



CENTERING THE CENTER

The Stories We Carry and the Futures We Help Shape

A Keynote Experience by Dr. Keyimani Alford

KEYNOTE OVERVIEW

Centering the Center is a signature keynote by Dr. Keyimani Alford that helps audiences reconnect with the human side of leadership, service, and impact. Through compelling personal storytelling, student narratives, and practical frameworks, Dr. Alford challenges participants to reflect on how their own stories, beliefs, lived experiences, and inner narratives shape the way they show up for others.

This keynote is rooted in a powerful truth: service is never neutral. What begins within us does not stay there. It moves outward, influencing how we lead, how we listen, how we respond, and how others experience the spaces we help create. Blending themes of resilience, mindset, trauma-informed care, and the ripple effect of presence, Centering the Center offers both reflection and action.

From the living room, where stories begin, to the climb, where perseverance is tested, Dr. Alford invites audiences to consider how their daily presence can shape belonging, persistence, and life-changing outcomes. This keynote leaves participants inspired, grounded, and equipped to lead and serve with greater care, purpose, and intentionality.

KEY THEMES

- Leadership and human-centered service
- Story as the center of impact
- Mindset and the Think. Speak. Manifest. framework
- Trauma-informed care and response
- Presence, influence, and ripple-effect outcomes
- Resilience, reflection, and purpose

SIGNATURE FRAMEWORKS

- Centering the Center
- Think. Speak. Manifest.
- The C.A.R.E. Model

AUDIENCE OUTCOMES

Participants will:

- reflect on how their own story shapes the way they lead and serve
- understand the connection between mindset, language, and impact
- gain practical tools for more intentional, trauma-informed engagement
- reconnect with the purpose behind their daily work
- leave with a renewed sense of responsibility for the futures they help shape

IDEAL FOR

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ABOUT DR. KEY

Dr. Keyimani Alford is an author, publisher, higher education leader, and motivational speaker whose work helps people lead with greater purpose, humanity, and intentionality. With over two decades of experience advancing student success, leadership development, and equity-driven practice, he is known for blending personal storytelling with practical insight that moves audiences from reflection to action. He is the founder of Keywords Unlocked, LLC, and the author of multiple published works, including his award-winning memoir, *Oakland Hills, Milwaukee Rivers: A Memoir of Survival, Identity, and Purpose*.



Bringing Centering the Center to Your Audience

Create space for reflection, renewal, and lasting impact.

www.drkeyspeaks.com