

Dr. Paris Woods is an award-winning education leader, social entrepreneur, and advocate for financial empowerment, dedicated to driving positive change in education and economic mobility. With over two decades of experience in various educational settings, Dr. Woods has established a track record of innovation, leadership, and impact.

Dr. Woods's commitment to education is reflected in her roles as a senior leader across multiple education nonprofits. Her leadership has spanned the development and leadership of diverse and high-performing teams, resulting in increased access to high-wage, high-growth career pathways and postsecondary credentials. With a strong emphasis on equitable outcomes, Dr. Woods has managed multi-million-dollar budgets and built cohesive teams dedicated to fostering positive change.

As the *Co-Founder and Executive Director of College Beyond*, Dr. Woods addressed the critical need for college success among low-income youth. Her innovative strategies led to impressive results, including unprecedented increases in first-year college retention rates. Notably, she was recognized for her exceptional leadership by *The Gambit's 40 Under 40*, *Millennial Award in Education*, and *Tulane University Hometown Hero*, among others.

Dr. Woods is also the #1 bestselling author of *The Black Girl's Guide to Financial Freedom*, which has not only empowered thousands but has also gained widespread recognition. With over 120,000 copies sold and endorsements from leading financial experts, including *Lynnette Khalfani-Cox* and *Ryan Frailich*, Dr. Woods has created a movement that reshapes financial narratives.

Outside her professional accomplishments, Dr. Woods remains deeply engaged in her community. She serves on the boards of *Believe STL Academy*, *4.0 Schools*, and *College Beyond*, further amplifying her commitment to advancing educational equity. She is also an adjunct faculty member of educational leadership at *Tulane University*. Dr. Woods earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from *Harvard University*, and her doctorate in education from *The University of Texas at Austin*.