

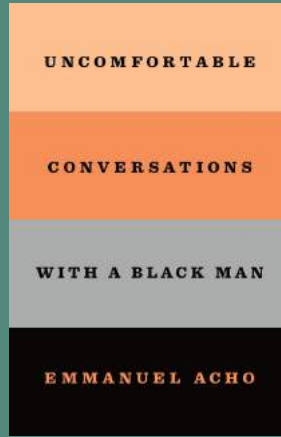


2022

# EDUCATIONAL FORUM

featuring

# EMMANUEL ACHO



U.S. BANK STADIUM | FEBRUARY 28 | 5:15pm

## "Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man"

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*Celebrate BestPrep's 45th anniversary with this special event!*



Counting Stars



WCCO Radio Host Cory Hepola

Platinum Sponsors



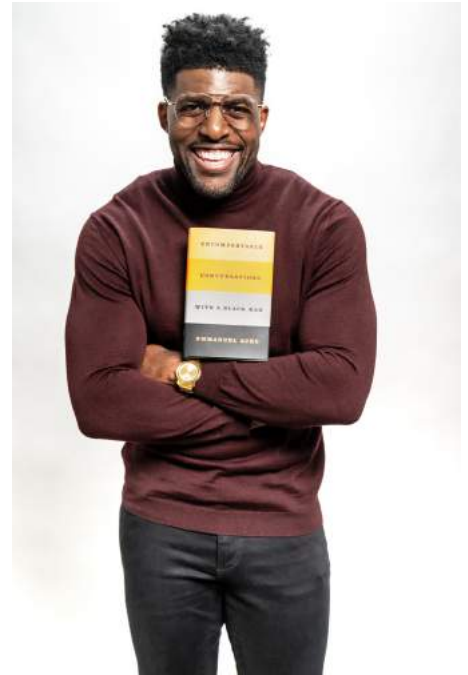
# Event Program

## Conversations with Emmanuel Acho

Emmanuel Acho will bring his popular web series to the BestPrep Educational Forum. Two 25-minute conversations will be held on stage, one with key Twin Cities D&I executives and one with area high school students.

Acho is a former NFL linebacker and current Fox Sports Analyst, co-host for FS1's "Speak For Yourself," and Host/Producer/Author of the Emmy award-winning web series "Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man" on driving an open, difficult, but ultimately productive conversation on race in America.

Greatly impacted by the murder of George Floyd, Acho began hosting the web series. In partnership with Oprah Winfrey, he released a book of the same title last November that debuted at #3 on the New York Times best sellers list.



## Event Emcee: Cory Hepola



Cory Hepola is the host of "Hey It's Cory Hepola" on WCCO Radio, where he's been named "100 People to Know" for his leadership and creativity by "Twin Cities Business." Before his transition to radio, Cory won two Emmy-Awards for Outstanding TV Anchor while at KARE 11. He is an inspirational speaker, sharing his message "Leave Fear Behind, Realize Your Potential" where he lays out four qualities we all need to identify: our core values, strengths, weaknesses, and purpose.

## Entertainment: Counting Stars

Counting Stars is comprised of children ages 4-18 from Salt Lake City, Utah. Originally trained with America's Got Talent's One Voice Children's Choir, Counting Stars is directed by Kathie Steinagel.



## D&I Panel



**Cristina Juvier**  
Thomson Reuters



**Greg Cunningham**  
U.S. Bank



**Camille Chang Gilmore**  
Boston Scientific

# Event Details

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## Event History

BestPrep has the privilege of partnering with Minnesota education and business communities to ensure that our students are ready to be the most creative and productive workforce in the world. The Educational Forum was created to broaden awareness of national and global issues affecting our community through a thought-provoking discussion. Event proceeds support BestPrep's educational programs. Past speakers have included Thomas Friedman, Alan Page, Angelique Kidjo, Bill Bradley, and Fareed Zakaria.

## Student Spotlight

A statewide Student Spotlight competition, sponsored by Thomson Reuters, will once again be held in conjunction with the Educational Forum. The Student Spotlight will be based on a question prompt, related to Emmanuel Acho's keynote address. Thomson Reuters will be presenting the awards, and one of the students will showcase their submission on stage during the evening program.



## Audience

The audience will include senior executives from the business, education, government, and non-profit sectors, as well as teachers and students. We are projecting 1,000-1,500 attendees.

## Schedule

4:45 pm	Exclusive Platinum Reception
5:15 pm	Networking Reception Begins
5:30 pm	VIP Reception for Sponsored Guests
6:15 pm	Dinner and Program

# Sponsorships

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## PLATINUM SPONSOR | \$25,000 | SOLD OUT

- On-stage opportunity to join a panel of D&I officers for dialogue with Emmanuel Acho
- Exclusive Platinum Reception with Emmanuel Acho for 10 guests; includes butler-passed appetizers, wine, and book signing
- VIP Reception with Acho for 20 guests; includes butler-passed appetizers, wine, and book signing
- Complimentary copy of Acho's book, "Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man" for 30 guests
- 3 tables of 10 in Platinum priority seating for dinner and program
- Logo featured as Platinum Sponsor on marketing materials, website, and signage
- Logo featured in Minneapolis/St.Paul Business Journal
- Announced as Platinum Sponsor in WCCO Radio PSA announcements

## CHOIR SPONSOR | \$25,000 | 1 AVAILABLE

- Choir Sponsor provided with all of the benefits of a Platinum Sponsor
- Sponsoring Counting Stars, who will perform at the Educational Forum event.
- Opportunity to meet choir and director Kathie Steinagel



# Sponsorships

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## GOLD SPONSOR | \$15,000 | 2 AVAILABLE

- VIP Reception with Emmanuel Acho for 20 guests; includes butler-passed appetizers, wine, and book signing
- Complimentary copy of Acho's book, "Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man" for 20 guests
- 2 tables of 10 in Gold priority seating for dinner and program
- Logo featured as Gold Sponsor on marketing materials, website, and signage
- Logo featured in Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal

## NETWORKING SPONSOR | \$10,000 | SOLD OUT

- Host of Networking Reception, which includes butler-passed appetizers
- VIP Reception with Emmanuel Acho for 8 guests; includes butler-passed appetizers, wine, book signing
- Networking Reception for 12 guests; includes butler-passed appetizers
- Complimentary copy of Acho's book, "Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man" for 20 guests
- 2 tables of 10 in Networking priority seating for dinner/program
- Logo featured as Networking Sponsor on marketing materials, website, and signage
- Logo featured in Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal

## BRONZE SPONSOR | \$5,000 | 6 AVAILABLE

- VIP Reception with Emmanuel Acho for 2; includes butler-passed appetizers, wine, and book signing
- Networking Reception for 8 guests; includes butler-passed appetizers
- Complimentary copy of Acho's book, "Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man" for 10 guests
- 1 table of 10 located in Bronze priority seating for dinner/program
- Identified as Bronze Sponsor on marketing materials, website, and signage

## BOOK SPONSOR | \$20,000 | SOLD OUT

- Book Sponsor provided all benefits of Gold Sponsor
- Sponsorship provides a complimentary copy of Acho's book to all guests, "Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man," which debuted as #3 on the New York Times best seller list
- Company logo featured inside book

## SILVER SPONSOR | \$7,500 | SOLD OUT

- VIP Reception with Emmanuel Acho for 4 guests; includes butler-passed appetizers, wine, and book signing
- Networking Reception for 16 guests; includes butler-passed appetizers
- Complimentary copy of Acho's book, "Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man" for 20 guests
- 2 tables of 10 in Silver priority seating for dinner/program
- Logo featured as Silver Sponsor on marketing materials, website, and signage

## TABLE SPONSOR | \$2,600

- Networking Reception for 10 guests; includes butler-passed appetizers
- 1 table of 10 with company/organization logo on table signage
- Complimentary copy of Acho's book, "Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man" for each guest

## Media Partners



To secure your sponsorship, email Gemma Vennewitz at [gvennewitz@bestprep.org](mailto:gvennewitz@bestprep.org)