess in College and Life I and II This workshop addresses (1) research and theory in learning, cognition, and motivation; (2) factors that impact learning; and (3) application of learning strategies.

Participants will receive techniques and strategies in how to

1. Become reflective, autonomous learners.
2. Understand the factors that affect learning and use that knowledge to improve their own.
3. Reflect on their thinking in order to improve their performance and achieve their goals.
4. Use behavior management techniques to achieve personal, academic and career success.
5. Collect, select, reflect and connect artifacts of learning to outcomes.
6. Develop habits of critical thinking.
7. Recognize when they need information and know how to find it, evaluate it, and use it appropriately.
8. Develop the capacity to make ethical judgments and take responsibility for their actions
9. Learn how to **select** a major/ career based on your strengths

4:30-6:00 p.m	Mission Rescue 2015- Human Trafficking
6:00-7:00 p.m	Dinner
7:00-8:55p.m	Spoken Word Performances Hosted by Michael Guinn Featuring: Ron Amber, Emily Newsome, Emily Wende, Masterpiece
8:55-10:15p.m	Session Q&A and Goodbyes
10:15- 11:00p.m	“Me Time” journal, unwind and prepare for tomorrow

Day Five - Thursday July 31

Developing Personal and Professional| Healthy Relationship | Community Partnerships



6:15-6:55a.m	Leave SMU dormitories to Lewisville Rotary
7:00-8:00a.m	Lewisville Morning Rotary - Community Partnership (breakfast)
8:30-9:15a.m	Return to SMU Campus
9:30-10:30a.m	Emotional Intelligence: Self Awareness and Vision Board Making IQ was once the determinant of success in business relationships. However, research is now telling us that emotional intelligence (EQ) is what capable and competent business leaders need to succeed in their work and personal lives. Speaker: Chrystal Golden
10:35-12:00p.m	Entrepreneurship Speaker: Greg Campbell
12:00-1:00p.m	Lunch
1:05-1:30p.m	Preparation for travel
1:30-1:55p.m	Leave SMU Campus to Dallas City Hall
2:00-2:40p.m	City of Dallas Councilman Cassie Thomas Meeting
2:40 – 4:00 p.m	City of Dallas 911 and 311 Call Center Visits

4:05 – 4:20p.m	Load- Travel- Arrival- Unload
4:20-6:00p.m	North Park Mall Dinner on Your Own
6:00-6:20p.m	Load- Travel- Arrial- Unload
6:20- 6:55p.m	Free Time
7:00-8:00p.m	Female Relationships: Creating Acceptable Boundaries and Building Trust and Honesty In this session girls will learn what boundaries are and why they are important. Girls will examine their personal and relational boundaries to ensure that they are setting healthy boundariesand respecting the boundaries of others. Speaker: Leslie Denman
8:00-9:00 p.m	Real Talk Session Speaker: Valencia and Shirley King
9:00-10:00 p.m	Group Guided Reflections or Group Work Time
10:00-11:00 p.m	“Me Time” journal, unwind and prepare for tomorrow

Day Six - Friday August 2

Ethics and Etiquette



7:30-8:00a.m	Morning walk with Carolyn Wright
8:00-8:55a.m	Breakfast
9:30-9:55a.m	Leave SMU to PepsiCo

10:00-12:00p.m	PepsiCo Visit
12:00-1:00p.m	Leave PepsiCo to SMU
1:00-2:15p.m	<p>How to Market Myself</p> <p>In this session, participants will learn how to develop their individual brands, determine their unique values, find out how others see them, and identify their goals.</p> <p>Speaker: Roy Brannon</p>
2:20-3:30p.m	<p>Corporate Swag</p> <p>In this session you will learn the value of knowing your personal brand and remaining authentic to it. Recognize the power and benefits to networking when you are looking to land your dream job. Walk away with tools and tips to ace any interview.</p> <p>Speaker: Tonya Carruthers</p>
3:30-3:45p.m	Meditation
3:45-4:45p.m	Mission Rescue 2015
5:00-7:00p.m	<p>Business & Dining – Etiquette: Competence through Communication</p> <p>This course is designed to equip learners with the tools they need to effectively communicate and act professionally in a business or social environment.</p> <p>Speaker: NickkaLegans</p>
7:00-8:00p.m	Free Time
8:00-9:00p.m	Zumba
9:00-10:00p.m	Mission Rescue 2015
10:00-11:00 p.m	“Me Time” journal, unwind and prepare for tomorrow

**Day Seven - Saturday August 3
Dallas Cultural Activities**



7:30-8:00a.m	Morning walk with Carolyn Wright
8:00-8:55a.m	Breakfast
9:30-9:55a.m.	Depart SMU
10:00-11:30a.m	Latino Cultural Center
11:30-11:45p.m	Depart LCC to Dallas Museum
11:45-12:45 p.m	Kyle Wylie Park- Lunch
12:45-1:45p.m	Kyle Wylie Park-Scavenger Hunt
2:00-3:45p.m	Dallas Museum of Arts https://www.dma.org/
3:45-5:00p.m	The Crow Collection http://crowcollection.org/
5:00-5:30p.m	DMA to SMU
5:40- 6:40p.m	Dinner
6:40- 7:10p.m	Free Time
7:15 - 7:50 p.m	Graduation Praticce
8:00- 9:00 p.m	Mission Rescue 2015 – Presentations
9:15- 12:00 a.m	PJ Party

Day Eight - Sunday August 4
Graduation - Gala | Bon Voyage



7:00-7:30 a.m	Morning Walk
8:00-9:00a.m	A-WOW CEO and Ambassadors Breakfast- Post Assessment
9:00-11:00 a.m	Role of Self Care Pampering Facilitators: Esthetician Mounlette Miller and Make Up Artist Kathy
11:00-12:00 p.m	Hair Stylists and Technicians
12:00-1:00 p.m	Pack Up, Check Out, and Meet at Meadows Museum

Program:

2:00- 02:10 pm	Welcome and Opening Remarks - A-WOW Summit Committee
2:15– 02:25 p.m	Introduction of A-WOW – About Us
2:25– 02:40 p.m	A-WOW 2015 Ambassadors Candidates Introduction Crystal Golden
2:40– 02:55 p.m	Dinner
3:00 – 03:30 p.m	A-WOW IGLI Ambassadors Special Presentation
3:35 – 03:55 p.m	AWOW Ambassador’s of India – performance -
3:55 – 04:30 p.m	Impact Life Award – Dr. Froswa’ Booker-Drew –Carolyn Wright
4:20 – 04:30 p.m	Donors and Sponsors Acknowledgements –
04:30- 04:40 pm	A-WOW & Closing Remarks Acknowledgement

2015 A-Wow World Summit Contributors



Roy Brannon has 20 years experience advertising, creative development, copy writing, brand development, market research, promotions, sales, entertainment marketing, multicultural marketing, media buying, public relations, conference planning domestic & international and general marketing experience. He is an engaged innovator and communicator with high ethics who gets results and creates winning environments by leveraging strategic marketing expertise with team-oriented goal development. Mr. Brannon has demonstrated success in profit and loss management, marketing, sales, and operations. He transitioned his consumer marketing experience building such well-known brands as American Airlines, Southwest Airlines, Church's Chicken, Verizon, Warner Bros., Pro-Line Hair Care Corp, Greyhound Lines, ShowTime Networks, Blockbuster, BET, HBO, Sally Beauty Supply and General Mills into profitable results in market share and brand awareness. His large company background is complemented by entrepreneurial successes within divisions of Fortune 100 firms. Mr. Brannon began his marketing career in 1986 with AT&T, leading telecommunication company providing commercial and residential phone service and consumer products. Mr. Brannon was responsible for implementing the strategic launch of the Merlin and Spirit business systems. He joined Pro-Line Corp in 1989, where he developed and introduced new product lines that resulted in a 25% increase in total sales. With this success, he was promoted to Vice President of Advertising, two years after starting his marketing career. He revitalized mature product lines with innovative marketing programs that grew sales and increased market share. Mr. Brannon also gained skill in quickly assessing the drivers of a business to improve bottom line results. Prior to Pro-Line Corp's merger with Alberto-Culver, Mr. Brannon saw the opportunity to open his own multicultural ad agency in 1997 (The Brannon-Cottrell Group). His services were quickly sought after by several large corporations for his expertise in developing innovative marketing strategies. His vast experience in marketing, advertising, product development, entertainment marketing, media (TV, radio, print, outdoor, internet, direct mail) production, creative (development & design), research, event marketing, promotions and public relations has made Mr. Brannon one of the foremost multicultural marketers. He currently serves as Managing Director at Camelot Communications and is also Chief Marketing Officer at GYRE Entertainment. Mr. Brannon has created and executed some of the most talked about campaigns and strategies in general and multicultural marketing.



Gregory A. Campbell, President & CEO of Rainmaker, Inc. (www.rainmaker-inc.com), is an Entrepreneur and investor, that has funded, operated and/or advised ventures across a broad array of industries in the US, Latin America and West Africa. Through Rainmaker he works to build and invest in businesses that are disruptive, scalable and noble in their purpose.

As partner with Best Associates, a private merchant banking firm, headquartered in Dallas, Texas, Mr. Campbell originated structured and closed transactions throughout South America in the rapidly expanding global for-profit higher education field.

He was co-founder and continues to serve as managing partner of the North Texas Opportunity Fund, a private equity firm that invests institutional money in minority and women led middle market companies in the distribution and specialized services sectors.

Mr. Campbell was founder and managing partner of Solomon Partners, a single-family residential and commercial developer. He was also principal and managing partner of a management consulting firm, Campbell Consulting Group, which served Fortune 500 and middle market clients in strategic planning, operations and finance assignments.

Mr. Campbell currently serves on the boards of several companies including, Ovamba Solutions, Tango Tab Inc., EnvironX Solutions, Inc., Murphy Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of North Texas, Methodist Health System and the Global Advisory Council of Cornerstone Capital. Previously, Mr. Campbell has served as a trustee of the New England College of Business and Finance.

He has authored several articles for both national and regional business publications. He was a principal author of The Dallas Plan, a strategic platform for the city's growth and development. Mr. Campbell was previously honored as one of BusinessWeek's "Top 50 Corporate Executives under 35," named as Dollar and Sense Magazine's "America's Best and Brightest" and designated Texas Male Entrepreneur of the Year. Mr. Campbell has held senior management positions with Pepsi Cola, Frito-Lay and CPC International. He earned a Bachelor's of Science Degree from Cornell University and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.



Tonya Carruthers, is a native of Plano, Texas. She has over 12 years of experience in Human Resources and Talent Acquisition. Tonya has held leadership roles in several Fortune 500 companies such as, JCP, WalMart, Pizza Hut and is currently the Global Talent Acquisition Manager for Interstate Batteries. Tonya is sought out to share her expertise in various forums such as Diversity panels and conferences, HR summits, colleges and universities, and has been featured in magazines and on

radio shows. Tonya has a BA degree in HR Administration from Texas Women's University. In 2009 she obtained her Professional Human Resources certification. Tonya is a board member of the Society of Human Resource Management and the National Association of African Americans in Human Resource ("NAAHR") Dallas chapters.



Ava Combs is from Minden Louisiana, at a young age she moved to Dallas. She found a Sport she all ways wanted to take. Martial Arts, She took Tae-Kwon-Do, received her Black belt in 1993. She is a 1st Degree Black Belt of 30 years in Tae-Kwon-Do. She taught the Art for 14 years. For 10 years she was competitive in the Karate Tournaments. For 7 of the years she was in the top five in the state of Texas for Kata's and Sparring. She won 60 trophies for competing in Sparring and Kata's. Her competitions were located in every state of Texas and she competed in Los Vegas every year for

5 years. She works one on one Self-Defense. She took 2 years of Boxing and learns some Jujitsu. Ava has all ways wanted to be a blessing to women of all ages, to help them mentally and physically. She put together a 4 week program call LOVE DON'T HURT the program is about Awareness and Self-Defense.

Ava has all ways been in the fitness world. She has 21 years of Group exercise which includes: Kickboxing, Step, Senior Aerobics, Pilates, Spin Bike, Kettle Bells, Strength Training, Personal Training, One on one Self-Defense and Boxing for Stress. She taught MEND programs Mind/Exercise/Nutrition/Do It. (Teaching families how to be Healthier by eating and Exercise.

Ava work in martial art and the fitness world has taken her to jobs in the various locations of the YMCA, Mountain View and, El Centro College, Health clubs, Churches, and Personal Train Entrepreneur women.



Leslie B Denman is founder of Girls Living Life On Purpose, Inc. a nonprofit organization that empowers teen girls through life purpose coaching, character development and abstinence education. Leslie's mission in life is to empower teen girls and young women to discover their authentic self and embrace their divine purpose.

When it comes to purpose this diva truly is an expert. Leslie is a Certified Life Purpose Coach® and Instructor. As CEO of Purpose YOUiversity Leslie uses sound Christian principles to help teen girls and young women gain clarity and discern God's next step for their life. Leslie's proven coaching techniques create accountability and growth.

When Leslie is not coaching, she is pursuing her other passion as an empowerment speaker. She is quickly becoming a sought after speaker and facilitator. Leslie is transparent, passionate, bold and funny. This unique combination allows her to engage her audience and promote critical thinking. Growing up a teen mom and breast cancer survivor, she openly shares her testimony of how her deeply rooted faith in God transformed her into an OVERCOMER.

Through this transformation, Girls Living Life on Purpose, Inc. began in an intimate setting with just five girls in a recreation center. The program has grown to 18 girls – monitoring their growth through high school graduation and beyond. Leslie is gifted with the ability to empower and inspire teen girls and young women through national and local conventions, conferences, teen summits, high schools, local community organizations, and a bi-monthly mentoring program in the Dallas County Juvenile Detention Center. Leslie is recognized as the voice of teen girls today! She has gained the respect of her peers as someone who truly has a heart and passion for teen girls.

Leslie has been:

- Recognized as one of the 50 Most Amazing Women on the Web by Stiletto Magazine.
- Honored as an Unsung Hero by Ebony Magazine at the Sisterspeak Luncheon sponsored by Pine-Sol
- Featured on Dream By Faith a local Dream By Faith is a half-hour, weekly, Christian Television Talk Show for Women with host Sherry Bronson
- Interviewed 90.9 KCBI Radio Dallas/Ft. Worth
- Featured on Time Warner Cable Community Connection which appears on CNN Headline News.

Leslie's motto: It's not about living life – it's about living life on purpose.

Leslie was born and raised in Omaha, TX and now resides in Dallas, TX. She has been married for over 12 years to Forrest and has two beautiful daughters, Nicoria (14) and Gjetaia (16). She is an alumni of Texas Women's University.



Staci Flowers worked in the corporate world for 24 years as an accountant. Two years ago she decided that she no longer desired to be in the corporate world and wanted to help empower women to live their dream and have a business of their own. The workshops and training she hosts provide education, resources and motivation to women just starting out with their own business. She is also a coauthor of *Behind Her Brand Vol 3*.



Halima Leak Francis is an advocate for charitable giving and volunteerism. She has spent 15 years involved in the field as a fundraising professional, educator and scholar. Halima currently serves as the Chief Philanthropy Officer for the Texas Muslim Women's Foundation (TMWF), a culturally diverse agency that seeks to empower women and strengthen families through education, youth leadership development, and social services. In achieving this mission, TMWF focuses much of its efforts on providing shelter and critical services for victims of domestic violence particularly those from the Muslim and immigrant communities. Halima has also worked to engage supporters and lead community programming at institutions and agencies including New York University, Barnard College of Columbia University, the CUNY School of Professional Studies, New York University School of Law,

Communities in Schools of Wake County (North Carolina), and the NC / Triangle affiliate of INROADS.

Halima serves as a guest lecturer for New York University's George H. Heyman Center for Philanthropy and Fundraising discussing topics related to diversity and charitable giving and is an instructor in the Dallas County Community College District's Nonprofit Management Certification program.

Halima has authored scholarly works on philanthropy, and expresses the importance of purposeful giving and volunteerism through her "Write to Bear Alms" initiative. This initiative includes her blog and weekly radio show on Radio Azad in addition to a segment on "The Eddie Francis Podcast Show".

After receiving her bachelor's degree in English from Hampton University, Halima earned her master's in Educational Sociology from the New York University Steinhardt School of Education. There, her thesis was on "Alumni Giving and Historically Black Colleges and Universities". She is a Ph.D. candidate at the NYU Steinhardt School of Education where her research focuses on organizational capacity building and fundraising.



Sherri Glisson :I have been speaking for the last twenty years. I recently retired as a facility for a large financial corporation, Citibank where I was employed for nineteen years. I have spoken at Women's retreats and for Singles ministries where I held a leadership position. Most recent speaking engagements were Beauty Brains and Business, Spring to Life, Behind Her Brand Book Event, Fierce and Fabulous at Fifty Plus event, Igniting the Fire, and I will be speaking next month at The Biggest Comeback Ever. I am a published author for the Behind Her Brand Entrepreneurial Series Vol 2 and I also published my own compilation, Fierce and Fabulous at Fifty Plus.



Chrystal Golden:Previously an A-WOW ambassador, Chrystal Golden is returning to the organization this year as a volunteer. She graduated from The University of Texas in Austin in May 2014 and is currently a Teach for America corps member serving as a 10th grade English teacher in Houston, TX. In her spare time, she's loves to share her healthy habits with others and aspires to have a future career that educates young women on the importance of positive body image and healthy eating habits.



Michael Guinn is the founder and originator of Fort Worth National Poetry Slams and The DFW Brave New Voices Youth Poetry Slams in Dallas/Fort Worth Texas. He also the co-founder of the National Poetry Awards. He has received internationally acclaim as one of the South's hardest working performance poets, event coordinators-host/emcee and spoken word events promoters.

Michael is internationally renowned for his powerfully passionate delivery of social awareness and relationship issues which has allowed him to be featured in plays, documentaries, PSAs, commercials, television segments, conferences, theaters and venues all over the U.S. and Canada.

He has appeared at some of the country's most prestigious spoken word venues including the Berkeley Poetry Slams, Da Poetry Lounge Los Angeles, Pasano's Houston, The Apache Cafe, South Flavas, Austin Slams, Puro Slams, Toronto, Seattle slam, The Blumenthal Charlotte, The Majestic theater in Dallas, Sacramento, Modesto, Boston, Oakland, San Francisco Chicago just to name a few.

Michael is constantly in demand at college and high school campuses as a high energy emcee, workshop facilitator and motivational speaker. Because he is a professional whose performances are laced with a hint of southern charm, this gentleman poet has garnered a huge fan base and sells out almost all the events he is blessed to be apart.

Hollywood recognized Michael's marketability early and has asked him to promote 4 films via the art of spoken word slam to create a buzz for movie premieres (Redemption-Talk to Me-Great Debaters-For Colored Girls). He host two internet radio shows and has a huge fan base which he cultivates by being heavily involved with social issues that impact the global community. You can Google Mike Guinn Poet on YouTube and the web for a rich history of performances. For more on Michael as speaker/workshop facilitator/host/emcee please contact Michael Guinn - P.O. Box 50954 - Ft worth TX 76105 - Tel: (972) 704-5001



Maricia D. C. Johns is a published journalist, published poet, editor, motivational speaker and educator. She is a proud graduate of East Texas State University, which is now Texas A&M University Commerce where she received both her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science Degrees.

She is a columnist for one of the leading Black owned newspapers in Texas, The Fort Worth Black News. Maricia's favorite topics are lifestyle issues, humor and education. Her columns have been published in an array of publications including The Longview News Journal, The Christian Index and The USA Today.

Maricia is a professional educator, and is presently an instructor of business at Tarrant County College. She is the owner of "I'm cold products"—"I'm calling on the Lord Daily!" which can be found on Facebook and Image Resource Center in Arlington. She is also the author of the WordPress blog "thisisyourbestyear" a blog for and about women of a certain age, and women who want to be a certain age.

Maricia and her husband Leslie are the proud parents of two lovely daughters, Tasha and Julia.



Marguritte S. Johnson (MSJ), distinguished as “a breath of fresh air” is founder and mentor of The Godly Girlfriend Movement; a spiritual support and social outlet for women ages 25-55. This organization serves as an advocacy for sisterhood to unite women globally. She has recently launched MSJ Mentors: Ministry, Marriage & Marketplace – a training institute to develop and perfect life skills in these arenas; either individually or corporately.

Her personal testament serves as a ‘catalyst of change’ and empowers others to experience L.I.F.E. (Living In Freedom Everyday)! She serves as Executive Pastor for LIFE Intl’ Ministries (The LIFE Center) in Farmers Branch, TX.

Marguritte has recently authored two books - Behind Her Brand: Entrepreneurial Edition 4 & Christian Women's Edition 2 and currently working on several solo projects. She also serves the Kingdom as an empowerment/motivation speaker and panelist on various platforms w/ topics ranging from freedom, abstinence, identity/purpose, confidence, brand-building, networking, conflict resolution, marriage, balance and so much more.

In 2014, she penned her first stageplay "The Closet" via MSJ Productions. Marguritte is also a psalmist and is currently working on solo CD project to be released in 2016. She also co-founded "CookinFor The Stars" Catering with her husband in 2006.

Marguritte has shared as featured guest on several media outlets via radio, television and print (ie) ...Love of Heart Movement Radio Show, Cater2U TV Show, Gospel Today Magazine, Fort Worth Star Telegram, Fishbowl Radio Network, KGGR, and so many more ...

She is blissfully married to Pastor Jeremiah Johnson of 17 years, proud mother of two angels (Jeremiah and Mariah); and is in relentless pursuit of purpose.

Today, she unashamedly proclaims that MSJ is #FinallyFree2BMe!!!



Valencia King Youth Motivational Speaker Talk Show Host Journalist Valencia King is a journalist, talk show host, motivational speaker, poet, actor, voice over talent and a full time college student. As a journalist and talk show host, Valencia produces and hosts Real Talk Radio with Valencia King and Real Talk Sportswith Valencia King featured on KKVI Radio 89.9 FM (Dallas) and I95 Sports & Entertainment Network (New Jersey). Valencia takes pride in knowing her interviews with business moguls; athletes, and entertainers help connect her self-

confidence message with youth in her community. Valencia is aware that youth learn and connect differently and sometimes need to hear the same message from different people (even when it’s what their parents have already told them). It never fails, hearing positive messages from celebrities sometimes helps teens “Get It”. As a Real Talk youth motivational speaker, Valencia King motivates teens to DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE and to Take Action Now! Valencia connects with youth and young adults through poetry, music and relatable content.

During her first year of college at the University of North Texas, Valencia received the Student Government Association's "Voice of the Freshman Intern Award" for her outspoken attitude & positive outlook. Ready to spread her wings Valencia took her message to the community and received the North Texas Minority Chamber of Commerce's "Community Outreach Award. As an only child, Valencia enjoys spending time with family and friends, working out and dining. She conducts a Mother Daughter Enrichment Workshop with her mother, Shirley Walker-King and enjoys fishing with her father Vincent King. All in all Valencia King is a well-rounded young lady whose star is rising as a journalist, talk show host and motivational speaker. Valencia King is the voice of radios, the conscious of our innocent, and the heartbeat of our nation. Valencia King is the new girl next door! For more information, visit www.ValenciaKing.com Follow Valencia on Social Media @IAmValenciaKing Booking Contact: (214) 402-5456



Dr. Universe Konadu is a published author, award-winning slam poet, motivational speaker, orator, life coach, arts educator, community leader, philanthropist and business owner. She has worked with countless girls and women across the globe from Los Angeles, CA to Ghana, West Africa delivering dynamic messages of empowerment. Universe represents healing of the silent voices of the bullied little girl, the child abused behind closed doors, the fatherless daughter, the suicidal teen, the broken young woman and the otherwise 'neglected.'

She has an innate, and unique, ability to inspire growth and change in those who are dedicated to achieving their goals and living their fullest potential. She recognizes the gamut of challenges individuals and communities face today, and the ever-growing need for insight and empowered choice making. Universe offers a wide range of programs and services from artistic performances to workshops and seminars to group-mentoring and self-development retreats. For more information on the programs and services offered, visit www.UniverseKonadu.com "As CEO, my vision is to inspire the freedom to be fully expressive - in all of our uniqueness, walk boldly in the power of our stories and be courageous enough to write new ones." Schedule Universe Konadu Today! 800-979-1495 booking@universekonadu.com "If you don't like the picture being painted, grab your brush and blank canvas, and start your own masterpiece."



Sativa Leach-Bowen Sativa has over 20+ years of experience in the Credit Card industry within Marketing, Public Relations and Finance. She is currently the Senior Vice President for Retail Marketing Support Operations Services for Citi Cards North America.

Sativa has a MBA in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix and a BA in Marketing from the University of Texas at Arlington.

As a dedicated professional with extensive Customer Contact experience in various positions within Citigroup; she has led Consumer and Commercial Customer Service teams, Collections, Control and Compliance, Vendor Management, Operational Support and Public Relations groups. During her tenure her passion and success has been centered on process execution, relationship building and leadership development. Her expertise includes cross-

functional leadership/levels, compliance, regulatory, information security, marketing, client development, collections, customer service, employee development, and project management. She demonstrates effective communication and problem-solving skills with the ability to resolve difficult situations under adverse conditions. Her ability to achieve results when faced with multiple priorities and dependencies in a fast-paced environment.

Sativa is wife and a mother of two sons, Jordan (14) and Justin (6). She also holds numerous board and leadership roles within the community Dallas, Arlington and Ft Worth communities. She is a Presidential Service award winner and logs over 1,000 of community service annually in the areas of financial education, community development, educational enrichment and civic responsibility each year.

Her current philosophy is those things that mean the most to you, should be reflected in the time and attention you give them.



Emily M. Newsome Poet, Preacher & Word Coach

Emily M. Newsome believes words to be a universal creative force. As a Christian Life Coach based in Dallas, Texas, she specializes in career, communications and spiritual formations coaching. Her practice focuses on teaching clients to use their written and spoken words in tandem with the Word of God, to build richer and more fulfilled lives. When you write it, read it, say it and see it, it will surely come to pass! Emily has been perfecting her literary craft since the fifth grade. Her poetry has been published in the 1995 and 2005 National Library of Poetry anthologies, both the 1975 and 1996 editions of Lindsay Patterson's anthology, *A Rock Against the Wind*, and the 1997 anthology *Kente Cloth: Southwest Voices of the African Diaspora*, edited by Jas. Mardis. She is also featured on *Uncertain Rituals*(2013), a CD of short stories by S. Pearl Sharp. Her first self-published volume of poetry, *Phoenix*, received limited circulation in 1980, and is currently being considered for a second release. In 1997, she published a second collection of poems entitled *Seasons of Desire: Love Poems for Ordinary People*. Ms. Newsome's first spoken word CD, *Unveiling: It's Time*, is in progress, and her first devotional, *Keys to Godly Freedom*, is scheduled for release in 2016. A lifelong student with a deep respect for education, Emily has studied at the University of Chicago, DePaul University, Case Western Reserve University and American Public University, Texas Bible Institute and Seminary and Light University. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Theological Studies, an Advanced Certificate in Biblical Counseling, and an Advanced Diploma in Christian Life Coaching. In 1998, Emily was recognized by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority for Outstanding Achievement in the Arts, and has received the 2004 and 2005 Texas Gospel Excellence Award, First Runner Up in the Spoken Word category, and the 2008 Sheroes award for using her literary works to inspire women to excellence. She was also recognized as the Volunteer of the Year in 2012 by My Second Chance, Inc. Poetry has served as a springboard for Ms. Newsome's coaching, preaching and motivational speaking, mixing it with her personal testimony and spiritual philosophy. An ordained minister, she has served in several community organizations in various capacities including the St. Philip's Neighborhood Development Corporation, The Triangle Neighborhood Association, The Texas Gospel Announcers Guild of the Gospel Music Workshop of America, and My Second Chance, Inc., an organization that provides supportive housing for women emerging from a host of adverse

circumstances. She currently moderates a weekly live coaching call entitled “Keys to Godly Freedom” through the NPower International Ministries 24-hour prayer line. Contact Emily M. Newsome at poetofferings@gmail.com or 214-306-3748, or on Facebook at Offerings.



Rachel L. Proctor, Councilmember for the city of DeSoto, TX, was re-elected in a General Election to serve a full term in May 2014, making her the youngest African American woman to be elected to the DeSoto City Council thus far. Ms. Proctor has been a resident of DeSoto for over 20 years and is a proud graduate of DeSoto High School. Currently, she serves on the Board of Directors for the DeSoto Chamber of Commerce, the Dallas County Child Welfare Board and as a board member for Leadership Southwest.

Ms. Proctor is the Owner and Administrative Director of the Neighborhood Christian Learning Center of Dallas, Inc., which is a Nationally, Faith-Based Accredited Early Childhood Center. NCLC of Dallas is also a part of Dallas ISD’s School Readiness Integration Program and has been designated by the Texas Education Agency as a “Pre K Center of Excellence”! Councilmember Proctor was groomed for leadership as she spent her childhood working in the family business. This opportunity catapulted and cultivated her desire to help other aspiring business owners realize the dream of entrepreneurship. That desire fueled her to start her own corporation, RaySquared, Inc., a boutique business consulting firm that mentors and coaches budding entrepreneurs.

Councilmember Proctor is very passionate about giving back to DeSoto ISD. Her love for her alma mater fueled her to launch EMERGE Leadership, Inc., also known as ELI. The mission of EMERGE Leadership, Inc. is to foster the growth and potential of teen girls as they transition from high school to college life. Through creative programming, mentoring and scholarship opportunities, ELI aims to help participants grow in three specific targeted areas: leadership, education and sisterhood. Ms. Proctor is also a renowned and sought after speaker, minister and productivity coach. She pens an inspirational blog that teaches readers ways to live a purpose-filled, authentic life at www.RachelLProctor.com.

She was recently recognized by the Lancaster, TX Chamber of Commerce as a leader to look out for in their “Top 40 Under Forty” 2013 Class. She has also received the Steed Society Female Success Factor Award naming her as one of the “Top 25 Women of Dallas” for 2014.

Rachel holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Texas at Arlington and is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Professional Development at Dallas Baptist University. She is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



Gabrielle Smith I would have to say that if Oprah and Lenny Kravitz had a baby --- it would be me! That's because they are a perfect mixture of a resilient life strategist, spiritual-intuition maven, and challenger of the status quo. From the days of being an over-zealous, misguided spectator of my own life to being at the helm of a life that only I dreamed about. I still have to pinch myself. I am living proof that you can create and live a life that you love-no matter the circumstances. You are stronger than you think and your strength becomes exposed during your life's defining moments. I believe that you must live in the present moment and not give your past the gift of now. There is nothing for you in the rear view mirror, the road is before you. If you were to ask anyone about my work, they are most likely to tell you that they cancelled their lifetime subscription to Mediocrity magazine. By working with me, they are able to see the life they desire and have it! I am committed to defining success by your terms and through my articles, speeches, retreats, workshops, you will learn ways and practices to daily fortify yourself to live in the real world. Because you deserve to! Oh and one more thing – please don't expect everything to be perfect, but do expect some laughter, reality checks, and a few unexpected twists and turns!.



Dr. Zachary Spencer is a Richland College Learning Enrichment & Academic Development Professor. He teaches General Psychology; Human Sexuality and Learning Frameworks classes.



Shirley Walker-King is a Business & Relationship Consultant and Motivational Speaker who possesses a wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise in Human Resource Management, Business Basics, Relationship Building and Self Empowerment. Shirley is the CEO of SWK Management and Consulting Service, has her Bachelors degree in Human Relations & Business, is a certified Family Wellness Instructor and serves on the Board of Directors for Summerfield of Garland, The North Texas Minority Chamber of Commerce and Alfa Charter School. In addition, Shirley volunteers her time on the YMCA Annual Scholarship Review Committee, at Clay Academy and with DISD Community In Schools outreach program. Shirley recently started a Non Profit

organization called Community Mom Community Dad to help connect and mentor youth and young adults. Shirley is not your average speaker. She is direct and the point. Shirley doesn't sugar coat her message, she tells you like it is and how it needs to be said. She is a connector who provides her audience with resources and results to help move them forward on their path to success. Shirley has addressed audiences of all ages and backgrounds covering topics from Anger Management, Business Basics 101, 8 Habits of Highly Successful Marriage with her husband of 24 years Vincent King and working with her daughter Valencia King during their Mother and Daughter Enrichment Workshop. As a speaker, coach, mentor and businesswoman Shirley aims to enhance your life, business and relationships.



Carolyn Wright is visionary and founder of A-WOW INC., a not-for-profit, non-governmental enterprise, whose headquarter is in Dallas, Texas, USA

A-WOW Global Initiative Foundation (A-GIF, is the flagship program of A-WOW Inc) represents the new standard in the global leadership development world that combines (education and social economic growth with a balanced approached towards influencing community's and individual's well-being.

For the past five years, Carolyn has established a recognized supportive culture of innovation that attracts talent, improve communities and enhance the lives of young women and girls. She is directing an exciting new era of global transformative initiatives through education, training, skill development, knowledge and respect for multicultural diversity which, is a testament to her commitment for the advancement and development of sustainable leadership.

In 2009, Carolyn begin building upon her 28 years' of experience and extensive travels when she recognized an opportunity to focus her efforts and belief in the "Concept of Care" (caring for self, other and the environment) to transform the lives of young women and girls. During her travels, she has worked with various organizations which enabled her to build a network of international relationships within the community.

Carolyn pursued her Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas. She is serving as President Elect and is a proud member of the Lewisville Morning Rotary Club. She currently serves as a board member for Impact Life Worldwide, Ghana, and Southern Women Coalition. She is a member of The City of Dallas Trade Mission To Nigeria, The East African Chamber, and A-WOW Global Initiatives.

Carolyn is an avid volunteer, a supporter of the community and is a recipient of numerous awards, a testament to her commitment and success as a leader.