**LeDerick R. Horne**

Speaker’s Introduction

How do you go from sitting in a special education classroom as a child to speaking on behalf of people with disabilities at the White House, the United Nations, and departments of education across the U.S. as an adult? How do you transform your learning disability into a lifelong passion for the art of the spoken word? How do you expand your family’s impressive civil rights legacy to include tireless advocacy for the rights of all people with disabilities?

If you’re LeDerick Horne, you just do it—and you simply never stop. Labeled with a learning disability as a child, LeDerick defies any and all labels. Today, he’s a noted spoken-word poet. An advocate for people with disabilities. A founding board member of a national non-profit. A co-author of the definitive book on hidden disabilities. A bridge-builder between learners and leaders everywhere. And as you’re about to experience yourself, an ambassador for all—whether you have a disability or not.

Please welcome LeDerick Horne.