



2026 Arizona Adult Education Institute

Keynote Speakers

Thursday, September 17: Dr. LaToya Newson

Created for a Time Such as This: The Enduring Power of Adult Education



Dr. LaToya Newson is a nationally recognized leader in adult education policy, workforce development, and systems-level change. As the former federal Director of the Office of Adult Education and Family Literacy at the U.S. Department of Education, she shaped policy and practice that directly impacted millions of adult learners across the country — including the very systems Arizona continues to build and strengthen today.

An established author, teacher, and speaker, Dr. Newson challenges audiences to move from conversation to transformation and to build the kinds of bold, responsive systems that give every adult learner a genuine shot at the future they deserve.

Friday, September 18: Dr. Keisha King

Strengthening Digital Foundations: Building Instructor Confidence and Student Readiness in Adult Education

Dr. Kiesha King is a globally recognized education strategist, five-time Forbes contributor, Harvard University guest lecturer, and FCC Digital Equity Honoree whose work focuses on education innovation, workforce readiness, leadership, and large-scale institutional transformation.

Dr. King currently serves as U.S. Head of Strategic Engagement and Market Development, K-12 Education at Apple.

Prior to her current role, Dr. King led one of the largest education connectivity initiatives in U.S. history at T-Mobile: Project 10Million, an \$11.7 billion program that helped connect more than 7 million student households to reliable internet access.

