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# Derek Felton

Inspirational Speaker & Author

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Like today's Millennials (and Generations X and Y before them), Derek Felton had no idea what his life's purpose was as a young man. After a dream of playing professional baseball failed to materialize, the Chicago State University graduate ended up in a string of unfulfilling jobs that left him feeling restless, unmotivated and frustrated.

Then in 2005, while conducting routine research for a college athlete recruiting company, he came across a presentation video of a motivational speaker that would change everything. "This guy wasn't a celebrity or some flashy, loud talker," he reflects. "But, as soon as I saw the effect he had on the crowd, that was it. I knew what I was meant to do."

Now, just four years later, Felton has become an in-demand speaker and life coach himself. Through compelling yet fun workshops and keynote addresses, his words of encouragement, confidence and leadership have inspired over 20,000 students and professionals nationwide. His recently published book, *Brilliance Is Your Birthright*, expands on those core principles by asserting that individual greatness is not only an attainable goal, but a spiritual promise guaranteed to all human beings. In addition, his writings have been featured in activist Kevin Powell's *The Black Male Handbook: A Blueprint for Life* (Atria, 2008) and the music magazine, *Milk*.

Give this self-proclaimed Agent of Change an hour with your class or organization, and transformations are bound to happen. Using props, visual aids, or even just the latest hit song, he commands the attention of today's fickle YouTube generation and gets them enthused about their future.

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“He brings about much dynamism to any crowd and with any topic,” says Diane Yannaco, a counselor at St. Joseph’s High School in Metuchen, New Jersey.

Accolades pour in from the students as well. Justin Teliszczak, a senior at Plainfield Central High in Plainfield, Illinois, says “I have seen so many speakers since I’ve been in high school and your presentation truly impacted my day. I just wanted to say keep up the great work!”

So, how does *his* message resonate where those of parents and teachers can not?

“One thing about teenagers, or even college students, is that they can tell when someone is authentic or not. When they’re not feeling you, they’ll let you know with their body language, their tone, or by falling asleep,” Felton explains with a laugh. “But I know how it feels to be 16, 17, or 18 and not really know what your next step is gonna be. I can relate to those feelings, and I think that they trust me.”

No preaching. No judgment. For Derek Felton, the key to connecting with young people is simple: make them feel better about themselves and, in turn, they will become more focused in school and more passionate citizens of the world. It’s a responsibility he both takes seriously and enjoys.

“I get to share messages of hope, encouragement, and faith everyday, and that’s a blessing. That’s not necessarily to say that people don’t have those things, but maybe they need a bit of a push.”

For more info on Derek Felton, visit [www.derekefelton.com](http://www.derekefelton.com)

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## PRESENTATIONS

Help your students get higher marks, become more confident, and improve their relationships. Let Derek Felton customize a workshop specifically for the needs of your school or organization. You may also choose from one of these popular topics:

- Brilliance is Your Birthright: Building Unshakable Confidence and Self-Love
- Aspire to Genius and Let Your Leadership Shine
- Discovering Your Unique Life Purpose
- Playing the Game the Right Way: Success Principles for Student Athletes
- Teens & Sex: Readiness & Responsibility

*SINGLE CLASS	HALF-DAY	FULL DAY	KEYNOTE
1 hr.	3-4 hrs	6-8 hrs.	1-2 hrs.
\$750 + travel	\$1500 + travel	\$2500	\$1500

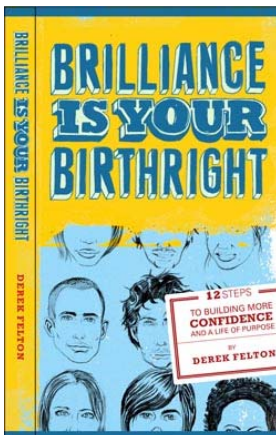
\*Up to 40 people

All talks include discounts for bulk book orders, free handouts, and contest giveaways for audience members.

Prices stated do not include hotel and travel expenses. Bookings for multiple sessions save up to 15%.

For booking, call (708) 574-4924 or e-mail [derek@derekefelton.com](mailto:derek@derekefelton.com)

## BOOKS



I wrote this book because I've seen myself in so many of you. I know what it feels like to not live up to your potential and to realize that you've wasted years.

Instead of focusing on our past mistakes, let's spend more time valuing the unique qualities and gifts that we bring to the world today.

*Brilliance Is Your Birthright* is a roadmap to the bountiful well of strength that lives in all of us.

**Price:** \$10

*Bulk discounts are available. Call (708) 574-4924 for more info.*

Order now at [www.derekefelton.com](http://www.derekefelton.com)

## TESTIMONIALS

"This was an **excellent presentation!** Thank you for sharing your experience and inspiring the students."

**Lillian Katz**  
Murry Bergtraum High School  
New York, NY

They needed to hear about the realities of college life and what can interfere with success. **Your techniques for self-management and time management will benefit my students.** My only regret about your presentation is that we ran out of time.

**Patti Penski**  
Henry St. School for Int'l Studies  
New York, NY

**The kids could not stop talking about you yesterday.** What you had to say really hit home. In fact, the kids that came down to the front to talk to you are some of our toughest kids... it's cool to see that they can identify with someone and perhaps change their perspective on things.

**Nikki Scott**  
Henry St. School for Int'l Studies  
New York, NY



To say that your messages are **inspirational, valuable and motivational** would be sincerely lacking, as mere words could never accurately express the overwhelming joy and peace of mind I feel each time I receive your wonderful gift of words. Thank you for doing such an amazing job and writing with such care and devotion.

**Neil Dhawan**  
Online Newsletter Subscriber

You are **very good** at what you do. I really enjoyed the part about how a team reflects the attitude of its leader.

**Lee Quan**  
University of Illinois-Chicago