



26th Annual
NAEA
Conference on
Alternative
Education



Who
Makes
A
Difference

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Josh Shipp

Statistically, Josh Shipp should be dead, in jail, or homeless. But his success as a preeminent author, speaker, and global youth empowerment expert is living proof of **the power of one caring adult**. A former at-risk foster kid turned youth advocate, Josh is renowned for the documentary TV series on A&E that followed his groundbreaking work with youth and families.

He has written two national bestsellers to date, "[The Grown-Up's Guide to Teenage Humans](#)" – winner of the *Nautilus Gold Award for Parenting & Family* – and "[The Teen's Guide to World Domination](#)."

Thanks to the support of teachers, counselors, and a wonderful set of foster parents, Josh went on to be listed on **Inc. Magazine's 30 under 30 list**, and is now a **postgraduate student at Harvard** himself, further honing his skills in persuasive communication.

Josh is regularly called on by **OPRAH, CNN, FOX, The New York Times, 20/20, Good Morning America**, and others to provide commentary on common challenges faced by parents and teachers. Over the years, Josh has [keynoted events](#) for countless groups of **parents, educators, and social workers** – with audiences as large as 55,000 – and to date has spoken live in front of more than **two million people**. Viral clips of his acclaimed presentations have been viewed an estimated 50 million times online through platforms such as UpWorthy, Goalcast, and BuzzFeed.

To serve his ultimate goal of reaching as many youth as possible, Josh trains other speakers through [Youth Speaker University](#), helping them use their own stories to make an impact. His social and emotional learning curriculum, [Year of Awesomeness](#), is in use in hundreds of classrooms all around the world, while his [free newsletter](#) offers practical strategies to 200K+ parents, educators, and social workers.