



## VIP Speaker Bios

### **Hydeia Broadbent** (*United States*), *Director, Hydeia & Friends*

Hydeia Broadbent was abandoned in the hospital at birth, adopted by Patricia and Loren Broadbent as an infant, and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. Although her HIV condition was congenital, she was not diagnosed as HIV-positive until age three with the prognosis that she would not live past age five. At age six, Ms. Broadbent became an AIDS activist and public speaker during one of her hundreds of hospital visits.

By age 12, Ms. Broadbent was appearing on television programs such as Oprah, 20/20, Good Morning America and A Conversation with Magic Johnson. Over the next 10 years she became a featured speaker or guest panellist at some of the United States' most respected educational institutions, including Clark Atlanta University, Duke University, Howard University, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Southern California. In 1996, Ms. Broadbent brought the face of AIDS to the Republican National Convention. She has been featured in educational videos for Nickelodeon, MTV and BET. She is a 1999 Essence Award recipient and received the Red Cross Spirit Award. Ms. Broadbent recently founded Hydeia & Friends, an organization committed to providing young people a clear understanding of how to avoid at-risk behaviours through self-examination and informed decision-making.