

Shellye Archambeau

Former Chief Executive Officer, MetricStream

Unapologetically Ambitious: Tilting the Odds in Your Favor. Growing up as an African American female in the 1960s suburbs, Shellye Archambeau quickly realized her odds for success were lower than she'd like them to be. So, she set out devising a plan to maximize them—which she has used throughout her life to achieve both professional and personal success. Archambeau went on to become the first African American woman at IBM to be sent on assignment internationally, and one of the “100 Most Influential Business Leaders in America” as ranked by *Newsmax*. For all the talk audiences hear about “following dreams” or “having it all,” rarely do they encounter practical, actionable advice to reach such lofty goals. That’s where Shellye comes in. She shares her four-step plan for success and charts her course from insecure outsider to CEO and tech industry powerhouse. Inspirational, authentic, and whip-smart, Shellye encourages audiences to set audacious goals and, most importantly, execute on them.

Staying Ahead of a Changing Marketplace. Throughout her career, Shellye Archambeau always sought out growing markets—from choosing to work for IBM straight out of Wharton to eventually moving to Silicon Valley to grasping how quickly the GRC industry would boom in the early 2000s. Here, Shellye shares the methods she used to uncover changing marketplaces and set herself and her companies up for success. Encouraging audiences to ask questions like, “Are your systems aligned with customer needs?” and “How are technology and culture reshaping our laws and practices?”, Shellye encourages event attendees to rethink their business models and outpace the competition through constant growth and innovation.

Cracking the Growth Code: How Shellye Archambeau Led One of Silicon Valley’s Greatest Turnaround Stories. When Shellye Archambeau assumed the helm of a flailing Silicon Valley startup, she knew it was a risk. But she has always believed that to succeed, you’ve got to have “the strength and the resilience to believe in yourself and take big risks.” Here, she shares how she led a failing company just months away from bankruptcy and created a booming organization with more than 1,000 employees and solid financials (in the hundreds of millions). Plus, she offers her specific advice for any organization struggling to see the light—including how to create a detailed, step-by-step plan, how to identify the bright spots, and how to gain consensus and momentum in a positive direction.

Diversity and Inclusion. Named one of the “Most Influential African-Americans in Technology” by *Business Insider*, Archambeau knows what it's like to be a woman of color in a traditionally non-diverse industry. And while diversity within an organization isn't something that happens overnight, Archambeau also views it as an essential element for strong, innovative, and creative global companies—and something that needs to be led by those at the top. Here, Archambeau talks about the power of diversity and the benefits that workplaces that champion inclusion see. Plus, she provides a roadmap for building a community that celebrates all backgrounds and perspectives.