

BIOGRAPHY



Dr. Kevin Ahmaad Jenkins is a dynamic speaker, author, and scholar who serves as a Vice-Provost's Postdoctoral Fellow and Associate Fellow within The Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics at the University of Pennsylvania. He is appointed in the School of Social Policy and Practice as well as serves as a lecturer in the Department of Biobehavioral Health Sciences within the School of Nursing. Jenkins serves as the director of the Interpreting Attitudes toward Minorities in Medicine (I AM) Research Group.

Recognized as a thought-leader in medicine, Dr. Jenkins was named a 2017 National Quality Forum's 40 Under 40 Leader in Health. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), the nation's leading philanthropy on health and health care, awarded Dr. Jenkins the highly competitive New Connections award for early career scholars. After obtaining his bachelor's from North Carolina Central University and master's degrees from Florida A&M University focused in medical and legal history, Dr. Jenkins earned a Ph.D. in Sociology and Criminology & Law from the University of Florida. Jenkins is also a columnist for the number one African-American health news resource BlackDoctor.org.

This two-time national journalism award winner examines the influence of race, racism, and psychosocial stress within medicine. Dr. Jenkins serves as principal investigator on three currently funded studies that focus on the embodiment of racism among patients living with chronic kidney disease. Legendary rapper and radio personality, Chubb Rock, has teamed up with Dr. Jenkins to explore issues of health equity in a groundbreaking forthcoming documentary featuring celebrities battling chronic diseases. As an author, Jenkins is currently working on the book, *Hue Process: The Quantitative Measurement of Racism in Medicine*, and serves as co-editor of the forthcoming book *Contemporary African America* (New York University Press).

Before the journey to his doctorate degree, Jenkins is credited and renowned for expanding the title of public speaker as the Public Address Announcer for North Carolina Central University (1999- 2007) and the On-Field Announcer for the Triple-A Affiliate for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, the Durham Bulls in Durham, North Carolina (2000- 2007). He is the first announcer to host the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association's (CIAA) Super Saturday entertaining crowds of 20,000 for six consecutive years (2000- 2006). He captured yet another first as the first weekend host of the North Carolina Educational Lottery (2006 - 2007). He also served as a writer for The Daily News in Jacksonville, NC starting at the age of 16 and later became a columnist for the Herald-Sun in Durham, NC in 2005.

Dr. Jenkins takes critical steps to better his community with a passion for people and love for knowledge. Jenkins served on the North Carolina initiative to close the academic achievement gap among Black and Brown youth. He also developed a thought-provoking youth curriculum for North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction. High-powered corporate clients such as McDonald's and Proquest invited Dr. Jenkins as a keynote speaker for state and global events. As an activist, he has led rallies for a litany of social justice issues that adversely impact minority communities. Jenkins has shared stages to discuss race and social justice with the likes of Danny Glover, Christopher "Play" Martin from the iconic group Kid N' Play, and New York Times columnist, Charles Blow, just to name a few. Through gripping stories, powerful oratory, and innovative research, Dr. Kevin Ahmaad Jenkins is a blue-collar academician who is one of the America's emerging voices.