

REAL CONVERSATIONS: REMOVING OUR MASKS, MASTERING OUR EMOTIONS, MANIFESTING OUR MANHOOD

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 8 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

Montgomery College | High Technological Center (HT) - Globe Hall

8 – 9 a.m. **Check-In | Continental Breakfast**
HT | Globe Hall Upstairs and Downstairs Lobbies

9 -10:20 am Opening Session Globe Hall

Convening, Welcome and Recognitions
George Rice, III, MMSOC Co-Chair/Presidential Scholars Program Director
Presidential Scholar Student, Presidential Scholars Program

Opening Remarks
Dr. Jermaine F. Williams, President, Montgomery College



Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Dr. Monica Brown, Senior Vice President, Montgomery College

Keynote Address and Q & A
Jorge A. Sierra, Keynote Speaker

Brief Review of Day
George Rice, III

Montgomery College | BE Conference Center

10:30 – 11:25 a.m. | 11:30 – 12:25 p.m. Student Concurrent Workshops

Choose one session at each time slot.

Room	Session
BE 163	<i>Black Man, Who Are You And What Is Your Purpose?</i> <i>Presented by Kingston C. Holcomb, B.A., MSW, LCSW-C</i> Who you are as it relates to your spiritual identity and purpose? Let's discuss how to overcome the challenges that a Blackman inevitably will encounter
BE 162	<i>Breaking Stereotypes: Redefining Black Masculinity through Film</i> <i>Presented by Dui Jarrod</i> We will explore the multifaceted dimensions of Black masculinity, using film as a vehicle for change. By sharing noted movies, historical accounts, and contemporary examples, we will celebrate the diversity of Black male experiences and highlight the resilience, strength, and creativity that often go unrecognized.
BE 160	<i>The Use of Hip-Hop As a Resource for Mental Health and Manhood</i> <i>Presented by Dr. Tony Camp, Montgomery College</i>

Hip-hop has been an artform used to help people make sense of the world. It has also served as an artform to help artists share their deepest feelings and the trauma experienced in their lives. In addition, hip-hop has explored topics such as manhood and mental health to help men cope with challenges. Hip-hop is the way of life for young men.

BE 158 **Maryland Males of Color Think Tank '23: College VS Grade 13**
Presented by Dr. Darius M. Cureton, Anne Arundel Community College and Shawn Lamb, Howard Community College

“In 2019, only 36% of Black students...were men. The enrollment and graduation rates for men of color in higher education lag behind not only those of white male students but those of women of color” (Condition of Education, 2020). It is these numbers that have prompted the call for this workshop. The workshop will offer real, unfiltered conversations about how academic engagement has helped or hindered our minority students and what action items we can take to change how they are viewed, treated, and supported.

BE 157 **Can't Heal From The Hidden**
Presented by Rashad Mills, Hopeful Counseling

This program aims to provide a safe and supportive environment for students to explore and understand their emotions, foster emotional intelligence, and develop strategies for managing and expressing their feelings constructively. The program will address the unique challenges and experiences that Black college students face, creating a space for them to connect, share, and heal.

BE 158 **Been Woke! Next Level Leadership and Woke Culture (11:30am-12:25pm)**
Presented by Dr. LaSella Hall, Chesapeake College

This presentation will look to discuss woke culture, identify examples of woke ideology on college campuses and examine situations where woke ideology impacts student-leaders.

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. | 11:00am-11:45a.m. | 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Faculty/Staff Forum
 Room Session

BE 151/152 **Maryland Community Colleges Males of Color Initiatives Open Forum**
Facilitated by Dr. LaSella Hall, Director of Student Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Chesapeake College

Share and be a part of a vibrant, honest, and enlightening conversation and interactive forum of faculty and staff who lead and serve at community colleges in various capacities to support and prepare male students of color to successfully transfer, graduate and be positioned for a career post completion.

BE 151/152 **The Racial Transfer Gap**
Presented by Dr. Elizabeth Kirby, Chair, Department of Counseling & Advising Montgomery College

Most community college students in the United States want to transfer to a four-year institution. However, minoritized students are least likely to navigate the complex transfer process successfully. After conducting a quantitative study of the 15 community colleges in Maryland, I determined differences in the vertical transfer based on race and ethnicity. This workshop aims to inform higher education professionals to advocate for their students and leaders to address the racial transfer gap by implementing changes to support the transfer needs of minoritized students and increase overall transfer rates.

BE 151/152

Facing Our Failure: Redesigning Academic Systems of Oppression

Presented by Jared Shamberger, Education Director, Young Playwrights' Theater

In this session, participants will examine some long-standing academic practices that have stifled students for generations, especially students of color. They will learn tools to identify and mitigate oppressive practices from Young Playwrights' Theater's Education Director, Jared Shamberger, to transform traditional classrooms into spaces where students and teachers can achieve their goals, honor their humanity, and maybe even have some fun.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 1:30 P.M. – 4 P.M.

Montgomery College | BE Conference Center | 151/152

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch and Networking

Pick up lunch in the BE Center Lobby. Students, join us in BE 151/152 | Faculty/Staff, take a Break

1:35–2:30 p.m. THE BARBERSHOP- STUDENT PANEL BE 151/152

Real Conversations: Removing Our Masks, Mastering Our Emotions, Manifesting Our Manhood

Facilitated by Dr. LaSella Hall

Student Panelists

2:35 – 3:30 p.m. The Barbershop Panel

Real Conversations: Removing Our Masks, Mastering Our Emotions, Manifesting Our Manhood

Facilitated by Carlos Scott

Panel of Local Leaders and Faculty/Staff



Daon McLarin Johnson, Mentor Maryland | DC

As the founder and Executive Director of Executive Suite Solutions, Daon McLarin Johnson's leadership portfolio is bursting with life-changing testimonies from numerous professionals across the United States and globally. An influential mentor to those in his community and beyond, Daon strives to leave a legacy and a footprint upon the hearts of everyone he encounters. Daon currently serves as Program Support and Outreach Manager – DC Metro Market for MENTOR Maryland | DC where he leverages his business-driven objectives, uncanny financial acumen, and commitment to personal and professional leadership development.

Sol Graham, Founder, Quality Biological, Inc.



In addition to serving on various community and business boards and committees throughout the county and state, Sol Graham is the founder of Quality Biological, Inc. and an advocate for and supporter of education in Montgomery County. He served Montgomery College Foundation board of directors for many years and has been a vocal advocate for scholarships to benefit economically challenged students. Inspired by the late Gordon Macklin, he has provided career guidance and educational and professional opportunities to Macklin Business Institute students at Montgomery College, many who have transferred to prestigious four-year business schools across the country.



Dr. Raymond Shorter, Mentoring Expert | Adjunct | PSP Program Facilitator

Dr. Raymond Shorter is an educator with a rich background in higher education. With a diverse educational journey that spans Early Childhood Special Education, Business Administration, Human Resources, and Counseling Psychology. Dr. Shorter brings a unique perspective when working with college students. He has expertise in mental health counseling, program development, and mentorship.



Jose Medrano, Counseling Faculty, Boys to Men Program Advisor

Professor Jose Medrano has over eighteen years of experience working with at-risk, underrepresented students in higher education. He currently serves as a full-time counselor at Montgomery College Takoma and Silver Spring campus where he provides academic, career, transfer, and brief personal counseling. His recent activities include his involvement with the International Team in Counseling, the Maryland Community College Transfer Alliance, the Boys to Men program, Transfer Resource Council and presenting scholarship workshops for The Social Justice Inclusive Leadership Institute at Montgomery College, Latino Student Union, and The Rockville student senate. Professor Medrano has devoted himself to initiatives and projects that focus on equity, social justice, student access and success.

Professor Medrano earned a Bachelor of Art in Spanish with a concentration in business from the University of Maryland College Park and a Master of Arts in school counseling from Trinity Washington University.

3:30 – 4 p.m.

Closing Session

Must have completed evaluation to enter drawings for student success giveaways.

Student Success Giveaways

Participating Schools Statewide Representatives

Adjourn

Special Thanks to participating schools, speakers, presenters, MCTV, Facilities and Information Technology, Office of the SVP for Student Affairs staff, and you

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Please scan the above QR CODE to fill out our evaluation.
If the code does not work please access it using the link
below; <https://bit.ly/3FmI9xy>



JORGE A. SIERRA

Global Leadership Strategist

Jorge Sierra is a motivational speaker and self-change advocate taking his audience by storm with his transparent and inspiring story of triumph and perseverance.

Due to his former affiliation with gangs, Jorge was gunned down leaving him paraplegic at the age of 17. Over the next 24 years, Jorge dedicated himself to changing his mindset and environment. He threw himself into his craft, becoming a Licensed Master Barber and Class I Cosmetologist. He is also an Instructor and Evaluator in multiple states.

As a member of the ETA Certified Speakers program, Jorge studies under the tutelage of World Renowned Motivational Speaker and Author, Dr. Eric Thomas, whom he credits for changing his life. The series of changes he made allowed him to no longer be confined to his mental wheelchair as well as his physical wheelchair. Jorge now uses his life experience to motivate and guide students to destroy their own mental wheelchairs. He's helping them see past their physical and mental challenges so they can walk in their purpose. Jorge shares his message with schools and organizations and has even spoken to the NFL's Carolina Panthers.