



John Hope Bryant is an American entrepreneur, thought leader, philanthropic executive, and a leading expert in financial and economic inclusion.

Bryant, named in 2024 by **TIME Magazine** to their inaugural list of **The Closers**, 18 global leaders working to close the racial wealth gap, is a **CNBC Contributor**, host of the **iHeart Radio** podcast, “**Money and Wealth with John Hope Bryant**,” a member of the **CNBC Global Financial Wellness Council** and the **CNBC CEO Council**, and a **best-selling author** of six books, including *Financial Literacy For All*, released April 2024. He is one of the only Black bestselling authors on economics and business leadership in the world today.

Referred to as the “**conscience of capitalism**” by numerous Fortune 500 CEOs, Bryant is the founder, chairman, and chief executive officer of **Operation HOPE, Inc.** the nation’s largest on-the-ground nonprofit provider of financial literacy. Bryant is also responsible for financial literacy becoming the official policy of the U.S. federal government (President George W. Bush and Obama), and is the only American citizen to ever inspire the renaming of a building on the White House campus; from the US Treasury Annex Building, to the **Freedman’s Bank Building**, in honor of Lincoln’s unfinished work to teach freed slaves about money, in 1865. Bryant also inspired the Treasury Department to host a **Freedman’s Bank Forum**, which has continued annually under successive administrations.

Operation HOPE, with **hundreds of offices across America**, is working to level the opportunity playing field for underserved America, connecting communities to the private sector through **inclusive capitalism**, at scale. Bryant’s personal mission is to unleash untapped human potential at scale, resulting in increased national GDP (economic growth).

Bryant the entrepreneur is also chairman and chief executive officer of **John Hope Bryant Holdings**, **Bryant Group Ventures**, **Bryant Group Advisors**, and executive chairman of **The Promise Homes Company** (Promise Homes), the largest for-profit minority-controlled owner of institutional-quality, single-family residential rental homes in the U.S. In December 2021, Bryant recapitalized and sold Promise Homes into a new Promise Homes Co. joint venture, successfully closing a \$200M credit facility to grow the new housing joint venture. According to *Black Enterprise*, it was one of the largest capital raises by a Black-owned company in more than a decade.

Organizations founded by Bryant have provided **more than \$4.2 billion in capital for the underserved** over the past three decades. The **1 Million Black Businesses Initiative (1MBB)**, conceived by Bryant and Shopify founder and CEO Tobi Lütke, was launched in October 2020, and has since started, served, or scaled nearly **400,000 Black-owned businesses**, representing 12% of all Black businesses in America. On May 2, 2023, 1MBB was recognized by Fast Company with the 2023 **'World Changing Ideas' Award**. Bryant also co-founded the **Financial Literacy for All Initiative** with Walmart CEO Doug McMillion, a movement of Fortune 500 executives united in leveraging their brands to embed financial literacy into U.S. culture.

Bryant's financial empowerment work has been **recognized by five U.S. presidents**. He has served as an advisor to three sitting U.S. presidents representing both parties.

In 2021, Bryant was called upon by U.S. Treasury officials to help design aspects of the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) tied to small enterprises, which helped millions of small businesses and entrepreneurs survive during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2008, Bryant inspired President George W. Bush to make **financial literacy the official policy of the U.S. federal government**. Following 9/11, Bryant also worked with the Bush Administration to create a new **federal policy framework for emergency financial disaster preparedness, response, and recovery**, resulting in a first-ever partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA and Operation HOPE.

Bryant has received hundreds of awards and citations for his work, including **Oprah Winfrey's "Use Your Life" Award**, and the **"John Sherman Award for Excellence in Financial Education"** from the U.S. Department of Treasury. He was part of **TIME Magazine's inaugural class of "50 Leaders for the Future"** in 1994, alongside Bill Gates, Jamie Dimon, John F. Kennedy, Jr., Maya Lin, and Wynton Marsalis, and American Banker named him **"Innovator of the Year"** in 2016.

In 2019, the City of Atlanta, where Operation HOPE is based, designated April 15 as **"John Hope Bryant Day."** Operation HOPE and Bryant are also a permanent part of the **Smithsonian African American Museum** in Washington, D.C.

In April 2017, Bryant, with support from his friend, HOPE board member and First Horizon Bank CEO Bryan Jordan, **inspired a historical marker to recognize the final flight of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, to Memphis on April 3, 1968. The marker was installed at the Memphis International Airport 49 years to the day that Eastern Flight 381 arrived from Atlanta.

Bryant is a **LinkedIn Influencer**, and was selected as one of LinkedIn's **"Top 10 Voices."** His social media video series, **"Straight Talk with John Hope Bryant,"** has received over 100 million views, which led to a Facebook-sponsored episodic streaming series entitled, **'Delivering The Memo,'** inspired by Bryant's bestselling book, The Memo. He has over three million followers across his social media platforms.

John Hope Bryant was born on February 6, 1966, in Los Angeles, Ca. He and his wife Chaitra Dalton Bryant reside in Atlanta, GA.

Bibliography

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