

KEVIN POWELL
POLITICAL ACTIVIST & WRITER

Kevin Powell is widely considered one of America's leading political and cultural voices in these early years of the 21st century. An acclaimed community activist and award-winning writer, Powell was born and raised in Jersey City, New Jersey, and is the product of a single mother-led household, extreme poverty, fatherlessness, and violence. In spite of these harsh circumstances, Powell studied at Rutgers University in New Jersey and has become one of the most prolific and respected writers and voices of his generation.

He is the author or editor of 11 books, including his newest title, *Barack Obama, Ronald Reagan, and The Ghost of Dr. King: Blogs and Essays*, a collection that examines American leadership, politics, and social issues like gender violence, immigration, and equality for all Americans. Additionally, Powell's writings have appeared in numerous publications including *The Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, *Essence*, *Ebony*, *Esquire*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Vibe*, where he was a senior writer for several years documenting, most famously, the life and times of the late Tupac Shakur. His next book will be *The Education of Kevin Powell: A Boy's Journey into Manhood* (Spring 2013), an autobiography of his childhood and young adult life.

As a leader, Powell has worked on a range of concerns, including voter registration, Hurricane Katrina relief, education, the environment, eradicating poverty, and supply and resource support for post-earthquake Haiti. As an extension of his public service work, Powell also routinely does college, corporate, and community lectures across America and internationally, and he is a frequent presence on television and radio offering his commentary on a variety of issues, including on *The Oprah Show* where he was a part of the national conversation on domestic violence and how men can help to end the assault on women and girls.

Powell is not only a writer and activist, but also a business owner, as he has interests and ventures in entertainment, sports, and community development. A longtime and proud resident of Brooklyn, New York, Kevin Powell was a 2008 and 2010 Democratic candidate for Congress in Brooklyn. Finally, next up for Powell is the co-founding of a new national organization, BK Nation. BK Nation will focus on four major projects for the next several years: education, job creation and small business development, civic engagement, and health and wellness.

TOPICS:

- The Leadership We Are Waiting for Is Us: How to Become an Effective Leader
- How to Build Corporate Responsibility & Trust in the 21st Century
- Diversity 101: Creating a Healthy & Successful Workplace
- From Rosa Parks to Barack Obama: Civil Rights in America
- Let's Get It Started: Redefining American Manhood
- History Is a People's Memory: The Importance of Black History Month
- Someday We'll All Be Free: Young America, Voting & the New Activism