Luncheon Keynote

Brickson Diamond
CEO, Big Answers, LLC
Board Chair, The Blackhouse Foundation
How to be more interesting at cocktail parties
Storytelling’s Power in Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Agenda

• Stumbling Into Entertainment
• Spreading Diversity to Other Industries
• Explicit Lessons – Boiling It Down
Stumbling Into Entertainment
Rich Space

Photo Credit: Brickson Diamond
Missing Players
Model That Works
The Formula

Rich Space  Missing Players  Model That Works
The Formula in Action

Rich Space  Missing Players  Model That Works

Photo Credits: Blackhouse
"We started this in 2007, and there were only seven black films at Sundance, so there weren't a whole lot of people in the audience," remembers Blackhouse Foundation co-founder Brickson Diamond of his organization's panel discussions in year one. "The panelists were just outnumbered by members of the audience."

Eleven years later, Blackhouse counted 39 projects — from across film, episodic and the digital space — featuring black talent and filmmakers telling black stories at the film festival. "The [programmers] remain hungry and curious and they stick it out with filmmakers," says Diamond of the fest's increasingly inclusive programming. "It is their passion and their long-term view that allows them to see these voices."
Spreading Diversity to Other Industries
Slow Going In Asset Management
Other Rich Spaces: A Broad Approach

The Executive Leadership Council (2012-2017)

- African-American to Black
- Fortune 500 to Fortune 1000/Global 500
- Within 3 Reporting Levels of Enterprise CEO
- 400 Members to 800
Big Challenges Require Big Answers
Explicit Lessons – Boiling It Down
Preparing for 2045

- Clients
- Constituents
- Workforce
Rewards Reflect Beliefs
Making it Plain

Rich Space

Missing Players

Model That Works

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Recap

Storytelling’s Power in Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

• Stumbling Into Entertainment
• Spreading Diversity to Other Industries
• Explicit Lessons – Boiled Down