



## Meredith Beal

*Award-winning Broadcaster • Award-winning Webmaster • Technology Guru • Master Journalist  
Digital Disruption Specialist • Award-winning Peace Builder • Record Company Executive • Music Producer*

# Internet Pioneer



In 1998, Meredith Beal became Dell Computer's first Global Webmaster and the first person at any company with that title, responsible for managing a global architecture and webmasters in more than 20 countries. Dell pioneered Internet commerce and the direct marketing model. Meredith received the Intranet Award of Excellence in 1999 and developed software innovations in personalization and knowledge management.

# Media Master Mentor



African Media Initiative

Meredith Beal  
Sr. Technology Advisor  
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The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation did a global search to find the best person to help media in Africa. They chose Meredith Beal to manage a continent-wide program to improve management skills of media owners to create more capable and more sustainable media organizations. They embedded him with the African Media Initiative – the continent's largest umbrella organization of media owners – to mentor CEOs of TV and radio stations, newspapers and digital news outlets. He promoted technological adaptation and developed management structures that leveraged new media convergence.  
<https://www.icfj.org/about/profiles/meredith-beal>

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# United Nations Delegate



H.E. Siim Kiisler  
President 4<sup>th</sup> UN Environment Assembly

Meredith was a delegate at the United Nations Environment Assembly in 2019, representing the United Religions Initiative — Africa

# African Union Delegate



Dr. Arikana Chihombori-Quao  
African Union Ambassador to USA

Meredith was a delegate at the African Union Assembly in 2019

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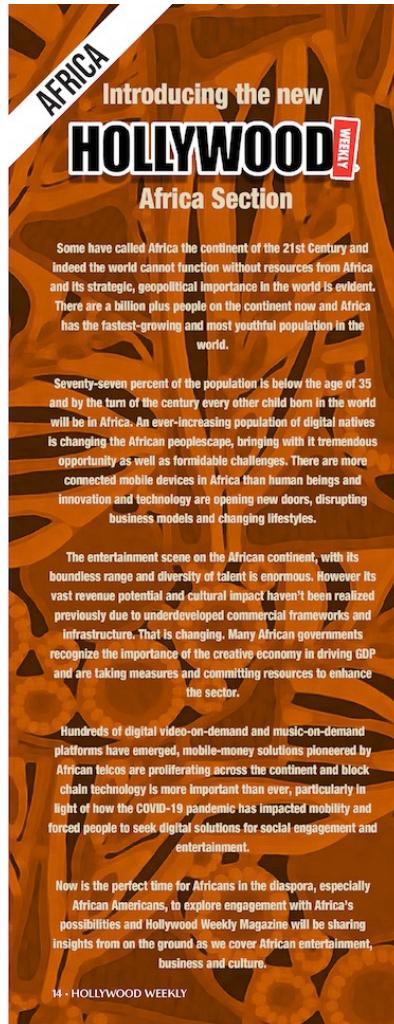
# 2022 Voice Achievers Awards

## African impact Award



Award-winning Broadcaster • Award-winning Webmaster • Technology Guru • Master Journalist  
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# Africa Editor



A large, high-contrast portrait of Meredith Beal. She is wearing glasses and a dark, sequined jacket, speaking into a silver microphone. To her right, the text "MEREDITH BEAL" is written in large, bold, orange letters with a flame-like texture. Below it, the words "CREATES CONNECTS COLLABORATES" are listed in a smaller, white sans-serif font. The background is dark, making the text and portrait stand out.

Hollywood Weekly's new Africa section will be headed by one of Africa's leading media masters and tech industry thought leaders — Meredith Beal. Beal is an award-winning broadcaster, award winning webmaster, technology guru and master journalist. He is a Knight International Fellow, a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Fellow, a RIAS Berlin Fellow and a National Association of Broadcasters (USA) Fellow.

He also currently serves as Sr. Technology Advisor to the African Media Initiative — the continent's largest umbrella organization of private media owners and as Media/Technology Advisor for United Religions Initiative—Africa, the continent's largest umbrella organization of religions, traditional spiritual practices and interfaith groups. Beal served as a delegate at the United Nations Environment Assembly and the African Union Assembly in 2019.

He was sent to Africa in 2011 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to manage a continent-wide program to strengthen management skills of media owners in Africa. Beal's first assignment was helping with the switch off of analog TV and ushering in digital TV broadcasting by writing a pamphlet on the subject, working with the African Telecommunications Union to organize workshops around the continent and bringing global best practices.

Beal has advised several governments on topics ranging from legislative frameworks for spectrum management and intellectual property legislation to advising the African Union on film industry standards and the development of an African Film Fund. He has been keynote speaker at a host of tech and entertainment events from ICT summits, banking and mobile

money conferences to the Zanzibar Film Festival and Broadcast Film & Music—Africa. He was a presenter at the Kalasha Film & TV Awards — Kenya's version of the Academy Awards and at the Mohamed Amin Africa Media Awards.

Before moving to Africa, Beal was Dell Computer's first Global Webmaster, managing a global architecture and webmasters for 23 countries. While at Dell, he bought several radio stations in Texas and in 2007 was named Texas Broadcaster of the Year. Before Dell, Beal was Director of Marketing at Motown Records.

A native of Los Angeles, Beal has lived in Africa for nearly a decade. He is headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, and has had projects in 20 African countries during that time. Because of his long experience and extensive relationships in the U.S. entertainment and technology scenes, and his extensive relationships in Africa across many sectors, Beal is perfectly suited to help navigate the African business and cultural landscape.

Beal's broad range of experience and expertise made him one of the world's leading figures in Technology, Media and Telecommunications (TMT). ICT has morphed into TMT as the convergence of sectors molds a new marketplace full of opportunity. Beal will be helping Hollywood Weekly readers navigate this new terrain.

For more about Meredith Beal visit  
[www.meredithbeal.com](http://www.meredithbeal.com)  
Follow Meredith on  
Twitter @meredithbeal - Instagram meredith.c.beal  
Facebook/MeredithBeal - LinkedIn Meredith Beal

HOLLYWOOD WEEKLY • 15

# World Parliament of Spirituality

**THE WORLD UNITED PRESENTS**  
WORLD PARLIAMENT ON SPIRITUALITY-3

Media/Technology Advisor, United Religions Initiative—Africa

MEREDITH BEAL

AFRICA

TOPIC :  
Soft Power & Interfaith Harmony

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# Alliance Builder



Meredith is the first person to take experts from the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) outside of the United States as trainers to share their expertise – first with Kenyan regulators and then other African countries. Now it's a regular part of FCC activities.

# Learning Sustainer



The FCC experts pictured in the previous slide in Nairobi are on screen in this slide from Washington DC in one of the follow-up international videoconferences organized by Meredith linking engineers around Africa with the global experts they met locally.

# Knowledge Sharer



Meredith wrote a guide on digital TV technology – “Ten Tips for Managing the Migration to Digital Television,” published in English and French by the International Center for Journalism and the African Media Initiative, used by the African Telecommunications Union and regulators in all member countries.

**Story** <http://alturl.com/u72oy> **Free Digital Copy** <http://alturl.com/478mk>

# Power Convener



Meredith was the first to organize multi-country, regional workshops on television digital migration in Africa, bringing experts from around the world to convene with government officials, television station owners and managers, engineers, advertisers, set-top-box manufacturers and other members of the value chain.

# Digital Evangelist



Jeanne Holm, NASA  
*Chief Knowledge Architect*

Meredith's organization, the African Media Initiative, brought NASA scientists to Uganda to share space data with farmers and agricultural researchers and taught journalists about open data, trained them on how to use publicly-available information to create visualizations to enhance storytelling and work with application developers to create tools leveraging the data to improve living conditions for their communities.

# Open Data Pioneer



Kenya Deputy President William Ruto

Kenya held the world's first national open data forum in 2015, for which Meredith was one of the organizers for the Office of Deputy President William Ruto. Three years before, in 2012, Meredith's open data team identified the cause of Kenya's low national education tests scores in certain regions of the country that had perplexed educators for years, showing the practical application of open data to solve community problems that actually led to policy change.

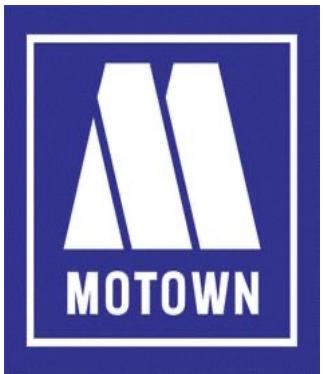
# Award-winning Broadcaster



A screenshot of a magazine page from "Radio World" magazine. The title of the article is "Beal: Standing Tall in Texas Radio". The article discusses the broadcaster of the year in Texas. It includes several small images: one of a station's interior with a sign that says "KCLW 100.1 FM", another of a man in a yellow shirt, and a third of a man in a suit. The page also features a sidebar with more text and a "Photo: AP Wirephoto" credit.

Meredith was named Texas Broadcaster of the year in 2007. Starting in 2000, he built a network of terrestrial and OTT radio & TV stations and owned a number of broadcast properties including KCLW, America's oldest country/western radio station. He was a legislative leader on the Board of Directors of the Texas Assn of Broadcasters, was involved in drafting Texas' Freedom of Information Act, pioneered broadcasting high school sports online and developed a number of innovative programs, including "Shout Out From Iraq," a live, weekly program from the front lines. [2007 Broadcaster of the Year](#)  
[Radio World Magazine article](#)

# Record Company Executive



When Berry Gordy sold the legendary Motown Record Company in 1988, Meredith became Director of Marketing and concurrently MIS Director, the record industry's first person in that role, as he and Jonathan Clark introduced computers to Motown, digitized the company and connected its headquarters in Los Angeles with its offices in New York and Chicago as a national network, training the employee base and creating integrated systems, templates and processes to manage the company. He also connected Motown's computer systems with outside vendors to send, data, graphics and financial information, again, an industry first. That was before email.

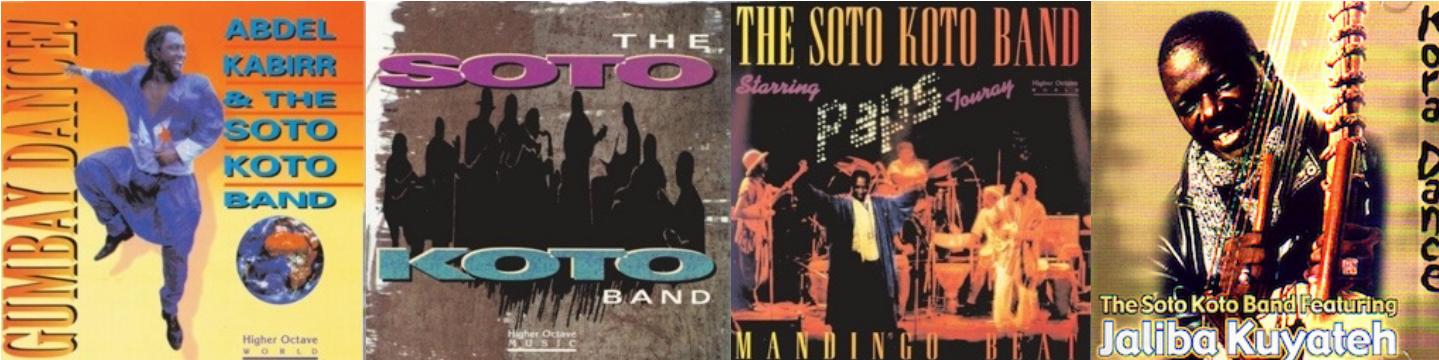
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# Record Label Owner

Meredith & Oko Drammeh formed Soto Koto Music in 1990 and secured a recording contract with Higher Octave Music now distributed by Virgin



## *Meredith & Oko with Higher Octave Chairman Dan Selene*



VOLUME 104 NO. 23

## **Mother Africa's Influence Echoes Anew**

*'Gumbay Dance!,' Carlos Santana Sets Resonant Rhythm*

**JUNE TUNES:** As we celebrate Black Music Month and acknowledge the wide range of musical genres pioneered by African-American musicians and artists, we should not forget that at the root of all black music is the echo of Mother Africa: her pulses, her rhythms, her tribal and medicinal voices, which resonated in the various forms of musical expression by African-descended peoples throughout North America, South America, and the Caribbean. In light of this ongoing connection, I've been listening to some ex-



*by Janine McAdams*



LW	TW	COMMERCIAL ADULT ALTERNATIVE
<b>SUBCHARTS</b>		
4	1	STEVE LAURY - Keepin' The Faith (Denton)
2	2	TOM GRANT - The View From Here (Verve Forecast/PolyGram)
3	3	STING - Ten Summoner's Tales (A&M)
4	4	RICHARD ELLIOT - Soul Embrace (Manhattan)
5	5	SPECIAL EFX - Play (JVC)
6	6	ACOUSTIC ALCHEMY - The New Edge (GRP)
7	7	LEE RITENDOUR - Wes Bound (GRP)
8	8	KIRK WHALUM - Cache (Columbia)
9	9	BRIAN BROMBERG - Brian Bromberg (Nova)
10	10	KILAKUA - Spring Break (Brainchild)
11	11	RAY OBiedo - Sticks And Stones (Windham Hill Jazz)
12	12	POCKET CHANGE/DADDY PATT - Mediterranean Affair (Brainchild)
13	13	KENNY G - Breathless (Arista)
14	14	MARS LASAR - The Eleventh Hour (Real Music)
15	15	THE JAZZMASTERS/PAUL HARDCASTLE - Jazzmasters (JVC)
16	16	LAUREN CHRISTY - Lauren Christy (Mercury)
17	17	ERIC LEEDS - Things Left Unsaid (Paisley Park/Warner Bros.)
18	18	INCOGNITO - Tribes, Vibes And Scribbles (Verve Forecast/PolyGram)
19	19	BLUE KNIGHTS - Cool Groove Styles (IC/DA)
20	20	CHUCK LOEB - Mediterranean (DMP)
21	21	SAADE - Love Deluxe (Epic)
22	22	GO WEST - King (EMI/VERG)
23	23	DYSSTEIN SEVAG - Link (Windham Hill)
24	24	THE SOTO KOTO BAND - The Soto Koto Band (Highe: Octave)
25	25	WILTON FELDER - Forever, Always (PAR)
26	26	NELSON RANGELL - Truest Heart (GRP)
27	27	JAN HAMMER - Beyond The Mind's Eye (Miramar)
28	28	RALF ILLENBERGER - Soleil (Narada)
29	29	JOE SPANO - Invitation (Warner Bros.)
30	30	ANGELA BOFILL - I Wanna Love Somebody (Jive)

Culled from Gavin Commercial AD Reporters only

April 23, 1992		<b>the GAVIN REPORT</b>
<b>■ ADULT ALTERNATIVE</b>		<b>2W LW TW</b>
2	1	LEE RITENOUR - Wes Bound (GRP)
4	4	<b>ACOUSTIC ALCHEMY</b> - New Edge (GRP)
3	2	STEVE LAURY - Keenin' The Faith (Denon)
1	3	SPECIAL KIDS - Play (JVC)
5	5	<b>TOM GRANT</b> - The View From Here (Verve Forecast/PolyGram)
7	6	<b>JAY BRISSON</b> - Shucks And Stones (Windham Hill Jazz)
13	12	STING - If I Ever... Seven Days. Love Is Stronger. She's Too (A&M)
11	11	<b>KILAEUA</b> - Spring Break (Brimchild)
9	7	BRIAN BROMBERG - Brian Bromberg (Nova)
10	10	CHUCK LOEB - Mediterranean (DMP)
5	8	POCKET CHANGE Jean DAVID PATT - Mediterranean Affair (Brainchild)
14	13	<b>KIRK WHALAM</b> - Cache (Columbia)
12	15	<b>MARS LASAR</b> - The Eleventh Hour (Real Music)
17	14	<b>OYSTEN SEVAG</b> - Link (Windham Hill)
20	16	<b>ERIC LEEDS</b> - Things Left Unsaid (Paisley Park/Warner Bros.)
8	9	RICHARD ELLIOT - Soul Embrace (Manhattan)
23	20	<b>LAUREN CHRISTY</b> - Lauren Christy (Mercury)
38	22	<b>THE JAZZMASTERS</b> feat. <b>PAUL HAROCAS</b> - Jazzmasters (JVC)
15	19	<b>PORCUPINE</b> - Look! But Don't Touch (Kazu/Unity)
21	17	RALF ILLENBERGER - Soien (Narada)
36	33	<b>HENRY JOHNSON</b> - The Believer (Heads Up)
23	23	<b>INCORPORATED</b> - Vibes And Vibes (Verve Forecast/PolyGram)
39	32	<b>WILLIAM FELDER</b> - Forever (Arista)
26	25	<b>ELIE KNIGHTS</b> - Cool Groove Styles (IC/DA)
—	25	JOE SAMPLE - Invitation (Warner Bros.)
29	26	<b>ROBERTO PERERA</b> - Dreams & Desires (Heads Up)
18	27	NELSON RANGELL - Truest Heart (GRP)
—	43	<b>ABRAHAM LABORIEL</b> - Dear Friends (Blue moon)
27	24	KENNY G - Breathless (Arista)
—	34	<b>THE SOTO KOTO BAND</b> - The Soto Koto Band (+Higher Octave)
18	21	CAL SCOTT - Second Thought (Tamarack)
19	26	JAN HAMMER - Beyond: The Mind's Eye (Miramar)

# Los Angeles Times Reporter

2

H Sat., Aug. 24, 1980

Los Angeles Times

## INHERITANCE TAX, INFLATION

# Conference Airs Problems of Elderly

By MEREDITH BEAL  
Times Staff Writer

WHITTIER — A distinguished-looking man sporting a button that read "CLOUD, SENIOR POWER" stood on a podium at the Whittier Community Center and in a loud, aggressive voice urged about 80 senior citizens to express opinions about how public agencies should respond to their needs.

George Mosler, co-chairman of the Greater Whittier Area Committee on Aging, addressed the recent local conference, one of many scheduled throughout the nation to urge federal and state action on issues facing the elderly.

Assemblyman Dave Stirling (R-Whittier) of the 64th District spoke briefly about an initiative to abolish the inheritance tax. Stirling said that the tax punishes the elderly and that it should be eliminated.

**Inflation of Most Concern**



Hard news reporter with byline for one of the world's largest newspapers  
[Journalism Highlights](#)

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# Thought Leader & Keynote Speaker



CNBC Power Lunch



Zanzibar International Film Festival



Interfaith Harmony Week



Kenya ICT Summit



African Film Finance Summit



South Africa Digital Media Summit



Kalasha Film Awards



Mohamed Amin Africa Media Awards

# Event Director



Broadcast Film & Music Africa is one of the largest creative industries conferences in East Africa. Meredith was event director in 2013, 2014 & 2015. He organized Kenya Film Commission's national film conference and launched East Africa's first advertising summit within the event.

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# Television



Meredith co-starred in The Africa Channel's "Shark Tank"-type TV series "The Bank," focused on micro development entrepreneurs. He is one of the four "bankers" who decides who gets the money. Each episode filmed in a different country. In Kenya's most popular teen drama series "Machachari," Meredith appears occasionally as an American investor.

# Curriculum Designer

## *Finance*



African Development Bank funded Meredith's regional financial workshops – *Financial Proficiency for Media Executives* – targeted at CFOs of media houses across Africa. He taught small-class, roll-up-your-sleeves-type workshops which included identifying sources of funding for media, outlining differences between VC, private equity and bank deals, pitch practice, how to analyze media deals and other important financial skills.

# Curriculum Designer

## *Web Technology & Video Production*



HT Univ. Pres. Larry Irving, Meredith Beal & Jonathan Clark

Meredith developed and taught web design curriculum for the World Association of Webmasters in 1999. He donated web design courses (curriculum & provided instructors, including himself) to Huston-Tillotson University and Wiley College as part of his efforts to bridge the “digital divide.” He donated a video production class to Huston-Tillotson and spearheaded innovative educational initiatives linking colleges with primary schools.

# Government Advisor



Kenya Min of Info PS Dr. Bitange Ndemo



Tanzania Min of Info PS Dr. John Nkoma



Uganda Min. of Info PS Godfrey Mutabazi



African Telecommunications Union SG, John Omo

The Benin government sought his advice on legislative frameworks for spectrum management, the Kenyan government sought his guidance on open data & intellectual property legislation, the Tanzanian government sought his expertise on its ICT bill. He also advised the Ugandan government on its plan for transitioning to digital broadcasting.

# Cultural Capital



Meredith has traveled to 62 countries in the world including 26 African countries.

# Political Capital



President Bill Clinton  
USA



President Uhuru Kenyatta  
Kenya



President Kenneth Kaunda  
Zambia



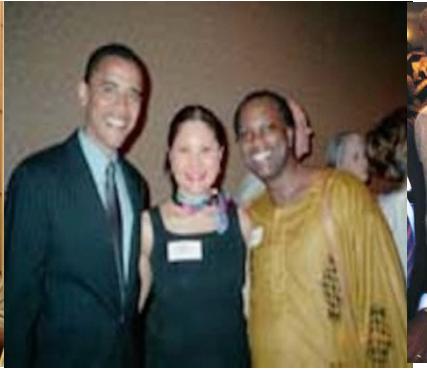
President Joaquim Chissano  
Mozambique



President Ameenah Gurib-Fakim  
Mauritius



President John Mahama  
Ghana



President Barack Obama  
USA



Prime Minister Joseph Ngute  
Cameroon

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# Video

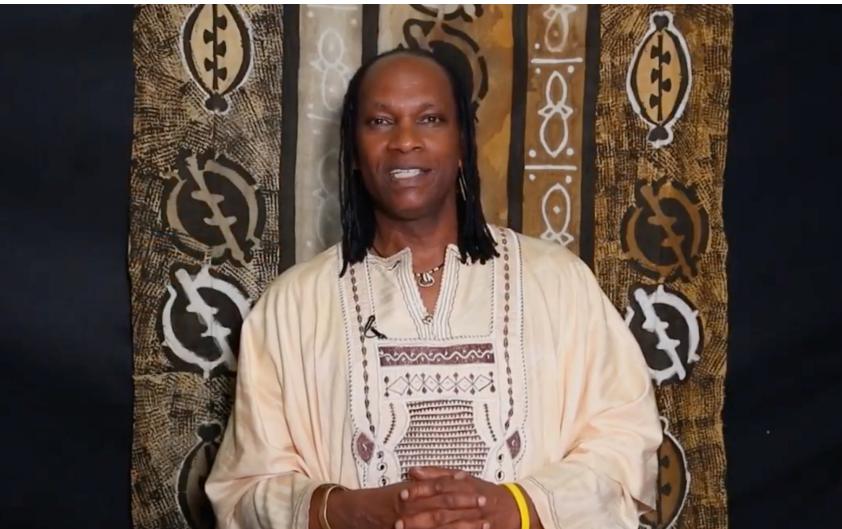


CNBC Africa Interview on Investment in Entertainment in Africa  
[Watch on YouTube](#)

# Video

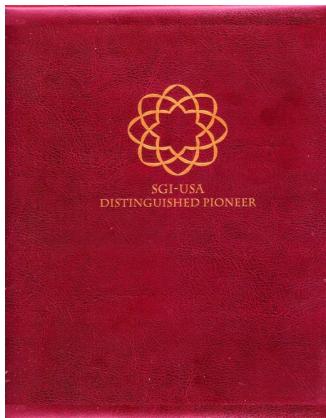


Meredith recites his poem "Africa Rising" @ Highway Africa Awards Gala  
[Watch on YouTube](#)



Meredith recites Afrika Yainuka (Africa Rising in Swahili)  
[Watch online](#)

# Awards



Texas Broadcaster of the Year  
SGI-USA American Renaissance Award  
SXSW Community Service Award  
SGI-USA American Pioneer Award  
Internet Award of Excellence  
Meredith Beal Day City Proclamation  
Texas Media Honor Roll



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*“The forward eternity we call the future  
The backward eternity we call the past  
All are lived in a time called now  
It doesn’t matter where you live, nor when  
Only how”*

*Meredith Clayton Beal*



[www.meredithbeal.com](http://www.meredithbeal.com)