

About Shemeka Brathwaite



Empowering High-Capacity Professionals to Lead with Presence, Purpose, and Peace

I'm Shemeka Brathwaite, Sustainable Leadership Strategist, executive coach, and keynote speaker. I help high-capacity professionals align their pace, productivity, and presence so they can lead with clarity and live with intention, without sacrificing their peace, values, or well-being.

For years, I lived the story that many leaders know all too well: managing career, community, and caregiving responsibilities while constantly pushing through. I was showing up for everyone else but wasn't centered in my own life.

That changed when I made a decision to shift, not to stop serving, but to serve from a place of alignment, sustainability, and impact. That shift became the foundation of what I now teach others: a leadership approach that honors both excellence and rest, ambition and authenticity.

What You Can Expect

Whether I'm delivering a keynote, leading a leadership training, or coaching one-on-one, I bring a unique blend of experience, energy, and strategy to help professionals move from surviving to thriving.

My work is known for combining three key elements:

- Strategic frameworks rooted in leadership development and adult learning
- Storytelling and spoken word that spark connection and inspire reflection
- Practical tools that equip people to take aligned and meaningful action

You won't just get inspired, you'll gain clear takeaways that move you and your team forward.

The Power of Storytelling and Spoken Word

Before TEDx, I was performing in open mic venues like the Nuyorican Poets Café, The Afrikan Poetry Theater, and The Poets' House. I've always believed that story has the power to shift how we think, feel, and lead.

My TEDx Talk, "*How to P.L.A.N. Activism into Your Work-Life Balance*," is a reflection of that philosophy. I also co-produced the mini-documentary *Walking Harlem*, which premiered at the College of Staten Island Annual Film Festival.

Creative expression is part of my leadership voice and it's how I help others find theirs.

Who I Serve

I've partnered with mission-driven organizations, educational institutions, and professional associations that are committed to developing leaders who thrive. I speak to professionals navigating burnout, transitions, and increased responsibility.

Whether your audience is seeking renewed clarity, stronger leadership skills, or a healthier approach to ambition, I bring a message that resonates and equips.

Professional Background

- Doctoral Candidate in Community-Based Leadership (College of Staten Island, CUNY)
- MEd in Adult Education & Human Resource Development (Fordham University)
- BS in Fashion Design (Syracuse University)
- Harvard University Women in Education Leadership Certificate
- Certified Life Coach (New York University)
- MBTI Certified Practitioner

At Brooklyn College's School of Education, I serve as the campus lead for NYC Men Teach, New York City's largest educator diversity workforce initiative. I also teach at Queens College, where I guide students through career exploration and workforce readiness.

My experience in program leadership, mentoring, and talent development aligns with my broader mission: to build leadership pipelines, support succession planning, and offer high-impact guidance to professionals at every stage of their journey.

Community Commitment

I've worked with youth from kindergarten through college and supported transformative programs at the local, national, and international levels. For my service, I have received congressional, state assembly, and city council proclamations. My heart for community and capacity-building is embedded in everything I do.

Let's Work Together

If you are a meeting planner or team leader looking to create a powerful, lasting experience for your audience, let's connect. I am currently booking for in-person and virtual keynotes, leadership retreats, and professional development events.