

NATIONAL HEALTH EQUITY | GRAND ROUNDS

Michelle Browder

Artist and Founder at The More up Campus



Michelle Browder is a native of Denver, Colorado. At the age 7, Michelle and her family moved to rural Verbena, Alabama in the late 70's. Michelle experienced bullying through racial bias at an early age. Out spoken as a child, Michelle began combating her attackers through physical confrontations leading to multiple suspensions. During her last suspension, Michelle's father gave her an ultimatum, "Prison or Art." He challenged her to seize the moment to be creative.

At the age of 13, Michelle harnessed her entrepreneurial spirit and started a hand painted T-shirt business. After graduation, she moved to Atlanta, Georgia and attended the Art Institute of Atlanta studying Graphic Design and Visual Communications.

For nearly 35 years, Michelle has used art, history, and "real talk" conversations to mentor marginalized and disfavored students through visual arts and spoken word. She has created and branded art diversion programs used by juvenile detention centers in Atlanta, Georgia and Montgomery, Alabama.

Today, Michelle is the founder and director of the I AM MORE THAN... Youth Empowerment Initiative located in Montgomery, Alabama. She is the founder of More Than Tours, a social enterprise providing transformative tours of Alabama and is the artist sculptor and creative mind behind The Mothers of Gynecology Monument. Michelle is dedicated to transforming narratives surrounding maternal and women's health by leveraging art, history, and bold discussions from a woman's viewpoint.