

“helping dreamers, doers & entrepreneurs bring their visions to life.”



Hi, I'm  Michelle 

transformation artist 

ENTREPRENEUR • MULTI-AWARD-WINNING ARTIST
AUTHOR • PHOTOGRAPHER

 all-around creative. 

WHAT I DO (aka... a lot 😊)

- ♥ Strategic Business Development & Brand Clarity
- ♥ Website Design, Audits & Optimization
- ♥ Professional Photography & Visual Branding
- ♥ Graphic Design & Creative Direction
- ♥ Marketing Strategy & Content Creation
- ♥ Business & Creative Classes, Courses & Workshops
- ♥ Speaking, Training & Event Facilitation
- ♥ Book Creation, Publishing & Author Support
- ♥ 1:1 Strategy Sessions (Brainstorm Power Hour — clarity & direction in one session)
- ♥ SC Mobile Notary & Wedding Officiant
- ♥ Product Creation (Journals, Resources, Merch)

...and if it doesn't exist yet, I'll probably create it. 

MY MISSION

I don't just build brands— I teach people how to see their vision, own it, and bring it to life.

Through art, strategy, speaking, real-world guidance, and out-of-the-box ideas, I create momentum that builds confidence—and transforms passion into something powerful and profitable.

I BELIEVE:

-  There is beauty in every day, every thing, and every one—we simply have to look for it.
-  Everyday people live extraordinary lives.
-  Obstacles are opportunities, and the smallest moments matter.
-  Life should be lived with open eyes and a full heart.
-  In encouraging others, celebrating each day, and inhaling the magic it holds.

EXPLORE • SHOP • CONNECT

Stay connected & step into the fabulous ✨

-  linktr.ee/amongthefabulous
-  michellebryantbooks.com
-  fabulousbizsolutions.com

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2025		Nextdoor Neighborhood Fave — Top 3 Photographer — Google Business Ratings
2024		Top 3 Photographer — Google Business Ratings
2022		Alignable — Goose Creek Business of the Year
2020		ACHI Magazine — Positive Social Influencer Award
2019		Alignable — Main Street Mentor
2017		American Business Women's Association — Woman of the Year
		American Business Women's Association — Protégé Award
		ACHI Magazine — Columnist of the Year (Winner)
		Focus on Fabulous Day — Official Proclamation
		Declared September 9th by Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg
		Recognized for creativity, leadership, business, community, and the arts

Let's be real. 

I DON'T DO SUPERFICIAL. I DON'T DO PHONY.
WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET.
IF I CAN'T DO IT, I PROBABLY KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN. 

BRAND BUILDER & MARKETING EXPERT

 30+ years of turning ideas into brands that shine.

ARTIST

 Work featured in magazines, on album and book covers, and in worldwide marketing campaigns.

STRATEGIST & CREATIVE VISIONARY

 I see the big picture—and what others don't—and bring it to life.

AUTHOR & PUBLISHING GUIDE

 11 self-published, award-winning books—and helping others turn words on a page into book possibilities.

SOUGHT-AFTER SPEAKER

 Personal and professional topics that inspire, teach, and transform.

INSTRUCTOR

 Visual and online classes, courses, and hands-on learning experiences.

WELCOME! 

Michelle's lifestyle & genuine love of people resonate with an unyielding message of passion, victory & empowerment, healing & hope while focusing on the silver lining. As evident in her writings, her life, her photography, & the way she views the world one can clearly see she has a heart for serving others and exemplifies creativity.

INSPIRE  TRANSFORM  CONNECT  CREATE  BUILD

FOCUS ON Fabulous

michelle bryant griffin



Books



Photography



Art

Awards & Accolades:

- 2025: Nextdoor Neighborhood Fav
- 2025: Google Business Rating Best Rate Top 3 Photographer
- 2024: Google Business Rating Best Rate Top 3 Photographer
- 2022: ACHI: Positive Social Influencer Award
- 2022: Alignable- Goose Creek Business of the Year
- 2021: Sue Brice Portrait Masters: Bronze Image Award
- 2020: American Business Women's Association: Woman of the Year
- 2019: Literary Titan Book Award: Gold & Silver for two separate book titles
- 2019: ACHI Magazine: Columnist of the Year Winner
- 2019: American Business Women's Association: Protege' Award Winner
- 2018: Focus on Fabulous Day- September 9th: Mayor Declared State Proclamation
- 2017: Photography Forum: Best of Photography
- 2002: First Place FurRhondy Photography Competition (Alaska)
- First Place South Carolina Art State Competition

Outside Roles & Responsibilities:

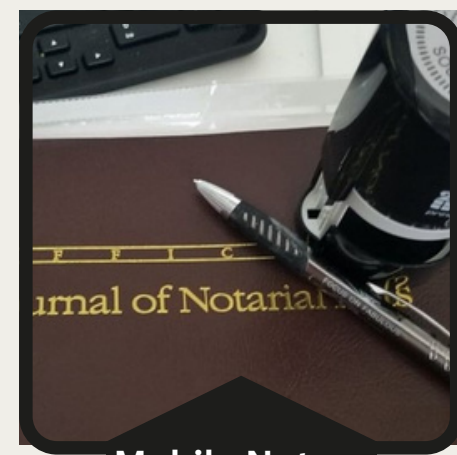
- ECPI University: Business Administration Advisory Board
- FBLA: Future Business Leaders of America- State Competition Judge
- Sweet J's Clubhouse: Creative Director
- American Women's Assoc. (Jessamine Chapter) Business Development
- Goose Creek Artist's Guild Member

ADDITIONAL LINKS:

What others say: <https://fabulousbizsolutions.com/testimonials/>



YouTube



Mobile Notary

The Creative Legacy of C. Michelle Bryant Griffin

Subject Names & Aliases:

Cherri Michelle Newman | Cherri Michelle Hobbs | Cherri Michelle Bryant | Michelle Bryant Griffin

Professional Pen Names:

C. Michelle Bryant | C. Michelle Bryant Griffin

Date of Birth: July 18, 1961

Persona

Michelle values an authentic, heart-centered lifestyle dedicated entirely to lifting others up. Known as a powerhouse creative executive, she seamlessly balances a compassionate, caregiving approach with a heart-centered coaching method and a fierce, rebellious entrepreneurial drive. Her vast life experiences have shaped her into a deeply transparent, resilient visionary who uses her own scars, triumphs, and stories to reveal the true light in others.



The Early Years



Cherri (pronounced cherry) Michelle Newman came into this world an arm and a leg first on July 18, 1961, in St. Petersburg, Florida. Her mother and biological father separated when Michelle was two years old, and her mother remarried when she was three. When she was a young girl, her family moved frequently, resulting in Michelle attending 27 different schools over the course of 12 years.

Michelle credits her deep creative abilities directly to her mother's professional influence, having spent countless hours sitting with her during her mother's active advertising and marketing career. Graduating in the top 20% of her high school class, Michelle was twice inducted into Who's Who Among American High School Students (1978–1979 & 1979–1980). Her formative childhood, teenage, and young adult years, marked by rapid adaptation and a resilient spirit, have been beautifully memorialized in many of her self-published books.

However, Michelle believes her raw creative talent was heavily accelerated by her time right out of high school spent studying at the prestigious Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida. This single year proved to be the catapult to her creativity and has provided education, insight, and lessons she carries with her to this day.

Career

The professional chapters of her career began in her early thirties with the fast-paced world of layout and print production, where she spent nearly a decade as a graphic designer for a want ad newspaper in Gulfport, Mississippi. During this era, she mastered the complex mechanics of commercial layout, print separations, and typesetting using PageMaker and early versions of Photoshop.

Driven by an innate entrepreneurial spirit while serving as an Air Force wife for over twenty years and raising her two children, she balanced the demands of military family life by launching a small side desktop publishing company.

Titled ***A Different Type***, the venture was anchored by her forward-thinking methodology: "A *different type of marketing for any type of business*" while working for a local newspaper in the darkroom handling the halftones, typesetting and layout. Her creative work led her to the Universal City, Texas mayor's office where she was hired to create a logo and promotional pieces for a local first annual festival.



Members of the Universal City Festival Committee, Mary Gineski, right, and Chairman Tom Keegan were accompanied by Mayor Carmeline Squires to preview the poster design for the city's initial "Star Spangled Festival." The posters are the handwork of artist Michelle Bryant, of the *Herald LIFE* staff. Photo by Wayne Bryant.

Following a military transition to Anchorage, Alaska, she expanded her scope into large-scale project operations and media management for seven years where she served as an administrative assistant and project coordinator for diverse organizations, non-profits, and amusements. On a whim Michelle entered three photographs into the competitive *Alaska State Fair Amateur Photography Contest*, capturing both an honorable mention and a coveted first-place blue ribbon, beginning a fresh love affair with a new medium.

Moving southward to Kingsland, Georgia, following her husband's retirement from a 20+ year Air Force career, she pursued formal *Photography Certification* courses. This quickly anchored her raw talent with professional credentials and led to a key role with a national portrait company as a *certified studio manager and photographer*. Following a personal transition and divorce in 2009, she transferred her photography skills to Panama City, Florida, in 2010.

When the portrait company folded shortly after her transfer, Michelle swiftly redirected her skills toward a more stable, skill-oriented trade, healthcare and public service. Independently mastering the nursing curriculum through intensive self-study, utilizing video resources, personal tutors, and flashcards, she successfully challenged the state requirements and passed all 21 clinical components to earn her formal *Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)* license for the state of Florida, proudly serving memory-care and brain-injured clients for nearly two years.

In 2013, her journey entered a wonderful new chapter when she relocated to the historic coastal city of Charleston, South Carolina, joining her fiancé and his son to establish their new household together. Upon moving, she faced unexpected hurdles transferring her nursing license due to her non-traditional self-study path.



Refusing to let the bureaucratic roadblock halt her momentum, Michelle, with her fiancé's encouragement, executed a victorious pivot; to anchor a brand-new business trajectory. She pursued and earned her *Small Business Management* certification and backed by these credentials made a triumphant return to her award-winning roots in visual media launching her next venture, ***Focus on Fabulous Creative Photography***.

On a side note, seamlessly blending their family, she and her partner were married the following year in 2014.

Working closely behind the lens in her photography company for nearly two years, she connected deeply with a vast network of women. Inspired by their raw transparency, testimonies, and strengths, she realized these voices needed a global stage, directly catalyzing the launch of her media publishing empire, **Focus on Fabulous Magazine**.

For nearly a decade this magazine celebrated everyday women, their strengths, stories, successes and struggles. Readers experienced page after page of stunning photography, encouraging, educational, and empowering content in both digital and print across the globe. It is currently available digitally only at fofmagazine.com.

Other Ventures & Focus on Bringing the Fabulous

During the global pandemic, Michelle witnessed first-hand how her own brand and online presence had unintentionally and slowly deteriorated in her busy-ness amid the rapid shifts of a changing digital world. Turning this obstacle into a new pathway for others, she created **Fabulous Business Solutions**. Through this specialized consulting arm, she reveals to dreamers, doers, and entrepreneurs what may have been there all along but perhaps has been overlooked in their own business identities and guides them with her signature philosophy: *"By focusing on what's missing and bringing ideas to life, we build brands that shine—one transformation at a time. Because I know, the transformation begins, once you see clearly."* Today **Focus on Fabulous, LLC**, is a creative company comprised of a quarterly digital publication, creative photography company, and small business solutions team, all of which do just that... focus on what's fabulous.



They solve problems, celebrate the extraordinary & reveal the best in you and your business, serving clients from all over the country. They help dreamers, doers, and entrepreneurs get from where they are to where they want to be by presenting their best selves, allowing them to shine their light and make their impact on the world by bringing overlooked opportunities into focus, and ideas to life one transformation at a time.

Artistry



An award-winning artist, her fine art pieces have successfully sold to private collectors across the country. Her creative foundations are heavily noted by her background at the *Ringling School of Art and Design*, alongside an impressive photography portfolio featuring images published in multiple physical magazines and numerous online awards and contests.

Her visual eye truly found its professional momentum in Anchorage, Alaska, when she entered the three photographs into the competitive Alaska State Fair Amateur Photography Contest. capturing the honorable mention and a coveted first-place blue ribbon. It was an early triumph that solidified her path as an award-winning visual artist.

In Georgia, she built on this, earning corporate photographic merit selections for images utilized in worldwide advertising campaigns.

Over the years, her photography has been featured on calendars, book covers, album covers, and inside print magazines. Notably, one of her original photographs was selected and published in *Photography Forum Magazine's* prestigious “*Best of the Year 2015*” hardback, collector’s coffee table book.



Armed with her newly acquired business management training, she launched **Focus on Fabulous Creative Photography**, specializing dynamically in boudoir and corporate business headshots.

Fabulous Business Solutions, has a small team of highly talented and skilled creatives that partners with entrepreneurs, authors, professionals, and organizations to create customized solutions through branding, websites, marketing, publishing, photography, and business strategies to create out of the box, one of a kind, award winning designs. As they say. “*Because at the end of the day, we’re not just building brands. build businesses they’re proud of. Because if you’re going to rise, you might as well shine.*”

Personal Life

Michelle shares her life with her husband Benny near Charleston, South Carolina where she works, plays and enjoys beach life. Her early life, transient childhood across 27 schools, military life, and personal faith journey remain foundational pillars of her artistic voice, continuously influencing the warmth, depth, flexibility, and empathy she brings to her artwork and her clients.

Advocacy & Community Involvement

Michelle has always had a heart to serve others. Throughout her career as a military wife she was found aiding other wives, volunteering and stepping in whenever needed in the community, schools or church.

Among other things, in Georgia, she guided families through housing documentation and interviews for the *Habitat for Humanity Family Selection Committee* and served as an on-call special education substitute teacher across three counties and nine elementary schools.

In Colorado Springs she spoke to several dozen youth ages 8-18 at a local mental Health Facility as well as engaged in a creative hand-on craft project, each child could keep.

In Alaska she single-handedly coordinated a Christmas carol tour to gather at several senior living facilities and arranged a Christmas carol group to sing a favorite song to each child on the children’s ward at the local hospital on Christmas Eve where she presented a bag of donated toys for each child to choose.

Grounded in her community today, she leverages her operational agility to assist and support local small businesses and proudly shares her time working the polls about six times a year during election cycles. She volunteers her time at local grade school and shares her children's book with the students and has offered a message of "celebrating your authentic, unique self" to the local foster home for teen girls.

Board Appointments & Advisory Leadership

- ECPI University: Business Administration Advisory Board Member.
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA): State Competition Judge.
- ACHI: Community Communications Manager.
- American Businesswomen's Association (Jessamine Chapter): Professional Development Chair.
- Sweet J's Clubhouse: Creative Director and Strategic Advisor.
- County Board of Elections: Dedicated Poll Worker (serving approximately 6 times annually).

Awards and Honors

- Who's Who Among American High School Students (1978–1979 & 1979–1980).
- Alaska State Fair Contest: First Place Blue Ribbon and Honorable Mention (Amateur Photography).
- Corporate Merit Selection: Multiple photographic merit awards for worldwide promotional advertising campaigns.
- 2015: Premier global issue of Focus on Fabulous Magazine launched (September 9th).
- 2015: Profiled Photographer Selection in Photography Forum Magazine's "Best of the Year 2015" Collector's Book.
- 2017: Focus on Fabulous Day (September 9th) officially established via an executive State Proclamation by the Mayor of Charleston, SC.
- 2018: Awarded Protégé Award Winner by the American Businesswomen's Association (ABWA).
- 2019: Awarded Columnist of the Year by ACHI Magazine.
- 2020: Awarded Woman of the Year by the American Businesswomen's Association (ABWA).
- 2022: Awarded Positive Social Influence of the Year by ACHI Magazine.
- 2024: Named Small Business Person of the Year (Goose Creek) by Alignable.
- 2024 & 2025: Recognized as Google's Best Photographer or BBB Best of Business Rated Photographer.
- 2025: Voted Nextdoor's Neighborhood Fave Small Business.
- 2026: Nationally profiled by MSN in the feature leadership article, "*5 Leaders Who Made Expertise Impossible to Ignore.*"

Published Works (11 Independent Titles)

- God, Are You Listening? Hearing His Voice Through Forgiveness & Faith (published in 2005)
- Dear Dreamer... Heartfelt letters written to reignite your spark, strengthen entrepreneurs, and encourage visionaries.
- Rambling Roads – A beautiful collection of poetry and prayers.
- In An Instant – A gripping, character-driven fiction novel.
- Walking in my Mind – A deeply evocative poetry journey mapping the landscape of thought and emotion.

- Rise Up, Aim High, Stand Tall – An empowering, practical guide toward personal and professional growth.
- Live Life Wild, Free & Horsing Around – A, quirky photo book celebrating free spirits and untamed energy.
- Raised by Gypsies, Surrounded by Dreamers, Rooted a Rebel – A narrative memoir capturing a unique, resilient upbringing and creative spirit.
- The Beautiful Blah Butterfly – An illustrated children's story guiding readers toward self-love and inner light.
- Girl, It's Time to Focus on the Sparkle – A structured roadmap for continuous personal development.
- Girl, It's Time! – A targeted, catalytic work focused on personal empowerment.
- Companion Project: The Blessing Book & Gratitude Journals – 27 cover designs to choose

Chronological Milestones

- **1978–1980:** Inducted into *Who's Who Among American High School Students* (Two consecutive years).
- **1987–2007:** Military spouse: (San Antonio, TX, Biloxi, MS, Anchorage, AK)
- **1991–2000:** Lead graphic Designer & Layout Specialist for Penny Pincher Want Ads in Gulfport, MS.
- **2001–2007:** Awarded Blue Ribbon & Honorable Mention at the Alaska State Fair.
- **2005:** Self-published and released debut devotional book, *God, Are You Listening?*
- **2007–2009:** Relocated to Kingsland, GA; completed photography certification and served on the Habitat for Humanity Selection Committee.
- **2010–2012:** Panama City, FL; Challenged state boards earning Florida Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) License
- **2013:** Relocated to Charleston, SC; pivoted to earn specialized Small Business Management credentials.
- **2014:** Married husband Benny Griffin and blended their unified family structure.
- **2015:** Launched *Focus on Fabulous Creative Photography* and officially published the premier global issue of *Focus on Fabulous Magazine* on September 9th.
- **2017:** *Focus on Fabulous Day* officially established via State Proclamation by the Mayor of Charleston, SC.
- **2018:** Awarded Protégé Award Winner by the American Businesswomen's Association (ABWA).
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Official Business Hub:

- Focus on Fabulous (<http://www.fofmagazine.com>)
- Official Connect Dashboard: Linktree: @amongthefabulous (<https://linktr.ee/amongthefabulous>)
- Official Author Profile: Amazon Author Central: C. Michelle Bryant Griffin (<https://www.amazon.com/stores/author/BookQ2OSM8>)