

INTRODUCTION

BRIAN C. JOHNSON

At this time, will you please take a moment to turn your cell phones to “silent” or “off” and refrain from text messaging during the program in consideration of our speaker and our audience. Thank you.

My name is _____. I am (leadership position or organization), and it’s my pleasure to welcome you.

This program is sponsored by (list organizations).

Our speaker today is Brian Johnson. Brian’s life changed the day he first watched *The Breakfast Club* in 1985 when he saw himself in the Nerd character (oh yeah, he was a big time geek!). It was also that day when he realized that movies could define, teach, explain and expose. That love of movies got him through some lean times as he put himself through college; he and his roommate ran a video rental business (The Jungle Brothers Video Production Company) from their dorm room.

He has since learned, however, to pass on his passion to students across the country. He now is an adjunct professor of film studies and teaches courses on American film and culture. His book, *Reel Diversity: A Teacher’s Sourcebook*, was published in September 2008 (with his former student Skyra Blanchard).

Brian is a poster child for great work-study experiences. He worked in the minority affairs office of California University of Pennsylvania where his journey towards becoming a diversity educator and social justice advocate began.

He is married and has four children. He is a grandfather of four (believe it or not, he became a grandfather at age 26). He is a country boy living in small town in central PA. He is an avid reader, writer and baker. He’s also a preacher who loves motivating others to find their purpose and destiny!

Please join me in welcoming Brian Johnson!