

# Latia Vaughan

Global Futurist | Human Evolution Expert | Strategist | Transformational Leader

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Latia Vaughan is a globally recognized Futurist, Human Evolution Expert, strategist, and transformational leader dedicated to shaping the future of leadership, innovation, and human potential. Known as “The Dream Pusher,” she is **among the 1% of African American women futurists in North America** and is widely recognized for her work at the intersection of culture, technology, and collective flourishing. Through her work, Latia helps leaders, organizations, and communities navigate change, unlock possibility, and build future-ready systems in an era of unprecedented transformation.

At the core of her work is her signature framework, “Build the Jungle, Not the Garden,” first introduced in Forbes in an interview with 9X Emmy Award-winning journalist Jane Hanson. The framework advances the conviction that the rigid, closed, and static systems of the past are giving way to living, adaptive ecosystems that breathe, connect, and evolve with the needs of the people within them. Her message is unsparing: the garden is dead, and the future belongs to those bold enough to build the jungle.

With more than 20 years of experience in evolutionary leadership development, Latia serves as a trusted advisor, consultant, and speaker at the convergence of leadership evolution, economic empowerment, emerging technologies, and human development.

Guided by a human-centered approach to futurism, Latia explores how culture, leadership, technology, and human connection shape the future of society and expand what is possible for humanity. Rooted in a deep commitment to the humanities and to human capital development, she champions conscious leadership and believes that meaningful progress is measured not only by innovation, but by our collective capacity to evolve, connect, and flourish.

From the United Nations stage to executive boardrooms, Latia’s words have resonated through the halls of Fortune 500 companies including Meta, Google, GEICO, Instagram, United Nations, and many more. Her work bridges strategic foresight, future-ready leadership, conscious enterprise, and the evolving needs of humanity in a rapidly changing world.

Latia is the CEO of The Illuminate Group, LLC and Founder of Illuminate LIVE™, the global flagship women’s summit for women and their allies around the world. Through Illuminate LIVE™, she is building a global ecosystem of live experiences, media platforms, founder initiatives, and strategic partnerships designed to accelerate leadership, economic mobility, and opportunity across generations and communities worldwide.

An award-winning entrepreneur, bestselling author, podcast host, and sought-after keynote speaker, Latia has inspired thousands of entrepreneurs, executives, founders, and emerging leaders through her work on reinvention, innovation, and transformative growth. Her insights have been featured in more than 200 media outlets, including Forbes, NPR, ABC, NBC, FOX, BET, Essence Festival of Culture, Black Enterprise, and other national platforms.

Latia serves as a Board Member of the Home of the 19th Amendment Collective, honoring the legacy of Susan B. Anthony by advancing women’s economic empowerment, leadership, and civic participation through historic preservation and future-focused development. Her work is guided by a singular belief: that the future is not something we inherit, but something we consciously architect together.