

## BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILE

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Mr. Wynn, a parent, author, educator, curriculum developer, and researcher, is the Founder/CEO of the Foundation for Ensuring Access and Equity, a community-based organization that partners with the faith community, school districts, and postsecondary institutions to expand postsecondary opportunities for all students. However, as a child

of poverty, and first in his family to attend college, Mr. Wynn is acutely aware of the challenges and obstacles confronting such students. [Mychal Wynn](#) was born in rural Alabama and given up for adoption at 6 months of age to a family who lived on Chicago's infamously marginalized South Side. A child of poverty, in a community plagued by gangs, drugs, and violence, Mr. Wynn's personal experiences has shaped his core belief that "Children must be inspired before they can be informed and that children must know that you care, before they care what you know."

Mr. Wynn does not accept the notion that parents who lack education do not encourage their children to attend college. While neither of Mr. Wynn's parents graduated from high school, they were relentless in affirming "You are going to college." His parents' affirmations were realized as Mr. Wynn went on to become a first generation *cum laude* graduate of Northeastern University, a school where he now nominates students for the [Northeastern University Torch Scholarship](#), a full scholarship valued at over \$270,000 over four years.

For over 30 years, Mr. Wynn has taught students in traditional k - 12 settings and in the Los Angeles Juvenile Court Schools—the largest Juvenile Court School System in the United States. As an advocate of children being vested in their own learning, Mr. Wynn developed a College Planning Cohort Program, delivered through a differentiated and culturally relevant college/career readiness curriculum that not only informs, but inspires middle and high school students to "Own the Process" by setting academic, leadership, and community service goals. As a consequence, each year, students from lower income families and marginalized communities have gained access to America's best colleges and universities and top scholarships.

As a writer, researcher, and curriculum developer, Mr. Wynn has received international acclaim for his research-responsive strategic approach to increasing achievement, closing achievement gaps, increasing college preparedness, and expanding college access. Mr. Wynn is a pioneer in not only cultivating “conversational communities,” but fostering collaboration between teachers, parents, schools, and the faith community.

Since 2007, not only has Mr. Wynn as served as the Founder/CEO of the [Foundation for Ensuring Access and Equity](#), he and his wife, Nina, have served as the Education Ministry Leaders of the [Turner Chapel AME Church](#) in Marietta, Georgia, where they have received national recognition for their highly acclaimed work in definitively impacting the educational outcomes of children from diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. In 2014, their first faith-based 23-student cohort were offered over [\\$4.3 million in college scholarships](#) and acceptance into over 125 colleges and universities. In 2015, Mr. Wynn and his wife were honored to receive the Keys to the City of Lake City, South Carolina for successfully implementing their College Planning Cohort program in one of South Carolina’s highest poverty communities, located along the infamous “[Corridor of Shame](#),” where their first-year 18-student cohort were accepted into 48 colleges and amassed over \$3.2 million in scholarships and financial aid. Their [Florence County School District 3](#) Cohort produced the school district’s first [Gates Millennium Scholar](#) and 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 addition to a distinguished 30-year career as an educator and consultant, Mr. Wynn is the author or 28 books, including *The Eagles who Thought They were Chickens*, recorded in the Guinness World Book of Records on June 1, 2004 when the Gary, Indiana Urban League coordinated a simultaneous reading of 5,000 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders; *Empowering African-American Males To Succeed, Teaching, Parenting, and Mentoring Successful Black Males*, used as guided reading for teachers, parents, and mentoring organizations; *Ten Steps to Helping Your Child Succeed in School*, which is assigned reading in college classes and used to support k - 12 parent workshops; a series of college planning books for middle and high school students used to guide students in charting their college and career pathways; and *Follow Your Dreams: Lessons That I Learned in School*, considered one of the best books for middle and high school students in the genre of enabling texts. Mr. and Mrs. Wynn live in Marietta, Georgia. They have two sons, Mychal-David, a graduate of Amherst College, and Jalani, a 2012 Gates Millennium Scholar, currently attending Georgia State University.