

## Chicagoland Summit on STEMM Equity and Excellence

August 5, 2023

Hosted by



### Speaker Bios

#### Welcome and Opening Remarks

**1:00 PM**

- Jessica Chavez, ED.d, Ruth D. and Ken M. Davee Vice President of Education and Chief Learning & Partnership Officer
- Chevy Humphrey, President and CEO, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago
- Shirley Malcom, Senior Advisor to the CEO and Director of SEA Change, AAAS

#### Dr. Jessica Chavez, Chief of Learning and Community Partnerships, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago



Dr. Jessica Chavez is the Ruth D. and Ken M. Davee Vice President of Education and Chief Learning and Community Partnership Officer at MSI. In this role, Dr. Chavez leads the Museum's Education division and the Partnerships and Community Engagement team, which builds and expands MSI's commitment to create authentic and meaningful relationships throughout Chicagoland and beyond.

Dr. Chavez has been working in museum education since 2015. She has a track record of influencing organizational movement through data-driven, research based best practices from business and formal education. Dr. Chavez is dedicated to supporting her community and providing resources to those that have barriers in populations of need. Her holistic approach to STEM education is not one-size-fits-all, meeting people where they are to ensure not only resources are being provided, but empowering the community she serves.

She started her career at Arizona Science Center as the Vice President of Innovative Learning Strategies at the Center where she implemented and strategized professional learning for educators across the state of Arizona. In 2020, Dr. Chavez was recruited by the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in Dallas, Texas where she expanded learning initiatives to the Dallas community, ensuring alignment in support of K-12 education, and creating pipeline programming for college and career readiness. She was also instrumental in helping the museum bounce back from the pandemic.

Prior to non-profit work, Dr. Chavez was an educator in Mesa, Arizona. She holds a B.A. in Art Education and M.A. in Educational Technology from Arizona State University, and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University. Additionally, she was in the Learning Forward's 2020 class and Leadership Texas Women's 2022 class.

### **Chevy Humphrey, President and CEO, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago**



Chevy Humphrey is a corporate board director, business executive, science educator, and globally recognized industry leader. Humphrey is the first woman and first Black American to lead the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI), the largest science Museum in the Western Hemisphere.

In 2005, Humphrey became the first Black American named to lead a science center in the United States when she became CEO of Arizona Science Center where she served for 15 years. During her tenure at ASC, Humphrey adopted best practices from business to create a robust and thriving community-serving organization. Under Humphrey's leadership, Arizona Science Center's assets increased by more than \$40M, and programming expanded dramatically. At the same time, Humphrey formed an equity-forward organizational culture through a transparent, inclusive, collaborative, and highly communicative team that values accountability, urban and rural community relationships, innovation, and an entrepreneurial spirit, while working in partnership with the Board of Trustees and the community.

Humphrey serves as Director and Chair of the Compensation Committee for Grand Canyon Education, Inc., a \$3B market cap education services company that provides a full array of services in the post-secondary education market (NASDAQ: LOPE). Humphrey brings to GCE her wealth of experience in science and technology education, board governance, community and public private partnerships, and building an inclusive culture and entrepreneurial environment.

Humphrey is a member of the Board of Governors for the Argonne National Laboratory, a science and engineering research national laboratory operated by U-Chicago Argonne LLC for the United States Department of Energy. She also currently serves on a number of nonprofit boards, including the Sandra Day O'Connor Institute, Choose Chicago, Education Forward Arizona, Helios Education Foundation, and she is the immediate past Chair of the Board of the American Alliance of Museums, the largest Museum alliance serving more than 35,000 members globally.

Humphrey has been recognized widely as a compassionate business leader and innovator. The Phoenix Business Journal named Humphrey one of its Most Admired CEOs, and she was their first awardee in 2017 as its Mentor of the Year. She has been named a Visionary Leader by the Women's National Basketball Association and is an ATHENA award recipient from the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce.

Humphrey received an honorary Doctor of Science and Technology degree from the University of Advancing Technology. She earned an MBA from Northeastern University, with specializations in Marketing and Entrepreneurship and Innovation, and earned her BS degree in Marketing from the University of Phoenix. Humphrey has attended advanced management courses at The Wharton School at The University of Pennsylvania, Stanford University Graduate School of Business, and Yale University School of Management. She is pursuing a Doctorate in Business Administration from Grand Canyon University.

### **Shirley Malcom, Senior Advisor to the CEO and Director of SEA Change, AAAS**



Shirley Malcom is Senior Advisor to the CEO and Director of the SEA Change initiative at AAAS. She works to improve the quality and increase access to education and careers in STEM fields as well as to enhance public science literacy. Dr. Malcom is a trustee of Caltech and a regent of Morgan State University, and a member of the SUNY Research Council. She is a former member of the National Science Board, the policymaking body of the National Science Foundation, and served on President Clinton's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology. Malcom, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, received her PhD in ecology from The Pennsylvania State University, masters in zoology from UCLA and bachelor's with distinction in zoology from the University of Washington. She holds 16 honorary degrees.

Malcom serves on the boards of the Heinz Endowments, Public Agenda, the National Math-Science Initiative and Digital Promise. Internationally, she is a leader in efforts to improve access of girls and women to education and careers in science and engineering and to increase use of S&T to empower women and address problems they face in their daily lives, serving as co-chair of the Gender Advisory Board of the UN Commission on S&T for Development and Gender InSITE, a global campaign to deploy S&T to help improve the lives and status of girls and women. In 2003, Dr. Malcom received the Public Welfare Medal of the National Academy of Sciences, the highest award given by the Academy.

## **SOA Goals and Work for the Day**

**1:20 PM**

Travis York, Director, Inclusive STEM Ecosystems for Equity and Diversity (ISEED), AAAS

**Travis York, Director of ISEED, AAAS**



Travis T. York, Ph.D., is the Director of Inclusive STEM Ecosystems for Equity & Diversity (ISEED) at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Dr. York's research and work focus on catalyzing and sustaining systemic change and transformation to achieve inclusive and equitable access and progress through STEM pathways into the STEM workforce. Within AAAS, Dr. York provides leadership to a talented team who collaborate to create change in over 20 grant-funded projects and initiatives spanning all STEM fields and the entire educational pathway including AAAS's SEA Change Initiative, Science in the Classroom, ARISE Network, S-STEM Initiative, L'Oreal USA Women in Science Fellowships, and HBCU Making & Innovation Showcase.

Currently, Dr. York is a Co-PI on NSF INCLUDES Aspire Alliance - an effort to develop a more inclusive and diversified STEM faculty; and serves as a Co-PI on a U.S. Department of Education IES Assessment Grant titled, Affording Degree Completion: A Study of Completion Grants at Accessible Public Universities in collaboration with the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities and Temple University's Hope Center for College, Community, & Justice. Dr. York has authored numerous peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, and his most recent article, Completion Grants: A multi-method examination of institutional practice, is available in the Journal of Student Financial Aid. Dr. York is active within several professional associations and serves on the editorial review board of the Journal of Diversity in Higher Education.

Dr. York, a native of Charleston, South Carolina, received his Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from The Pennsylvania State University, masters in Higher Education and bachelors with distinction from Geneva College. Dr. York also studied at Oxford University's Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies through Keble College in 2003-04. Dr. York also supports AAAS's Committee on Opportunities in Science, which advises the association on matters related to increasing the representation of women and minorities in science, engineering, and related fields.

## **Equity and Excellence through the Lens of Partnership 1:30 PM**

Moderator: Candice Smith, Executive Director of Engineering Excellence, Boeing

- Myetie Hamilton, CEO of Leadership Greater Chicago; Board President, the Chicago Park District

- Sherry Eagle, ED. D, Executive Director of the Institute for Collaboration
- Marcoiya Fair, Talent Acquisition Sourcer
- Ashley Huderson, STEM and CS Equity Fellow, Office of the Deputy Secretary of Education
- Yani Mason, CEO of Girls Inc. of Chicago

**Myetie Hamilton, CEO of Leadership Greater Chicago; Board President, the Chicago Park District**



Myetie Hamilton brings over 25 years of experience leading innovative change in Chicago’s education, non-profit, and public sectors. Myetie is the Chief Executive Officer of Leadership Greater Chicago (LGC), the region’s premier civic leadership development organization. She is the first Black woman to hold this role and is responsible for leading the organization to greater levels of strategic influence, impact, and innovation as the region’s premier organization for fostering and growing civic leadership. Before joining LGC, Myetie served most recently as the Executive Director of City Year Chicago where she led the largest site of AmeriCorps Members across the national organization.

Prior to joining City Year, she served as Executive Director of EPIC Academy, a public charter high school on the far southeast side of Chicago where she led organizational strategy and vision, fundraising, external relations, and board engagement. Myetie had an extensive career with

Chicago Public Schools (CPS), where she served as Deputy Chief of Schools for Network 9, managing transformation efforts for twenty-eight schools in Chicago’s Woodlawn, Bronzeville, and Hyde Park communities. She also held positions in CPS as Deputy Chief of Staff in the CEO’s Office and Chief of School Support Services for the District. Myetie is the President of the Chicago Park District and a Commissioner for the Public Building Commission of Chicago. She also serves as Vice-Chair for the Provident Foundation and is a Board member of the Museum of Science and Industry and Field Museum.

Myetie has been acknowledged by Crain’s Chicago Business as a Notable Leader in Community Development, by lifestyle media outlet Make It Better as one of Chicago’s 38 Top Black Women of Impact, and was a 2018 recipient of the Chicago Defender Women of Excellence Award. Myetie holds a bachelor’s degree in business management from Alabama A&M University, a master’s degree in public administration from Illinois Institute of Technology, and is a Leadership Greater Chicago Fellow Class of 2016.

## **Sheery Eagle, Executive Director of the Institute for Collaboration of Aurora University Emeritus**



Dr. Sherry Eagle is the Executive Director of the Institute for Collaboration of Aurora University Emeritus. She held that position since 2005. In that role, she brought educational and community organizations together to advance STEM education initiatives for pre-service teachers, current K-12 teachers, K-12 students and University faculty. Seven IMSP projects have been awarded to Aurora University; Dr. Eagle has served as the principal investigator for five of the seven projects. In July, 2011, Governor Pat Quinn signed Public Act 97-0097 on the campus of Aurora University. This legislation enabled Aurora University and four partner school districts to create a STEM Partnership School on the campus of Aurora University which opened in 2014. Prior to her appointment at Aurora University, Dr. Eagle served as the Superintendent of Schools for Aurora West School District 129 for twelve years. As superintendent, Dr. Eagle led efforts to build two middle schools, two elementary schools and complete

major renovations and additions to several existing schools. During her tenure as superintendent, she also served as chairperson of the Consortium Model for Alternative (teacher) Certification, served on the Board of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, created middle school and high school alternative education schools in partnership with other school districts and community organizations, and developed and implemented the Read with Me Foundation to promote a community reading campaign. In 2006, she was named the Alumni of the Year at the University of Illinois at Chicago for her work in improving PK-16 education and building partnerships. Dr. Eagle is currently a member of the leadership team for the Community Action Council of North Lawndale that has led the effort to bring STEAM education programming to the students of North Lawndale PK-12.

## **Candice Smith, Executive Director of Engineering Excellence, Boeing**



Candice is currently director of Enterprise Engineering at The Boeing Company. She was previously deputy chief engineer in Boeing Global Services. Prior senior roles include director of Global Engineering & External Technical Affiliations and Chief of Staff and Business Integration leader for the office of the Chief Technology Officer. Candice began her Boeing career as a co-op student, joining full time as an integration engineer for Boeing Defense, Space and Security (BDS) in St. Louis, MO. Since that time, she has held roles of increasing responsibility as a systems engineer/architect on the Future Combat Systems program; systems engineer in Boeing Research & Technology (BR&T) Support and Services investigating asset visibility technologies for the DoD. Special Projects Team in

Dallas, TX working advanced sensor technologies; and a BR&T project engineer supporting BDS International Strategic Partnerships developing and managing technology offset projects for customers in India.

Candice served in the Illinois Army National Guard Military Police Battalion and later with a Signal Company while earning her Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She's also earned a Master of Science in Systems Engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology. She maintains her professional project manager certification.

Candice has to her credit many awards and honors including being selected as a 2017 Eisenhower Foundation Fellow. She's been honored with Boeing St. Louis Diversity Award for Influence, the St. Louis Business Journal 30 under 30 recognition, the St. Louis American Foundation Young Leaders Award, STEM Women of Color in Technology Rising Star Award, Black Engineer of the Year Modern Day Technology Leader award, and Walker's Legacy award in Chicago. She's a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and proudly serves on the board of Project SYNCERE, a youth STEM engagement program and is an active member of Midtown Educational Foundation advisory council. She's currently the industry advisor for the NSBE Jr. Chapter at Lindblom Math and Science Academy High School in Chicago.

One of Candice's greatest passions is community service and youth empowerment through engagement and education. Among her many pursuits are her work mentoring youth and young professionals. She executes her practical obligations while honoring her responsibility to give selflessly to the community.

### **Marcoiya Fair, Talent Acquisition Sourcer**



Marcoiya Fair is a skilled HR and Talent Acquisition professional with experience in industries including information technology (IT), manufacturing, insurance, professional services, retail, consulting, and healthcare. She graduated from the University of Illinois Champaign with a bachelor's degree in Speech Communication/ Business Administration minor. She also earned her MBA/ HR Management degree from Webster University. Her passion for recruiting and adding value has allowed her to excel at top companies that are categorized as Big Tech, Fortune 500, and Big 4 Public Accounting Firms.

Outside of work, Marcoiya is the Vice President of Membership for the National Association of African Americans in Human Resources (NAAHR) Chicago, which is a position she has held since 2020. Her leadership efforts were instrumental in NAAHR Chicago's 2021 national conference wins for Most Engaged Chapter and the 3rd Largest Chapter of the Year. She has also been awarded the Leadership Award for her Outstanding Service to the chapter and recognized on the NAAHR Chicago Women in HR 2021 Honoree List.

Marcoiya has a proven track record of providing effective professional development assistance and training through her business, Fair Share Career Services. She is very passionate about supporting others in their professional development and has also volunteered her services to those seeking to start or change their careers. She is skilled at resume writing, developing LinkedIn profiles, interview preparation, and career coaching through various methods including 1-on-1 sessions, webinars, workshops, and college classroom lectures.

Marcoiya's passion to support others spans even further than her own efforts. Her philanthropy consists of volunteering with organizations including ShoeHeals Inc. (Board Member), re:work Training, Junior Achievement of Chicago, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Lead2Change, The Chicago Food Depository, and many others. Marcoiya always strives to strategically add value, and her impact is shown through her work, leadership, volunteering, and personal passions.

## **Ashley Huderson, STEM and CS Equity Fellow, Office of the Deputy Secretary of Education**



Dr. Ashley Huderson is a STEM policy expert, researcher, entrepreneur, author, and professor. Dr. Huderson has extensive experience as a skilled facilitator, leader, academic trainer, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) curriculum designer and advocate. She has over 15 years of STEM outreach and advocacy in the community developing informal science programs and mentoring STEM majors.

In her current role, Dr. Huderson works in the Office of the Deputy Secretary of Education as a STEM and CS Equity Policy Fellow. She is working to develop and implement a STEM and CS strategy that advances the Secretary's vision for education in America and supports the strategic goals and

priorities of the Department.

Prior to joining the Department of Education, Dr. Huderson served as the Director of Engineering Education and Outreach at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, where she led the Engineering Education and Outreach department in designing, planning, organizing, overseeing and implementing educational programs and projects that define ASME's role and impact in K-12 STEM Education, Engineering Education and Scholarships.

She has published over 12 peer reviewed articles, including two book chapters on Urban STEM education and counter spaces for minority women in STEM. She has also been the recipient of several awards and honors including the 2019 McD #35 Alum of the Year award, 2020 BEYA Modern-Day Technology Leader award, and the 2020 UNCF WIAC Grace Walker Phillips Leadership Award. She also serves as a member of the AAAS Committee on Science, Engineering and Public Policy (COSEPP).

Dr. Huderson is a native of New Orleans, LA, and completed her undergraduate training at Spelman College (2006), a certificate in Health Policy (2012) and doctoral work at Meharry Medical College (2013). Her post-doctoral work included a fellowship at Georgetown University Lombardi Cancer Center's Office of Health Disparities and Minority Research (2015) and a 2015-2017 American Association for the Advancement of Science, Science and Technology Policy (AAAS S&T) Fellow in the Engineering Education and Centers' division (EEC) at the



National Science Foundation. She is currently completing her MBA studies at Georgetown University, with an expected graduation date of May 2023.

### **Yani Mason, CEO of Girls Inc. of Chicago**



Yani Mason has 15 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, working in a variety of roles including digital communications, social media, public relations, and fundraising. Throughout her career, she has remained steadfast in her commitment to providing opportunities that empower youth from Chicago's South Side.

A proud product of Chicago Public Schools, Yani holds a bachelor of arts from Fisk University, a master's degree from Vanderbilt University, and a doctorate in interdisciplinary leadership from Governors State University. She also has an Integrated Marketing Certificate from the University of Chicago Graham School.

In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, volunteering with the Chicago Area Fisk University Alumni Association, and serving as a Girl Scout troop leader.

### **Keynote Address**

**4:18 PM**

### **Raj Echambadi, President, Illinois Institute of Technology**



Raj Echambadi became the 10th president of Illinois Institute of Technology in August 2021.

Echambadi's vision for Illinois Tech is centered on a new path to preeminence driven by four principles: first, honoring and strengthening the university's role as an engine of opportunity and national leader in economic mobility; second, pursuing growth through reimagining education to serve learners anywhere at all stages of life; third, fueling future innovation by empowering students to become human-centered technologists; and fourth, exemplifying purpose-driven citizenship in service of Bronzeville, Chicago, and the world.

To that end, he is working with university leaders to build new curricular and extracurricular programs to make quality, career-relevant technology education fully accessible to any learner, anywhere in the world. The centerpiece of Echambadi's strategy is the launch of one-of-a-kind Elevate program that emphasizes job readiness and guarantees experiential learning opportunities, as well as receive personalized academic and career mentorship. By developing programs highlighting Echambadi's guiding principles, Illinois Tech welcomed its largest class of first-year undergraduate students in its

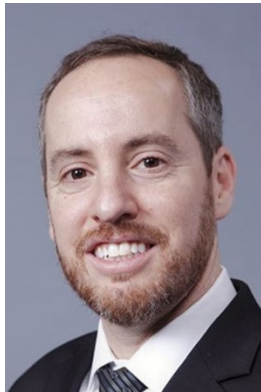
history in fall 2022, and also saw a 35 percent increase in new graduate students in spring 2023. Illinois Tech has also partnered with the global online-learning platform Coursera to offer fully online, industry-aligned programs beginning in fall 2023. For its role as a leader in college access and career success for lower-income students, Bloomberg Philanthropies recognized Illinois Tech in 2023 as one of 28 American Talent Initiative (ATI) High-Flier institutions.

Previously, Echambadi served as the dean of D'Amore-McKim School of Business at Northeastern University. Before joining Northeastern, Echambadi served in various roles, including as senior associate dean of strategic innovation, at Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he was a driving force behind a scaled online M.B.A. (iMBA) program that was lauded as one of the best disruptive educational innovations in the past decade.

## **Next Steps: The Road Ahead:**

**4:50 PM**

**Michael Feder, *Program Director, AAAS***



Michael Feder, Ph.D., is program director within the Inclusive STEM Ecosystems for Equity and Diversity (ISEED) unit. He manages a portfolio of programs focused on removing systemic barriers to equitable access to STEM education and careers. Dr. Feder brings over 15 years of experience in STEM education policy, research, and practice to AAAS.

Michael's previous experience includes managing Battelle's STEMx network – a consortium of 21 statewide STEM education organizations. He provided strategic opportunities for the network to address grand challenges in STEM through shared solutions and collaborative initiatives.

Dr. Feder also served as a policy analyst at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where he provided the President and senior leaders with STEM education policy guidance. During his two years with the Obama Administration, he led the interagency committee on STEM education, which wrote the 5-Year strategic plan for federal STEM education programs. Prior to that experience, Dr. Feder provided guidance to the federal government, state decision makers, and STEM education stakeholders as a Senior Program Officer for the Board on Science Education at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. Dr. Feder also has experience in program evaluation and has been published widely on STEM education.

He earned his doctorate and master's degrees in developmental psychology at George Mason University and his bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University.