



GET TO KNOW ERRIKA

Thirty years ago, a Circuits professor told Errika “Black women had no business in engineering”. She wasn’t in a position, at the time, to change his systemic oppression of black female engineers...but eventually she would impact the educational and institutional systems that create barriers to entry.

Today she serves as the inaugural Executive Director for the STEM Funders Network committed to ensuring DEIA in STEM opportunity investments from cradle to career. She hopes to address the disparities that still exist in STEM education and access due to the combination of inequitable resources, funding, and policy. She believes we can change how we evaluate philanthropic investments and impact and ensure that historically marginalized and underrepresented communities in STEM have more equitable access to funding and opportunities.

Previously she worked for IBM, BMC Software and Southwire. But in 2012 she decided she was “no longer accepting the things she couldn’t change; she was changing the things she couldn’t accept.” (Angela Davis). Since that time, she’s served as the Vice President of Member Services and External Affairs for ITSMF increasing the representation in the black technology pipeline, the Executive Director for TAG-ED focused on K-12 STEM advocacy, and the Senior Program Officer at the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta focused on creating equity in education through workforce development for over 900,000 students.

Currently she serves the community through FIU’s Honors College board, Georgia Tech boards, Project Scientist, the strategic planning committee for the National Center for Family Math, Georgia DoE’s Computer Science and CTAE Industry Advisory Councils, as the state lead for the National Million Women Mentors initiative, and on several STEM Advisory Councils, committed to DEIA, system level change, creating awareness, inspiring others to be change agents, being a voice for those without voice or agency, and challenging the historical power dynamics that have created both disparities and inhibitors to equitable access.

As a result of her commitment to making a difference for others in STEM education, she’s been recognized as an Education Policy Fellow, a Trailblazer by Million Women Mentors, an Outstanding Georgia Citizen by the Secretary of the State, a Woman of the Year by Atlanta’s Women in Technology, and as an Ecosystem Builder by multiple organizations.