

MEET DR. ALLISON MATULLI

Biography

A proud graduate of the **civic legacy of Howard University School of Law**, Dr. Allison Matulli teaches, empowers, and engages with students as a **Pre-Law & Technical Writing Lecturer** at Howard University. She embodies a tradition of transformative leadership and justice-centered education. Dr. Matulli recently completed her doctoral dissertation, [*Free Speech and Digital Citizenship: A Qualitative Case Study*](#), at St. Thomas University, where she maintained a perfect **4.0 GPA**.

A recognized pioneer in educational innovation and a [*Fellow for the First Amendment*](#) at the Freedom Forum, Dr. Matulli was selected for the first faculty cohort of the [*Google Career Launchpad Generative AI Leader Certification Program*](#). At Howard University, she integrates academic excellence rooted in traditional pedagogical framework with an advanced curricula embedding **AI-enhanced instructional systems** and digital learning platforms to support student engagement, persistence, and data-informed academic performance tracking. Her pedagogical approach is rooted in her original framework, "**AI + Tech Integrity: A New Age of Teaching & Learning**," which aligns technological innovation with equity and academic excellence.

Dr. Matulli made history as Florida International University's [*first-ever Global Fulbright Scholar*](#), conducting landmark research on international freedom of expression across **Colombia, Italy, and Trinidad and Tobago**. As [*Affiliate Faculty*](#) at the **Maurice A. Ferré Institute for Civic Leadership**, she continues to bridge the gap between global scholarship and local civic engagement. She is the author of the critically acclaimed [*Your Freedom, Your Power: A Kid's Guide to the First Amendment*](#) (Hachette, 2023), which earned a **starred review from Booklist** and was named one of the **Chicago Public Library's Best of the Best Books of 2023**. As the founder of [*The Little Lawyers*](#), she empowers a new generation of "**conscious kids**" to recognize that their voices are the enduring heartbeat of American civic identity.

Her forthcoming masterpiece, [*WE ARE FREE*](#) (Penguin RISE, 2026), illustrated by the icon [*Edel Rodriguez*](#), is a **Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**. The work has earned a [*starred review from Kirkus*](#). This coveted industry honor—reserved only for books of exceptional merit—lauds the work as an "**impressive distillation of an essential American virtue**" that will "**inspire civic curiosity in even young children while reminding caregivers of rights worth fighting for and celebrating**". Through her vision, Dr. Matulli reminds us all that:

"Free is a word that comes with great power."

Dr. Matulli's leadership has earned her significant regional acclaim, including the Faculty Excellence Award at FIU in 2025. She was on the cover page of Legacy Magazine when she was named one of [*Miami's Most Prominent Black Women in Business and Industry for 2023*](#) and one of **South Florida's Most Prominent & Influential Black Business Leaders of 2024** by Miami Media Group.

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Affiliations

- **Howard University:** Pre-Law & Technical Writing Lecturer
- **Freedom Forum:** Fellow for the First Amendment (First Black woman to hold this position)
- **Maurice A. Ferré Institute for Civic Leadership:** Affiliate Faculty
- **The Little Lawyers:** Founder and Executive Director

Expertise / Research

- **Core Expertise:** First Amendment Rights, Civic Literacy, Youth Empowerment, and **AI Strategy & Ethical Technology Integration.**
- **Key Initiative: "AI + Tech Integrity: A New Age of Teaching & Learning"**—Integrating ethical AI practices and digital literacy into higher education.
- **Research Focus: One World, One Voice**—A cross-cultural investigation of youth speech rights across three continents.

Education / Notable Achievements

- **Doctor of Education (Ed.D.):** Educational Leadership, Digital Instruction, and Distance Learning, St. Thomas University (4.0 GPA).
- **Juris Doctor (J.D.):** Howard University School of Law.
- **Google Career Launchpad:** Generative AI Leader Certification Program (First Faculty Cohort).
- **Global Fulbright Scholar:** U.S. Department of State (2023–2026).

Bibliography

- ***WE ARE FREE: Our First Amendment Rights*** (Penguin RISE, 2026)
- ***Your Freedom, Your Power: A Kid's Guide to the First Amendment*** (Hachette, 2023)
- ***I Am Because We Are*** (ProQuest)
- ***Free speech and digital citizenship: A qualitative case study*** (ProQuest, 2026). Retrieved from <https://www.proquest.com/dissertations-theses/free-speech-digital-citizenship-qualitative-case/docview/3343608176/se-2>

Featured News

- **Kirkus Reviews:** Starred Review for *WE ARE FREE* (2026).
- **FIU News:** "Scholar earns 'triple Fulbright'" (August 2023).
- **Legacy Magazine:** Named one of the Most Prominent Black Business Leaders (2024).

"Free is a word that comes with great power." — Dr. Allison Matulli

Fellow for the First Amendment • Global Fulbright Scholar • Author • Educator

Dr. Allison Matulli is a premier national voice on civic literacy who serves as a **Fellow for the First Amendment** at the Freedom Forum. As a **Lecturer at Howard University** and the founder of **The Little Lawyers**, she empowers a new generation of "conscious kids" to recognize that their voices are the enduring heartbeat of American civic identity. Her debut children's picture book *WE ARE FREE* (Penguin RISE, out September 29, 2026), already has a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection and just received a **starred review from Kirkus**—a rare and prestigious industry honor reserved for works of exceptional merit. In this book, Dr. Matulli profoundly reminds us all, young kids and grown-ups alike, that "free is a word that comes with great power."



1. CORE EXPERTISE

- **Constitutional Literacy:** Translating complex legal principles into empowering youth narratives.
- **Global Speech Rights:** Pioneering research on international freedom of expression across three continents.
- **AI + Tech Integrity:** Leading the ethical integration of Generative AI in higher education.
- **Curriculum Innovation:** Designing justice-centered, interdisciplinary learning environments.

2. LITERARY IMPACT & PRAISE

WE ARE FREE: Our First Amendment Rights (Penguin RISE, 2026)

- **Recipient of a Starred Review from Kirkus Reviews**
"An impressive distillation of an essential American virtue... [t]his work will inspire civic curiosity in even young children while reminding caregivers of rights worth fighting for and celebrating." — **Kirkus (Starred Review)**
- **Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**
Your Freedom, Your Power (Hachette, 2023)
- **Starred Review from Booklist**
- **Chicago Public Library's "Best of the Best" (2023)**

3. GLOBAL LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION

- **First-Ever Global Fulbright Scholar at FIU:** Awarded by the U.S. Department of State to conduct the landmark "One World, One Voice" study in Colombia, Italy, and Trinidad and Tobago.
- **AI Pioneer:** Selected for the inaugural **Google Career Launchpad Generative AI Leader** cohort; developer of the "AI + Tech Integrity" framework.
- **Academic Excellence:** Holds a **Juris Doctor** from Howard University and recently defended her **Ed.D. dissertation** (4.0 GPA) on free speech and digital citizenship.

4. KEY SPEAKING TOPICS

- **Raising Conscious Kids:** How to bridge the gap between legal rigor and youth empowerment.
- **The Future of Free Speech:** Navigating digital citizenship and student voice in a tech-driven world.
- **Ubuntu in Education:** Building cultures of equity, accountability, and collective civic power.

5. CONNECT

- **Website:** www.thelittlelawyers.com | allisonmatulli.com
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- **Headquarters:** Miami, FL / Washington, D.C.

This one-pager is designed for media outlets, event organizers, and partners to provide a high-impact overview of Dr. Allison Matulli's work at the intersection of law, education, and innovation.