



## Mandela Washington Fellowship Summit

AUGUST 3–4, 2021 | VIRTUAL

Leadership for the Future: Resilience and Inclusion

### Keynote Address Introduction Transcript

#### Speaker

- Myra Labiche, 2021 Mandela Washington Fellow, Seychelles

### Session Transcript

Greetings, everyone. My name is Myra Labiche, and I am a 2021 [Mandela Washington] Fellow in the Leadership in Public Management track. I am honored to be with you all today at the 2021 Mandela Washington Fellowship Summit.

I am here to introduce the keynote speaker, Uzodinma Iweala. Dr. Iweala is an award-winning writer, filmmaker, and medical doctor. As the CEO of The Africa Center, he is dedicated to promoting a new narrative about Africa and its diaspora. Before joining The Africa Center, Uzodinma was the CEO, editor-in-chief, and co-founder of *Ventures Africa* magazine, a publication that covers the evolving business policy, culture, and innovation spaces in Africa.

You may know him as an author. His books include *Beasts of No Nation*, a novel released in 2005 to critical acclaim and adapted into a major motion picture; *Our Kind of People*, a non-fiction account of HIV/AIDS in Nigeria, released in 2012; and *Speak No Evil*, a novel about a queer first-generation Nigerian-American teen living in Washington, D.C. His short stories and essays have appeared in numerous publications like *The New York Times Magazine*, *Vanity Fair*, and *The Paris Review*, amongst others.

Uzodinma remains very involved in issues in Sub-Saharan Africa. He was the founding CEO of the Private Sector Health Alliance of Nigeria, an organization that promotes private sector investment in health services and health innovation in Nigeria. Uzodinma sits on the boards of the Sundance Institute, the International Rescue Committee, and the African Development Bank's Presidential Youth Advisory Group. A graduate of Harvard University and the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and a fellow of the Radcliffe Institute at Harvard University, I wish to welcome Dr. Uzodinma Iweala to the stage.

