

Richard Brookshire is a multi-hyphenate storyteller, nationally recognized narrative strategist, and public speaker. The CEO and co-founder of the Black Veterans Project, his work advances reforms to address racial inequities in access to veterans benefits and the case for reparations.

Richard has contributed to *TheGrio*, *The Root* and *AfroPunk* and his efforts have been highlighted by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *PBS Newshour*, *NBC News* and the *Southern Poverty Law Center*.

Recognized as 'One to Watch' by *The Haitian Roundtable* in 2017 and named one of *Native Son's* 101 'Black Gay Men Who Make An Impact' in 2020, he is the recipient of the 2022 *Veterans Justice Award* by Senator Richard Blumenthal and the *Connecticut Veterans Legal Center*.

A former infantry combat medic and U.S. Army veteran of the War in Afghanistan, he holds an MPA in Urban & Social Policy from *Columbia University's School of International & Public Affairs* and a BA in Political Science (magna cum laude) from *Fordham University*.