



# SSHA JOI MOON, PHD

PRONUNCIATION: \SEE·SHA JOY MOON\ PRONOUNS: SHE + HER + HERS

CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 117TH & 118TH CONGRESSES  
CHIEF STRATEGIST, OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN JASMINE CROCKETT [TX-30]  
EXECUTIVE-IN-RESIDENCE, AMERICAN PRIDE RISES NETWORK

## FULL SPEAKER BIO

Dr. SSHA JOI MOON [\see-sha joy moon\ | she/her/hers] is a global thought leader with 20 years of experience and expertise as a sociopolitical and cultural strategist. Her coined philosophy is "Diversity is delegating our differences and inclusivity is celebrating our differences — but equity is elevating our differences."

Dr. Moon most notably served as Chief Diversity Officer for the U.S. House of Representatives for the 117th and 118th Congresses — leading the U.S. House Office of Diversity & Inclusion as a non-partisan and non-legislative congressional office at the pleasure of Speakers Nancy Pelosi, Kevin McCarthy, and Mike Johnson. She previously served in the Office of the Secretary and U.S. Patent & Trademark Office at the U.S. Department of Commerce where she received the Commerce Bronze Award for Superior Performance and Commerce Spirit Award — before concluding her tenure as the inaugural Chief Diversity Officer at the National Institute of Standards & Technology.

Dr. Moon, whose career has been highlighted by ESSENCE, Forbes, and CNN, recently retired from the Federal Government after 15 years of public service and currently serves as Chief Strategist for Congresswoman Jasmine Crockett [TX-30], as well as Executive-in-Residence with the American Pride Rises Network, which was founded by Stacey Abrams, through her non-partisan consultancy — Moon & Associates, LLC.

In addition to completing executive education programs at Harvard University, Dr. Moon graduated with a Ph.D. in Public Administration & Policy from Old Dominion University in 2013. She also earned a M.S. from the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government & Public Affairs in 2008 and B.A. in African American Studies from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2005. As a proud alumna, Dr. Moon received the VCU Black History in the Making Award and VCU Alumni Stars Award — and became the first Black queer woman to establish an endowed scholarship fund in university history with the Dr. SSHA JOI MOON Endowed Scholarship Fund. As a philanthropist, she also established the George Ernest Johnson Endowed Scholarship Fund at Virginia State University in tribute to her grandfather, Inez Orzene Jaudon Johnson Endowed Scholarship Fund at Virginia Union University in tribute to her grandmother, and August & Michon Moon Endowed Scholarship Fund was established with Richmond Public Schools in tribute to her parents — which is the first endowed scholarship fund to be established in school system history.

Dr. Moon is also Executive Director of The JXN Project, which has been documented by 2021 Pulitzer Prize Winner Michael Paul Williams of the Richmond Times-Dispatch and is a grantee of the Mellon Foundation's "Monuments Project" — and has been awarded the American Association for State and Local History's 2022 Leadership in History Award, as well as the 2022 RVA Community Maker Award by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 2022 Richmond History Maker Award by the Valentine Museum, and 2021 Golden Hammer Award for "Best Placemaking" by Historic Richmond.

Dr. Moon is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and has served on the Board of Directors with the African American Federal Executive Association and Commonwealth of Virginia's Criminal Justice Services Board as appointed by the 73rd Governor of Virginia. She is also a Senior Research Fellow with The Conference Board's Engagement Institute and Senior Fellow of the Excellence in Government Fellowship Program with the Partnership for Public Service. In 2023, she was recognized by CNN at the United Nations as "100 of the Most Influential People of African Descent." She was also named "2023 Top 40 Under 40" by PBS NPR VPM's Style Weekly and Axios named her and her sister, Enjoli Moon, as the second "Most Powerful Richmonders of 2022."

Dr. Moon resides in the Washington, DC area with her wife and cockapoo but hails from Richmond, Virginia as the proud daughter of Dr. Michon Moon and the late August Moon — who is best known for producing one of the most sampled baselines in hip hop music called "Seven Minutes of Funk."



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## ABBREVIATED SPEAKER BIO

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