

For Immediate Release

GlobalMindED to Celebrate 2025 Inclusive Leader Award Winners at June 16th Gala

Denver, Colorado – January 22, 2025 – GlobalMindED, a leading non-profit organization championing inclusive leadership, is proud to announce all of the 15 recipients of its prestigious 2025 Inclusive Leader Awards. The Inclusive Leader Awards Dinner, which is opening night of the GlobalMindED Conference, is Monday, June 16, 2025 at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel. The evening will be hosted by GlobalMindED CEO and Founder, Carol J. Carter. Tickets, both individual and tables, are available now at <https://globalminded.org/inclusive-leader-awards/awards-dinner/>

Carol Carter, CEO and Founder, GlobalMindED stated, “GlobalMindED is pleased to honor these remarkable individuals, representing a wide range of industries, who are united by their unwavering commitment to breaking down barriers and fostering global equity. The awardees are recognized for their groundbreaking innovations and bold actions in promoting access and equity for women, people of color, and underrepresented populations throughout their organizations.”

Celebrating Inclusive Leadership

The 2025 Inclusive Leader Award winners are exemplary role models who set national and global standards for inclusion. This includes their recruitment efforts, employee development programs, senior leadership positions, board representation, and strategic initiatives to build a more inclusive pipeline of talent from education to employment.

The 2025 GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winners:

- **Early Childhood:** Dr. Meera Mani, VP, David and Lucile Packard Foundation. [From a “Lost Student” to Early Learning Reformist Empowering Teachers: Meet Dr. Meera Mani, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Early Childhood](#)
- **K-12 Education:** Dr. Susana Cordova, Colorado Education Commissioner. [Transforming Education as a First Gen Latina Teacher, Superintendent, and Commissioner: Meet GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for K-12, Dr. Susana Cordóva](#)
- **Higher Education:** Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón, President Emeritus of Miami Dade College. [From Cuban Refugee to Miami Dade College President to Presidential Medal of Freedom: Meet Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón, GlobalMindED's Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Higher Education](#)
- **Government:** Vicki Vasquez, owner and Chairwoman of Tribal Tech, an American Indian and woman-owned small business. [From First Gen Grad to Teacher to Leader in Departments of Energy and Education to Successful Business Owner: Meet Vicki Vasques, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Government](#)
- **Health and Wellness:** Dr. Yele Aluko, EY Americas Chief Medical Officer. [From Nigeria to Managing Cardiologist to Global Health Policy Changemaker at EY: Meet Dr. Yele Aluko, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Health & Wellness](#)

- **Banking & Finance:** Patricia Pacheco de Baez, Managing Director, Bank of America. [From the Dominican Republic to Managing Director of Bank of America: Meet Patricia Pacheco de Baez, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Banking and Finance](#)
- **Energy & Sustainability:** Wahleah Johns, Director, Office of Indian Energy Policy, US, Department of Energy. [Indigenous Knowledge from Native Americans Solves Climate Change and Heals Communities: Meet Wahleah Johns, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Energy & Sustainability](#)
- **Space & Aerospace:** Joseph Acaba, Chief of the Astronaut Office, NASA. [From Peace Corps Volunteer to Middle School Science Teacher to Chief Astronaut, NASA: Meet Joseph Acaba, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Space & Aerospace](#)
- **Technology:** Tim Muindi, GVP Treasury, Sustainability, and Global Impact at ServiceNow. [From Kenya to Corporate Leadership: Meet Tim Muindi, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Technology](#)
- **Entrepreneurship:** Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President and CEO of the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE). [Launching Community College Entrepreneurs to Career and Financial Success: Meet Dr. Rebecca Corbin, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Entrepreneurship](#)
- **Media & the Arts:** Edward Lewis. [From the South Bronx to the Ivy Leagues to ESSENCE Magazine/Media: Meet Edward Lewis, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Media & Arts](#)
- **Foundations & Funders:** Kyle Hybl, CEO of the El Pomar Foundation. [Service, Civic Engagement, Community, and Commitment: Meet Kyle Hybl, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Foundations and Funders](#)
- **Nonprofit:** Adam Popp, Board Member, Certified Peer Mentor, and Counselor, serves on the Board of Directors. [US Veteran and Seven-Time Guinness World Record Holding Para Athlete: Meet Adam Popp, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Nonprofit](#)
- **Leadership & Equity:** Dr. Shirley Collado, President and CEO, College Track. [From First Gen Student to Expanding Student Access and Success, Meet Dr. Shirley Collado, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Leadership & Equity](#)
- **Global Impact:** Britt Slabinsk, President of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. [From Eagle Scout to Navy SEAL to Congressional Medal of Honor: Meet Britt Slabinski, GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award Winner for Global Impact](#)

Learn more and register at: <https://globalminded.org/inclusive-leader-awards/>

About GlobalMindED: A Legacy of Empowering Youth

GlobalMindED, a non-partisan 501(c)(3) non-profit organization celebrating its 11th anniversary, has a proven record of success connecting students to opportunities and businesses to a diverse



talent pipeline. It has served over 1,500 historically underserved Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and first-generation students from 788 universities. Its transformative events, including their annual conference to be held in Denver June 16-18, 2025, have attracted over 14,000 participants. Through mentorships, leadership programs, strategic partnerships, and resources, GlobalMindED, an innovative Inclusive Success NetworkSM, empowers the next generation to break down barriers and achieve their full potential. Learn more at: www.globalminded.org

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Available for immediate interview: Carol Carter, Founder/CEO, GlobalMindED