

Marilyn Harris

"Who Do You Think You Are and Where Do You Think You're Going?" Scores who have attended the powerful and engaging workshops by Marilyn Harris have learned that finding the answer to those questions unlocks the confidence and self-esteem that are vital to success.

Harris was always a believer in dreaming the impossible dream. Growing up in a small Virginia town, she was an insatiable reader whose imagination knew no limits. One whose story inspired her was Althea Gibson, the first Black athlete to cross the color line of international tennis when she won the French Open in 1956 and who, the next year, became the first Black woman Wimbledon Champion. Gibson's book, *I Always Wanted to Be Somebody*, motivated Harris to work hard and overcome any obstacle to accomplishing her dreams.

In her workshops Harris motivates participants to use the power of their own thoughts, words and dreams to reach high and push beyond levels they once thought themselves incapable of attaining. She encourages strength through authoritative "I am..." self-validating statements and by identifying and eliminating self-limiting negativity. "Empowering", "Moving" and "Outstanding" are just a few of the comments participants have used to describe their experiences at her life-changing workshop sessions.

A South Carolina transplant, Ms. Harris retired after nearly 35 years of public service in senior positions in the Pentagon, the Department of Veterans Affairs and in the U.S. House of Representatives as permanent staff with the House Appropriations Committee.