

# Matthew L. Houston

## *Woo/Futuristic/Context/Belief/Activator*

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I have a desire to drive change, specifically in the area of economic equality for all. I believe the path to success is through education and business creation. To that end, I work tirelessly to advocate for leadership development, improving businesses, wealth and job creation, and building communities that create and value their economic engines. Teaching citizens of the importance of a successful business structure is the formula for building a better tomorrow.

## EDUCATION

December 2014      **Master of Business Administration**  
*Executive MBA Program*  
Texas Christian University- Ft. Worth, Texas

May 2006            **Bachelor of Arts**  
*Economics*  
Southern Methodist University- Dallas, Texas

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

3/15- pres        **Guest Lecturer, African-American Psychology** (*undergraduate course*), *African and African American Studies Program, University of Oklahoma* – Norman, OK

3/15- pres        **Guest Lecturer, Hip-Hop Culture and Contemporary America** (*undergraduate course*), *African and African American Studies Program, University of Oklahoma* – Norman, OK

3/15- pres        **Guest Lecturer, Intro to African American Studies** (*undergraduate course*), *African and African American Studies Program, University of Oklahoma* – Norman, OK

9/13-9/14        **Guest Lecturer, Social Entrepreneurship** (*undergraduate course*), *College of Business, University of North Texas* – Denton, TX

1/13-12/15      **Guest Lecturer, Youth Culture** (*undergraduate course*), *Sociology Department, University of North Texas at Dallas* – Dallas, TX

1/13-12/15      **Guest Lecturer, Urban Sociology** (*undergraduate course*), *Sociology Department, University of North Texas at Dallas* – Dallas, TX

1/13-12/15      **Guest Lecturer, Sociology of Work** (*undergraduate course*), *Sociology Department, University of North Texas at Dallas* – Dallas, TX

## ADMINISTRATIVE/NONPROFIT EXPERIENCE

1/13-12/15 **Chair/CEO**

*Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce* ([www.dallasblackchamber.org](http://www.dallasblackchamber.org))- Dallas TX

- Served as the head of the governing Board of Directors.
- Responsible for the establishing/maintaining governance procedures of a 90 year-old organization, with over 800 members.
- Developed relationships with corporations, government entities, and Dallas community, providing awareness to the Dallas Black Chamber brand.
- Also provided programming opportunities for our strategic partners to build a rapport with small businesses with larger entities across the State of Texas.
- Raised funds (over \$1 million) for sustainability, operations, and new programs
- Chief Advocate for Black owned or supported businesses and entities

1/11-12/12 **President**

*Urban League of Greater Dallas and North Central Texas*- Dallas TX

- Led a group of over 200 young professionals (ages 21-40) in an auxiliary organization of the Urban League of Greater Dallas and North Central Texas.
- Developed committees for volunteers to support local affiliate in fund development (over \$150,000), volunteerism, education, social service, business services
- Created annual conferences to uplift/mentor underserved youth in the Dallas Independent School District in Oak Cliff (A. Maceo Smith HS, Roosevelt HS) and Pleasant Grove (Spruce HS).
- Developed annual Leadership Development Conference for Young Professionals to provide tools and skills to assist our members to better themselves in their corporate environment.

## RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

7/15- present **Chief of Staff**

*BEAM* ([www.gobeam.co](http://www.gobeam.co))- Dallas, TX

- Plans and directs all administrative, financial, and operational activities for the company
- Acts as a point of contact between top management and clients

- Provides oversight and guidance to projects of high importance
- Develop relationships with corporations, government entities, and Dallas community

9/13- present **Principal**

**MLH Enterprises** ([www.mlhenterprises.net](http://www.mlhenterprises.net))- Dallas, TX

- Develop turn-key programs to foundations and organizations, implementing logistics and staffing for program
- Build relationships with corporate/community partners for company growth
- Manage education, business, and political organizations in marketing, branding, and company culture

8/09- 9/13 **Executive Director/External Affairs**

**Group Excellence (GEx)** ([www.groupexcellence.org](http://www.groupexcellence.org))- Dallas, TX

- Manage business development and contract implementation relationships with over 100 School Districts, 40 Colleges, and other education entities in the United States
- Responsible for external relationships/partnerships with other companies and organizations involving tutor recruitment, corporate mentors, in-kind contributions, & reporting student achievement results to parents, schools, and district administrators
- Recruited, trained, and managed staff of 600 tutors, supervisors, and directors to provide educational programs throughout the State of Texas

## **OUTREACH AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

3/16 **Presenter, University of North Texas at Dallas, Dallas, TX**

Presented *Leading Others Through Change* workshop to staff for their Leadership Development Program.

2/15-10/15 **Chair, Political City Committee, Festival of Ideas, Dallas, TX**

Led a committee of individuals of diverse backgrounds to create an action plan to increase education and awareness of politics/policies in Dallas. The mission of the Dallas Festival of Ideas is to help shape the city of the future by igniting, uniting, and energizing the people of Dallas through the power of ideas.

1/14-7/14 **Coordinator, Project ZOOM! Program**

Created 6-month leadership module for 12 8th-graders at KIPP Truth Charter School. Raised funds to build a portable school library in a township outside Johannesburg, South Africa and developed logistics for students to visit South Africa for 15 days to witness opening of the library, and instructed on the different leadership structure/cultural significance of South Africa's contribution to the global society

- 12/15 **Presenter, Mountain View College *Man Up* Conference, Dallas, TX**  
Presented workshop on *Started from the Bottom: Building Benjamin's with the Bachelor's* for their high school and college Male Symposium.
- 4/14 **Presenter/Volunteer, Desoto ISD's Male Leadership Symposium, Desoto, TX**  
Presented workshop on how to dress for success to high school aged boys
- 9/11- 5/15 **Volunteer, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of North Texas**  
Big Brother to a 12 year old boy from the Dallas area
- 06/13- pres **Presenter, Moorland YMCA Summer Youth Program**  
Speak annually to middle/high school students on attending college
- 11/07- pres **Member, Greater Dallas League of Young Professionals**  
Volunteer during community events
- 11/03- pres **Member, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated**  
Initiated, Iota Omicron Chapter (Southern Methodist University), currently member of Alpha Sigma Lambda Graduate Chapter (Dallas, TX)

## CONFERENCES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 4/16 **American Planning Association Conference, Phoenix, AZ**
- 7/15 **National Black Chamber Inc., National Conference, Washington D.C.**
- 5/15 **U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, Washington D.C.**
- 10/14 **National Recreation and Park Association Conference, Charlotte, NC**
- 3/10-3/14 **National Urban League Public Policy Conference (annual)**
- 7/08-7/14 **National Urban League Annual Convention (various cities)**
- 10/11-10/14 **Whitney M. Young Leadership Conference, Atlanta, GA (annual)**
- 9-11-5/12 **Leadership Dallas, Class of 2012, Dallas, TX (Dallas Regional Chamber)**
- 9-07/4/12 **Blueprint for Leadership, Class of 2008, Dallas, TX (Center for Community Cooperation)**
- 2/08-2/09 **Education Industry Association Conference, Washington D.C. (annual)**

## COMMITTEES/BOARDS

- 2/15- pres **Trinity Commons Foundation, Dallas, TX**  
Board Member
- 11/15- pres **City Plan Commission, Dallas, TX**  
Vice Chair, District 3
- 9/08- pres **Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, Dallas, TX**  
Immediate Past Chair, Executive Board Member
- 9/07- pres **State Fair of Texas, Dallas, TX**  
Member, Chairman's Task Force
- 9/13- 10/15 **Parks and Recreation Board, Dallas, TX**  
Board Member, District 4
- 9/13- 10/15 **Trinity Audubon Center, Dallas, TX**  
Board Member
- 9/13- 10/15 **Dallas Zoological Society, Dallas, TX**  
Board Member
- 1/13- 12/15 **North Texas Commission, Dallas, TX**  
Board Member
- 1/13- 12/15 **Dallas Citizens Council, Dallas, TX**  
Member
- 8/12- 5/14 **Mayor's Star Council, Dallas, TX**  
Founding Member

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- 7/14 **National Member of the Year, Southern Region**  
National Urban League Young Professionals, Philadelphia, PA
- 5/13 **DBJ 40 Under 40**  
Dallas Business Journal, Dallas, TX

2/13 **DBJ Minority Business Leader**  
Dallas Business Journal, Dallas, TX

5/02 **Scholarship Recipient: Bill and Melinda Gates Scholarship**