

## Biography

Joie Rasberry has spoken in the East Room at the White House for one of the former Presidents of the United States of America, which was broadcast live in 160 countries, won the title of Miss Texas Southern University in 2002-2003, making history as the first non-traditional student to do so, travels around the world globally transforming audiences, and went on to be labeled 'one of the greatest young speakers of our time' by Ebony Magazine.

Rasberry is an international orator & global award-winning keynote speaker, celebrity speech coach, magazine journalist, bestselling author, executive trainer, former Public Affairs news radio co-host, spoken word artist, poet, entrepreneur, Speech & Debate instructor, licensed chaplain, and Master Motivator for the Marketplace and Ministry.

Joie has appeared in Paris, France, Rome, Italy, Prague, Czech Republic, Johannesburg, South Africa, London, England, Madrid, Spain, Munich, Germany, Tanzania, Costa Rica, Iceland, Namibia, New Zealand, Greece, Switzerland, and other global spots, earning her international acclaim & success. She made some of these appearances by way of collegiate competition in Speech & Debate.

She was smitten by theatre at a young age and began her acting career at Houston's famed High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. She went on to attend Southwestern Christian College, Texas Southern University, and Lamar University, earning degrees in Speech Communication, Broadcast Journalism and Master of Education in Administration.

Her speeches are bold, daring, thought-provoking & unforgettable. She is not your typical hush-mouthed born again Christian. This Woman of Faith defies cultural, religious, gender, and socio-economic boundaries as she courageously discusses hard-hitting topics many are afraid to tackle.

Each year Rasberry speaks to thousands of people in private and public organizations, in the United States and abroad. She encourages her listeners to surmount every obstacle that stands between them and their dreams, and to live life with purpose, passion, and achievement.

With nearly four decades on the lecture circuit, she is categorized as being one of the most gifted orators of our time. Though unassuming and humble, Rasberry is often classified as distinguished and distinct. With each presentation she demonstrates, yet again, that she is a master at her craft, as she effortlessly belts out the spoken word. She specializes in ascertaining the organization's culture, interests, and challenges, thereby making her a repeat keynote speaker time and time again. The client, in turn, receives the value-add of the experience and exposure to this qualitatively measurable speaker who is, in one word, unforgettable.

Rasberry has a popular Facebook Live Talk Show title, 'The Joie Rasberry Show' where she tosses out 'Gems for the Journey' to help us navigate business, family, and faith.

Her client list for delivering keynotes includes, but is not limited to, ExxonMobil, The United States Postal Service, The Ensemble Theatre, The Alzheimer Association, Mobay Synthetic,

Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), University of California (UCLA), University of Chicago, University of Colorado-Boulder, Rice University, The Black McDonald's Operators Association, NAACP – ACT SO Program, Wal-Mart/Sam's Club, Continental Airlines, Prairie University College of Nursing Alumni Association, Texas Women Empowerment Conference (TWEC), Greenville Avenue Church of Christ Adolescent & Ladies Symposium, Figueroa Church of Christ in Los Angeles, California Ladies Symposium, Annual Prayer Breakfast for Political Candidates, Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church Youth Extravaganza, Mt. Horem Baptist Church Annual Women's Day Program, News Channels 11-KHOU, 13-KTRK, 26-KRIV, 8-KUHT and hundreds of others.

Rasberry began her broadcast career in college at KTSU 90.9 FM radio station while interning at KRIV Fox 26 News, and Yaffe Duetser in the Galleria. Her speaking career began at the tender age of six when she was asked to speak at a church's Christmas program. She's been holding a mic ever since.

She has been featured four years in a row in Who's Who in Black Houston, along with Houston's African American achievers & prominent citizens. In addition, she recently received a Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award for Women in Christian Leadership, along with receiving Speaker of the Year Award by PWE Tv Network.

Rasberry is CEO of Rasberry Institute, a public speaking and presentation agency. She coaches and trains celebrities, entertainers, CEO's, professional athletes, rising politicians, and ministry leaders in the art of public speaking, speech writing, and presentation effectiveness.

Though Rasberry is a speech enthusiast, she dedicates some of her time to Rasberry's House of Hope, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that helps teens who have aged out of the foster care system and women released from prison. To help other adolescent girls, who just like her sisters, may find themselves in compromising situations, Rasberry first established Rasberry's House of Hope, Inc. as a therapeutic residential group home for adolescent girls shattered by abuse, abandonment, and neglect. Its mission is to love the lives of young hurting females without criticism or judgment and to guide them to a life of right living, right choices, right relationships, a right self-image, and a right relationship with God.

Rasberry is a member of the American Women in Radio and Television, National Thespian Society, Alpha Lambda Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta Forensic Honor Society, National Parliamentary Debate Association, and The National Association of Black Journalists.

She has written, co-authored, and/or compiled three books: From Jensen Drive to Pennsylvania Avenue, More Than Half a Century, and Boss Babes Who Pray—Exposing the Lies of the Enemy. She is a contributing writer for several magazines: Matters Magazine, Save Yourself Magazine, and Winners of the World Global Magazine. Previously she has written for Gospel Monthly Magazine and served as Editor-in-Chief for D-MARS Business Journal.

Rasberry is a shining example of spectacular triumph against incredible odds. During more turbulent times, Rasberry shares how death, devastation, disaster, domestic violence, addiction,

and mental illness tried to derail her family. And how she took those painful experiences and catapulted herself above life's circumstances.

Rasberry took those trying experiences and catapulted herself above her circumstances. Today, because of her modest, humble, and authentic approach, organizations, businesses, universities, and faith-based institutions call her to motivate, inspire, encourage, and empower their audience to achieve their dreams, regardless of the obstacles they face.

Although Rasberry would modestly insist otherwise, there has never been anything simple or commonplace about her – not her vision, her life, her faith, her speeches, her books, or her CD. She so eloquently found a way to keep it all together, while things around her were falling apart. Rasberry translates faith and values, knowledge, humor, wit, statistics, research, common sense, and belief into powerful and meaningful messages.

“I think back upon a childhood longing to do better, to have more, and to make something of myself. Yet, I remember one of my teachers, Mrs. Smith, telling me to think more realistically. She referred to my family as dysfunctional, and spoke in limited terms of my success, referring to me as African American, female, and full-figured.” I said to myself then, “You’ll read about me someday. I was dreaming then. With no evidence of that ever being possible, I clung to that preposterous vision and with the force of those dreams willed it and made it happen. Not because I needed to be famous, but because I needed Mrs. Smith to be wrong. I needed a world that was sometimes cold and calloused to know that when preparation, education and opportunity meet, amazing things can happen. From that moment on, I’ve lived my life believing in limitless possibilities. I had to succeed, not only for me, but for my family, my neighborhood, my community, and the world at-large. I had to arrange my life so that Mrs. Smith never talked down to another student again.”

Today, she teaches organizations, businesses, college & universities, grade schools, and faith-based institutions how to defy every odd & achieve their dreams and goals, regardless of the obstacles they face.

Rasberry attributes her success to a deep abiding faith in God, along with a willingness not to be afraid to suffer her way to success. Rasberry worships at the Trinity Gardens Church of Christ in Houston, Texas where Tim Daniels is Senior Minister.