# **KERRY SCHRADER, M.B.A.**

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# **TECH-DRIVEN HR TRANSFORMATION LEADER**

"In the nexus of technology and human resources, Kerry Schrader stands distinctively, blending decades of HR acumen with the innovative spirit of a tech CEO."

My journey from an astute HR professional to launching a tech venture has positioned me uniquely at the intersection of people strategy and digital transformation. Lauded by industry stalwarts like Forbes, Google, and Essence Magazine, I am a leader and a trailblazer, defining new frontiers in a realm of relentless competition. As I look toward the future, my synthesis of business strategy, talent optimization, negotiations, and strategic foresight promises to be a game-changer for ambitious enterprises.

## **EXECUTIVE HIGHLIGHTS:**

 Esteemed as the 37th Black female to raise over \$1M in pre-seed funding in tech, setting a benchmark for women entrepreneurs in a domain historically dominated by others.

- Honored among Inc's 100 Female Founders of 2022, Essence Magazine's 8 Women in Tech to Watch, and Forbes Next 1000 Awardee, underscoring her meteoric rise and impact in the tech industry.
- Led Mixtroz as the CEO, showcasing adeptness in business and product development, investor relations, and marketing.

 Proven capability in utilizing a diverse skillset, ranging from performance management, compensation, safety, multisite management, negotiation, and coaching, to strategic planning, ensuring holistic growth for organizations.

## SIGNATURE STRENGTHS

Strategic Decision-Making	Stakeholder Engagement	
Organizational Development	Talent Acquisition & Management	
Innovative Problem-Solving	Business Growth & Expansion	
Employee Relations Expertise	Union/Non-Union/Union Avoidance	
Financial Oversight & Budgeting	Cross-Functional Team Leadership	
Tech Integration & Digital Strategy	Effective Communication & Public Speaking	
Risk Management & Assessment	Corporate Culture Shaping	
Merger, Acquisitions & Due Diligence Proficiency		

## **EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE**

MIXTROZ, Birmingham, AL | https://www.mixtroz.com/ Innovative software and service company offering peer-to-peer engagement using real-time data to facilitate meaningful connection.

## **CEO | CO-FOUNDER**

Spearheaded the holistic business and operational strategy for Mixtroz, a cutting-edge networking software and service corporation. Commanded the helm in finance, investor relations, compliance, and legal affairs, ensuring a trajectory of growth aligned with industry standards and best practices.

## **EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP & OPERATIONAL STRATEGY:**

 Orchestrated an ambitious journey, raising \$2.3M+ in pre-seed funding, distinguishing myself as the 37th black female achiever globally, and securing a coveted spot in CNN's Million Dollar Club.

2014 - 2024

• Solidified strategic alliances with industry titans like Google, Amazon, and Salesforce, ensuring Mixtroz's robust positioning in a competitive market.

• Facilitated a partnership with Cvent, adding Mixtroz into their app ecosystem, demonstrating the potency of strategic leadership in tech integrations.

• Highlighted by Forbes Magazine as a "Rising Startup to Watch," a testament to a blend of visionary leadership and operational excellence.

- Navigated complex investment terrains, securing a \$100K investment from the Revolution Fund following a compelling pitch to AOL Co-founder Steve Case.
- Elevated Mixtroz's brand narrative, gaining recognition as a Google Start Up Story, emphasizing a balanced approach between tech innovation and human-centric solutions.

• Crafted visionary strategies, prioritizing investor relations, business growth, and talent optimization, laying a roadmap for Mixtroz's future.

• Ensured Mixtroz's adherence to compliance and legal standards while pushing the envelope in tech innovation and market expansion.

• Stewarded financial resources, aligning fiscal decisions with long-term business objectives and talent aspirations.

• Synthesized cross-functional inputs, propelling Mixtroz forward amidst evolving industry challenges, issues arising from a global pandemic and leveraging opportunities for distinction.

#### NORANDA ALUMINUM, Franklin, TN

2009–2013

A globally integrated aluminum corporation boasting sales surpassing \$1.3 billion successfully undertook its IPO in May 2010.

## CORPORATE HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Directed transformative company initiatives encompassing the seamless integration of two significant acquisitions in Gramercy, LA, and St. Ann, Jamaica. Held a crucial role in the due diligence team, curating fundamental HR processes, significantly curtailing compliance discrepancies by 53%. Ingeniously revamped the corporate relocation mechanism to strike an equilibrium between the company's fiscal liabilities in the evolving real estate landscape and the necessities of employees on the move, accruing a significant savings of \$750k within the first year, complemented by a high employee satisfaction metric of 92%.

• Pioneered a comprehensive performance management framework, tethering individual KPIs to overarching company objectives, culminating in an impressive 98% adoption rate during its inaugural year.

• Architected a meticulous 5-day training module for supervisors, ensuring streamlined operations and fortified leadership.

- Chaired a pivotal communication campaign in the Jamaican base, augmenting employee cognizance about the National Healthcare Fund's eligibility, leading to a sharp 28% reduction in company-sponsored health insurance expenditure.
- Played a pivotal role in negotiating two labor union contracts in Jamaica, fortifying the company's position in labor relations.
- Orchestrated a Reduction-In-Force (RIF) strategy, translating to a consistent \$5M boost to the bottom line.
- Curated and presided over the company's inaugural Top 100 Leadership Confluence, gathering the best minds to steer Noranda's future direction.
- Amplified the company's commitment to societal betterment, heading a company-wide community participation initiative that witnessed a 350% surge in contributions during its debut year.

• As the HR beacon for business unit HR Directors, maintained active oversight of three pivotal roles: Communications Director, Corporate Recruiter, and Senior HR Admin.

#### ALCOA, INC., Pittsburgh, PA I https://www.alcoa.com/

A global frontrunner in producing primary & fabricated aluminum and alumina, recording sales surging past \$30 billion.

# HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER, DAVENPORT WORKS AND SATELLITES

Steered the HR vision for a central manufacturing hub, churning out revenues exceeding \$100M, with an entrusted stewardship of a \$6M departmental budget. Ensured superior HR delivery to an expansive workforce comprising 1800+ USW and IBEW bargaining employees and 370 salaried individuals, exempt and non-exempt.

#### 2008-2009

2009-2013

throughout a multicultural coalition from cont DIVISIONAL HR BUSINESS PARTNER	inents like	e Australia, South America, Asia, and Europe.	2005-2006

Co-lead a global HR transformation endeavors, including the installation of value-added COE HR service teams,

SEARS HOLDING, INC., Hoffman Estates, IL Emerging as the nation's fourth most formidable broad-line retailer, boasting over \$50 billion in yearly sales.

# **REGIONAL HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER, PRODUCT REPAIR SERVICES**

**GLOBAL PROCESS LEADER, HR TRANSFORMATION** 

Steered the comprehensive HR blueprint, encompassing every facet of HR management, meticulously pivoting the strategic alignment of the field HR assembly across a region that housed an impressive 2000+ associates scattered across 19 multi-state facilities.

**OSRAM SYLVANIA**, Versailles, KY I https://www.osram.us/ Illuminating the globe as one of the two paramount lighting manufacturers, shining bright with over \$651 million in annual revenues.

## HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER

Drove a proactive HR agenda, emphasizing cultivating an environment of constructive communication, collaboration, and mutual respect. Lead a union (IBEW) avoidance campaign, capturing a decisive 63% 'no' vote.

FORD MOTOR CO., Lorain & Avon Lake, Ohio I https://www.ford.com/ 1992-2002 Steering innovation on a global scale, Ford champions the automotive industry, driving its presence in 200 markets spanning six continents with a groundbreaking \$143 billion in annual vehicular sales.

HUMAN RESOURCE BUSINESS PARTNER	1998-2002
SAFETY ENGINEER	1994-1997
LABOR RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE	1992-1994

## **EDUCATION**

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY, Kent, OH | BBA – Marketing and Management KENT STATE UNIVERSITY, Kent, OH | MBA -International Business

## **CERTIFICATIONS**

Senior Professional of Human Resources (SPHR.) – Issued: 2005 Expired: 2012 | Certified Trainer, Development Dimensions International (DDI) I Labor Law Training Certificate, Jamaica Employers' Federation

## **BOARD & MEMBERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

BBJ Leadership Trust I Birmingham Small Business Council I Church Street Lenders Investments I Creative Startups I Delta Sigma Theta Sorority I Forge Breast Cancer Survivor Center I Girls Incorporated & YWCA I Middle TN Society of Human Resources Management I Nashville Technology Council I O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center

# SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Contracted for engagements for notable brands like Google, Kauffman Foundation, Georgia Tech, and Junior League.

REEL

#### 2006-2007

2004-2005

2003-2004