

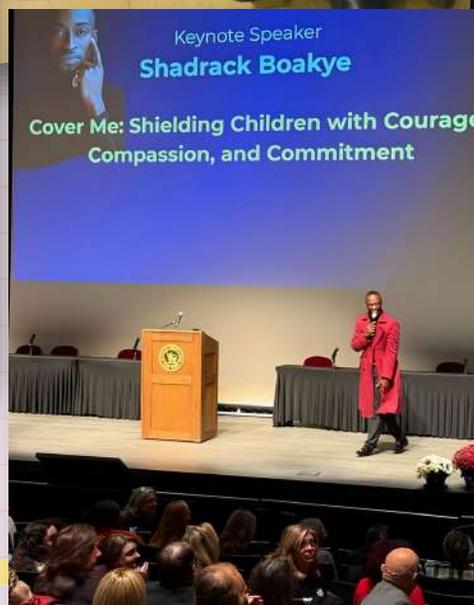


# COVER ME

**Shadrack Boakye**  
Speaker. Director. Actor.

# “Covered” by COURAGE & COMPASSION:

Shadrack shares the harrowing experience of being physically shielded by his mother during a violent civil war in Liberia. This act of protection is a powerful metaphor for covering and supporting each other in times of need.



# From War to WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT:

After immigrating to the U.S. and facing overwhelming challenges, Shadrack was “covered” once again in a classroom—this time by the words of his 8th-grade teacher, whose belief in him transformed his life. Her encouragement led to Shadrack winning a national contest and receiving a pair of sign boxing gloves including a letter from Muhammad Ali, symbolizing the life-changing impact of educators.



## Emmy Winner: Catching Up With Shadrack Boakye



Caitlin Henault

June 20, 2018 · 5 Min Read





## Breaking Through: Building Capacity for Youth in Extraordinary Circumstances

Sponsored by the Office of the Suffolk County Executive Edward P. Romaine in conjunction with the Suffolk County Advisory Board on Child Protection and the Department of Social Services



Hon. Ed Romaine



Dr. Sylvia Diaz

## THE 2ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE On Child Protection

Suffolk Community College, Brentwood Campus  
Van Nostrand Theater  
Friday, October 24, 2025  
8:00 am - 4:00 pm



Keynote Speaker: Shadrack Bookye



Dr. John E. Imhof

Cover Me: Shielding Children with Courage, Compassion, and Commitment

Informative Panels with Child Welfare Experts, Networking, Audience Participation and Discussion with County Leaders

Free Conference - Lunch Sponsored by Suffolk AME



Understanding Intersectional Risk

Serving Youth on the Autism Spectrum

Protecting Youth in Extraordinary Circumstances

[www.suffolkconference2025.com](http://www.suffolkconference2025.com)



Earn Continuing Education Credits  
We have partnered with the SC Bar Assoc. and the SUNY School of Social Welfare.

Stony Brook School of Social Welfare

# The Power of “COVERING” IN EDUCATION:

Shadrack's message underscores the role teachers and mentors play in “covering” students with guidance, belief, and support, which can have a transformative effect on their futures. He challenges students and educators alike to reflect on how they can “cover” each other during life's difficulties.



## Shadrack Boakye Inspires Samoset Students

Samoset Middle School invited award-winning director and actor Shadrack Boakye to speak with eighth graders as part of the building's Black History Month celebrations. Boakye is a survivor of the Liberian civil war. He shared his story of coming to the United States and how he faced adversity throughout his journey. Notably, Boakye told students about the profound impact one of his teachers had on his life and his success.



The presentation encouraged students to “cover” each other, or to take care of those around them. Boakye shared the several instances when someone covered him, which ultimately helped lead him to where he is today. Eighth graders were called to the front of the auditorium to share stories of how their friends have covered them and to thank the teachers who have had a positive impact on their lives. Students walked away with feelings of gratitude and pride for one another.



# *Paying it* FORWARD:

For over 15 years, Shadrack has "covered" thousands of students and educators by sharing his story of resilience, perseverance, and the transformative power of support. His presentation, *Cover Me*, inspires audiences to recognize their ability to protect, uplift, and change lives.



# An Invitation TO REFLECT:

Through his journey, Shadrack invites students and educators to think deeply about who they are covering and how they can extend empathy and support to those around them. His personal story is a powerful reminder that even small acts of kindness and belief in others can create lasting impacts.





# Book Shadrack Today! Virtual or In person.

For over fifteen years, Shadrack has captivated audiences nationwide with his compelling story.

Invite him to your school or event **today!**

[www.shadrackboakye.com](http://www.shadrackboakye.com)