

About Julian Kenneth Braxton



Julian Kenneth Braxton was born and raised in New York City. He grew up attending Greater Central Baptist Church in Harlem, where he was actively engaged in the church community. He had the esteemed privilege of representing Greater Central as a delegate at the 111th Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention USA in Los Angeles, CA.

Julian Kenneth Braxton has served as a senior administrator and member of the history faculty at the Winsor School in Boston, Massachusetts for over twenty years. Winsor is a prominent private, college preparatory day school that empowers young women to pursue their aspirations and make meaningful contributions to the world.

Julian holds the position of Director of Community and Inclusion, as well as serving as an instructor in the history department. Recently, he was appointed as the inaugural Bezan Chair of Community and Inclusion. The Bezan Chair is a permanently endowed position that underscores Winsor's enduring dedication to inclusion and a sense of belonging.

Julian's commitment to public service traces back to his early years when he served as an intern in the district office of Congressman Charles B. Rangel. In 1994, he was honored with the Patrick Daly/Mother Hale Community Service Award by the New York City Council for his involvement in The Constitution Works—a civic education program benefiting students of public schools in New York City. Julian is a former Fellow and Counselor for the Center for the Study of the Presidency. In 1999, he received his Master's degree in Administration, Planning, and Social Policy from Harvard's Graduate School of Education. Renowned sociologist and Harvard professor Dr. Sarah Lawrence-Lightfoot was Julian's academic advisor. He was also awarded the prestigious Rockefeller Brothers Fund Leadership Fellow. As part of that Fellowship, Julian received funding to design an innovative change project. He created the Black Church Education Collaborative, a college prep program for students attending historically Black churches. From 2000 to 2003, Julian served as Director of the Summer History Institute at the Bostonian Society.

Julian began his career as a Howard Heinz Teaching Fellow at Sewickley Academy in Pennsylvania. In 2007, he served as Co-Chair of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) People of Color Conference. He was a longtime member of Call to Action, NAIS's national think tank and advisory council on diversity. Julian is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Independent Schools in New England. He currently serves on the Alumni Council of the Harvard Graduate School of Education and on the Sphere Educator Advisory Board. He has received numerous awards, including the Diversity Medal of Honor from the Glasgow Group and the Virginia Wing Outstanding Teaching Award.

Julian has a passion for listening to and sharing the stories of others. This is his way of uplifting the world. He has two podcast series: "Journey In Strength," where he interviews faith leaders about leading during challenging times such as these, and "Rear View Ahead," where he interviews historians and history makers about crucial moments in history and their connection to the present moment. Julian models what it means to take a stand by voicing his thoughts and concerns about the news of the day in regularly published letters to the editor in *The Boston Globe* and *The New York Times*. Julian often quotes his favorite historian John Hope Franklin when asked about his life's mission, "I want to be out there on the firing line, helping, directing, or doing something to try to make this a better world, a better place to live."