GLOBAL Research & Medical Care Roundtable

Welcome Address

DeOndra Dixon, World-Renowned Self-Advocate, Global Down Syndrome Foundation Ambassador, Quincy Jones Exceptional Advocacy Awardee

NDSC Annual Convention From Your Couch - Thursday June 25, 2020
Thank You to the Organizers

- Thank you David Tolleson and NDSC
- Thank you Michelle and Martha at the Global Down Syndrome Foundation
- Thank you to our super smart scientists like Joaquin and Melissa
- I am proud to be the welcome speaker for this year’s GLOBAL Round Table
Growing up I was treated like everyone else
  - I went to my local school
  - I had lots of friends
  - I participated in Special Olympics - and won lots of medals!

As the GLOBAL Down Syndrome Foundation Ambassador
AND the Quincy Jones Award Winner

I want to welcome you to my world

I was born in Texas (I’m a DALLAS fan!) and now I live in Los Angeles with my big brother Jamie Foxx, my parents and my cousins

I am lucky to have a wonderful family!
The World Today

- But I know times are hard
- Not everyone with Down syndrome is given opportunities
  - Even in my family we have suffered discrimination and **BLACK LIVES MATTER**
- And now we also have the deadly coronavirus
- It is not an easy time for most of the world
It is Important To Count Your Blessings

- Even though times are difficult we can focus on good things
  - I think of all my fashion shows with GLOBAL
  - Dancing at the Grammy Awards in front of millions of viewers
The Importance of GIVING BACK

- During this time we also need to give back
- We need to make sure people with Down syndrome have good health care
- We have to improve lifespan for African Americans with Down syndrome
- That’s what this GLOBAL Roundtable is all about - the most amazing presentations that could change our lives
- Welcome and THANK YOU for joining us!