



GINA M. PAIGE

FOUNDER - AFRICAN ANCESTRY, INC.

INDUSTRY PIONEER, INNOVATOR, ENTREPRENEUR

In 2003, Gina Paige co-founded African Ancestry, Inc., and in doing so, pioneered a new way of tracing African lineages using genetics, and a new marketplace for African-American consumers looking to more accurately and reliably trace their roots. Leveraging her pioneering spirit, lifelong entrepreneurship and corporate expertise, Paige travels the U.S. helping African Americans demystify where they're from so that they may better understand who they are --- optimizing success in their lives, communities and businesses.

■ IDENTITY ENTHUSIAST

As the leading Black female authority on DNA-based ancestry tracing, Paige is a highly sought-after public speaker and presenter among African-American organizations and allied groups of all sizes that are interested in enhancing their programs, events and other offerings. Whether it's as keynote speaker, moderator, panelist or emcee, Paige's passion-infused, approachable style captures, educates and uplifts audiences and in many cases, transforms the way people see themselves. She has taken her customizable presentation to hundreds of businesses, community/civic events, faith-based communities and educational groups across the U.S. and the globe.

A typical session with Paige consists of lively, educational exchanges on genetics ancestry tracing; audience ancestry reveals; and exciting, on-site ancestral testing that ignites the unprecedented, transformative journey for participants. While her message of reclaiming the past so that one may move forward remains a central theme, Paige speaks on a variety of topics including *Do You Have I.D.? ...Knowing, Showing and Growing Who You Are; Using DNA to Demystify Roots and Replenish Identities; The Ancestry of Black Business; and The (XX) Factor ... The Real Genes of Successful Black Women.*

■ PIONEER, TRAILBLAZER

Under Paige's leadership, African Ancestry has grown into the nation's leading genetics-based ancestry-tracing company, sparking global interest, dialogue and focus on the importance of knowing who we are. Paige has traveled the world testing and revealing African roots of more than 150,000 people, while educating and informing identities. As with most great innovators, Gina's work with African Ancestry has spawned a mix of industry off-shoots and major company milestones, including reaching its 10th anniversary in 2013.

Many of the world's thought leaders, influencers, celebrities, dignitaries and other icons have looked to Paige to learn more about their roots. From Oprah Winfrey, John Legend and Spike Lee to Condoleezza Rice and The King Family, Paige has had a personal hand in demystifying their unknown African roots. Paige has also worked with major companies looking to join the growing trend in genealogy programming. She's worked with Henry Louis Gates, Jr. on three groundbreaking PBS programs including Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates,

Jr. and African American Lives 1 & 2. She has also worked with NBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?* and CNN's Black in America series, among others.

■ ENTREPRENEURIAL DNA

Born of a family of entrepreneurs, Paige's enterprising approach to life was shaped at an early age. At age 8, she launched a magazine purposed to raise money for a family trip to Six Flags King's Dominion. She went on to start a "Pik-A-Pak" care package logistics business at Stanford University as a recent graduate, helping families stay connected with their children while away at school. Prior to creating African Ancestry, Paige was the founder and president of GPG Strategic Resources, a boutique New York consulting firm specializing in strategy development, new product development and project management. With her signature entrepreneurial approach, some of the nation's leading blue-chip companies benefited from her leadership and management skills for improved profitability. Sara Lee and Colgate-Palmolive are among the Fortune 200 companies she has contributed her considerable talents to.

Paige has been featured domestically and internationally in media such as *Jet*, *Time Magazine*, *USA Today*, *60 Minutes*, *The Tom Joyner Morning Show*, *FOX Business News*, *Reuters*, *New York Times*, *Canal Media Company*, *Black Enterprise*, *NPR*, *Metro Source Urban Radio*, *American Urban Radio Networks*, *The Griot.com* and *TheRoot.com* among others. She has also appeared in a variety of local radio, TV and print media across the country. She and African Ancestry were one of *Black Enterprise's* Innovator of the Year nominees as well as the producers of the first African-American genealogy Infomercial.

Paige resides in Washington, D.C. and holds a degree in Economics from Stanford University and an MBA from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business.

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