

A lifelong resident of New Orleans, Calvin Mackie graduated from high school barely able to read. His SAT scores required him to take special remedial classes before he was conditionally admitted to Morehouse College. He completed his degree in Mathematics, graduating Magna Cum Laude and as a member of the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society. He was simultaneously awarded a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech, where he later earned his Ph.D.

Following graduation he joined the faculty at Tulane University, where he pursued research related to heat transfer, fluid dynamics, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. In 2002, he was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Mackie's eleven-year academic career ended in June 2007, when Tulane University disbanded the engineering school in response to financial hardship induced by Hurricane Katrina.

Following the catastrophic Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, former Louisiana Governor Kathleen Blanco appointed Dr. Mackie to the 33-member board of the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA), the guiding agency to lead the state's rebuilding efforts. Possessing instant social, political, cultural, and technical credibility, Mackie was featured prominently in Spike Lee's HBO Katrina documentary, *When The Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Parts* (HBO 2006) and its successor *If God Is Willing and Da Creek Don't Rise* (HBO 2010).

Mackie continues in his role as Managing Partner of Channel ZerO Group LLC, an educational and motivational consulting company he co-founded in 1992. He has presented to numerous civic and educational institutions, government entities, professional association, and businesses of every size and industrial focus. Through his travels and online mentoring presence, Mackie reaches millions of students and professionals annually.

Dr. Calvin Mackie is the founder and chief executive officer of STEM NOLA, the premiere STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) program that has engaged more than 65,000 mostly under-served students of color – in hands-on STEM project-based learning since 2013.

Dr. Mackie's inspirational memoir, *A View from the Roof: Lessons for Life and Business* has been adopted as educational course material by numerous secondary and college teachers throughout the country. His second book, *Grandma's Hands: Cherished Moments of Faith and Wisdom*, is a celebration of elder generations, their wisdom, and experiences.