



## **VALERIE FITTON-KANE**

Valerie Fitton-Kane is dedicated to building the next generation of innovators and explorers. After studying computer science and operations management, Valerie spent the first seven years of her career as an Information Technology consultant in a range of industries from finance to healthcare. In 2008, she shifted full-time to the nonprofit sector, leveraging her STEM skills to support international development, global health, and domestic poverty. At Oxfam GB, Valerie leveraged the organization's information systems to connect the monetary and non-monetary contributions of British citizens to the life-saving work Oxfam does worldwide. At Sabin Vaccine Institute, she helped nations and non-governmental organizations to deliver life-changing medicines to the one billion poorest and most remotely located individuals on Earth. Finally, at LIFT, Valerie supported a data-driven approach to lifting people out of poverty for good.

Today, Valerie is deeply engaged in showing students the awe-inspiring opportunities available to them in STEM and how they can play a role in creating a better future for humanity. She does this primarily through her work at Challenger Center, a global education organization that develops technology used to immerse K-12 students in real-life STEM scenarios, enabling them to experience STEM careers through role-play. These powerful experiences, developed in partnership with experts at NASA, NOAA, and many private sector companies, have sparked a love of STEM in over six million students since 1986 and propelled many into exciting STEM careers. As the Vice President of Development, Partnerships, and Strategy, Valerie influences what programs are produced, how the impact is measured, and importantly, how the organization grows its reach from 250,000 students per year to millions of students per year.

In addition, Valerie is Board Chair at Capitol City Robotics, an education organization that uses robotics engineering and computer science to engage underrepresented students – especially girls and students of color – in STEM.

Valerie holds a Master of Business Administration from Cambridge University in the United Kingdom, a Bachelor of Science in decision and information sciences from The University of Florida, and a certificate in nonprofit management from Northeastern University.