



Melissa James

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As part of our Women in Leadership panel, Melissa candidly shared relatable stories with the perfect peppering of honesty and humor. Can't wait to invite her back again!

-Kat Moore, VP of Communications, Veolia

FEATURED ON



Speaking Topics

Roadmap to an Inspiring Career

At a time when you can literally get paid to do anything, it is more important than ever to align your career with your passion. Melissa discusses how being a first-generation, American-born child of two immigrants influenced her career, ignited her passion for the tech industry, as well as share her roadmap for next steps in a career, whether just starting out or an experienced executive.

The Future of How We Hire Talent

Corporations continue to use the "old school" method of hoping and praying that posting their job descriptions will attract top diverse talent. Young professionals of today (Millennials) are more mission-driven than ever before, so this calls for a new approach that is both holistic and personalized. Melissa shares relatable stories about how the future of how we hire talent is changing.

Topics include:

- Diversity and Inclusion 101
- Unconscious Bias in Recruitment
- Being an Ally to Diverse Talent

Biography

Melissa James is an award-winning author, entrepreneur, and businesswoman dedicated to increasing diversity in the technology industry. Born the daughter of two West-Indian immigrants, she never thought that Google would call her to work on their team. Growing up, she believed that there were only four types of jobs that would be acceptable to her parents: becoming a doctor, lawyer, engineer, or nurse. She didn't like blood or math so she had to create her own path to success and prove to her family that she could still be successful by following her own dreams.

First in her family to go to college, growing up Melissa knew that it was important to have a job. In fact, in her family, everyone had at least two. But, it wasn't until she began her first job in corporate America that she realized how important it was to have a career. Obsessed with learning how to become successful, she started her career at an early stage start-up and then received an unexpected phone call from Google, and is now running her own company.

She recently received the U.S. Presidential Service Award, the UMass Distinguished Young Alumni Award, BostonInno's 50 on Fire Award, the Mosaic Award from the MA Technology Leadership Council for her relentless commitment to the community.

Offerings and Rates (Negotiable)

1-Hour Workshop

Using a step-by-step approach, attendees will learn how to design a career they love..

\$ 2,000

Keynote Address

Attendees will hear an inspiring story about how grit, perseverance, and ambition can catapult your career.

\$ 3,000 - \$ 5,000

Half-Day Seminar

Planning a conference with multiple topics? Combine both speaking topics.

\$ 5,000 - \$ 10,000

Full-Day Seminar

Customized workshops for your event. Suggested topics are: Diversity and Inclusion 101, Unconscious Bias in Recruitment, How to be an Ally to Diverse Talent in the workplace.

\$ 10,000 - \$ 20,000