

Dr. Cornell T. McGhee, Lieutenant Colonel (US Army, Retired) serves as Director of Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps Programs for the Houston Independent School District.

The Secret To Writing, LLC Expanding College Opportunity Speaker Series

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CORNELL TINSLEY MCGHEE, ED.D. Director, JROTC, Houston Independent School District

Dr. Cornell T. McGhee, Lieutenant Colonel (US Army, Retired) serves as Director of Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps Programs for the Houston Independent School District. Dr. McGhee previously served as the Deputy Director of HISD's JROTC Programs, and as Senior Army Instructor at Chavez High School, also in Houston, Texas. Dr. McGhee serves as instructional leader for over sixty instructors who in turn coach, teach, and mentor 4,500 plus cadets at twenty-four high schools and six middle schools. As the Director of JROTC Programs, Dr. McGhee works with school district and campus administrators, civic and community leaders, and local business owners to develop the next generation of citizen leaders.

Dr. McGhee received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Texas at Austin. He earned a Master of Science in Management from the Florida Institute of Technology and a Master of Military Arts and Sciences in Operational Planning from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. In 2011, He earned a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. His dissertation evaluated the effectiveness of middle school JROTC programs on student attendance, behavior, and discipline which served as the researched-based foundation for middle school JROTC curriculum across the nation.

Dr. McGhee served in the US Army for twenty-three years. Tactical assignments included service in the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, in Giebelstadt, Germany, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, the 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade in Wiesbaden, Germany, and the Houston US Army Recruiting Battalion, in Houston, Texas. Operational and strategic assignments included service with the US Army Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia, Headquarters V Corps in Frankfurt, Germany, Headquarters US Army Europe, in Heidelberg, Germany, Headquarters US Army (Pentagon) in Washington, DC and Headquarters US Army Recruiting Command at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

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Dr. McGhee is a graduate of the Air Defense Artillery Basic and Career Courses, the Air Assault School, the Military Acquisition and Management Course, the Command and General Staff College, the School of Advanced Military Studies, and the Brigade and Battalion Pre-Command Course.

Military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (7 awards), Army Commendation Medal (3 awards), Army Achievement Medal (2 awards), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, Overseas Service Medal (4 awards), NATO Medal, the Army Staff Identification Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Recruiter Badge.

Cornell is a Certified Professional Photographer, a Photographic Craftsman, and drone pilot. Cornell serves as Vice President of the Professional Photographers Guild of Houston and is a board member for the Texas Professional Photographers Association.

Cornell is an Eagle Scout, musician, and outdoors enthusiast. In his spare time, he attends local religious services, professional sports events, and relaxes with family and friends. Cornell is married to Karen (Arbuckle); they have two adult sons.

