



**I N T E R N**

---

**OKC**

**G R E A T E R  
O K L A H O M A C I T Y  
C H A M B E R**

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



**J.D. Baker**

*Platform Manager  
Cortado Ventures*



@JD\_\_Baker



@jd\_\_baker



[linkedin.com/in/jdbakerok](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jdbakerok)

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



## Angie Doss

*Chief Development and Marketing Officer  
Sunbeam Family Services, Inc.*



@SunbeamOKC

**Angie Doss began her career through a nonprofit internship. She has over 17 years of marketing, public relations and development experience. Angie is a graduate of LOYAL Class 8, has been a Big Sister since 2015 and was named a 40 under 40 in 2020.**

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: What you post on social media is your brand. Be very thoughtful about who you are and what you want to share about yourself - especially in the professional world.

**Q: Why should young professionals start their careers in Oklahoma City?**

A: Because it's one of the top 20 largest cities and continues to grow and thrive. You will have opportunities here that are very limited in other cities.

**Q: What's the best way to spend a weekend in OKC?**

A: Exploring parks and restaurants with friends and family.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: It's a small big city - there is usually a one degree of separation among people.

**Q: If an intern asked you “why should I stay in Oklahoma City”, what would you tell them?**

A: The opportunities, the cost of living and the growth of the city.

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



## Perrin Duncan

*Special Projects Manager  
Arnall Family Foundation*



[linkedin.com/in/perrinduncan](https://www.linkedin.com/in/perrinduncan)



[@perrincloreduncan](https://www.instagram.com/perrincloreduncan)

**Perrin Clore Duncan is an Oklahoma-native and self-identified global citizen. Perrin completed her undergraduate degree at DePauw University in Economics and Studio Art and her Master of Fine Arts from the Burren College of Art in Ballyvaughan, Ireland. She managed the marketing and communications of an international foundation based in Bangkok, Thailand before moving back to OKC in 2020. She adores the outdoors, loves fostering community, and deeply believes in education and equity.**

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: Know that you will always be the best advocate for your own needs. Don't be afraid to voice them--even if it leads to a tough conversation.

**Q: Why should young professionals start their careers in Oklahoma City?**

A: You should start your career in Oklahoma City because there are limitless opportunities for learning and growth--in a wide range of fields. If you begin a career and it's not the best fit, you aren't limited. Job opportunities are numerous and expanding.

**Q: What's the best way to spend a weekend in OKC?**

A: It really depends on what you like to do! Personally, I love getting out for a few hours on my bike with friends, checking out new exhibitions at Oklahoma Contemporary, sipping on beer from any of our incredible breweries, running with Red Coyote on Sunday mornings, and making it to my parent's for family dinner on Sunday nights. Almost every weekend, there's a festival, event, or something to enjoy. I encourage you all to check out Juneteenth on the East this Saturday from 3-9 PM.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: In just a couple of years of living here, I feel at home. I'm so happy being a resident of OKC and have found community in multiple places. Like any city, we have our challenges, but ours are not deal breakers for me. The good outweighs the less good--at least in my opinion. I never thought I'd move back to Oklahoma, but I genuinely love it here. I encourage you to lean into what feels right for you. Don't be afraid to explore. Also, don't be afraid to love our city--she'll love you back if you let her.

**Q: If an intern asked you “why should I stay in Oklahoma City”, what would you tell them?**

A: One of the best pieces of advice I've ever received is to protect your instinct to care. With so many challenges faced by the world, it can be easy to get either overwhelmed or complacent. When we focus on what's in our immediate control, make time to rest and reset when needed, and live with a mindset that embraces learning, an opportunity for real progress arises. As a young person, your voice and perspective is valued and welcomed in our community. Oklahoma City, unlike many other metropolitan areas around the country, is still in a phase of development. We need smart, talented, vibrant, and thoughtful people to choose to make OKC a place we can all be proud of. One of the greatest lessons I am continuing to learn is how to determine priorities within the constraints of limited time and thought. There are some things that aren't worth our energy, but I love our city and am encouraged by the opportunities we have here to continue making it a great place to thrive. If you want to join me and a lot of other awesome folks who care about this place, the decision to stay is easy.

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



**Fahad Hameed**

*Air Vehicle Sr. Manager  
The Boeing Company*



[linkedin.com/in/fahad-hameed-eng](https://www.linkedin.com/in/fahad-hameed-eng)

**Fahad Hameed serves as the senior air vehicle manager for AWACS & AEW&C. He leads a cross functional integrated product team (IPT) supporting U.S. and international customers. The team includes mechanical, structural and electrical engineers. In addition to his senior AV manager role, Fahad serves as the mechanical & structures functional senior manager for the OKC site supporting the mobility & surveillance and bombers & fighters organizations. In this role, he is responsible for people, processes and tools for the mechanical / structural engineering team.**

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: Be curious, continue learning, ask questions, seek out mentors, build relationships, be kind and communicate.

**Q: Why should young professionals start their careers in Oklahoma City?**

A: It's a great place to grow and raise your family. Great opportunities in various industries.

**Q: What's the best way to spend a weekend in OKC?**

A: Spend the weekend walking/running/biking around the great lakes in the area (i.e., Lake Hefner, Lake Arcadia, etc.), eat great pizza at Empire Slice House and spend the evening at Scissortail Park.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: Affordable living, great restaurants and amazing people.

**Q: If an intern asked you “why should I stay in Oklahoma City”, what would you tell them?**

A: Oklahoma City has all the perks and amenities of living in a big city while maintaining a small city culture. There is a real sense of community, folks are nice and helpful. Great restaurants, parks and outdoor events.

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



## David Holt

*Mayor*

*City of Oklahoma City*



@davidfholt



@Mayordavidholt

**Mayor David Holt became Oklahoma City's 36th mayor in 2018 and was re-elected in 2022 with more votes than any candidate for Mayor since 1959. Holt is a member of the Osage Nation and is the first Native American mayor of Oklahoma City. At the time he took office, Holt was the youngest mayor of Oklahoma City since 1923.**

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: Work hard, be humble, take every opportunity you are offered, be ambitious but also patient.

**Q: Why should young professionals start their careers in Oklahoma City?**

A: Oklahoma City offers some unique combinations. It is more affordable and easier to live in than other large cities, but it offers all of the cultural amenities of a large American city. Also, it's easier to break in here. We have a culture where young people can be community leaders as long as they're willing to work - they don't have to have deep roots here.

**Q: What's the best way to spend a weekend in OKC?**

A: So many options, but one of the most unique amenities we offer is RIVERSPORT.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: It's a city that is uniquely optimistic and dynamic. One of the most mission-focused communities in the country.

**Q: If an intern asked you "why should I stay in Oklahoma City", what would you tell them?**

A: You can and will make far more of an impact here than in most other places. And as we are now America's 20th-largest city, it is worth making your impact here.

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



## Lacey Lett

*Communications Director*

*Goodwill Industries of Central Oklahoma*



@laceylett



@LaceyLLett

**Lacey Lett is the Communications Director for Goodwill Industries of Central Oklahoma. Prior to working for a nonprofit, Lett worked as an anchor and reporter in Oklahoma City as well as a television host in Tulsa. She also has several years of experience working in print media and music radio.**

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: Keep an open mind about your profession. There are so many industries and positions that may fit your college experience you haven't thought of before. Also, don't be afraid to take risks doing the career your most passionate about.

**Q: Why should young professionals start their careers in Oklahoma City?**

A: Oklahoma City is a growing market, but still small enough to get positions and opportunities that may be more difficult in a larger city. Oklahoma City is the place where you can be a successful restaurant owner, marketing professional, actor and much more!

**Q: What's the best way to spend a weekend in OKC?**

A: I love a good patio so I would eat brunch at Frida in the Paseo Arts District followed by a trip to the Oklahoma Contemporary to check out the art and then play a game of pickleball at Chicken N Pickle

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: Oklahoma City FEELS like home. This is where my community is. It's where I can walk into an eatery and know the owner. It's where you can see an NBA basketball game with convenience and go to a concert and see incredible bands at our many music venues.

**Q: If an intern asked you "why should I stay in Oklahoma City", what would you tell them?**

A: You can be a big fish in a medium size pond here, and it's only growing. Plus, you don't have to commute two hours to work every day and can buy a home at the fraction of the cost of a huge city. Oklahoma City will only continue to grow and by staying here you are setting yourself up for future success.

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



## Jessica Martinez-Brooks

*Senior Director of Strategic Communications  
and Transformation  
Metro Technology Centers*



@jmartb



@jmartinezbrosks

**Jessica Martinez-Brooks is the senior director of strategic communications and transformation at Metro Technology Centers. She has dedicated her professional career to helping underrepresented populations obtain college degrees and post-secondary certifications. A first-generation college student, Martinez-Brooks earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Oklahoma. She currently serves on the MAPS 4 Citizens Advisory Board and chairs the Neighborhoods subcommittee.**

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: Get involved to find what you're passionate about.

**Q: Why should young professionals start their careers in Oklahoma City?**

A: Oklahoma City looks tremendously different from when I was growing up here in the 80s and 90s. Through the investments of MAPS and City leadership's long-range planning, I believe we have a remarkable place to live, work and raise a family. There are so many ways to get involved. Organizations value your feedback and time.

**Q: What's the best way to spend a weekend in OKC?**

A: Saturday morning farmers market at Scissortail Park with a little coffee or mimosa. Lunch at Cheever's or the Collective. A little shopping at Black Scintilla or Betsy King's shoe store in the Paseo. Do a little taco crawl on 29th. Grab some tacos at El Jiro (SW 29th and Kentucky) and a beer at Crudolandia on SW 29th.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: You can pretty much get anywhere in OKC within 20 minutes. I work downtown and I love getting off work and meeting friends for Happy Hour. It's got a fun, easy vibe right now.

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



## Ariel Moore

*Senior Director*

*Center for Social Innovation, Oklahoma State University – OKC*



@cfsiokc

**Ariel Moore is the senior director for the Center for Social Innovation out of OSU-OKC where she gets to help lead people coming out of backgrounds of criminal justice involvement, poverty, trauma, substance abuse, and many other barriers into enriching lives full of purpose and hope through individualized opportunities for education, training, and support.**

**She began her career working in human resources in the oil and gas industry and has since then been intentional about developing her ability to compassionately serve others, inspire people into action, and make room for continuous improvement. What she enjoys most is helping the community by way of service work and personally advocating for second chance programs.**

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: Ask for (and take) feedback, all the time.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: The people are generally kind.

**Q: If an intern asked you “why should I stay in Oklahoma City”, what would you tell them?**

A: It depends on what you want to do.

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



**Emily Rothrock-Tate**  
*Community Affairs Manager*  
**OG&E**

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



## Ashleigh Robinson

*Miss Oklahoma 2021*

*Miss Oklahoma Organization*



@ashleighrobinson



[linkedin.com/in/ashleigh-robinson-346713166](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashleigh-robinson-346713166)



@ashleigh.robinson.1213

Ashleigh Robinson was crowned Miss Oklahoma in 2021. She taught 7th Grade English Language Arts at F.D. Moon Middle School. She was named OKCPS District Rookie Teacher of the Month in March '21. Ashleigh advocates for a culture shift in our communities to include those with intellectual and developmental disabilities in opportunities for education, employment, and social engagement. As a young adult, Ashleigh has been active with Gamma Phi Beta, OCU Student Foundation, Relay for Life, The Children's Center Rehabilitation Hospital, Oklahoma United Methodist Conference, New Leaders Council, Oklahoma Miss Amazing, KidsAlive!, Konnect HQ, Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma, and was awarded The Inasmuch Foundation Student Fellowship.

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: Be willing to try anything. You never know what you'll learn about your industry and yourself in the process.

**Q: Why should young professionals start their careers in Oklahoma City?**

A: Oklahoma City is the hidden gem of America! Having experienced young professionals from all over the country, you won't find the combination of an affordable and lively city anywhere else in the country.

**Q: What's the best way to spend a weekend in OKC?**

A: Grabbing a coffee at Not Your Average Joe or brunch in Midtown, visiting Scissortail Park for a walk or visiting the farmers markets, and getting dinner and a show in the Plaza District.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: The small-town city feel. I love being able to run into people that care and ask how things are going for me. You'll also never meet manners like Oklahomans.

**Q: If an intern asked you "why should I stay in Oklahoma City", what would you tell them?**

A: You should stay in Oklahoma City for the opportunities and the people. After years of development, OKC is ready for more young professionals to come and fill the spots we have created for them.

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



## Roderick Wright

*Training System Manager  
Work Ready Oklahoma*



[linkedin.com/in/roderick-m-wright-med-065b5189/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/roderick-m-wright-med-065b5189/)

**Roderick is an Oklahoma native. He recently graduated from Oklahoma State University with his graduate degree in Adult Education and Workforce Development. Roderick has worked in Career and Technical education for 13 years. He now works for Work Ready Oklahoma as a Training System Manager.**

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: Have some grace for yourself. You do not need to know everything right now! Be open to learn and grow. Oklahoma does a great job in developing young professionals.

**Q: Why should young professionals start their careers in Oklahoma City?**

A: We have a great community of young professionals that is growing. The people you will meet here are some of the best people you will ever connect with.

**Q: What's the best way to spend a weekend in OKC?**

A: I would say connect with a local and find out about the many things to do in the state. Anyone can come here and go to the bars and clubs, but the state has so much beauty and fun things to do and see. I am positive any Oklahoman can show you a great time!

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: I love the community here. I have formed many meaningful relationships. It doesn't matter what event or occasion you attend; you will always see friendly faces that assure you that you are not alone.

**Q: If an intern asked you “why should I stay in Oklahoma City”, what would you tell them?**

A: Growth and a quality of life! Our state is continuously growing, and it is a great and affordable place to start your career and family.

# MEET THE SPEAKERS



## Liz Zaleski

*Manager of Customer Service  
Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc.*



[linkedin.com/in/LizZaleski](https://www.linkedin.com/in/LizZaleski)

**Liz Zaleski is the manager of customer service at Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc. She is passionate about talent development and improving the culture of the workplace. Liz has helped develop and expand several customer engagement teams at Love's and currently leads a team of about 50 employees. She holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Baruch College in New York City.**

**Q: What advice would you give people who are starting their careers?**

A: Every day is an interview for your dream job. Remain engaged, ask questions, be visible and find a mentor.

**Q: Why should young professionals start their careers in Oklahoma City?**

A: Oklahoma City has one of the most diversified economies in the nation. There is opportunity for everyone here no matter your career passion.

**Q: What's the best way to spend a weekend in OKC?**

A: Exploring the food scene, cheering on the Thunder basketball or Dodgers baseball teams, attending a college sports game (any sport) and enjoying fun things to do with your friends like rock climbing, water rafting or taking a stroll through Scissortail Park.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in OKC?**

A: I lived in New York City most of my life and decided to settle in OKC because the people are friendly, low cost of living, plethora of job opportunities and you can always find something new to try or fun to do. There is always a concert, painting class or new restaurant opening up!

**Q: If an intern asked you "why should I stay in Oklahoma City", what would you tell them?**

A: You should stay in OKC because of the career opportunities you will have, rising industry markets and a wonderful community to support you in your journey.