



Krischanna Roberson is an extraordinary leader who inspires and models what it means to move yourself and the systems we each are a part of, to be racially and culturally inclusive. Krischanna is an award-winning racial strategist and president of Collabovate Consulting where she collaborates to elevate individuals by way of coaching, educating, and being a partner for large and small organizations who desire an inclusion first approach for systemic racial and cultural transformation. She is a highly skilled facilitator and educator on the social construction of race, culture, and education. Krischanna's Master's degree in education was earned with a focus on diversity and equity. A proud native New Yorker (Brooklynite) who loves a great pizza debate, especially from those Chicago folks. She is a daughter, mother, grandmother, sister, and trusted friend, wherein in each of these roles she is inspired to do this very important work, that she loves. Always seeking knowledge and

opportunities for growth she currently lives in Atlanta, GA but has also lived worked, and learned in Hampton, VA, Bellevue, WA, and Charlotte, NC.

The passion Krischanna has for racial equity and inclusion, is evident in her extensive work in leadership roles for K-12 and higher education systems as well as fortune 500 organizations like Coca Cola and AXA Financial, where she developed and implemented city-wide programming, served on state boards and committees developing strategic diversity, equity, and inclusions plans. Her scholarship paired with her business savvy skillset created shifts in processes for the City of Bellevue, Bellevue PTSA Council, Bellevue School Districts Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council, State Board of Community and Technical Colleges. She also Co-led the strategic committee for Bellevue College in the creation and development of their diversity equity and inclusion plan which was a collaborated partnership with the college, school district, and the City of Bellevue. Krischanna's tireless efforts also allowed her to create a non-profit that focused on college preparation for students of color.

Krischanna served as the first African American elected to the Bellevue School Board, was an active member of the Bellevue Police Advisory Council in WA, and a Social Venture Partners Fellow. Krischanna has received state and national awards including the Community Service Leadership Award from the Washington Association of School Administrators and the John W. Bucker National Leadership Award from Courageous Conversations. Currently, Krischanna is writing her dissertation for a Doctorate in Educational Policy intending to complete it this year. Krischanna earned a master's in education policy with a focus on diversity and equity from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and a bachelor's in business administration and management from Saint Leo University in Saint Leo, FL.

What calls me to this work?

I decided what I wanted to be when I grow up when I grew up. I went through my youth and young adult life so dysconsciously. It wasn't until my mid-thirties that the words of Nikki Giovanni rang through my soul like an electric current. She said, "If you don't understand yourself you don't understand anybody else." This work is a personal journey for me as I discover my amazing and wonderful story. This belief allows me the ability to engage with others openly and honestly standing in my truth, unapologetically and proud of all the wonderful intricacies that make me unique. I feel the struggle and pain that I had navigating the world of race, being the product of a White mother and Black father, and the internal struggles I had to overcome in trying to fit in one world and being closed out of a world I see myself a part of every time I look into my mother's blue eyes. I am called to action in this work, so I can be a better me for the many others who can't yet see the beauty in who they are racially. I'm called to this work because I have a responsibility to myself and my children to build bridges and capacity for others to want to learn and talk openly about the victories and challenges of living in a racial world.