



Ryan E. Ross is a polished and transformational educational and community leader. Ryan holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Nebraska Wesleyan University, a Masters of Education degree in Organizational Performance and Change from Colorado State University, and a PhD in Educational Leadership and Innovation from the University of Colorado Denver.

A Colorado native, Ryan grew up in Denver's Eastside and Five Point areas. Ryan's passion for community, leadership, and education is directly related to his experiences growing up and desire to pay it forward to the community that afforded him many opportunities. Ryan's innovative work can be witnessed through his leadership in programs such as the Kappa League Leadership development program, the creation of the Urban Male Initiative at the Community College of Denver, the Urban Leadership Foundation of Colorado, and in collaboration with many community partners such as Denver Public Schools, the Ethnic College Counseling Center, Gilliam Youth Services, Jack and Jill of America Denver Chapter, Colorado

Beautillion Inc., and the Center for Multicultural Excellence at the University of Denver.

A committed educational leader and community servant, Ryan has been coined "Denver's role Model for Inclusiveness, has received the Denver Business Journal's prestigious 40 under Forty Award, was named as an African American who make a difference by the Denver Urban Spectrum, received Colorado's 2011 M.O.D.E.L (Man of Distinction Excellence, and Leadership) award, in 2013 received the MLK Humanitarian from Colorado's Martin Luther King Jr. Commission, and most recently in March of 2016 was recognized as Colorado's 9 News leader of the year.

After fourteen years of educational work at the Community College of Denver; Dr. Ross transitioned from his post as the Dean of Student Development and Retention and accepted the roles of President and CEO of the Urban Leadership Foundation of Colorado in the spring of 2016 to honor his non-profit and philanthropic commitment and as the Western Regional Director for the American Petroleum Institute to continue his professional growth.

Ryan a true believer in inspiring service in the public's interest continues to build on a foundation of service. His involvement has included serving a term as a Mayoral appointee on the Denver Parks and Recreation Board, the President of the Denver Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, serving as the regional President of Educational Advocacy organization, ASPIRE Inc., a general member of the Denver Urban Scholars board, and as a head coach and board member of the Pirate Youth football Organization. Currently Ryan is a trustee for J.K. Mullen High School, a founding member of the Denver African American Philanthropy group, a board member for Mile High Youth Corps, and now coaches 6 year old football for the Green Valley Ranch Giants.

Ryan's proudest moments include co-founding the Kappa League Leadership Development program for high school males of color, implementation of the Urban Male Initiative at the Community College of Denver, establishing the Juneteenth celebration as an official holiday in Lincoln, NE, and sharing life everyday with the loves of his life; wife Simone Danielle and children Gavin and Zoe.

Dr. Ryan E. Ross continues to live by his own words... "*Achievement waits ahead so never look back besides why settle on being Good when we are destined to great!*"