



## **Mychal Wynn**

### **Autor, Educator, Consultant**

Mychal Wynn, best known as the author of [\*The Eagles who Thought They were Chickens\*](#), is a man of faith and a strategist. Whether serving in the role of devoted husband, parent, author, educator, trainer, curriculum developer, researcher, college

adviser, or speaker, Mr. Wynn believes that with the right strategies, any obstacle can be overcome and any goal can be achieved. Born in rural Alabama and given up for adoption at 6 months of age to a family who lived in Chicago's infamously marginalized South Side urban ghetto, Mr. Wynn survived the gangs, violence, and despair to attend Northeastern University as the first in his family to attend college, where he graduated *cum laude* with a BS in Business and Computer Science, a journey profiled in his autobiography, [\*Follow Your Dreams: Lessons That I Learned in School\*](#).

Since publishing his first book, [\*Don't Quit—Inspirational Poetry\*](#), Mr. Wynn has served as a beacon of hope and strategist for students from similarly marginalized communities and under-resourced backgrounds. Mr. Wynn's personal experiences shaped his core belief that armed with the right strategies, anyone can overcome their obstacles or circumstances. Whether teaching writing and public speaking to middle school students in the Los Angeles Unified School District, inspiring the aspirations of students in the Los Angeles County Juvenile Court Schools, or inspiring the dreams and aspirations of students in some of South Carolina's highest-poverty high schools, Mr. Wynn and his writing have served as sources of inspiration.

When his son was a 6th grader attending Johns Hopkins Middle School in St. Petersburg, Florida, Mr. Wynn spent a year volunteering to work with the school improvement planning team to transform the school from a D rated school into an A rated school. He profiled this transformation in [\*Increasing Student Achievement: A Guide to School Improvement Planning\*](#) and expanded his book on [\*Empowering African American Males: A Guide to Increasing Black Male Achievement\*](#), with each book reflecting the 6 component research-based model of *Mission; Vision; Climate & Culture; Curriculum & Content; Instruction; and Assessment*.

In 2006 through 2020, Mr. Wynn and his wife, Nina, served as Education Ministry Leaders of the 6,000-member Turner Chapel AME Church in Marietta, Georgia where they created a nationally-recognized faith-based model for increasing Black student achievement and expanding postsecondary access for one of the lowest performing demographic groups in public education. Their model inspired greater academic effort, provided tutoring across academic subjects, Georgia Criterion Referenced test prep, SAT/ACT test prep, and college/career planning. Their faith-based research-driven and research-responsive model resulted in multiple Posse Foundation Scholars, QuestBridge Scholars, and Gates Millennium Scholars. College-bound students were offered admission to their state's flagship universities (University of Georgia and Georgia Tech) and offered full scholarships to such schools as Amherst College, Clark Atlanta, Dillard, Duke, North Carolina A&T, Princeton, Swarthmore, Tennessee State, Vanderbilt, Wake Forest, Washington & Lee, Williams College, Xavier and University of Louisiana.

In 2006, Mr. Wynn founded the Foundation for Ensuring Access and Equity to further support the efforts of their church. In 2013, the Wynns funded the expansion of the foundation's website into an online learning platform to provide access to Mr. Wynn's 7-year college planning curriculum, [\*A Middle School Plan for Students with College-Bound Dreams\*](#) and [\*A High School Plan for Students with College-Bound Dreams\*](#). The online and print curriculum allowed Mr. Wynn and his wife introduced their College Planning Cohort Program at their church. In 2014, their first 23-student faith-based College Planning Cohort was offered over [\\$4.3 million in college scholarships](#) and accepted into over 125 colleges and universities, including HBCUs, Ivy League schools, and their state's flagship universities. The success of their efforts was reported in the 2014 Atlanta Journal-Constitution article, "[Church helps students to strike gold on scholarship search](#)" by Eric Strigus, and the Christian Post article, "[Georgia Church Helps Student Members Receive \\$4.3 Million in College Scholarship](#)" by Jessica Martinez.

Now, with an evidenced-based model, the Wynns developed partnerships with public school districts in South Carolina, North Carolina, Texas, and Florida. Through each district, their model of using print materials, an online curriculum, and small group discussions achieved similar results to those achieved in their church where students increased their grades, test scores, and enrollment in rigorous classes. By inspiring students to "own the process," Black students increased their college readiness, were offered admission to selective colleges and universities, qualified for millions of dollars in scholarships, and avoided student and Parent PLUS loan debt. Students in their College Planning Cohort Program were offered full college scholarships at a rate of 50 times the national average.

Mr. Wynn has received many honors and awards, in 2015, he was honored with the Key to the City of Lake City South Carolina in recognition for the first-year 18-student [Florence County School District 3](#) Cohort who were accepted into 48 colleges and amassed over \$3.2 million in scholarships and financial aid. The program produced the school district's first [Gates Millennium Scholar](#) and the first student from the State of South Carolina to be accepted into the prestigious [Meyerhoff Scholars](#) program at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. In 2020, was honored by the National School Boards Association, for the First Generation College Ambassadors Program he created for Guilford County Schools, with the [2020 Magna Award](#) in recognition of expanding college access for first-generation and refugee students.

Now, after having written 40 books (and well deserving of retirement), Mr. Wynn continues to serve as the Founder/CEO of the [Foundation for Ensuring Access and Equity](#) and has taken on his newest strategic challenge. With the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to end affirmative action in college admission, state legislatures banning of books pertaining to Black History, and the elimination of diversity, equity, and inclusion programs, Mr. Wynn has written a series of books profiling the socioemotional and academic support provided for Black students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the unique and little known scholarship opportunities for funding an HBCU education.

Mr. Wynn lives in Marietta, Georgia. He and his wife have two sons, Mychal-David, a graduate of Amherst College, and Jalani, a 2012 Gates Millennium Scholar, who attended Morehouse College.

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