



## WELCOME

On behalf of the African American Student Union at Harvard Business School, it is our distinct pleasure to welcome you to Elevate Weekend, comprised of the 48th Annual H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference, as well as the 2nd Annual Black Tech Master Series and \$225K Black New Venture Competition. We are honored that you are joining us for what promises to be an engaging weekend.

Our theme is "Elevate: Uplifting Black Leadership for an Equitable Future". For the conference on February 27th, we will center the stories of resilient Black women leaders; those guiding us through a pandemic and recession, while also fighting against institutional racism in support of the Black Lives Matter Movement. The conference day on February 27 will explore several questions, including: How do we drive systemic change within organizations, boardrooms, and industries more broadly? How can we amplify the intersectional voices of communities, employees, and customers for the benefit of all? How as business leaders might we navigate the current crisis and adapt to seize the opportunities that lie ahead?

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the many individuals who contributed their time and energy to making the Elevate Weekend a success. To our keynote speakers, panelists, and judges: thank you for sharing your rich insights with us today. To our generous sponsors, the HBS faculty and staff, and alumni: thank you for your continued guidance and support in making this weekend possible. To our fantastic team: this weekend would not have been possible without your drive and passion to make our collective vision a reality.

And, finally, to you, our attendees: thank you for spending your weekend engaging with us here at the Harvard Business School. We're excited that you are joining us on our journey to inspire and equip the next generation of black leaders.

**Erica Payne**, 48th Annual H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference Co-Chair **Mike Cox**, 48th Annual H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference Co-Chair

**Brian Hollins,** Black Tech Master Series Co-Chair **Cary Williams,** Black Tech Master Series Co-Chair

**Cydni Williams**, Black New Venture Competition Co-Chair **Kam Phillips-Sadler**, Black New Venture Competition Co-Chair

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# THE 2021 BLACK NEW VENTURE COMPETITION

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26, 12:00 – 3:00PM ET

The Black New Venture Competition connects promising early-stage Black founders with resources to develop their ventures into dynamic powerhouses. The event serves as a launching pad for innovative ventures by providing exposure to capital, mentors, and advisors.

Founders will have the opportunity to pitch their ventures to a panel of esteemed judges and compete for a chance to win \$225K of total prize money. There are two tracks, one for pre-revenue ventures and another for revenue-generating ventures.

22 semi-finalists were selected to pitch their ventures on Friday, February 19th to determine the 11 finalists. The final 11 will pitch on Friday, February 26th, and winners will be announced at 2pm on Saturday, February 27 during the 48th Annual H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference.

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

The competition was open to entrepreneurs with innovative solutions to today's toughest problems. Entrepreneurs with ventures that met the following criteria were encouraged to apply:

- Self-identified Black founder, co-founder, or other member of C-suite.
- Proven minimum viable product
- Less than 5 years in operations
- Raised less than \$500,000 in funding at the time of the competition



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**BLACK NEW VENTURE COMPETITION** 



Google for Startups

# khosla ventures



# PRIZE MONEY (USD)

	PRE-REVENUE	REVENUE	
First	\$50,000	\$75,000	
Second	\$25,000	\$35,000	
Third	\$15,000	\$25,000	

# 2021 BLACK NEW VENTURE COMPETITION PRE-REVENUE FINALISTS

Creative Critique | EdTech





Duvall Lanell

K'ept Health | Healthcare / Biotech





FOUNDER
Sheena Franklin

Mive | Retail/Consumer





FOUNDER Mica Caine

Sahara | Developer Tools





FOUNDER

Jama Mohamed

Stuypend | Fintech





FOUNDER Andre Powers

Welntervene | EdTech





FOUNDER Natasha Green

# 2021 BLACK NEW VENTURE COMPETITION REVENUE FINALISTS

Agapé I Consumer Internet





FOUNDER Khadesha Bryant

Fleri I Fintech





FOUNDER
Samuel Baddoo

OYA FemTech Apparel | Retail/Consumer





FOUNDER
Mitchella Gilbert

QuirkChat | Social Community





FOUNDER
Bryanda Law

Syrona Health | Healthcare / Biotech





FOUNDER
Chantelle Bell

## **SEMIFINALS JUDGES**



**Olamide Olowe**Founder and CEO, Topicals

Olamide Olowe is a recent graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles where she was a pre-Med student and received a B.A. in Political Science with a concentration in Race, Ethnicity, and Politics and a minor in Entrepreneurship. In 2015, Olamide co-founded beauty brand, SheaGIRL, in partnership with SheaMoisture. Sundial Brands, parent company of SheaGIRL, was later acquired by Unilever in 2017. Currently, Olamide is the founder and CEO of Topicals, a skincare company transforming the way people feel about skin through effective products for eczema and hyperpigmentation. Olamide spent 2 years pitching Topicals to over 100 investors before securing \$2.6M in funding making her the youngest Black woman to raise over \$1M. She has received notable recognition from Harvard Business School, Google, the PAC12, the UCLA Alumni Association, *Allure, Teen Vogue, The Wall Street Journal*, and *Forbes*.



Marcus Hollon Senior Associate, Black Capital

Marcus Hollon is a Senior Associate at Black Capital, an early-stage VC fund focused on investing in Black founders. His responsibilities include leading deal sourcing, due diligence, investor relations, and business development. Marcus began his career as an investment banker at Morgan Stanley, advising FinTech companies on M&A. Prior to joining Black Capital, Marcus was an associate at SeedInvest, an early-stage VC fund and leading equity crowdfunding platform. Marcus also currently serves as a Chairman of the Associate Board for America Needs You, a non-profit that fights for economic mobility for ambitious, low-income college students by providing intensive career development and mentorship.



**Cassidy Szarnicki**Founder and Managing Partner, A37 Ventures

Cassidy Jordin Szarnicki, is the co-founder and managing partner at A37 Ventures. Investing in technology, consumer, sports, and entertainment startups. She has cultivated and grown a community of Black venture capitalists and underrepresented entrepreneurs to 24,000+ and growing.



**Ayanna Kerrison**Senior Analyst, Precursor

Prior to her career in Venture Capital, Ayanna spent 5+ years as a COO working for a variety of U.S. and International Investment Banks. Before joining Precursor, Ayanna worked at Credit Suisse as a COO within Prime Services. Ayanna also spent time working at the Bank of Montreal in the Financial Sponsors Group. Ayanna graduated from Baruch College with a BBA in Finance.



Jackson Cummings Investor, Salesforce Ventures

Jackson Cummings is an Investor at Salesforce Ventures, Salesforce's strategic investment arm that invests in innovative enterprise cloud companies, with 300+ portfolio companies across 20+ countries. While at Salesforce Ventures, Jackson has worked on or led 30+ investments including Forter, BigID, Ureeka, RunaHR, PerimeterX, OwnBackup, Outreach, and Sitetracker.

In 2020, Jackson Co-Founded the Black Venture Institute, which is an intensive, curriculum-based venture fellowship program designed to provide established Black operators the education, experience, and connections they need to become angel and venture investors.

Jackson is a Kauffman Fellow (Class 25), made the 2021 Forbes 30 Under 30 List for VC and was recognized by HBCUvc in their venture capital focused 31 Under 31 List. Jackson is also a board member at BLCK VC.

Jackson graduated from Stanford University with a B.S. in Science, Technology and Society and was a member of the varsity football team. Jackson is passionate about supporting more diversity in tech and the broader VC community.



Hadiyah Mujhid CEO and Founder, HBCU

Hadiyah Mujhid is the CEO and Founder of HBCUvc, a nonprofit that is dedicated to changing how investment capital is formed and allocated to benefit historically underestimated groups. She has experience as both a tech founder and software engineer and is obsessed with leveraging technology entrepreneurship for economic inclusion. She is also an Echoing Green and Praxis Fellow. Hadiyah earned her MBA from Drexel University and holds a BS in Computer Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, an HBCU.

### FINALS JUDGES



**Gaurav Ahuja**Principal, Thrive Capital

Gaurav Ahuja is a Principal at Thrive Capital, a venture capital firm that manages approximately \$9BN in assets with investments including Slack, Stripe and Spotify. Prior to Thrive, Gaurav worked as a Tech Investor in the San Francisco Bay Area and was previously a Consultant in McKinsey's Technology practice. He serves as a Board Member for nonprofits like BUILD and DreamWakers. Guarav is an alum of the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan.



Adina Tecklu Principal, Khosla Ventures

Adina Tecklu is a Principal at Khosla Ventures where she focuses on Seed - Series B investments in SaaS and Fintech. Prior to KV, Adina was an investor at Canaan where she built and led the firm's Seed practice. Before becoming an investor, she was a Product & Ops leader at Oracle and Zenefits. Adina holds degrees in Management Science & Engineering and Science, Technology & Society from Stanford University. She was featured on Forbes' 30 Under 30 List for Venture Capital. Adina cares deeply about increasing diversity across venture and venture-backed companies and is a Founding Board Member at BLCK VC and Co-Head of the VC Careers team at All Raise.



**Chris Lyons**Head of the Cultural Leadership Fund, Andreessen Horowitz

Christopher Lyons is a Managing Partner at Andreessen Horowitz where he oversees the firm's Cultural Leadership Fund (CLF). CLF launched in 2018 with the mission to connect the world's greatest cultural leaders to the best new technology companies and engage, empower, and elevate Black builders and creators on their journey towards excellence in the technology industry. The \$18M CLF Fund I was Silicon Valley's first venture capital fund consisting of 100% African American Limited Partners. In turn, 100% of management fees and carry associated with the fund are donated to a select group of non-profit organizations that share CLF's mission. Through his work with the Cultural Leadership Fund and Andreessen

Horowitz, Lyons has also created Silicon Valley's first "influencer network", establishing numerous strategic partnerships between emerging technology companies and seasoned athletes, entertainers, musicians and corporate executives.

Lyons is an advisor to The Black Economic Alliance and New Story Charity. He has been recognized by *Fast Company* as one of the 100 Most Creative In Business and *Forbes* Under 30 in Venture Capital. Lyons is the founder of Italian wine brand Lyons Wine, Kauffman Fellow graduate (Class '19), and member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated (KT Spring '07). Lyons received a Bachelor of Science degree in Entertainment Business from Sail University in 2010.



#### Fern Mandelbaum

Managing Director, Emerson Collective

Fern Mandelbaum is a Managing Director at Emerson Collective, where she leads early stage investing. Fern teaches at Stanford's Graduate School of Business including Entrepreneurship from Diverse Perspectives, POWer - Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset and Equity by Design - Building Diverse and Inclusive Organizations. She is a faculty advisor in Stanford's Distinguished Career Institute, and has taught a one year entrepreneurship program for engineering PhD students.

Fern was the co-founder of Vista Venture Partners, an early stage venture firm, and of Skyline Products, a toy invention firm that was acquired by IDEO. She was a partner at Monitor Ventures, and has worked at Bain and Company, SRI International, Hewlett Packard. Metcal and the Kyoto Shinyo Bank.

Fern received an M.B.A. from Stanford and attended Brown University. She enjoys running, cycling, power-yoga, and going on walks with her students, colleagues, CEOs, family and friends. She is married and has two children, Skylar and Miles.



Megan Maloney
HBS Class of 2022 & Former Principal, General Catalyst

Megan Maloney is currently completing her MBA from Harvard Business School. Immediately prior to Harvard, Megan was a Principal at General Catalyst, where she worked closely with portfolio companies including Gusto, Coda, and Stripe, and served as a board observer for Audius, Samsara, Grammarly, and Livongo (acq. by Teladoc for \$18B).

Prior to General Catalyst, Megan was an analyst in the Institutional Equities and Technology Investment Banking teams at Morgan Stanley. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Columbia University in Economics and Music.



Jason Scott
Head of Startup Developer Ecosystem, Google

Finishing an undergraduate degree at MIT, Jason got his professional start in management consulting at Arthur D. Little. After ADL, Jason moved from Boston to San Francisco to join the YC-backed startup - Homejoy - and subsequently went on to pursue an MBA from Stanford GSB. During and after GSB, Jason worked independently with a number of startups, eventually joining the investment team at Highland Capital Partners.

Jason came to Google in early 2018 as a Global Startup Programs Manager under Google Cloud. Today, he serves as Google's cross-functional US Startup Developer Ecosystem lead - managing Google's U.S.-based Accelerator programs and startup developer engagement strategy. In addition, he also remains an active seed investor, startup advisor, and the founder of FactionSF - a community for creatives, entrepreneurs, and early-stage investors.



**Yonas Beshawred** Founder, StackShare

Yonas is Founder & CEO of StackShare, one the world's largest online communities for software developers. Over 750,000 developers use StackShare every month to make technology decisions by seeing what other devs like them are using through technology profiles, comparisons, and discussions about popular open source and SaaS solutions.

Yonas has raised over \$7M for StackShare from Silicon Valley venture capital firms e.ventures, Cervin Ventures, Precursor Ventures, and 500 Startups as well as angel investors from Facebook, Square, Salesforce, Google, and McKinsey.

Yonas is a Founding Board Member of Harambeans, an organization that supports high impact African entrepreneurs that have collectively raised over \$400M in capital. Yonas helped create The Black Founder List, the most comprehensive data source for Black-founded, VC-backed US tech startups. Yonas also serves as a mentor at Transparent Collective, a non-profit based in Silicon Valley that supports underrepresented startup founders.

Yonas is Ethiopian-American and was born and raised in Maryland and holds a bachelor's degree in Information Systems and half of a masters degree in Human-Computer Interaction both from University of Maryland College Park.



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H. NAYLOR FITZHUGH CONFERENCE















# AGENDA (ALL TIMES ARE US EST)

8:50AM-9:00AM	AM WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS				
	Erica Payne, Conference Co-Chair				
	Lillian L. Lambert (MBA 1969), President, LilCo Enterprises, Inc   Founder, Former President & CEO Centennial One, Inc.   Co-Founder,				
	African American Student Union at Harvard Business School				
	Mike Cox, Conference Co-Chair				
9:00AM-10:15AM	OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS: NIKOLE HANNAH-JONES				
	Nikole Hannah-Jones, Pulitzer Prize-Winning Creator of the 1619 Project, New York Times  Moderated by Tsedal Neeley, Naylor Fitzhugh Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School				
10:20AM-11:20AM	PANEL SESSION #1				
	My Role for My Community: How to	Beauty of Wealth: Investing in Black Art	Skipping the Startup Phase: Becoming		
	Elevate the Black Community in a way that is personal, authentic and	sponsored by the Black Trustee Alliance for Art Museums	an Entrepreneur through Acquisition		
	sustainable for you	IOI ALL MUSCUITIS			
11:20AM-11:40AM	BREAK AND NETWORKING				
11:40AM-12:40PM	PANEL SESSION #2				
	Power of the Board Seat sponsored by the Executive Leadership Council (ELC)	Beyond Beauty: How Are Black Womxn Challenging the Age-Old Industry?	Betting on Ourselves: Advancing Black Health Through Black Leadership		
	. , ,	Challenging the Age-Old Industry:	Health Hirough black Leadership		
12:40PM-2:00PM	LUNCH AND NETWORKING				
2:00PM-2:15PM	PITCH COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT				
2:20PM-3:20PM	PANEL SESSION #3				
	Is the Entrepreneurship landscape really	Black Storytelling in Media &	Business & The Public Sphere: Model		
	changing for the Black community?	Entertainment	for the Ideal Relationship Between Private Businesses & Public Outcomes		
			Sponsored by American Tower		
3:20PM-3:30PM	BREAK AND NETWORKING				
3:30PM-4:00PM	PRESENTATION OF ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS				
4:00PM-5:00PM	4:00PM-5:00PM CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS: JESSIE WOOLLEY- WILSON				
	Jessie Woolley-Wilson (MBA 1990), President and CEO, DreamBox Learning				
	Moderated by Linda Hill, Wallace Brett Donham Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School				
	and Faculty Chair of the Leadership Initiative				
5:00PM	CLOSING REMARKS				
	Erica Payne, Conference Co-Chair				
5:05PM-6:05PM	HAPPY HOUR / NETWORKING				



#### OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

# **NIKOLE HANNAH-JONES**

9:00-10:15AM



**Nikole Hannah-Jones**Pulitzer Prize-Winning Creator of the 1619 Project, New York Times

Nikole Hannah-Jones is a MacArthur Genius for "reshaping national conversations around education reform." This is but one honor in a growing list: She is the creator of the New York Times Magazine's "The 1619 Project," about the history and lasting legacy of American slavery, for which her powerful introductory essay was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for commentary. She's also won a Peabody, two George Polk awards, and the National Magazine Awards three times. "Education and housing are the two most intimate areas of American life, and they're the areas where we've made the least progress." — Nikole Hannah-Jones. Nikole Hannah-Jones covers racial injustice for The New York Times Magazine, and has spent years chronicling the way official policy has created—and maintains—racial segregation in housing and schools. Her deeply personal reports on the Black experience in America offer a compelling case for greater equity. Hannah-Jones is the creator and lead writer of the New York Times' major multimedia initiative, "The 1619 Project." Named for the year the first enslaved Africans arrived in America, the project features an ongoing series of essays and art on the relationship between slavery and everything from social infrastructure and segregation, to music and sugar—all by Black American authors, activists, journalists, and more. Hannah-Jones wrote the project's introductory essay, which ran under the powerful headline "Our Democracy's Founding Ideals Were False When They Were Written. Black Americans Have Fought to Make Them True." The essay earned Hannah-Jones her first Pulitzer Prize, for commentary. Random House has also announced it will be adapting the project into a graphic novel and four publications for young readers, while also releasing an extended version of the original publication, including more essays, fiction, and poetry. Hannah-Jones has written extensively on the history of racism, school resegregation, and the disarray of hundreds of desegregation orders, as well as the decades-long failure of the federal government to enforce the landmark 1968 Fair Housing Act. She is currently writing a book on school segregation called *The* Problem We All Live With, to be published on the One World imprint of Penguin/Random House. Her piece "Worlds Apart" in The New York Times Magazine won the National Magazine Award for "journalism that

illuminates issues of national importance" as well as the Hillman Prize for Magazine Journalism. In 2016, she was awarded a Peabody Award and George Polk Award for radio reporting for her This American Life story, "The Problem We All Live With." She was named Journalist of the Year by the National Association of Black Journalists, and was also named to 2019's The Root 100 as well as *Essence's* Woke 100. Her reporting has also won Deadline Club Awards, Online Journalism Awards, the Sigma Delta Chi Award for Public Service, the Fred M. Hechinger Grand Prize for Distinguished Education Reporting, and the Emerson College President's Award for Civic Leadership. In February 2020, she was profiled by *Essence* as part of their Black History Month series, celebrating "the accomplishments made by those in the past, as well as those paving the way for the future." Hannah-Jones co-founded the Ida B. Wells Society for Investigative Reporting with the goal of increasing the number of reporters and editors of color. She holds a Master of Arts in Mass Communication from the University of North Carolina and earned her BA in History and African-American studies from the University of Notre Dame.



**Tsedal Neeley** [MODERATOR]
Naylor Fitzhugh Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School

Tsedal Neeley (@tsedal) is the Naylor Fitzhugh Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School. Her work focuses on how leaders can scale their organizations by developing and implementing global and digital strategies. She regularly advises top leaders who are embarking on virtual work and large scale-change that involves global expansion, digital transformation, and becoming more agile.

Tsedal heads and teaches in the first-year required Leadership and Organizational Behavior course in the MBA program that focuses on how to lead effectively; the curriculum addresses group behavior and performance, organization design, change and how to align people behind a common vision. With Bill George and Krishna Palepu she co-chairs the executive offering, Leading Global Businesses, which helps top leaders develop emerging and mature market strategies in a global and increasingly digital economy. She also teaches extensively in executive programs such as Harvard Business Analytics Program. Tsedal is a recipient of the prestigious Charles M. Williams Award for Outstanding Teaching in Executive Education and the Greenhill Award for outstanding contributions to Harvard Business School. She serves on the Board of Directors of Brightcove, Brown Capital Management, Harvard Business Publishing and the Partnership Inc.

Her forthcoming book, *Remote Work Revolution: Succeeding from Anywhere* (2021, Harper Collins Business), provides remote workers and leaders with the best practices necessary to perform at the highest levels in their organizations. Her award-winning book, *The Language of Global Success: How a Common Tongue Transforms Multinational Organizations* chronicles the behind-the-scenes globalization process of a company over the course of five years. She has also published extensively in leading scholarly and practitioner-oriented outlets such as *Academy of Management Journal, Organization Science, Management Science, Journal of International Business, Strategic Management Journal* and *Harvard Business Review*, and her work has been widely covered in media outlets such as BBC, CNN, Financial Times, NPR, the Wall Street Journal, and the Economist. Her HBS case, Managing a Global Team: Greg James at Sun Microsystems, is one of the most used cases worldwide on the subject of virtual work.

Prior to her academic career, Tsedal spent ten years working for companies like Lucent Technologies and The Forum Corporation in various roles, including strategies for global customer experience, 360-degree performance software management systems, sales force/sales management development, and business flow analysis for telecommunication infrastructures. A sought-after speaker with extensive international experience, she is fluent in four languages. She holds a patent for her software simulation on global collaboration and is a member of Rakuten's Advisory Board.

Tsedal received her Ph.D. from Stanford University in Management Science and Engineering, specializing in Work, Technology and Organizations. Tsedal was named to Thinkers50 2018 On the Radar list for making lasting contributions to management, honored as a Stanford Distinguished Alumnus Scholar and was a Stanford University School of Engineering Lieberman award recipient for excellence in teaching and research.

#### CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

## JESSIE WOOLLEY-WILSON

4:00-5:00PM



**Jessie Woolley-Wilson** (MBA 1990) President & CEO, DreamBox Learning

Jessie Woolley-Wilson is driven by a singular belief that all children deserve high-quality learning opportunities, regardless of who they are or where they live. For more than 20 years, Jessie has worked in the education technology space to support school and district leaders in improving learning and life outcomes for K-12 students.

Jessie joined DreamBox Learning in 2010 as Chair, President, and CEO. In 2018, she secured a \$130 million investment in DreamBox from The Rise Fund, a global impact investment fund managed by TPG Growth, making DreamBox the most well-funded education startup. The company's pioneering Intelligent Adaptive Learning platform has won more than 40 top education and technology industry awards and is used by 200,000 teachers and nearly 5 million students in all 50 states and throughout Canada and Mexico.

Prior to joining DreamBox, Jessie served as president of Blackboard's K-12 Group and LeapFrog School-House, the K-12 division of LeapFrog Enterprises. She also held leadership positions at collegeboard.com, the interactive division of The College Board, and at Kaplan, the leading test preparation company in the U.S.

Jessie is a two-time recipient of *EdTech Digest's* "EdTech Leadership Award" for her work in transformative innovation in education, and she has been named one of 2018's "Top 100 Influencers in EdTech." ASU GSV honored her with the "Innovator of Color" and "Power of Women" awards. *Forbes* placed her on its "Impact 15" list for being a disruptor in education, and *The New York Times* featured Jessie in its Corner Office column. She has also been featured in CNBC, NPR, and Business Insider, among other leading news publications.

Regionally, Jessie has received multiple accolades for her leadership, including *Seattle Business Magazine's* 2015 Executive Excellence Award in the "CEO of the Year" category, *GeekWire's* 2019 "Big Tech CEO of the Year" award, the *Puget Sound Business Journal's* 2012 "Women of Influence" and 2020 "Innovator

of the Year" awards, and the Ernst & Young 2019 "Entrepreneur Of The Year" award in the Pacific Northwest region.

Jessie supports the broader education community by serving on several boards, including Rosetta Stone and the Western Governors University Board of Trustees. She is also a board member for Boeing Employees Credit Union, Pacific Science Center, and The Bullitt Foundation. She has been a featured speaker at many international events, including TEDx Rainier, U.S. News and World Report's STEM Solutions Conference, SXSWedu, DENT, GeekWire Summit, and the ASU GSV Summit.

Jessie holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BA from the University of Virginia. She is also a 2007 Henry Crown Fellow and moderator for the Aspen Institute.



# **Linda A. Hill, Ph.D.** [MODERATOR] Wallace Brett Donham Professor of Business Administration and Faculty Chair, Leadership Initiative, Harvard Business School

Linda A. Hill is the Wallace Brett Donham Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School and chair of the Leadership Initiative. Hill is regarded as one of the top experts on leadership and innovation. Hill is the co-author of Collective Genius: The Art and Practice of Leading Innovation (Harvard Business Review Press 2014), co-founder of Paradox Strategies, and co-creator of the Innovation Quotient and re:Route. She was named by Thinkers50 as one of the top ten management thinkers in the world in 2013 and received the Thinkers50 Innovation Award in 2015.

Hill's research focuses on leadership development, building agile, innovative organizations, and implementing global strategies. She is the author of highly regarded books and articles on leadership. *Collective Genius* was named by Business Insider as one of "The 20 Best Business Books" and received the Gold Medal for Leadership, Axiom Business Book Award. Hill's TED talk on how to manage for collective creativity has over 2 million views. In 2015, Hill, along with her co-authors, received the first Warren Bennis Prize for the *Harvard Business Review* article "Collective Genius," based on the book. Hill is also the co-author of *Being the Boss: The 3 Imperatives of Becoming a Great Leader* and author of *Becoming a Manager: How New Managers Master the Challenges of Leadership*. Her books have been translated in multiple languages. Hill has authored or co-authored numerous *Harvard Business Review* articles, including "Where Will We Find Tomorrow's Leaders," "Winning the Race for Talent in Emerging Markets," and "Are You a High Potential?"

Hill has chaired numerous HBS Executive Education programs, including the Young Presidents' Organization Presidents' Seminar, the High Potentials Leadership Program, and Leading and Building a Culture of Innovation. She was course-head during the development of the new Leadership and Organizational Behavior MBA required course.

Hill has been at the forefront of developing various innovative learning programs for managers, including Breakthrough Leadership, the winner of a Brandon Hall Group Award for Best Advance in Unique Learning Technology, and the award-winning multimedia management development program, High Performance Management.

Hill's consulting and executive education activities have been in the areas of leadership development, talent management, leading change and innovation, implementing global strategies, managing cross-organizational relationships, and diversity and inclusion. Organizations with which Professor Hill has worked include the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, Accenture, AREVA, IBM, MasterCard, Merck, Mitsubishi, Morgan Stanley, National Bank of Kuwait, The Federal Reserve Bank, NASA, RELX, UnitedHealth Group, The Economist, Salesforce.com, and The World Economic Forum.

Hill is a member of the Board of Directors of Relay Therapeutics and the Global Citizens Initiative, Inc. Hill serves on the Board of Trustees of the ArtCenter College of Design and is a Special Representative to the Board of Trustees of Bryn Mawr College. She is also on the Advisory Boards of the American Repertory Theater, the Aspen Institute Business and Society Program, the Aspen Forum for the Future of Higher Education, the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (Calit2), Eight Inc., the Morgan Stanley Institute for Sustainable Investing, and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. She is a member of the HR People + Strategy Advisory Council. Hill is a former member of the Board of Directors of Harvard Business Publishing, State Street Corporation, The Bridgespan Group, and the Eaton Corporation. She is also a former member of the Board of Trustees of The Rockefeller Foundation and the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund USA.

Hill completed a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Harvard Business School and earned a Ph.D. in Behavioral Sciences at the University of Chicago. She received her M.A. in Educational Psychology from the University of Chicago. She has a B.A., summa cum laude, in psychology from Bryn Mawr College.



#### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

### TRAILBLAZER AWARD

3:30-4:00PM



**Aaron Mitchell**Director of Human Resources, Netflix Animation Studio

Aaron Mitchell (pronouns: he/him/his) is the Director of Human Resources for Netflix Animation Studio. In this role, Aaron works directly with studio leadership to build their teams and produce the largest and most diverse slate of animated content the world has ever seen. Aaron is an experienced business leader with a demonstrated history of executing change and is highly skilled in HR Strategy, Talent Acquisition, Compensation, Talent Management, and is adept at connecting business with HR.

Prior to this role, Aaron lead recruitment teams at Netflix. Before joining Netflix, he was leading Talent Management for MassMutual where he was responsible for succession planning, leadership development, executive recruitment, and university relations. He also served as the Recruitment Leader for Citi's APAC (Asia-Pacific) and EMEA (Europe, Middle-East and Africa) Consumer Bank where he was responsible for workforce planning, selection, and onboarding and previously lead strategy and planning for Citi's Asia-Pacific recruitment team specifically focused on the refinement of technology, process, and data quality capabilities. Aaron started his career as an HR intern at Independence Blue Cross in Philadelphia, PA before spending some time as a Staffing Manager at Accountemps before becoming an employment Manager at Bolthouse Farms.

Aaron was born in New Haven, CT where he graduated from Cooperative Arts & Humanities High School with a music performance concentration (saxophone). He went on to earn his Bachelor of Business Administration with a concentration in Human Resources from Temple University and an MBA in General Management from Harvard Business School. He serves on the boards of The Atlanta Music Project and The People Concern and as an Advisor for Structclub and People Tech Advisors. He resides in Los Angeles, CA with his wife and two daughters.

#### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

## BERT KING AWARD FOR SERVICE

3:30-4:00PM



**Depelsha McGruder**COO and Treasurer, Ford Foundation

Depelsha McGruder is COO and Treasurer at the Ford Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the U.S. Depelsha oversees global finance, IT and information management, grants management, events, facilities and operations for 11 offices in the US, Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Prior to joining Ford, Depelsha was COO at New York Public Radio (NYPR), including WNYC, WQXR, Gothamist.com, The Greene Space and NJ Public Radio. She led key internal functions including Human Resources, Legal, Engineering & IT, Archives and Internal Communications, with a focus on continuous improvements in organizational culture, processes, policies, workspace and talent strategy. She also oversaw Strategic Planning, Business Development and Digital for NYPR and was responsible for implementing a plan to expand WNYC's local news operation, reposition WNYC Podcast Studio and build on the strength of WQXR as one of the nation's leading classical music stations. Depelsha served as Interim CEO of NYPR for 6 months during a leadership transition.

Previously, Depelsha spent 17 years at Viacom in senior leadership positions at MTV and BET Networks. While there, she launched the video-on-demand, broadband and mobile businesses for MTV. She also led the launch of two Viacom cable TV networks designed to superserve diverse audiences -- MTV Tr3s for US Latino youth and Centric for African-American adults -- creating the branding, programming, distribution and partnership strategies. Post-launch, Depelsha led day to day operations for both networks, managing Strategy & Operations, Programming, Music & Talent, Digital & Social Media and had broad responsibilities for Finance, Legal, HR, and Tech. Both networks experienced triple digit increases in audience growth and revenue under her leadership. At BET, she led an organizational culture transformation, which she helped to implement. Earlier in her career, Depelsha was a strategy management consultant at Accenture in the Media & Entertainment, Telecommunications and High Tech practice and started her career as an on-air news reporter, anchor, and producer for two commercial television stations in Georgia.

Depelsha is also the Founder and President of Moms of Black Boys United, Inc. and M.O.B.B. United for Social Change, Inc., sister organizations that are dedicated to positively influencing how Black boys and men are perceived and treated by law enforcement and in society. She has two sons, ages 12 and 9, and recently became a widow.

Depelsha is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, The Links, Inc. and Jack & Jill of America. In 2011, she was selected for *The Network Journal's* "40 Under Forty Achievers Award" and was honored by TNJ in 2020 as one of "25 Influential Black Women in Business." In 2018, Depelsha was selected as a Forward Promise Fellow by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for her work in healing trauma for boys and young men of color. Depelsha serves on the boards of the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation, The Billie Holiday Theatre, the Harvard Business School Club of New York and Oaktree Capital. She earned a bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism from Howard University and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

#### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

# KENNETH POWELL PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

3:30-4:00PM



Jessie Woolley-Wilson
President and CEO, DreamBox Learning

Jessie Woolley-Wilson is driven by a singular belief that all children deserve high-quality learning opportunities, regardless of who they are or where they live. For more than 20 years, Jessie has worked in the education technology space to support school and district leaders in improving learning and life outcomes for K-12 students.

Jessie joined DreamBox Learning in 2010 as Chair, President, and CEO. In 2018, she secured a \$130 million investment in DreamBox from The Rise Fund, a global impact investment fund managed by TPG Growth, making DreamBox the most well-funded education startup. The company's pioneering Intelligent Adaptive Learning platform has won more than 40 top education and technology industry awards and is used by 200,000 teachers and nearly 5 million students in all 50 states and throughout Canada and Mexico.

Prior to joining DreamBox, Jessie served as president of Blackboard's K-12 Group and LeapFrog School-House, the K-12 division of LeapFrog Enterprises. She also held leadership positions at collegeboard.com, the interactive division of The College Board, and at Kaplan, the leading test preparation company in the U.S.

Jessie is a two-time recipient of *EdTech Digest's* "EdTech Leadership Award" for her work in transformative innovation in education, and she has been named one of 2018's "Top 100 Influencers in EdTech." ASU GSV honored her with the "Innovator of Color" and "Power of Women" awards. *Forbes* placed her on its "Impact 15" list for being a disruptor in education, and *The New York Times* featured Jessie in its Corner Office column. She has also been featured in CNBC, NPR, and Business Insider, among other leading news publications.

Regionally, Jessie has received multiple accolades for her leadership, including *Seattle Business Magazine's* 2015 Executive Excellence Award in the "CEO of the Year" category, *GeekWire's* 2019 "Big Tech CEO of the Year" award, the *Puget Sound Business Journal's* 2012 "Women of Influence" and 2020 "Innovator of the Year" awards, and the Ernst & Young 2019 "Entrepreneur Of The Year" award in the Pacific Northwest region.

Jessie supports the broader education community by serving on several boards, including Rosetta Stone and the Western Governors University Board of Trustees. She is also a board member for Boeing Employees Credit Union, Pacific Science Center, and The Bullitt Foundation. She has been a featured speaker at many international events, including TEDx Rainier, U.S. News and World Report's STEM Solutions Conference, SXSWedu, DENT, GeekWire Summit, and the ASU GSV Summit.

Jessie holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BA from the University of Virginia. She is also a 2007 Henry Crown Fellow and moderator for the Aspen Institute.



#### PANEL SESSION 1A

### MY ROLE FOR MY COMMUNITY

# HOW TO ELEVATE THE BLACK COMMUNITY IN A WAY THAT IS PERSONAL, AUTHENTIC AND SUSTAINABLE FOR YOU

10:20 - 11:20AM

Impact looks a lot of different ways: running for public office, being the first to break a glass ceiling, running a company, launching community focused initiatives, pro-bono services, mentorship, donating time or resources, and more. This workshop is intended to bust the myth of what service within the Black community looks like and empower each attendee to find what aligns with their skills, motivations and capacity through the stories of three phenomenal women.



**Alexis Jackson** [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2021

Alexis is a current 2nd year student at HBS. At HBS, she serves as one of the AASU co-presidents, a participant on the Dean's anti-racism task force and as the community values rep for her section. Prior to HBS, she worked as an engineer with an oil and gas company for five (5) years in Baton Rouge, LA. Post HBS, she will join the Bain NY office as a consultant.



**Ashley Lamothe**Franchise Owner, Chick-fil-A

Ashley Lamothe knows that life might not be lived effortlessly, but it can be lived authentically. She has made this honest approach a guiding principle in her personal and professional life. As the Owner/Operator of Chick-fil-A 7th and Fig. in downtown Los Angeles, Ashley strives to create a company culture that values an individual's uniqueness as a vital means for collective success.

Starting her career with Chick-fil-A at the age of 15, Ashley served as a restaurant team member in her hometown of Marietta, GA where she learned the ins and outs of day to day guest service and food preparation. Although the initial plans of her employment were for the purchase of a car, Ashley continued working at the company as she pursued higher education. She went on to graduate from Spelman College with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics whereby she enrolled in a Chick-fil-A management and development program for the next 2 years. Upon completion, Ashley became the youngest African American female franchise owner in the company's history at the age of 26.

Ashley has used her entrepreneurship to empower other women to fulfill their business goals. In 2013, Ashley traveled on behalf of Chick-fil-A to less economically developed countries in Europe to speak to women about business ownership and best practices as a means to achieve economic stability. In 2014, Ashley coordinated and led one of the first Chick-fil-A business retreats specifically geared toward female franchise owners. In 2015, Ashley was selected as one of The Root 100, which honors African Americans "breaking down barriers and paving the way for the next generation", for her achievements and influence within the Los Angeles Area. Ashley serves on the Chick-fil-A Operator Support Council, a small group of franchise owners selected to speak into and give feedback on future projects within the organization. She also serves as a board member of the African American Operator Network, which works to promote the development and support of professional entrepreneurial opportunities for Black minorities at Chick-fil-A. Heavily involved with Hollywood and Downtown Young Life, Ashley proudly serves in this organization that exposes inner-city youth to Christian values as a means to encourage them to attain life goals. Ashley derives joy from helping people recognize and reach their true potential.

If you believe you have more to offer this world, Ashley Lamothe can help you get there. Whether an aspiring business owner, mother, person of color or millennial, Ashley strives to equip and encourage future leaders for the workplace and beyond. In her free time, Ashley can be found cooking dishes for her family or releasing stress in a yoga position. Feel free to follow Ashley on social media via Facebook and Instagram at @AshleyTheOne and on her blog over at AshleyTheOne.com.



**Vi Alexander Lyles** Mayor, City of Charlotte

On Dec. 4, 2017, Vi Lyles was sworn in as the 59th mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina. She began her second term on Dec. 2, 2019, after receiving more than 77% of the vote in the general election.

As a Democratic leader, Mayor Lyles is known for her strong commitment toward creating jobs, expanding affordable housing options and supporting safe, livable neighborhoods. She is also an advocate for increased transportation alternatives and improved access to public transit.

Mayor Lyles received a bachelor's degree in political science from Queens University and a master's degree in public administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Under her leadership, the City of Charlotte continues to grow into an epicenter of commerce and a thriving market for technological advancement.



Ashley McCray [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Ashley McCray (HBS 2022) is an engineer, speaker, and DEI Consultant dedicated to increasing the opportunities for underrepresented minorities. She is an engineer by degree (University of Pittsburgh '16) and a proud CPG alum. Prior to HBS, Ashley spent 6 years at General Mills where she was pivotal in launching products for multi-million dollar brands such as Old El Paso and Cascadian Farm. Outside of her technical capacity, she leveraged her passion for DEI to launch company wide initiatives that increased employee retention. Through her work with Greater MSP, she launched their current strategy which has increased professionals of color retention for both Minneapolis and St Paul through empowerment of local grassroot organizations. In 2019, she was awarded as a General Mills Emerging Young Leader, General Mills Volunteer Champion of the Year and named to the 50 Women in Business List of the Twin Cities. She is a non-profit leader and longtime personal development coach. She's continued her DEI work at HBS. Most recently, Ashley's team won the Crowd Favorite award in the national John R. Lewis Racial Justice case competition through their thesis of how banks can close the racial wealth gap. Ashley believes that being involved in your community looks different for every person. "The goal isn't to follow a mold but to make the world a little better, every single day, in your own personal way."

When she is not working or serving you will find Ashley playing with her dog, Sarabi, or relaxing with her Fiance, Ronnie! (and most likely enjoying an episode of RuPaul's Drag Race).



**Alice Vilma**Managing Director, Multicultural Client Strategy, Morgan Stanley

Alice Vilma is a Managing Director in the Multicultural Client Strategy Group at Morgan Stanley in New York City, where she strengthens Morgan Stanley's connection to the multicultural business community through development and execution of commercial opportunities with corporate, government, institutional and individual clients. She is also Co-head of the Morgan Stanley Multicultural Innovation Lab, an accelerator that invests in and supports tech and tech-enabled startups with a multicultural or woman founder.

Ms. Vilma has been with Morgan Stanley for nearly 15 years and has had different roles within the Firm, including Equity Capital Markets and Securitization. She has over 20 years of investment banking, capital markets, structured finance and investing experience, executing over \$25Bn of securitization, structured finance and equity transactions. She graduated Cum Laude with a B.B.A. in Finance from the University of Miami and received her MBA from the Harvard Business School.

#### PANEL SESSION 1B

# BEAUTY OF WEALTH: INVESTING IN BLACK ART

10:20 - 11:20AM



This panel will be a conversation around the path to collecting and investing in black art as well as the role that art can play in helping create structural change in terms of diversity and representation in society today. The panel will also examine the role of trustees of cultural institutions and the newly launched Black Trustee Alliance for Art Museums.



Rebecca Aklilu [ORGANIZER] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Rebecca Aklilu is a first year student at Harvard Business School with an interest in the media & entertainment field. Prior to HBS, Rebecca worked in Strategy & Finance at Penguin Random House after starting her career in finance at Credit Suisse. She holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Georgetown University.



Pamela Joyner Founder, Avid Partners

Pamela J. Joyner has nearly 30 years of experience in the investment industry. She is the Founder of Avid Partners, LLC where her expertise has been the alternative investment arena. Currently, Ms. Joyner is focused on her philanthropic interests in the arts and education.

Ms. Joyner is a Trustee of The Art Institute of Chicago, the J. Paul Getty Trust, SF MoMA, Tate Americas Foundation as well as a member of the Tate North America Acquisitions Committee. She also serves on the Committee on painting and sculpture of the Museum of Modern Art. In the education arena, Ms. Joyner serves on the board of the Art & Practice Foundation.

Previously, Ms. Joyner's philanthropic involvements have included serving as: a member of President Obama's Committee on the Arts and Humanities; a Trustee of Dartmouth College; a Trustee of the New York City Ballet; a Trustee and Co-Chair of the San Francisco Ballet Association; a Board Member of the MacDowell Colony; as well as other arts and educational organizations.



**Denise Murrell**Associate Curator, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Denise Murrell, PhD, is an Associate Curator, Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. She was the curator of the exhibition Posing Modernity: The Black Model from Manet and Matisse to Today at Columbia University's Wallach Art Gallery in New York, and co-curator of its expansion at the Musée d'Orsay Paris, in 2018-19. She has taught art history at Columbia University in New York and Paris.

Denise previously received an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BS degree from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She had an extended career in finance and consulting, including at Morgan Stanley, Citicorp Investment Bank (New York and London) and culminating as Managing Director of Institutional Investor Research Group, Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC (1995-2005).

She currently serves on the Obama Presidential Portrait Commission Committee at the Harvard Club of Greater New York, the National Advisory Board of the Ackland Art Museum at UNC Chapel Hill and the Advisory Committee for the Spelman College/Atlanta University art history degree program.



**Gabrielle Sulzberger** [MODERATOR]
Fortune 500 board member, Co-Head, Black Trustee Alliance for Art Museums

Gabrielle Sulzberger is a seasoned financial executive with over 30 years of experience assisting public and privately held companies in consumer products, retail, financial services and life sciences. Gabrielle has helped companies globally navigate disruption and transformation, execution of major M&A transactions, and engagement with shareholder activists. She brings deep corporate governance experience through her work with corporate boards and is qualified to serve on audit committees as a financial expert.

Ms. Sulzberger currently serves as a strategic advisor to TwoSigma Impact, a New York based private equity fund. Previously, Ms. Sulzberger was a General Partner of Fontis Partners, a private equity fund based in Pasadena, California. Prior to joining Fontis Partners, Gabrielle served as CFO of several public and private companies, including Gluecode Software, a venture-backed open source software company which was sold to IBM, and Crown Services, a California based consolidation of commercial contractors.

Until August of 2017, Ms. Sulzberger served as Chairman of the Board of Whole Foods, where for 13 years she had previously served as Chair of the company's audit committee. She currently serves on the board of MasterCard, Brixmor Property Group, where she chairs the governance committee, and several private companies: Acorns, JustWorks, Cerevel Therapeutics, where she serves as Chair of the Audit Committee, and True Food Kitchen, where she is Chairman of the Board. Previously Ms. Sulzberger served on four other public company boards: Teva Pharmaceuticals, Stage Stores, IndyMac Bank, and Bright Horizons, and numerous private company boards.

Gabrielle is a Trustee of the Ford Foundation, and is chair of the governance committee. She also serves on the Boards of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Sesame Street Workshop, TimesUp and Trinity Church Wall Street. She is a Henry Crown Fellow of the Aspen Institute.

Ms. Sulzberger received her B.A. from the Woodrow Wilson School of Princeton University. She received her M.B.A. from Harvard Business School and J.D. from Harvard Law School and is a member of the Massachusetts Bar.

### PANEL SESSION 1C

# SKIPPING THE STARTUP PHASE: BECOMING AN ENTREPRENEUR THROUGH ACQUISITION

10:20 - 11:20AM

This panel will give a window into the lifestyle, potential for community impact, and economics of different search fund models (accelerator, self-funded, traditional). It will cover key phases of the journey including: raising a fund, structuring a deal, and operating a company.



Mike Cox [ORGANIZER] HBS AASU Class of 2021

Mike is an MBA Candidate at Harvard Business School (HBS). At HBS, he is Conference Co-Chair for the African American Student Union and Co-President of the Entrepreneurship through Acquisition Club. After business school, Mike will join Bain & Company as a Consultant in the Atlanta office. Mike's mission is to increase generational wealth in African American communities through business ownership.

Prior to HBS, Mike led corporate sales for diversity recruiting and retention services at a national non profit, Management Leadership for Tomorrow (MLT). Before joining MLT, Mike was a Venture for America (VFA) Fellow where he helped grow sales for a range of software companies and small businesses. Mike launched his career at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management. He worked on the Fixed Income sales desk and on the Insights & Analytics team. He also co-led the Analyst training program and started the Multicultural Capital Markets Committee to cultivate a more diverse talent pipeline for the trading floor.

Mike received a B.A. magna cum laude in Business Administration from Morehouse College. He is a proud member of the Alpha Rho Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Mike was born in Atlanta, GA and raised in Houston, TX.



Jamal Davis [ORGANIZER] HBS AASU Class of 2021

Jamal Davis is a 2nd year student at Harvard Business School. He's a native of Columbia, SC and 2014 graduate of UNC Chapel Hill. Prior to business school, Jamal worked at Capital One, where he underwrote loans and developed digital products to help millions of consumers better manager their credit and finances. In addition to this, he started a financial literacy program for residents at a local homeless shelter in Arlington, Virginia. Jamal is passionate about understanding and leveraging business, economics and financial literacy to transform the lives of Black and lower-income Americans.



Mia Jackson CEO, Vital Care Industries

Mia Jackson is the CEO of Vital Care Industries, a medical surgical supplies company headquartered outside of Chicago, IL. Previously, as a Principal and Operating Partner with Broadtree Partners, Mia led the transaction execution to subsequent acquisition of Vital Care. Broadtree is an operational focused lower-middle market private equity firm and the Vital Care Industries December 2020 acquisition became the firm's 10th portfolio company.

Prior to her role as Principal and Operating Partner at Broadtree, Mia was the Managing Director at Azienda Solutions Group, a boutique management consulting firm focused on strategy and operations. At Azienda, Mia created value for middle market business owners and executives by developing innovative solutions to help make organizations more efficient and profitable.

From Mia's 15+ years of industry and consulting experience, she has strong functional expertise in strategy, supply chain and finance across a broad number of industries such as chemicals, building materials, industrial products, consumer products and the manufacturing and distribution sectors.

Mia is originally from Southern California but recently relocated back to Chicago, IL. She earned her MBA from the Kellogg School of Management along with a dual Master of Engineering Management from the McCormick School of Engineering at Northwestern University. Mia also holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from UCLA.



**Tarra Sharp**Founder and Managing Principal, JHMacon Capital

Tarra Sharp is the Founder and Managing Principal of JHMacon Capital, LLC, established in 2020. Tarra has 15 years of strategy, marketing, operations, and general management experience within successful corporations such as American Express and McKinsey & Company. Tarra holds an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University with concentrations in Entrepreneurship and Marketing and a BBA from Baylor University.

After spending 5 years at McKinsey & Company, Tarra joined Crafty, a food and beverage start-up serving large corporate clients in Chicago. During her tenure as General Manager, she drove a 50% increase in revenue, helped acquire and onboard multiple large corporate clients, and managed a team of over 60 exempt and nonexempt employees. Her diversity of professional experiences, passion for leading teams, and strategic business acumen has led her to pursue a career as an entrepreneur through acquisition (ETA) where she'll successfully purchase, own, and grow a small business.

She lives in Chicago with her husband Evan, an Executive Recruiter at Russel Reynolds & Associates, and two dogs, Kofi and Shiloh. She loves sailing, running marathons, traveling, hiking, and mentoring young women in their professional pursuits.



**Karen Spencer** [MODERATOR] Founder and COO, Searchfunder.com

Karen is a founder and COO of Searchfunder.com, a growing online community for the niche business buyer called a search fund. Karen consults and works hands-on with start-ups, non-profits and established businesses on business strategy, business development, marketing and legal strategy. Karen also has over 25 years of experience counseling clients on intellectual property and general counseling issues as a member of Nike Inc.'s legal team and the Nike Golf business unit as well as at notable law firms in the Bay Area/Silicon Valley.

In addition to her business pursuits, Karen is committed to having a diverse and inclusive government. In 2020, she was a first-time candidate for the Portland Metro regional government. She leads the strategic

planning initiative for Oregon's Youth Development Council and is a voting member on Portland's Utility Board.

Karen is a recipient of the Portland Business Journal's Orchid Award, their highest honor of achievement for Women of Influence. Karen received her M.Sc. from Stanford GSB and her J.D. from Harvard Law. Karen received her B.S. from MIT in Chemical Engineering. She is a member of the California and Oregon state bars and the Patent bar.



Monica Weaver
President & CEO of TGI Direct, Inc.

Monica is the President & CEO of TGI Direct, Inc., a direct marketing company specializing in fulfillment, direct mail, email, and print communications for highly regulated industries. Monica acquired TGI Direct, Inc. in the summer of 2020 because of her desire to lead and aggressively grow an organization.

To make the right acquisition, Monica created Carmel Hill Acquisitions, a private equity entity that was developed for the sole purpose of searching for and acquiring a middle market company. This entity provided the structure under which she could build a portfolio by purchasing one or more companies for long term ownership.

Prior to the founding of Carmel Hill, Monica gained business and management experience by working for several Fortune 500 companies. Most recently, she was a Sr. Product Manager for Owens Corning. In this role, she led a \$170MM product line and was responsible for strategy, new product development, and customer growth. She also had success in digital marketing and innovation roles at USG corporation, as well as at PriceWaterhouseCoopers, specializing in implementing information technology software with nationally recognized retailers and distributors.

Monica has a Bachelor of Business Administration from The University of Michigan, Ross School of Business and a Masters of Business Administration from The University of Chicago, Booth School of Business.



### PANEL SESSION 2A

# POWER OF THE BOARD SEAT

## SPONSORED BY THE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (ELC)

11:40AM-12:40PM

Charting the path to corporate boards, how one can drive racial equity within companies and in society from the board level; and intersections between corporate and non-profit boards.





**Jacqueline Adams** [MODERATOR]
President, J Adams: Strategic Communications, LLC

Jacqueline Adams launched a second career as a communications strategist after more than two decades as an Emmy Award winning CBS News correspondent. A natural "connector," she has the unique ability to hear clients' strategic concerns and find creative solutions, drawing upon her wealth of contacts and experiences in media, business, academic and civic circles.

Through her boutique consulting firm, J Adams: Strategic Communications, LLC, she counsels a variety of corporate and non-profit clients. She has had multi-year engagements with the global communications strategy firm, Burson-Marsteller, and with the Ford Foundation. She serves as a senior advisor to the new payment platform for publishers, NICKLPass (https://nicklpass.io/), and she has a major role in the training program for rising star managers of color, The Diverse Future. In 2020, she launched a bi-monthly column, #TeamUp, in The Christian Science Monitor.

Ms. Adams covered the groundbreaking campaigns of Jesse Jackson for President and Geraldine Ferraro for Vice President before spending five years as a White House correspondent during the Ronald Reagan

and George H. W. Bush administrations. In the 1990s, she was a prolific contributor to the CBS Evening News with Dan Rather and CBS News Sunday Morning. She won a News and Documentary Emmy Award for the 48 Hours broadcast, "The Search for Matthew."

A graduate of Harvard Business School, Ms. Adams deliberately saves time for a number of non-profit activities. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Harvard Business School Club of New York and was among the alumnae profiled during the school's 50th anniversary celebrations of women and African American students (http://hbsaaa.net/jacqueline-adams.php).

She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the International Advisory Committee of the United States Institute of Peace, and the Advisory Council of the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream. She is a patron of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and is in the fifth year of a planned decade-long study of classical composers at the Juilliard School of Music's Evening Division.

Monica has a Bachelor of Business Administration from The University of Michigan, Ross School of Business and a Masters of Business Administration from The University of Chicago, Booth School of Business.



**Shellye Archambeau**Fortune 500 board member, Former CEO of MetricStream, Advisor and Author

Ms. Archambeau is an experienced CEO and Board Director with a track record of accomplishments building brands, high performance teams, and organizations. Ms. Archambeau currently serves on the boards of Verizon [NYSE:VZ], Nordstrom [NYSE: JWN], Roper Technologies [NYSE: ROP], and Okta [NASDAQ: OKTA]. She is also a strategic advisor to Forbes Ignite and to the President of Arizona State University, and serves on the boards of two national nonprofits, Catalyst and Braven.

She is the former CEO of MetricStream, a Silicon Valley-based, governance, risk, and compliance software company that enables corporations to improve their business operations through better risk management across the enterprise. Ms. Archambeau built the company into a global market leader with over 1200 employees serving customers around the world. Under her leadership MetricStream was recognized for growth and innovation over the years and was named in the top 10 of the "Deloitte Technology Fast 50" and named a global leader in GRC by leading independent analyst firms for 9 consecutive years.

Ms. Archambeau has over 30 years of experience in technology leading organizations focused on business to business as well as business to consumer. She is a recognized expert in marketing and co-authored, "Marketing That Works: How Entrepreneurial Marketing Can Add Sustainable Profits to Any Sized Company." She has held EVP of Sales and Chief Marketing Officer roles for two public companies and as President of Blockbuster.com, launched the entertainment retailer's first online presence.

She was named the second most influential African American in IT by Business Insider. She was ranked one of the "100 Most Influential Business Leaders in America" by Newsmax and that same year received the NCWIT Symons Innovator Award from The National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT).

She is the author of Unapologetically Ambitious: Take Risks, Break Barriers and Create Success on Your Own Terms (Published by HBG Grand Central 10/2020). A book that helps professionals achieve their aspirations and create the life they want.

Shellye is also a sought-after speaker on governance, risk and compliance as well as marketing and entrepreneurship. She has guest lectured at Stanford's Graduate School of Business and The Wharton School of Business. She is a Forbes contributor and has been featured or referenced in major publications such as The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, and The Financial Times.

In her spare time Shellye enjoys exercising, the performing arts, entertaining and cooking.



Mike Cox [ORGANIZER] HBS AASU Class of 2021

Mike is an MBA Candidate at Harvard Business School (HBS). At HBS, he is Conference Co-Chair for the African American Student Union and Co-President of the Entrepreneurship through Acquisition Club. After business school, Mike will join Bain & Company as a Consultant in the Atlanta office. Mike's mission is to increase generational wealth in African American communities through business ownership.

Prior to HBS, Mike led corporate sales for diversity recruiting and retention services at a national non profit, Management Leadership for Tomorrow (MLT). Before joining MLT, Mike was a Venture for America (VFA) Fellow where he helped grow sales for a range of software companies and small businesses. Mike launched his career at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management. He worked on the Fixed Income sales desk

and on the Insights & Analytics team. He also co-led the Analyst training program and started the Multicultural Capital Markets Committee to cultivate a more diverse talent pipeline for the trading floor.

Mike received a B.A. magna cum laude in Business Administration from Morehouse College. He is a proud member of the Alpha Rho Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Mike was born in Atlanta, GA and raised in Houston, TX.



Erica Payne [ORGANIZER] HBS AASU Class of 2021

Erica Payne is a second-year candidate at the Harvard Business School. In her undergraduate studies at Stanford University, Erica focused on the intersection of technology and social progress. Post-graduation, Erica joined Deloitte as a Strategy & Operations Consultant, where she helped global technology organizations redesign their strategic operations. In the last 5 years Erica has focused her career on helping global organizations redesign their diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) strategies in order to foster a more inclusive internal cultural as well as serve a broader customer base. Erica has helped build and redesign DEI strategies for start-ups and Fortune 500 clients in both the for-profit and non-profit sectors. During her time at Harvard Business School Erica has taken on the role of Co-Chair for the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Council and post-graduation Erica aspires to continue her work in DEI, and help organizations expand their strategies beyond just talent.



**Bonita C. Stewart**VP of Global Partnerships, Google

Bonita C. Stewart brings extensive consumer technology and operational experience as her career spans over two decades of digital transformation across multiple industries. Since joining Google in 2006, she has risen to lead multi-billion dollar operations and driven adoption of digital technologies within the US and Americas. Currently, she oversees the company's Global Partnerships team for the largest US publishers across Search, Mobile Apps, Commerce, News, Broadcast, Telecommunications and Domains.

Ms. Stewart was recruited by Google to build the US Automotive vertical into an industry thought leader across 42 automotive brands and became the first African American woman vice president to lead sales

and operations for the Automotive, Finance, Media/Entertainment and Travel sector. Over the past several years she has been recognized externally for her leadership as a Woman to Watch (Advertising Age, 2011), Power 100 (Ebony, 2012, 2019), Woman to Watch in Tech (Crain's NY, 2014) and Most Powerful Women (Crain's NYC, 2015, 2017, 2019). In 2017 she created the concept for Howard West, a technology immersion program for historically black colleges and universities (HBCU), powered by Google.

In 2014 Ms. Stewart was nominated to the Deckers Brands corporate board [NYSE:DECK] and currently serves on the corporate governance and compensation committees. In 2018 she joined the Pluralsight corporate board [NASDAQ:PS] and their compensation committee. In January 2021 Ms. Stewart was nominated to the PagerDuty [NASDAQ:PD] board.

Prior to Google, she served as Director, Chrysler Group Interactive Communications for DaimlerChrysler AG and spearheaded all digital efforts for Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep. During the Dot Com era she was recruited back to DaimlerChrysler to lead Chrysler brand's \$400 million advertising and marketing operation. During her leadership tenure Advertising Age named the Chrysler Group the 2005 Interactive Marketer of the Year and she co-authored "The Fifth P of Marketing," an article for CRM Magazine. During the first stint of her automotive career Ms. Stewart led the brand development for future and existing Dodge passenger cars and minivans representing an \$8+ billion annual revenue target.

In 2012 and 2013 she received award recognition from the Harvard Business School and Howard University respectively for alumni achievement. She has served on the following non-profit boards - Detroit Music Hall, Cranbrook Art Academy, Harvard Business School African American Alumni Association, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts and Harvard Business School Club of New York City. Currently, she serves on the American Ballet Theatre Advisory Council for Project RISE and board member for the Women's Forum of NY.

Ms. Stewart spent her formative years in Denver, CO and graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts from Howard University and an MBA from Harvard Business School. She resides in Englewood, NJ with her husband, Kevin Stewart (HBS 1979).

### PANEL SESSION 2B

# **BEYOND BEAUTY**

#### HOW ARE BLACK WOMXN CHALLENGING THE AGE-OLD INDUSTRY?

11:40AM - 12:40PM

"My Black is Beautiful." "Black don't crack." Though black self-care and beauty have been relied upon anecdotally for centuries, only now are black-founded brands beginning to be recognized and validated by mass retailers and consumers. This panel will explore key issues, narratives, and journeys of four incredible womxn in the consumer goods and beauty spaces through different lenses.



**Keta Burke-Williams** [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2021

Keta Burke-Williams is a self-proclaimed "un-learner" and jack of all trades, with a background in sales and general management at fortune 100 companies. Along with her sister, she co-founded clean fragrance brand, Aspen Apothecary. She is currently a second year student at HBS where in addition to building the diverse fragrance brand of the future, she is a member of the executive board of the African American Student Union, involved with the HBS Show, and consults for a local non-profit. In her free time she can be found testing perfumes, drinking tea, and eating good chocolate!



**Beatrice Dixon**Founder and CEO, The Honey Pot Company

When she was younger, Beatrice Dixon suffered with bacterial vaginosis for eight months. One night, an ancestor gave her the ingredients to heal herself in a dream. From that insightful dream, she created the formula for a healthy, clean feminine wash. In 2014, Dixon launched The Honey Pot Company, a plant-based feminine hygiene line created with a goal to provide women with a healthy alternative to feminine care that is free of chemicals, parabens, carcinogens and sulfates. The rest is history.

With experience in pharmaceuticals, retail and natural foods, Dixon has the insight and expertise to bring the innovative concept of a plant-based feminine care system to the marketplace. Unlike mass market and conventional feminine care brands, consumers will be able to get all of their feminine care needs met under one brand as The Honey Pot Company currently offers feminine washes, wipes, tampons, pads, mommy-to-be products, and soon-to-be additional offerings in both the feminine hygiene and feminine care segments.

Today, The Honey Pot Company's products can be found online and in stores nationwide at Target, Walmart, CVS, Walgreens, Bed Bath and Beyond, Wegmans and Whole Foods, among other retailers.

An empowering African American female entrepreneur, Dixon has been a recipient of the Sundial and Unilever's multimillion-dollar New Voices fund; was 1 of the first 40 women of color to raise over one million in venture capital; and has been featured in T-Pain's School of Business, BuzzFeed's Ladylike series, Today Show, The New York Times, Entrepreneur, ELLE, ESSENCE and Forbes, to name a few.

Most recently, she was named one of Forbes Top 100 Female Founder's; her company won a 2020 ES-SENCE Best in Black Beauty Award and a WWD Beauty Inc Wellness Award; and she received a CEW Indie 65 Award in 2019, honoring beauty's independent companies.

Through her diverse background and experience, Dixon continues to make a mark in the world of natural health and retail with a truly revolutionary approach to feminine health and sexual wellness.



Christina Funke Tegbe Founder, 54 Thrones

In 2016 Christina launched 54 Thrones; an award-winning African skincare brand featured in Vogue, Essence, Elle, Pop Sugar, and Byrdie Beauty. Inspired by the richness, diversity, and culture of the continent our ingredients are handcrafted in Africa by Africans. I partner with women-run cooperatives and entrepreneurs in Ghana, Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria and Uganda who handcraft the botanical ingredients that make up 54 Thrones. Through social entrepreneurship, we promote trade not aid through conducting business on the continent to change the narrative. I spoke at length about this while on the panel of the 2019 Global Shea Alliance annual meeting on the power of advancing gender equality in producing communities by

supporting, and providing sustainable income opportunities for our partners. In 2020 54Thrones won an Oprah Magazine O-ward for Best Face Oil 2020.



**Kayla Greaves**Journalist, Senior Beauty Editor, InStyle

Kayla A. Greaves is an award-winning journalist and senior beauty editor at InStyle. She has interviewed the likes of Academy award-winning actress Lupita Nyong'o, supermodel Naomi Campbell, TIME 100's Most Influential People and women's rights activist Jaha Dukureh, Viola Davis, Chaka Khan, and many more. In 2016, Kayla won a Canadian Online Publishing Award for her work with The Huffington Post. In 2017, she was named on the "Top 100 Black Women to Watch in Canada," list, and was also recognized by the CBC as one of 150 black women making Canada better. She was most recently nominated for the "Best Online Journalist of 2019" prize at ByBlacks.com's annual People's Choice Awards.



**Dorian Morris**Journalist, Senior Beauty Editor, InStyle

A true champion of inclusivity within wellness, Dorian Morris is a beauty junkie with deep expertise across categories from cosmetics to haircare to skincare to food/wellness. She is the Founder/CEO of Undefined Inc which includes Undefined Beauty, a clean, conscious, inclusive lifestyle brand focused on democratizing wellness and destigmatizing plant magic. The Glow Collection taps into the supercharged benefits of CBD to soothe, balance and heal whereas the new R&R Collection harnesses the power of adaptogenic mushrooms to detoxify and protect against daily stressors and there is continued category expansion on the horizon. Dorian believes in the power of plant magic in all its forms and has built Undefined to educate, normalize and demystify plant-based solutions for all. She believes we all deserve access to high-quality products that don't cost your first born child. Wellness shouldn't be illusive or exclusive—let's democratize it.

With a diverse leadership background, her previous experience spans Retail, CPG and Beauty—from leading US Marketing at Covergirl Cosmetics, spearheading Prestige Innovation at Sundial Brands and as an early employee and global Brand Manager at Kendo, LVMH's innovative brand incubator. Prior to beauty, she started her brand management career at General Mills, sharpening her general management and brand building skills on legacy brands such as Chex Mix and Yoplait and started her career in the Macy's

buying office, mastering merchandising and portfolio management. She graduated from UCLA summa cum laude and received her MBA from Harvard Business School. A true wanderlust with an adventurous spirit, in her free time Dorian enjoys globetrotting (and has traveled to 60+ countries) and is a proud pet mom of a spunky Morkie named Monaco, who is Undefined's CPO (Chief Protection Officer).

### PANEL SESSION 2C

# BETTING ON OURSELVES: ADVANCING BLACK HEALTH THROUGH BLACK LEADERSHIP

11:40AM-12:40PM

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on Black communities, largely due to systemic inequities already present in healthcare and society. This panel will explore how the pandemic exacerbated those existing inequities and disparities. Industry experts will provide insight into how business leaders and policymakers can work to improve Black health during the pandemic, including building trust in vaccines, and beyond to create lasting change.



**Arielle Anderson** [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Arielle Anderson is a first-year MBA candidate at Harvard Business School and intern at Hatfield Medical Group, a growing value-based primary care group in Phoenix, Arizona. She is active in the African American Student Union, the Health Care Club, and the Consulting for Impact club at HBS.

Arielle is passionate about health equity and improving the health and wellbeing of vulnerable people and underserved communities. Prior to HBS, she served as a Program Manager in the Corporate Social Responsibility office at UnitedHealthcare, helping to scale the company's philanthropic grant making efforts nationally. She began her career as a management consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers focused on operational efficiency and cost reduction projects for health systems and academic medical centers.

Arielle holds a Bachelor's in Business Economics from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University.



**Dr. Nicole Cooper**Head of Healthcare Policy at Lyft

Dr. Nicole M. Cooper currently serves as Head of Healthcare Policy at Lyft. In this role, she develops and manages Lyft's national healthcare policy agenda while expanding Lyft's presence in the healthcare sector. Since 2016, Lyft has worked with healthcare organizations across the country to help communities in need — including low-income individuals, the elderly, and people with disabilities — travel to health services, such as dialysis treatment, chemotherapy, and prenatal care.

She previously served as Vice President of Corporate Social Responsibility at UnitedHealthcare, where she led national signature partnerships and local and state social investment strategies to bolster UHC's social impact across the US. Reporting to the UnitedHealthcare Chief Communications Officer, among other responsibilities, Dr. Cooper spearheaded national corporate philanthropic grant-making efforts and employee volunteerism programs that were focused on addressing basic access to care and the social determinants of health for underserved communities. She was also a member of the executive UnitedHealthcare Culture, Inclusion and Diversity Council.

Prior to joining UnitedHealthcare, Dr. Cooper was an Obama administration political appointee, and part of the US Department of Health and Human Services team responsible for implementation of the Affordable Care Act. At HHS, Dr. Cooper served as a policy advisor to key leaders in the agency, including the Chief of Staff at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health.

She holds a bachelor's degree from Spelman College, a master of public health (MPH) degree from the University of Michigan, and a doctor of public health (DrPH) degree from Harvard University.



Courtney Hardy [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Courtney Hardy is a first-year MBA candidate at Harvard Business School with a passion for equitable access to affordable healthcare. Prior to HBS, she started her career in a rotational development program at Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina. There, she worked on oncology value-based care initiatives, strategy and innovation, and community partnerships with local health-focused organizations. She transitioned to health delivery to serve as an internal operations consultant for Outpatient Services at the UNC Health Medical Center.

Courtney has a Bachelor of Science in Public Health concentrated in Health Policy and Management from the Gillings School of Global Public Health at UNC Chapel Hill.



**Dr. Patrice Harris**Former President and current Board of Trustees Member of the American Medical Association

Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA, a psychiatrist from Atlanta, was the 174th president of the American Medical Association, and the organization's first African-American woman to hold this position. Dr. Harris has diverse experience as a private practicing physician, county public health director, patient advocate and medical society lobbyist.

Dr. Harris currently spearheads the AMA's efforts to end the opioid epidemic and has been chair of the AMA Opioid Task Force since its inception in 2014. Dr. Harris continues to lead the task force as it works across every state to eliminate barriers to treatment, provide patients with access to affordable, non-opioid pain care, and fight the stigma faced by those with substance use-disorders.

Having served on the AMA Board of Trustees since 2011, and as chair from 2016 to 2017, she has long been a mentor, a role model and an advocate. Prior to serving on the board, Dr. Harris honed her broad knowledge and deep understanding of health care issues through various leadership roles. At the AMA these included having served for many years on the AMA Council on Legislation, including a term as chair, and on multiple AMA task forces on topics such as health information technology, payment and delivery reform, and private contracting.

Beyond the AMA she has held positions of leadership with the American Psychiatric Association, the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association, the Medical Association of Georgia, and The Big Cities Health Coalition, where she chaired this forum composed of leaders from America's largest metropolitan health departments.

Growing up in Bluefield, W. Va., Dr. Harris dreamt of entering medicine at a time when few women of color were encouraged to become physicians. Dr. Harris spent her formative years at West Virginia University, earning a BA in psychology, an MA in counseling psychology and, ultimately, a medical degree in 1992. It was during this time that her passion for helping children emerged, and she completed her psychiatry residency and fellowships in child and adolescent psychiatry and forensic psychiatry at the Emory University School of Medicine.

Two themes that govern Dr. Harris's professional life are a passion to improve the lives of children and service to others. A recognized expert in children's mental health and childhood trauma, Dr. Harris has led efforts on both local and national levels to integrate public health, behavioral health and primary care services with supports for employment, housing and education.

A fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, Dr. Harris continues in private practice and currently consults with both public and private organizations on health service delivery and emerging trends in practice and health policy. She is an adjunct assistant professor in the Emory Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and an adjunct clinical assistant professor in psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Morehouse School of Medicine.



**Dr. Freda Lewis-Hall**Former Senior Medical Advisor at Pfizer

During her 35-year career in medicine, Dr. Freda Lewis-Hall has been on the frontlines of health care as a clinician, educator, researcher and leader in the biopharmaceuticals and life sciences industries. She served as Pfizer, Inc.'s Chief Medical Officer and Executive Vice President until the end of 2018 and as Chief Patient Officer and Executive Vice President during 2019. In these roles, Dr. Lewis-Hall expanded outreach to patients, reshaped the focus on patient engagement and inclusion, improved health information and education and amplified the voice of the patient within company culture and decision-making. She was responsible for the safe, effective and appropriate use of Pfizer medicines and vaccines.

Before joining Pfizer, Dr. Lewis-Hall held senior leadership positions of Chief Medical Officer and Executive Vice President, Medicines Development at Vertex Pharmaceuticals; Senior Vice President, US Pharmaceuticals at Bristol Myers Squibb; Vice President, Research and Development, Product Development at Pharmacia Corporation; and Product Team Leader and Director at Eli Lilly and Company.

Dr. Lewis-Hall currently serves on the Board of Fellows of The Harvard Medical School, the Board of Advisors of the Dell Medical School and the Board of Governors for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute. She currently serves on the corporate boards of Milliken and Company, a global diversified industrial manufacturer; 1Life Healthcare, Inc., a health services company; Exact Sciences, Inc., a molecular diagnostics company; and SpringWorks Therapeutics, a biopharmaceutical company.

Prior to joining the biopharmaceutical industry, Dr. Lewis-Hall served as vice chairperson and associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Howard University College of Medicine and was an advisor to the National Institute of Mental Health. She earned a B.A. in Natural Sciences from The Johns Hopkins University and an M.D. from Howard University College of Medicine. She launched her medical career as a practicing physician and then focused her academic research on the effects of health care disparities and the impact of mental illness on families and communities.

Dr. Lewis-Hall is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of the United Kingdom. She is a frequent speaker on issues such as improving patient safety and health outcomes, reducing stigma and health care disparities, women's health, public health, corporate leadership and diversity. Dr. Lewis-Hall is an accomplished developer of consumer education and medical outreach programs, including national television and radio shows such as segments on Dr. Phil, The Doctors, THE REAL, TEDMed, The Urban Health Report and multiple online sites.



### PANEL SESSION 3A

# IS THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP LANDSCAPE REALLY CHANGING FOR THE BLACK COMMUNITY?

2:20-3:20PM

This panel will provide an optimistic yet accountable discussion on the VC/entrepreneurship landscape based on the experiences of key participants within the ecosystem: where we are and where we need to head to affect not only black founders/investors but also the greater black community. We aim to educate our audience about the racial inequity that exists in the entrepreneurial landscape, while providing prescriptive guidance on how investors, founders, and the community can work together to create more equity for the black community.



Kwesi Acquay [ORGANIZER] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Kwesi Acquay is a first year MBA student at Harvard Business School. Prior to business school, Kwesi worked at J.P. Morgan's Tech Investment Banking group focusing on enterprise software, fintech, and services sectors. In 2016, Kwesi launched the J.P. Morgan Digital Initiative, a startup engagement initiative within Tech Investment Banking, created to enhance client advisory on digital ecosystems. Most recently, he was a venture capital summer associate at Harlem Capital, focusing on diverse founder early-stage investments.



**Mercedes Bent**Partner, Lightspeed Venture Partners

Mercedes Bent is a Partner at Lightspeed Venture Partners, a venture capital firm based in the Bay Area. Previously she served as an executive at a VR startup and a General Manager at General Assembly (acquired, 2018) where she oversaw a multi-million dollar business line. She has an MBA and a Masters in Education from Stanford University and an AB from Harvard University. She serves as a board member for the non-profit Birthright AFRICA and in her free time she enjoys off-roading in her Jeep. She is an African-American of Bermudian, Grenadian, and Colombian heritage and was named a 40 under 40 for Tech Diversity.



**Ulili Onovakpuri** Partner, Kapor Capital

Uriridiakoghene "Ulili" Onovakpuri returned to the Kapor Capital team in 2016. She is focused on sourcing investment opportunities, conducting diligence and supporting Kapor Capital's portfolio companies particularly those in the digital health and medical technology industries.

Previously, Uriridiakoghene served as Director of Global Programs at Village Capital, a global accelerator program and venture capital firm which supports healthcare, education, agriculture, energy and FinTech businesses. At Village Capital she worked side by side with entrepreneurs from around the world helping them grow their ideas into marketable businesses.

Uriridiakoghene received her MBA with a concentration in Health Sector Management from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. She is a native San Franciscan and a proud UC Berkeley Alum.

In her free time, you will likely find Uriridiakoghene watching Bollywood movies or playing with her niece Maya.



**Olutosin Sonuyi** [ORGANIZER] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Olutosin, a first year MBA student and California native, is currently working on his own venture focused on software to bring the power of communities online. Prior to HBS he spent his first few years after undergrad designing power plants and their supporting systems for General Electric in South Carolina. He held roles in simulations and controls engineering before eventually moving to Atlanta and landing as a software engineer working on anomaly detection algorithms.



Elise Smith
Co-Founder & CEO, Praxis Labs

Prior to co-founding Praxis Labs, Elise invested in and coached entrepreneurs developing diversity and inclusion solutions at NewSchools Venture Fund. She has also developed ed-tech products and led ed-tech partnerships at IBM Watson. Elise holds a B.A. in Geography & Social Inequity from Dartmouth College and an MBA and MA in Education from Stanford University. Inspired by her parents' fight for educational equity, Elise is dedicated to scaling access and opportunity with the goal of creating a more equitable society. When not working, Elise can be found listening to political podcasts, running outside, and binging the latest Netflix show.



**Tori Van Amson** [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Tori Van Amson is a first year student in the MBA Program at Harvard Business School and Co-Founder of ACE Women's Collective, a content platform and community that provides junior women in finance with virtual access to peer mentors and industry leaders. Prior to HBS, Tori was an Associate on Morgan Stanley's Multicultural Client Strategy team, where she developed content that quantified and illustrated the inequities in the funding landscape for women and entrepreneurs of color, and supported the firm's Multicultural Innovation Lab accelerator program for underrepresented founders. She started her career as an Analyst in Equity Capital Markets at Morgan Stanley.



**April Weathers** [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2022

April is a first-year student at Harvard Business School interested in diversity and inclusion and workforce development. April started her career in Los Angeles working in operations management. She left to join a residential solar start up in Salt Lake City where she got involved with organizations focused on diversifying the entrepreneurship landscape, including as the Chapter Lead for SoGal Salt Lake. April holds a dual degree in Government and Spanish from Claremont McKenna College.

### PANEL SESSION 3B

# BLACK STORYTELLING IN MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT

2:20-3:20PM

This panel discussion will center around the importance and impact of black representation and storytelling across different forms of media. It will also dive into how our three panelists have found success in their various media-driven industries as black female leaders.



Rebecca Aklilu [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Rebecca Aklilu is a first year student at Harvard Business School with an interest in the media & entertainment field. Prior to HBS, Rebecca worked in Strategy & Finance at Penguin Random House after starting her career in finance at Credit Suisse. She holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Georgetown University.



**Candi Carter**Executive Producer and Showrunner of "Tamron Hall"

Candi Carter was named executive producer and showrunner of the nationally syndicated daytime talk show "Tamron Hall" in March 2020.

The Emmy Award-winning producer has extensive television credits with over two decades of experience. She spent the past five years as executive producer of "The View" and, prior to that, was a senior/supervising producer for 15 years at "The Oprah Winfrey Show." During her career, Carter has overseen a wide range of programming, from big on-location events and musical performances to fashion and talent shows and surprise reunions. She has also executive produced, developed and launched talk shows, breaking news programs, specials and live town halls for a variety of networks.

In April 2016, Carter was included in *Variety's* Women's Impact Report. She also dedicates her time to raising money and awareness for teens with special needs through her foundation "We've Got Friends" (www.wgfnj.org).



**Sanyu Dillon**Chief Marketing Officer, Penguin Random House

Sanyu Dillon is EVP and Chief Marketing Officer at Penguin Random House U.S., the world's largest trade book publisher, where she leads the development of the company's consumer marketing strategy. During her 15+ year tenure at PRH, Sanyu's empathetic approach to marketing, centered on a deep understanding of evolving consumer needs, has helped the company connect with its readers through dynamic storytelling and breakthrough campaigns. With a wide-ranging purview including consumer insights & analytics, media planning, advertising, partnerships, creative strategy, video and design, Sanyu is known for her incisive, visionary marketing leadership and her ability to work across levels and departments at PRH to create meaningful change. Her team's channel and category-specific programs have consistently driven incremental sales, increased brand awareness and spurred consumer engagement through innovative ecommerce strategy and an insights-driven approach, spotlighting PRH's books and authors. Sanyu is a member of the Penguin Random House U.S. Board and has an Executive MBA from NYU Stern School of Business.



**Aisha Corpas Wynn**VP of Alternative Programming, MACRO TV Studios

Aisha Corpas Wynn is an accredited Development Executive and Executive Producer with fifteen years of experience in the television industry. Prior to joining MACRO TV Studios, she ran point as Head of Development for award-winning actor and comedian Anthony Anderson and Bunim/Murray Productions' partnership, where she oversaw unscripted and animation programming. In 2015, Aisha founded A Wynn Wynn Production. Her company is known for producing HBO's After the Thrones for the worldwide phenomenon series Game of Thrones, and she served as the Showrunner and Co-Executive Producer. Aisha has years of the field experience as a producer on countless unscripted series, such as Food Network's Great Food Truck Race, FOX's American Grit, and A&E's Flipping Vegas. She also created and executive produced VH1's I'm Married To A..., A&E's Flipping Miami, and Snapchat's Road Trippin' with Rickey Thompson and

Denzel Dion. As a creative powerhouse, Aisha has successfully developed and sold original content to networks across all platforms, including HBOMax, Apple, Fox Studios, OWN, and WEtv.

In addition to TV programming, Aisha has provided her expertise in other areas of entertainment, including podcast strategy consulting for The NFL Network, digital content production for Disney's Freeform working on series such as Grown-ish & The Fosters, and event producing Cartoon Network's Annual Black Women Animate Bootcamp. Academically, she attended college at the early age of 16 and graduated cum laude with BA in Film from the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB).

### PANEL SESSION 3C

# **BUSINESS & THE PUBLIC SPHERE**

# MODEL FOR THE IDEAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PRIVATE BUSINESSES & PUBLIC OUTCOMES

2·20-3·20PM



This panel will provide a realistic picture of how much impact private businesses have on the activities that impact outcomes for individuals within the Black community. The underlying motivation is to challenge the assumption that simple parity-based representation is the goal that companies should be aiming for when it comes to their efforts to promote diversity.



**Andrea Campbell**District 4 Boston City Councilor, Boston City Council President,
Candidate for Mayor of Boston

Andrea Joy Campbell's vision for Boston is driven by her life story - the pride of growing up in Roxbury and the South End, the pain of losing her mother, father, and twin brother at an early age, and the foundation this city gave her to overcome long odds and become the first Black woman to serve as President of the Boston City Council.

Born and raised in Boston, and educated in all Boston Public Schools, including Boston Latin School, Andrea Campbell went on to graduate from Princeton University and UCLA Law School. She began her career at a non-profit in Roxbury, providing free legal services to students and their parents on education matters, including school discipline and special education needs. She has worked as legal counsel in both the public and private sectors, and before embarking on her run for City Council, served as deputy legal counsel for Governor Deval Patrick.

Andrea was first elected District 4 Boston City Councilor on November 3rd, 2015, representing primarily the neighborhoods of Dorchester and Mattapan, as well as parts of Roslindale and Jamaica Plain. Since then,

Andrea has been a leader for equity, justice, and opportunity for all in Boston. As the first Black woman to serve as Boston City Council President, from 2018-2020, she championed an agenda that put racial equity at the top of Boston's priority list. For years, she's led the fight to reform our police and criminal legal systems, pushed our City and school leaders to act urgently to provide a quality public education to every student, and established the first-ever line item in the City budget for youth development programs.

She's running for Mayor to bring the city together to break cycles of inequity and injustice, and to give every Bostonian a chance to succeed.



Sayiddah Fatima McCree
Investment Associate, Mission Investments

Sayiddah Fatima McCree is an investment associate with the Mission Investments team, focusing on impact investing and creating capital markets that are more equitable. In this role, she conducts due diligence and underwriting for potential investments and builds the field for impact investing.

Before joining Ford in 2018, Sayiddah was a senior researcher at Harvard Business School where she worked with professors who focused on private investing and co-authored cases on topics ranging from restructuring a conglomerate in Brazil to mixed-use real estate development in Miami. She also conducted on-the-ground interviews with infrastructure and pension fund managers in Nigeria and supported the development of an intensive course on business in Africa. Earlier in her career, she served as an associate with the Related Companies focused on the investing in and preserving of affordable housing via a federal tax expenditure program.

Sayiddah has also served as a senior project manager with an engineering services firm, using her architectural and engineering expertise to advise real estate portfolio owners on exterior building facade capital expenditure programs. This experience, combined with her South Bronx roots, deepened her interest in the role of capital in the built environment and how the lack of capital evidences itself in neighborhoods and in community members' quality of life.

Since her undergraduate years, Sayiddah has contributed her skills to numerous nonprofit organizations and mentored a diverse set of youth in pursuit of STEM, real estate, and business opportunities. Most recently, as an Impact Fellow with Project Destined, she helped a group of students from the Bronx win a

real estate design/business competition and helped launch many of the students into selective internship programs with private investment companies and real estate firms.

Sayiddah earned an MBA from Harvard Business School and holds master of integrated building delivery and bachelor of architecture degrees from the Illinois Institute of Technology.



**Nicole Obi**Director of Strategic Programs, Black Economic Council of Massachusetts (BECMA)

Nicole Obi is a serial entrepreneur having co-/founded several venture backed start-up firms. She joined Fidelity Investment in 2007 as Director of Strategic Management Consulting. There she established a new customer function and in 2013 was promoted as the Vice President of Customer Insights & Engagement Strategy.

Nicole left Fidelity in 2018. Since then she has been consulting as well as serving as a member of The Boston Chapter of the Links, Inc. a volunteer service organization for professional women of color, WGBH's Board of Advisors and the Intensive Community Program Committee at the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra. Nicole earned master's degrees from both MIT's the Sloan School of Management and the School of Urban Planning & Design.

She resides in Chestnut Hill, MA with her husband, daughter and puppy, Disco.



**Olutosin Sonuyi** [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Olutosin, a first year MBA student and California native, is currently working on his own venture focused on software to bring the power of communities online. Prior to HBS he spent his first few years after undergrad designing power plants and their supporting systems for General Electric in South Carolina. He held roles in simulations and controls engineering before eventually moving to Atlanta and landing as a software engineer working on anomaly detection algorithms.



**Cyril Straughn-Turner** [MODERATOR] HBS AASU Class of 2022

Cyril Straughn-Turner is a first year (RC) at HBS. He grew up in Atlanta, GA before heading west for undergrad at Stanford University (Class of 2016), where he studied Management Science & Engineering, International Relations and German Studies. Since graduating Stanford, Cyril has spent the past few years working for Oliver Wyman, a management consulting firm, in their Dallas office. At Oliver Wyman, Cyril worked across industries, with a focus on strategy and transportation, hospitality & services. Cyril is hoping to use his time at HBS to pivot to work at the intersection between commercial real estate and community development, specifically addressing ways to further foster investment and development in the US South in a more inclusive, non-gentrifying manner.





# WELCOME

Run in tandem with the African American Student Union Conference, the Black Tech Master Series (BTMS) gathers some of the strongest founders and innovators in the Black tech ecosystem. BTMS sets the standard for Black tech programming, and our speakers come from academia, tech, Fortune 500s and the public sector, all of whom are committed to helping students and young professionals reach their full potential.

The Black Tech Master Series (BTMS) was conceived by Tyler Simpson (MBA 2020) and Kimberly Foster (MBA 2020) as an independent project that grew into a major initiative to open up the resources of Harvard Business School and engage deeply on issues of diversity, inclusion, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

We would like to thank eBay, our presenting sponsor for supporting our journey for the second year in a row, and Zoom, our Gold sponsor for joining in our mission this year. We would also like to thank our community sponsors who have helped us identify talented students who can benefit from this event: BLK Capital Management, The Takeoff Institute, Harvard Black Student Association, Blavity and MLT.

We're excited that you are joining us on our journey to inspire and equip the next generation of Black leaders. We hope that this event is only the beginning of your journey learning from and engaging with Black leaders (and allies) across the tech ecosystem.

Sincerely,



Brian Hollins, Co-Chair



Cary Williams, Co-Chair



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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# **AGENDA - BLACK TECH MASTERS SERIES**

10:00 – 10:45am Respect the Village | Damien Hooper-Campbell

10:45–11:30am Panel: The Perfect Pitch Deck

Camden McRae, Chloe Breider, Megan Maloney

11:45am – 12:30pm Searching for Product Market Fit: Jeff Bussgang

12:30 – 1:00pm Lunch Break: DJ Lexapeel set

1:00 – 1:45pm Founders Panel — The Journey

Cam Sadler, Tony Brown, Maci Peterson-Philitas

1:45 – 2:30pm Own Your Personal Story — The Art of Authenticity | Bradford Shellhammer

2:30-3:15pm Building a Black Digital Community—The Blavity Story | Aaron Samuels

3:15-4:00pm BTMS kickback with the Founders

Tyler Simpson (FB), Kim Foster (Launch with GS)

### LECTURE:

# RESPECT THE VILLAGE

10:00 - 10:45AM



**Damien Hooper-Campbell**Chief Diversity Officer, Zoom

Damien Hooper-Campbell is the first Chief Diversity Officer at Zoom. Prior to joining Zoom, Damien was a Vice President at eBay where he served as the company's first Chief Diversity Officer. In this role, he led the design and implementation of eBay's global strategy for embedding diversity and inclusion across its workforce, workplace, and marketplace. He also led eBay's University Recruiting & Programs team and was a member of the eBay Foundation's Board of Directors.

Damien has served on the Board of New Jersey Needs You and as a mentor in Morehouse College's Executive Mentorship Program. Damien graduated with a BA in Economics from Morehouse College and an MBA from Harvard Business School, where he was both a Bert Kind and Morgan Stanley Fellow.

### PANEL SESSION:

# THE PERFECT PITCH DECK

10:45-11:30AM



**Chloe Breider**Investor, Renegade Partners, HBS Class of 2021

Chloe is an Investor at Renegade Partners, where she focuses on sourcing early-stage investment opportunities as well as due diligence and portfolio company management. She has worked in the technology sector for five years and has invested in companies including Datadog, eightfold.ai and UiPath. She is also an active angel investor, focused on investing in underrepresented founders. Personal investments include Alchemy43 and Upgrade Salons.

Previously, Chloe was an investor at IVP, a later-stage venture capital firm based in Menlo Park, CA with \$7B AUM. At IVP Chloe was primarily focused on Enterprise and FinTech/FinServ businesses. She started her career as an investment banking analyst in the Technology, Media and Telecommunications group at Goldmans Sachs, where she worked on transactions including Blue Coat's \$4.65B sale to Symantec and Apptio's \$110M IPO.

Chloe has a degree in Economics from Wellesley College, and is expecting to earn her MBA from Harvard Business School in May 2021. She grew up in Lake Tahoe, and as such is an avid skier and a big fan of the outdoors. She also loves muay thai, football (American & European) and is currently based between San Francisco and Kansas City (Go Chiefs!).



Megan Maloney HBS Class of 2022

Megan Maloney is currently completing her MBA from Harvard Business School. Immediately prior to Harvard, Megan was a Principal at General Catalyst, where she worked closely with portfolio companies including Gusto, Coda, and Stripe, and served as a board observer for Audius, Samsara, Grammarly, and Livongo (acq. by Teladoc for \$18B).

Prior to General Catalyst, Megan was an analyst in the Institutional Equities and Technology Investment Banking teams at Morgan Stanley. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Columbia University in Economics and Music.



Camden McRae Investor, Industrious Ventures

Camden McRae is a co-founder and Investor at Industrious Ventures, an early-stage fund focused on industry transformation. He currently serves on the Executive Committee for BLCK VC, as well as the Stanford Angels & Entrepreneurs of Southern California. Camden co-founded a company that led him to become a Fellow at Lightspeed Venture Partners and he later worked as a Fellow at Alchemist Accelerator. Most recently, Camden was a Principal at Noname Ventures. He received a BA in psychology from Harvard University and a JD from Stanford Law School.

### LECTURE:

# SEARCHING FOR PRODUCT MARKET FIT

11:45AM-12:30PM



**Jeff Bussgang**General Partner, Flybridge Capital

Jeff Bussgang is a venture capitalist, entrepreneur and professor at Harvard Business School (HBS). His venture capital firm, Flybridge Capital Partners, has made investments in over 100 technology-focused startups since inception fifteen years ago and over \$600 million under management.

At HBS, he teaches Launching Technology Ventures, a popular class for MBA students starting companies or pursuing careers in startups. Prior to becoming a venture capitalist, Bussgang was an entrepreneur—serving as cofounder and president of Upromise (acquired by Sallie Mae) and an executive team member at Open Market (IPO 1996).

He is the author of a book for startup joiners, Entering StartUpLand: An Essential Guide to Finding the Right Job and Mastering the VC Game, an essential guide for entrepreneurs raising capital and building their startups. He has also authored well over twenty HBS case studies, teaching notes and book chapters regarding startup management and entrepreneurship. He started his career with The Boston Consulting Group and holds an MBA from HBS and a BA in computer science from Harvard College.

### PANEL:

# FOUNDERS PANEL - THE JOURNEY

1:00-1:45PM



Anthony Brown CEO. Breakr

Prior to his latest endeavor, Anthony Brown was a portfolio manager at the Acumen Fund. Prior to Acumen, Anthony was a management consultant with Manatt Health Strategies, an interdisciplinary policy and business advisory practice of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP. He provided quantitative and qualitative research support and strategic advice on healthcare business and policy issues for the full spectrum of healthcare stakeholders.

Anthony has over 10 years experience building long-term investment relationships with wealthy family offices, executives, influencers, and institutional investors. Prior to Manatt, Anthony split his time between J.P. Morgan and Goldman Sachs in New York and San Francisco. As a kidney donor himself, Anthony has partnered with the American Kidney Fund, and UCSF to become a vocal advocate for the kidney disease population across the United States. His work has been featured in the Huffington Post, and various national media outlets.



**Maci Peterson-Philitas** CEO, On Second Thought

Maci Peterson Philitas is the CEO and co-founder of On Second Thought (OST), the definitive delay-recall mechanism for mobile communications platforms. As an entrepreneur and respected thought leader, Maci is a frequent lecturer, subject-matter expert and advisor on entrepreneurship, innovation and diversity initiatives. Under her leadership, OST has raised over \$1 million from investors, expanded to 190 countries; secured multiple patents; and evolved beyond the mobile app to meet more users where they are. Maci has been named to several notable lists, including: Washington Business Journal 40 Under 40; BBC 100 Women; Inc. Magazine's 30 Under 30; and Washington Business Journal's 40 Under 40. She has also been

profiled by NPR, The Washington Post, BuzzFeed, Black Enterprise, Fox and others. Maci earned her BA in public relations and advertising from Chapman University, and was named Chapman's 2017 Distinguished Young Alumna of the Year. Maci currently resides in San Francisco.



Cam Sadler CEO, NewCraft

Cam Sadler is currently Founder and CEO of NewCraft, the first Dallas-Fort Worth startup to be accepted into Y-Combinator. Prior to founding NewCraft, he was awarded a U.S. patent for machine learning and served as a technology teacher at Paul Laurence Dunbar. Cameron graduated from Sam Houston State University, where he played NCAA Division I basketball.

### LECTURE:

# OWN YOUR PERSONAL STORY—THE ART OF AUTHENTICITY

1:45-2:30PM



#### **Bradford Shellhammer**

VP, Buyer Experience & eBay for Charity; GM, eBay NYC

As Vice President of Buyer Experience at eBay, Bradford is a leading product visionary in the company. He and his teams define the direction, design, and build of eBay's Discovery, Growth and Engagement experiences including: homepages, browse pages, global header and navigation, content, Interests, My eBay, verticalized category experiences, guest experiences, couponing and referral programs, Watch List and saving searches, sellers, and collections. He also sets the vision of eBay's personalized shopping algorithms and products, and the company's mobile strategy, while providing creative direction of visual design and curation. As GM of eBay New York, Bradford leads one of eBay's most important offices, which houses advertising, personalization, design and curation teams. Prior to eBay he was one of Fast Company's '100 Most Creative People in Business' and was coined the 'King of Quirk' by Forbes Magazine and the 'Eames of E-Commerce' by Wired. He was also the founder of Fab.com, Bezar, and Queerty, was Chief Design Officer at Backcountry.com, and has won 3 Webbys. In his spare time, you can find Bradford singing in a rock band.

#### **BLACK TECH MASTER SERIES:**

# KICK BACK WITH THE FOUNDERS

3:15-4:00PM



**Kim Foster**Co-Founder, Black Tech Master Series and Black New Venture Competition; Strategy, Launch with GS at Goldman Sachs

Kimberly lives at the intersection of investing, technology, and equity. She is passionate about identifying innovative founders and equipping them with the resources they need to scale thriving ventures. She is currently serving resilient founders at Launch With GS, Goldman Sachs' \$500 million investment strategy to increase access to capital for diverse entrepreneurs. Before Goldman Sachs, she served in management, operations, corporate development, and strategy roles within the media and foodtech sectors at EY and various startups. Kimberly earned her MBA from Harvard Business School where she focused on finance, technology, and general management. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Accounting from the University of Connecticut



**Tyler Simpson**Co-Founder, Black Tech Master Series and Black New Venture Competition;
Product Marketing Manager, Facebook

As a Product Marketing Manager at Facebook, Tyler leads the product development efforts for Facebook's live broadcasting tools. Prior to joining Facebook Tyler was an MBA Candidate at Harvard Business School where she served as a leader within AASU and an advocate for all things Diversity Equity and Inclusion on HBS' campus. One of her proudest accomplishments during her time at HBS is co-founding the Black Tech Master Series and New Venture Competition with her classmate Kim Foster.

Tyler Simpson, a native of Cartersville, Georgia, graduated from Columbia University in 2013 with a B.A in Psychology. While at Columbia, she was a member of the Women's Basketball team and avid supporter of Columbia Athletics. Upon graduation, Tyler joined the National Basketball Association as a member of the Associate Program. In her 5 seasons at the NBA, Tyler held roles in the NBA's International Licensing group as well as the Global Partnerships group where she managed the marketing partnership accounts for three of the NBA's major global partners.