

SPEAKING · KEYNOTES · WORKSHOPS

Book David to *Speak*

David Edgerton Jr. helps professionals and organizations understand what high performers are truly worth — and why most people and institutions miss it. Every talk leaves your audience with a new framework and a clear next step.



◆ NC A&T · Electrical Engineering

◆ Carlson MBA · University of Minnesota

◆ Author · *Laid Off to Lift-Off*

◆ Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity

◆ Founder · DEJ Search

SIGNATURE TALKS

Six Topics. One Throughline: Your Capital Is Portable.

Each talk is customized to your audience — from keynotes to breakout sessions to panel conversations.

TRANSFERABLE CAPITAL™

Your Résumé Isn't the Problem. Your Capital Is.

A reframe for professionals who keep getting overlooked. David unpacks the six capitals that determine career value and shows how to build, transfer, and monetize what's already been built.

CAREER RESILIENCE

From Laid Off to Lift-Off: Turning Disruption Into Direction

Based on his memoir and lived experience, David shares how a 2019 layoff became the launch pad for entrepreneurship, leadership, and a new definition of professional identity.

DEI & INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP

The Hidden Capital of Underrepresented Leaders

A candid conversation on how organizations overlook the cultural and social capital professionals from underrepresented backgrounds bring — and what that blind spot is costing them.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP · NONPROFIT

What the Right Leader Actually Changes

Drawing from executive search experience across nonprofit and social-impact sectors, David reveals the leadership qualities organizations think they're hiring for — versus the ones that actually move missions forward.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Building a Business on Borrowed Belief

For aspiring entrepreneurs, David shares the mindset shifts, systems, and capital-building strategies that helped him scale from zero to a retained search firm exceeding his prior corporate salary.

NONPROFIT TALENT STRATEGY

The Talent Gap No One Is Talking About

Mission-driven organizations face unique talent challenges. David helps boards and executive teams rethink how they identify, attract, and retain high-capital leaders in a competitive market.

David's presentation was engaging and informative, and we received many positive responses from our employees who appreciated both his energy and his approach.

— KATIE MAURER · EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PEOPLE & DEVELOPMENT · MEDIA MINEFIELD

DETAILS

Built Around Your Event.

What You Get

- Keynote, breakout, or panel — 20 to 90 min formats
- Pre-event audience consultation call
- Custom messaging tailored to your theme & audience
- Virtual or in-person delivery available
- Optional post-event TC Clarity Session offering for attendees
- Signed copies of *Laid Off to Lift-Off* available

Ideal Audiences

- HR leaders, CHROs & talent professionals
- Nonprofit boards & executive teams
- Professionals navigating career transitions
- ERG / affinity group conferences
- Entrepreneurship & business ownership events
- University career & alumni programs
- DEI & leadership development summits

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Built From the Inside Out.

David Edgerton Jr. started where most engineers start — solving problems with clear answers. A degree in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina A&T State University gave him a framework for thinking that has never left him: define the system, identify the variables, build for what the system actually needs.

What came next wasn't a straight line. IT. Manufacturing. Corporate diversity leadership. An MBA from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota. Years spent inside large organizations watching talented people build value — and watching that value disappear the moment the organization changed.

When David founded DEJ Search in 2021 and began placing senior leaders in nonprofit and social-impact organizations, the pattern became undeniable. After 30+ placements, he had the evidence for something he'd been observing his entire career.

"The candidates who landed well weren't the most credentialed. They were the most portable."

Transferable Capital is the framework he built to name it — and to give professionals the language, the diagnostic, and the development path to build it intentionally.

CREDENTIALS

- ◆ B.S. Electrical Engineering — North Carolina A&T State University
- ◆ MBA — Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota
- ◆ Founder & Managing Partner — DEJ Search (est. 2021)
- ◆ Creator — Transferable Capital™ Framework
- ◆ Author — *Laid Off to Lift-Off*
- ◆ 30+ executive placements in nonprofit & social-impact organizations
- ◆ Member — Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

THE PHILOSOPHY

The professionals who win the next decade won't be the most qualified. They'll be the most portable. The organizations that thrive will be the ones smart enough to help their people build capital that belongs to them — knowing that people who grow, stay. Build accordingly.