



PROUDLY PRESENTED BY **NEXT CHAPTER ENTERPRISES, LLC**

WHAT IS S.O.A.R.?

SOAR, which stands for Surviving Obstacles & Attaining Results, is more than just a phrase—it's a powerful movement and message birthed from the heart of Dr. Valerie S. Walston. Originally introduced as the title of her debut book, this inspiring concept has since grown into one of her signature empowerment programs.

Rooted in faith, resilience, and personal growth, SOAR is designed to encourage individuals who are navigating life's challenges to stay the course. Through the program, participants are reminded to be patient, stay grounded, and keep moving forward—because a reward awaits on the other side of every obstacle.

Whether experienced through her book, workshops, speaking engagements, or the soon-to-launch SOAR card game and app, Dr. Walston's SOAR brand continues to uplift, inspire, and guide people of all walks of life to live with purpose, power, and perseverance.

WHO IS DR. VAL?

Dr. Valerie Simmons-Walston is a seasoned educator and transformational leader with over 35 years of experience spanning the K-12 school system and higher education. Throughout her career, she has held executive and senior leadership roles at five diverse institutions—including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Predominantly White Institutions (PWIs), large public universities, and small private colleges. Her expertise lies in building strategic partnerships, advancing student success initiatives, and promoting inclusive excellence across educational systems.

Dr. Walston's work has consistently centered on empowering individuals, fostering innovation, and guiding institutions through change with integrity and purpose.

SIGNATURE SERVICES

- Keynote Speaker
- Emcee
- Author-Led Workshops
- Book Signings & Reader Engagements
- Leadership & Wellness Event Host
- Faith-Based Empowerment Sessions
- Panel Moderator
- Media Engagement
- Social Media Influencer



TESTIMONIALS

“Looking for a winner to bring the “WOW” to your next event? In less than 10 minutes, Dr. Walston received a standing ovation at our Women's Conference!

I can honestly say, I've never witnessed anything like this in my 40+ years of ministry.

Valerie not only brings the sizzle - her high energy, inspiring testimony and genuine love for those she's serving is palpable the minute she walks on stage. If I may, she's also just plain FUN!

Need a guaranteed winner - look no further!

- Karen Culler, President, NWO Women's Ministry

“Dr. Walston radiates both vision and passion, leading with a purpose that uplifts everyone around her. Her unwavering dedication to community transformation is evident in every initiative she touches - strategic, inclusive, and deeply impactful. She's the kind of leader whose presence alone inspires action and inspiration. - **William L. Pierce, Associate VP of Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving, University of Toledo**

“Your passion for others and beautiful community spirit is captivating. - **Wendy Pestrue, CEO, United Way Toledo, OH**

ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

- B.A. in Sociology – Kent State University
- M.A. in Counseling – Hampton University
- ABD (*All But Dissertation*) in Higher Education Administration – University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
- Doctorate of Theology – Midwest College of Theology

- TEDx Emcee for TEDx Mintstreet, Charlotte, NC, May 2023
- United Way, Campaign Chair, Utoledo Best in Show 2021-2024
- Woman of the Month for September 2025 *POWER* Magazine
- Leadership & Service Award, Firefly Honoree, Sigma Gamma Rho, August 2025
- Feature article in *Women's Week*, July 2025
- Feature article in *usnews.com*, June 2025
- Feature Article *Blade Newspaper*, Chair Heart Ball 2024

ACCOLADES

- Bold Hearts Award, Campaign Chair for Heart Ball 2024, American Heart Association, November 2024
- Leadership & Community Service Award, National Professional Association of Negro Women, April 2024
- Community Service Advocate Award, Top Ladies of Distinction, March 2024
- Outstanding Woman of the Year Award, UWC University Women's Commission – 2023
- Leadership & Service Award, Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union, June 2023

HOW TO BOOK DR. VAL

SCAN TO REQUEST:



 **VALERIEWALSTON.COM**

 **@DRVALERIE.WALSTON**

 **216-916-9455**

WHERE IS DR. VAL?

AUGUST 30TH
BACK TO SCHOOL
RALLY
ST PAUL BAPTIST
CHURCH
TOLEDO, OH

AUGUST 30TH
EMCEE
FORREST CITY
TENNIS CLUB
CRAWFORD AUTO
MUSEUM
CLEVELAND, OH

AUGUST 31ST
FEATURED SPEAKER /
FIREFLY HONOREE
SGRHO -
LABOR DAY GALA
HEATHERDOWN
COUNTRY CLUB
TOLEDO, OH

OCTOBER 12TH
S.O.A.R. BRAND
LAUNCH -
THE RE-BIRTH
DELTA HOTEL,
TOLEDO, OH

SEE DETAILS & ADDITIONAL EVENTS AT
VALERIEWALSTON.COM

Jeremiah 29:11
For I know the plans I have for you
says the Lord.
Prosperity... Hope..... A bright future!

S.O.A.R. IS A PRESENTATION OF
NEXT CHAPTER ENTERPRISES, LLC

