

NEWS RELEASE

GlobalMindED Announces 2019 Inclusive Leader Award Winners

Winners introduced June 5 at GlobalMindED's annual conference to improve access to education, entrepreneurship, and employment for first-generation college students

(DENVER, CO – June 7, 2019) — GlobalMindED, a Denver-based nonprofit promoting education and employment opportunities for first generation to college students, presented the inaugural Inclusive Leader Awards at a June 5 dinner in Denver. The dinner was the opening event in GlobalMindED's annual conference that convenes thought leaders in education, government and business to increase access to education, entrepreneurship and employment for first-generation to college students.

The Inclusive Leader Awards honor educators and business executives who have paved the way in opening doors for women, diverse communities, first generation to college students, and other underrepresented populations.

"We are so fortunate to be able to honor this incredibly talented group of leaders," said Carol Carter, president and founder of [GlobalMindED](#). "They inspire all of us with their dedication and commitment to opening doors for people from diverse backgrounds and building a better future for the next generation of leaders."

The 2019 Inclusive Leaders Awards Winners include:

- Dr. Pamela Harris, President and CEO of Mile High Early Learning
- Dr. Jackie Hunter, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Banner Health
- Dr. Yvette Jackson, Professor at Columbia University and former CEO of the National Urban Alliance
- Michael Hess, Executive Director, Blind Institute of Technology
- Dr. David Vanden Bout, Senior Associate Dean, College of Natural Sciences, University of Texas Austin
- Dr. Karen McNeil-Miller, President and CEO of The Colorado Health Foundation
- Dr. William Kapfer, Global Head of Supplier Diversity, JPMorgan Chase
- Leland Melvin, Astronaut, STEAM Advocate, Explorer
- Leslee Udwin, Founder and President, Think Equal
- Telisa Yancy, Chief Marketing Officer, American Family Insurance
- Gary Goldberg, CEO of Newmont Mining
- Dr. Michael Torrence, President, Motlow State Community College
- Dr. Piya Sorcar, Founder and CEO, TeachAIDS

First-generation college students are the first in their family to attend college. These students face significant hurdles due to racial, economic, and cultural inequalities. Nationally, only 11 percent graduate in four years and only 14 percent graduate in six years. They are often faced with balancing full-time work, family and financial responsibilities, and a lack of support on campus. First-Gen students also lack connections to internships, positive role models, and mentors that can help prepare graduates for the employment.

Carter founded GlobalMindED in 2014 to close the equity gap in education. The organization produces leadership classes for first-gen students, and works with colleges around the country to advance an inclusive agenda.

About GlobalMindED

GlobalMindED is an educational and research 501c3 committed to closing the equity gap through education, entrepreneurship, experiences, employment and economic mobility for first-generation-to-college and underrepresented students and job seekers. GlobalMindED improves access and equity from early childhood to late life employment through improved graduation rates and sustainable careers with promotion pathways. Learn more at www.globalminded.org.

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Contact: Jon Pushkin, APR
Pushkin Public Relations
303-733-3441
jon@pushkinpr.com