

# Listen Out Loud Media SPEAKERS BUREAU

## Yosef Medina

**Yosef Medina** is a purpose-driven, visionary leader dedicated to bridging communities through strategic cultural initiatives and transformative educational programs. As Director of Community Initiatives at Virginia Humanities, he spearheads programs like the HBCU Scholars Fellowship and the Virginia African American Cultural Resources Task Force, fostering strategic partnerships and community-driven initiatives. A PhD student at Georgetown University, Yosef's research focuses on public humanities organizations and sustainable funding models. He also serves on the advisory board of Rivanna Books at UVA Press and the AfroLatin@ Forum, advocating for greater representation in education and publishing. Previously, he worked on the front lines of youth justice reform in New York City's K-12 public schools and juvenile detention system, leading education and reentry programs that provided pathways to college and employment for justice-impacted youth.

### Discussion Topics:

- Bridging Black & Latin Communities
- Afro-Latinidad & Cultural Identity
- The Power of Humanities & Arts in Education
- Closing the Opportunity Gap in Urban Schools
- Education & Reentry: A Second Chance

### Academic Degrees:

- PhD Candidate, Georgetown University
- MPA, Liberty University – Public & Non-Profit Management
- BA, Hartwick College – Business Administration & Spanish

### Awards:

- Changemaker of the Year, Canary Academy Online (2021)
- The Best of OCFS Honor, New York State (2018)
- 40 Under 40 Rising Latino Stars Award (2014)

### Key Contributions to Youth & Reentry Education:

- Developed reentry education programs for justice-involved youth in New York.
- Co-founded the NYC Latin American Identity Task Force.
- Led statewide initiatives in New York for incarcerated and at-risk youth, including the Juvenile Justice Educators Symposium and the Energy Warriors program.



## Yosef Medina

Educator | Reentry Advocate | Cultural Strategist

- Helped implement the prison-to-college pipeline between John Jay College and the New York State Office of Children & Family Services.

### Recent Speaking Engagements:

- Keynote Speaker, Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy
- Smithsonian Folklife Festival Panelist
- Moderated Discussion with MacArthur Fellow Dr. Reuben Jonathan Miller
- Roundtable: The Importance of Blackness & Afro-Latinidad in the K-12 Curriculum
- Op-Ed: The Humanities and HBCUs – A Long Intertwined History in Virginia

### Boards & Community Leadership:

- Advisory Board Member, Rivanna Books (UVA Press)
- Board Member, Virginia Latino Advisory Board (Education & Career Training Chair)
- Board Member, AfroLatin@ Forum
- Board Member, Canary Academy Online

### How to Book Yosef Medina:

- Contact: [info@listenoutloudmedia.com](mailto:info@listenoutloudmedia.com)
- More Info: [listenoutloudmedia.com/speakers-bureau](https://listenoutloudmedia.com/speakers-bureau)
- Travels From: Virginia