



11TH ANNUAL PEAK CYBER SYMPOSIUM

SPEAKER BIO



Dr. Erik Huffman
CEO/Founder, Handshake Leadership

Dr. Erik Huffman is an award-winning educator, entrepreneur, and cybersecurity professional. Dr. Huffman is the founder of Handshake Leadership and is also a founding researcher in the emerging field of Cyberpsychology, the study of how the human brain works while in a cyber environment. His research has been presented at NASA-Goddard, CyberWyoming, ISACA, and TedxCOLORADOsprings. His research has begun to uncover biological deficiencies in humans that function for survival in face-to-face interaction, but does not activate in a cyber environment. He has applied his research with trailblazing results in over 30 organizations worldwide.

His research focuses on mental biological deficiencies that every person has in a cyber environment that allow attacks, like phishing and digital social engineering to continue to thrive. It is well noted that people are the weakest link and Dr. Huffman is working to specifically explain how the problem is existing and what can be done to mitigate. To date Dr. Huffman has conducted studies totaling over 20,000 participants.

In 2020 Dr. Huffman was named Top 5 Most Influential Young Professional in the state of Colorado by ColoradoBiz Magazine. In 2018 he was awarded the Colorado Springs Mayor's Young Leader in Education, Young Entrepreneur of the Year by the Pikes Peak Small Business Development Center, and a Rising Star in the Colorado Springs Business Journal. Dr. Huffman is the CEO and founder of Handshake Leadership, an organizational development, and cybersecurity education consulting company. In his tenure, Handshake Leadership has won Best Social Impact Company in the Colorado Springs Business Journal in 2018 and 2019. Handshake Leadership provides the education and technical guidance needed to position a school, or entire district, for a successful launch in cyber education.

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