



Resilience and Crisis Management Advisor | Business Leader | Speaker



Vanessa is a catalyst for change in the world of business and entrepreneurship. She has a passion for women and the black community in highlighting the systemic challenges minority professionals face in the public and private sectors. Her desire is to create forward moving change and decrease the wealth inequality gap in these communities, by sharing her knowledge and expertise through her energetic and encouraging approach.

Vanessa Vaughn Mathews has been on the front lines of the crisis management and business resilience profession throughout her career. She is the 1st female in the state of Georgia to graduate with a degree in Homeland Security and Emergency Management, she has worked with a Tier 1 intelligence agency, Fortune 500 companies, and has received local, national, and international recognition for her work to restore business and community resilience.

As the founder and chief resilience officer of Asfalas Advisors, the co-owner and host of the Business Resilience DECODED podcast, and an adjunct professor at Savannah State University, she is not only unmatched in experience and knowledge but has a unique ability to translate complex topics with personal anecdotes.

Vanessa will ignite the audience with her ability to engage and spark lively discussions and interactions.

She is a sought-after speaker for conferences and professional events as well as civic and private sector initiatives. The power she brings from the stage is nothing less than explosive.

Key Accolades and Accomplishments

- 🏆 Small Business Enterprise of the Year
(Mecklenburg County and City of Charlotte, 2021)
- 🏆 50 Most Influential Women Honoree
(The Mecklenburg Times, 2020)
- 🏆 Homecoming - Outstanding Young Alumni Award
(University of South Carolina, 2020)
- 🏆 Best Female Owned & Operated Influential Businesswoman
(Acquisition International Global, 2018)
- 🏆 Toastmaster of the Year
(Friendship Toastmasters, 2015)

HAVE VANESSA SPEAK AT YOUR NEXT EVENT

Vanessa is proud to be associated with the following organizations:



Most Requested Talks

Managing the Racial Wealth Gap Crisis ([CLICK to view video](#))

Legal discrimination, redlining, shortage of social capital, health disparities, lack of access to capital, underfunded schools, unequal pay, and low wage gains are some of the compounding issues that lead to why there is a wealth gap crisis facing the global economy. The wealth gap is a multi-trillion-dollar economic problem that continues to widen between minorities and the majority population globally. In this talk, Vanessa shares the skills and abilities learned through her crisis management career and business ownership to provide actionable tools, individuals can leverage to be part of the solution to reduce the wealth gap.

Validating, Developing, and Monitoring Preparedness Programs ([CLICK to view video](#))

"You are not a real CEO until your business goes through a crisis." Crisis situations help you to see who you are as a leader and how you show-up. While Vanessa has the technical knowledge and experience to effectively prepare, manage and monitor a crisis, she also has experience facing crisis situations in her company and "taking her own medicine." To effectively lead through crisis, Vanessa provides in depth concepts and strategies to validate, develop, and monitor:

- Crisis Management programs
- Business Continuity programs
- Training and Exercise programs

Vanessa will give you the tools and insights to exhibit the strength and resiliency needed to strengthen your capacity and capabilities.



Building a Bridge to Entrepreneurship: How to Leave your 9-5 for Your True Purpose

"I want to be my own boss." Such a simple statement that is followed by many questions. When should I quit my job to start a business? How do I create a side hustle? How do I know when I am ready? What should I expect when I start out as an entrepreneur? These questions and more many people ask themselves when they ponder the idea of leaving a stable (yet often unsatisfying) job to do their own thing. Vanessa did too.

But that underlying tug to pursue her true passion and purpose persisted, so in the end, those questions didn't stop Vanessa. In this talk, Vanessa will arm you with an actionable plan of what you need to persist and pursue your dream through every aspect of your entrepreneurship journey

Each of the titles listed can be delivered:



Keynote



Breakout Sessions



Workshop Format

"I attended a training conducted by Vanessa Mathews. I found her to be very knowledgeable in the field of crisis management. She provided useful information and tools that I was able to take back to my organization and make an immediate impact."

Markel Waters, Chief at Department of Homeland Security / Immigrations and Customs Enforcement



"I planned to attend the session to support my crisis communications work. Instead, I walked away mostly focused on my own business. Thank you for the very practical guidance and action steps."

Azania Herron, Principle Zaja PR

HEAR VANESSA'S PODCAST!



Vanessa Mathews



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