



You can spend a lot of time making plans, but life often gets in the way of them; this is a lesson **Vanessa Williams** had to learn firsthand. From the beginning, Vanessa Williams had to conquer controversy when she became the first black Miss America in 1983 and the scandal that followed. However, her fight to survive brought about her debut and success on Broadway, millions of albums being sold worldwide, and her resurgence in recent years on network television with *Ugly Betty* and *Desperate Housewives*. Her career has been laced with setbacks, closed doors, and constant dismissal; but all of these events only added to her journey and the story she has to tell. In April, she is releasing a book she co-wrote with her mother, entitled *YOU HAVE NO IDEA*. In the book, Vanessa Williams empowers you to embrace the unexpected, remember your self-worth, and accept your path in life - no matter how uncertain it may be.

In Partnership with United Talent

Vanessa Williams

Speech Topics

- ☐ Motivation
- ☐ Inspiration
- ☐ Celebrity
- ☐ Attitude