



*Princess Sarah Culberson*

OF SIERRA LEONE

# Princess Sarah Culberson

SIERRA LEONE PRINCESS. AUTHOR. HUMANITARIAN. TEDX  
AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER. TRUMPET AWARD RECIPIENT.



PRINCESS SARAH CULBERSON WAS BORN IN MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA TO AN AFRICAN FATHER AND A WHITE MOTHER.

As an infant, Princess Sarah was given up to foster care and adopted by a loving white family in West Virginia. She grew up contemplating and dealing with questions about her identity and her biracial roots. After learning that her biological mother had died when she was just 11, she found out that her father lived in a village in Sierra Leone, West Africa. She learned that she was from a royal family, a Mahaloi, the granddaughter of a Paramount Chief, with the status of a princess. She also learned of the difficulties and privations of the people in Sierra Leone resulting from a brutal 11-year civil war that ended in 2002.



"Your Voice Connects the WORLD to Make a DIFFERENCE."

THE DISCOVERY OF HER UNIQUE HERITAGE AND HOW SHE RESPONDED TO LEARNING SHE WAS A PRINCESS WOULD CHANGE SARAH'S LIFE FOREVER.

As co-founder and president of Sierra Leone Rising (formerly known as "The Kposowa Foundation") in Los Angeles, Princess Sarah and many others work daily to bring sustainable opportunities for the people of Sierra Leone. Princess Sarah has built eight reliable wells to provide clean water to 12,000 people, and has been at the forefront of education initiatives including the reconstruction of Bumpo High School and the distribution of learning materials to students, specifically to orphans of the civil war and victims of Ebola. Princess Sarah has also focused the goals of Sierra Leone Rising on access to education through projects such as providing bicycles to students in need of transportation. The foundation was initially formed in 2006 to support education, and the rebuilding of Bumpo High School after the 11 year Blood Diamond war.

## PROJECTS

Princess Sarah was honored this year as a recipient of the prestigious Trumpet Impact Award. Princess Sarah was also previously honored as one of the 28 African American "Future Makers" by AT&T's "Dream In Black" initiative, celebrating black creators such as Queen Latifah, Zendaya, Van Jones, Nick Cannon, Angela Yee, and a slew of others.

Her work in education and technology has led her to create upcoming projects including an animation show with Randy Jackson and a Roblox game to connect children to cultures around the world.



## PRESS

Princess Sarah has an extraordinary journey that has been featured on CNN, GMA, BBC among numerous other publications worldwide which have trended #1 globally in over 60 countries. She is an internationally-known thought leader, TEDx speaker, artist, and educator whose work addresses biracial and cultural identity and raises awareness of issues impacting Sierra Leone. Her story inspired the book she co-wrote, "A Princess Found" which is being turned into a live-action movie with Disney.





# Princess Sarah Culberson

SPEAKING + APPEARANCES



HOW FEAR AND ASSUMPTIONS CAN CREATE A BETTER LIFE  
PRINCESS SARAH CULBERSON | TEDx DELTHORNE WOMEN

PRINCESS SARAH SHARES HER PRINCESS POWERS, LEADERSHIP SKILLS, MOTIVATION AND INSPIRATION - CAPTIVATING AUDIENCES AROUND THE WORLD WITH HER STORY!

Princess Sarah is a charismatic speaker who manages to deliver powerful and serious messages with warmth and humor. Her speaking style inspires audiences to take a moment for personal reflection and purpose. Sarah covers a variety of topics including education and community outreach, diversity and inclusion, interracial adoption, technology, service learning, finding your roots, overcoming your fears to live your dreams, women and girls conversations, and her experience as an African Princess.

## PAST SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION - ZOOM  
CAPITAL ONE, PRUDENTIAL,  
DANAHER | 2020

SANTA ANITA, CA  
DISNEY CONCERT HALL -  
CALIFORNIA PHILHARMONIC

PACIFIC PALISADES, CA  
PAUL REVERE MIDDLE SCHOOL

OMAHA, NE  
NEBRASKA CHILDREN'S HOME  
SOCIETY

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN  
BETHANY CHRISTIAN  
ADOPTION SERVICES

LOS ANGELES, CA  
USC ANNENBERG

BLOOMINGTON IL  
YWCA

MALIBU, CA  
PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

PASADENA CA  
GOOD DAY PASADENA SHOW

LOS ANGELES, CA  
CURTIS SCHOOL

LOS ANGELES, CA  
THE OAKWOOD SCHOOL

MORGANTOWN, WV  
CHEAT LAKE SCHOOL

MORGANTOWN, WV  
UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

NEW ORLEANS, LA  
AT&T DREAM IN  
BLACK/ESSENCE FESTIVAL  
SPEAKER 2019

SAN JOSE, CA/TORONTO, CANADA  
THE UNIQUE LIVES SPEAKING  
SERIES

SAN DIEGO, CA  
NAIS PEOPLE OF COLOR  
CONFERENCE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA  
THE AMERICAN CONSERVATORY  
THEATER

ORLANDO, FL  
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL  
FLORIDA

MORRIS, MN  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AT  
MORRIS

NOTRE DAME, IN  
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE

LOS ANGELES, CA  
THE WILDWOOD SCHOOL

LOS ANGELES, CA  
WINDWARD SCHOOL

MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
BLAKE SCHOOL

MALIBU, CA  
PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

PASADENA, CA  
UNITED NATIONS PASADENA  
CHAPTER

LOS ANGELES, CA  
CURTIS SCHOOL

LOS ANGELES, CA  
ARCHER SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

LOS ANGELES, CA  
JAPANESE AMERICA MUSEUM

BALTIMORE, MD  
SIERRA LEONE YOUTH  
CONFERENCE

LOS ANGELES, CA  
2010 ABWHE NATIONAL  
CONFERENCE

WELLESLEY, MA  
WELLESLEY COLLEGE

PENNSYLVANIA, PA  
UNIVERSITY OF INDIANA

MORGANTOWN, WV  
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

MONTCLAIR, NJ  
MONTCLAIR KIMBERLEY  
ACADEMY

SAN RAFAEL, CA  
ST. MARKS SCHOOL

PASADENA, CA  
INTERVIEW FOR GOOD DAY  
PASADENA SHOW

LONG BEACH, CA  
APOSTROPHE BOOKS

PASADENA, CA  
VROMANS BOOK STORE

SANTA MONICA, CA  
DIESEL BOOKS

OAKLAND, CA  
COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

LOS ANGELES, CA  
VISTA DEL MAR SCHOOL

SAN FRANCISCO, CA  
LICK- WILMERDING SCHOOL

CALABASAS, CA  
VIEWPOINTS SCHOOL

CARPENTARIA, CA  
CATE SCHOOL

DALLAS, TX  
PARISH EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

BREMERTON, WA  
BREMERTON ELEMENTARY &  
HIGH SCHOOLS

ROANOKE, WV (STONEWALL RESORT)  
ROTARY DISTRICT  
CONFERENCE

REDONDO BEACH, CA  
ROTARY CLUB OF REDONDO  
BEACH

LOS ANGELES, CA  
LA 5 ROTARY

LOS ANGELES, CA  
I HAVE A DREAM FOUNDATION

NEWTON SQUARE, PA  
EPISCOPAL ACADEMY

PITTSBURGH, PA  
THE ELLIS SCHOOL

DALLAS, TX  
URSULINE ACADEMY

MONTCLAIR, NJ  
MONTCLAIR KIMBERLEY  
ACADEMY



## EDUCATION

### BFA BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY | 1994 - 1998  
Performance Scholarship & Rotary scholarship

### MFA MASTERS IN FINE ARTS

AMERICAN CONSERVATORY | 1998 - 2001  
1 of 18 students selected - Masters program was ranked #6 in the U.S.

## SIERRA LEONE RISING

### NON-PROFIT CO-FOUNDER | 2006-PRESENT

Working in Public Health, Education and Female empowerment and established the Kposowa Foundation our non-profit arm on the ground in Sierra Leone.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

### WORKED WITH AMBASSADOR SHABAZZ, (MALCOLM X'S ELDEST DAUGHTER)

- Worked with Ambassador Shabazz in a women's prison in Belize | 2003
- Returned to Belize to help with an Empowerment workshop for women | 2006
- Returned again to Belize with high school students to work in two Orphanages and a children's hospital | 2012

## WORKING WITH STUDENTS

### BRENTWOOD SCHOOL IN L.A. | 2002-2006

DANCE INSTRUCTOR  
Created the middle school dance program that taught students about different cultures through dance.

### OAKWOOD SCHOOL L.A. | 2010 - 2017

DIRECTOR OF SERVICE LEARNING  
Worked with students in service, locally and globally.

### OAKWOOD SECONDARY | 2017 - PRESENT

DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH (working with Affinity groups). - Leading student trips/projects in Spain, China, Sierra Leone, Dominican Republic, and Belize.

## CONTACT

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[SARAHCULBERSON.COM](http://SARAHCULBERSON.COM) | [SIERRALEONERISING.ORG](http://SIERRALEONERISING.ORG)

# Princess Sarah Culberson

## RESUME + PROJECTS

## FEATURED SPEAKING

### CAPITAL ONE, PRUDENTIAL, DANAHER | 2020

Diversity & Inclusion - Zoom

### AT&T TOP 28 BLACK FUTURE MAKERS | 2019

### UNIQUE LIVES SPEAKING SERIES | 2007-2009

Speaking series with Carol Burnett, Jane Fonda, Caroline Kennedy, Madeleine Albright, Dr. Maya Angelou, Gloria Steinem, Marlee Matlin and more.

### NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER | 2006 - PRESENT

## ACTING & PERFORMANCE

### TELEVISION/ MOVIES/ PLAYS/ DANCE

- Boston Legal
- Secret Life of the American Teenager
- All of US
- In Case of Emergency
- American Dreamz
- Midsummer Night's Dream and The Tempest
- For Colored Girls
- 2008-2009 Africa Channel- Host of my own show called Behind the Words- interviewing African authors from the continent.
- Danced for five years with professional Urban Latin Theater Dance company, CONTRA-TIEMPO which represented the United States in South America.
- Performed 'Dry your Tears Africa' with the California Philharmonic at the Disney Concert Hall, and in Santa Anita.

## WRITING & PRODUCTION

### CO-AUTHOR | A PRINCESS FOUND

Recently sold movie rights to the book and working on script with the writer.

### TV PRODUCER | PRINCESS CONVERSATIONS (IN PROGRESS)

### AUTHOR & CREATOR - CHILDREN'S BOOKS AND ANIMATED SERIES (IN PROGRESS)

## AWARDS

### BOUNCE TRUMPET AWARDS

IMPACT AWARD

### NAACP AWARD WINNER

BEST ENSEMBLE FOR "FOR COLORED GIRLS"

### SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

AWARD WINNER FOR " A PRINCESS FOUND"

### AFRICAN AMERICANS FUTURE MAKERS

1 OF 28 SELECTED FOR AT&T DREAM IN BLACK CAMPAIGN.