

Nathan Lee Roy Harris, Ph.D., is a dedicated educator and leader with a passion for empowering youth and families through education. As President of See Brilliance, a nonprofit focused on providing educational opportunities rooted in Black and Latinx cultures, he is committed to equipping young people with the tools to discover their innate brilliance.

Dr. Harris recently served as a Space Grant Educational Specialist III at NASA, overseeing consortia across all 50 states and 2 territories. His role involved managing congressionally funded projects to promote space-related research, tracking funding, and increasing student participation in NASA internships and fellowships.

A valedictorian of Northland High School in Columbus, Dr. Harris earned a Gates Millennium Scholarship, which supported his academic journey through undergraduate, and doctoral studies. He graduated magna cum laude from Morehouse College with a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and later became the youngest Black man to earn a Ph.D. in Engineering Education from The Ohio State University.

Dr. Harris's research focuses on broadening participation in STEM, particularly through summer K-12 Computer Science programs, and promoting culturally relevant STEM experiences in the home. His work has been recognized by the National Science Foundation and he has shared his insights as a TEDx speaker.

In addition to his academic achievements, Dr. Harris has a strong record of community service. He currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Near East Area Commission in Columbus, Ohio, advocating for the zoning, planning, and development of neighborhoods. His commitment to community upliftment is further demonstrated by his previous role as Youth Minister at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church and his ongoing efforts to enhance representation in tech domains through his involvement with the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE).

Dr. Harris is passionately dedicated to uplifting the community and advocating for the betterment of all residents. He believes in the transformative power of education and community engagement to create a brighter future for everyone. His goal is to create equitable opportunities, ensuring that everyone—regardless of background—has access to resources and support that enable them to achieve their fullest potential.

Dr. Harris's holistic approach to education and community development makes him a valuable asset to the commission. His desire to serve is driven by a deep commitment to honoring the past and investing in the future, with the goal of changing the trajectory of countless young lives.