

## **CULLEN JONES**

**Speaking Topics**: Diversity, Black Heritage, Overcoming Adversity, Water Safety and Drowning Prevention, Olympic Journey, Motivational Speaking

Cullen Jones has been determined to break the stereotype that black people cannot swim since almost drowning at a Pennsylvania water park at the age of five. He is the first African-American to break a world record as well as win a gold medal at the World University Games when he was a student at North Carolina State University. At the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, Cullen became the second African-American to win swimming Gold as a part of the world-record shattering 4x100m Freestyle relay team.

In the 2012 London Olympic Games, Cullen added to his relay Gold from Beijing with two Silver medals and a Gold medal, including an individual Silver medal in his specialty 50m Freestyle. He is currently looking ahead to 2016 and his first individual Olympic Gold.

He currently serves as an ambassador for USA Swimming Foundation's Make a Splash program, travelling the country to provide free swim lessons to children of all ages. The program focuses on teaching children and minorities to swim and the importance of water safety and drowning prevention.

A talented and dynamic speaker, Jones has spoken to universities, corporations, and non-profit organizations regarding his Olympic experience and overcoming adversity to achieve any goal.

## STATS:

Birthday: February 29, 1984 Hometown: New Brunswick, NJ Residence: Charlotte, NC Sport: Swimming

## **CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**:

- Two-time Olympian (2008, 2012)
- Two-time Olympic Gold Medalist
- Four-time Olympic Medalist
- 2007 World Champion
- NCAA Champion
- Four-time ACC Champion