

## YOUTH TRACK

### *The MISSION is POSSIBLE:*

#### FACING THE CHALLENGE

2016 OKLAHOMA CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

*Embassy Suites Norman Hotel & Conference Center*

*May 11-13, 2016*



**Matt Bennett** was born in Compton, California. Growing up, Matt was always told that he had a gift for speaking, but wasn't sure what he should do with it. A passionate songwriter and rapper, he realized how powerful his words were in his music, and its impact on the lives of those he interacted with in his community. Growing up in the inner city, being homeless, witnessing his dad being shot, struggling academically, and having a brother murdered, Matt made the choice to remain positive through the enormous adversity he faced by inspiring friends and community members, speaking in over 200 high school and middle schools, and teaching in youth and adult prisons. Matt is a first

generation college graduate, obtaining his B.S. in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He enjoys making music, snowboarding and traveling the world.



**Jennifer Marshall** is a wife and mom to Owen (7) and Vivian (5). Before kids, Jennifer enjoyed a successful career as a recruiter, but several years ago traded in her resume-filtering skills to freelance write and run a non-profit. She began blogging anonymously about living with bipolar type 1 disorder and motherhood on her blog, Bipolar Mom Life, in 2011. The weight of her secret became too heavy in 2013 when Jenn realized she wanted to take off the mask and make a difference by sharing her story, and encouraging others to do the same. Today she is Co-Founder and Executive Director of This Is My Brave, Inc., an organization which provides people a platform to share their stories of how mental illness has affected their lives. This Is My Brave shows feature live performances of poetry, music, and essays

in their theater setting, and are also shared via the organization's YouTube channel.



**Aric Bostick** is considered among the nation's leading motivational speakers and success trainers—having inspired and equipped more than a half million people from all walks of life to believe in themselves by setting higher goals and achieving more fulfilling dreams. Aric passionately infuses energy, engagement, and performance into the workplace and beyond—by delivering humor, inspiration, and practical tips in his high-energy, world-class keynotes, training seminars, customized retreats, and educational programs. As the author of the book, *FIRE UP! Success*, and Aric teaches his winning seven-step formula for leaders and employees to experience success in the workplace and beyond. After experiencing his own setbacks, Aric's

personal and professional mission became to guide others in overcoming their own personal stories—using their experiences to ignite greater achievement and happiness. As Aric states: *“My philosophy is simple: The way to stay motivated is to create a vision for our lives as ‘difference makers.’ As a ‘difference maker,’ you can choose to take care of yourself while creating strong and lasting connections with others.”*