

# DENNIS F. BONILLA

Leadership Speaker | Author | Veteran | Workforce Transformation Executive | Cultural Preservation Advocate

## ONE-PAGE MEDIA KIT BIOGRAPHY

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Dennis F. Bonilla has spent a lifetime proving that adversity is not the end of a story—it is often the beginning of a greater one.

A U.S. Navy submarine veteran and former nuclear reactor operator, Dennis built a distinguished career leading workforce development, talent transformation, and learning innovation initiatives across multiple industries. For more than four decades he has helped organizations prepare people for change while helping individuals discover purpose in the face of uncertainty.

His professional journey has included leadership positions in higher education, technology, workforce development, and corporate learning, where he became known for combining strategic vision with a deep commitment to human potential.

Dennis is the author of *Bent, Twisted, But Never Broken!*, a memoir that chronicles a remarkable life journey marked by abandonment, family secrets, personal tragedy, career reinvention, military service, fatherhood, and resilience. Through candid storytelling, he shares lessons on leadership, perseverance, forgiveness, and finding strength amid life's most difficult moments.

He is also a contributing author to *Wings of Purpose*, where he explores how purpose emerges from adversity and how personal wreckage can become a force for meaningful impact.

Today, Dennis serves as Chairman and Co-Founder of the Guardians of Culture & Arts Foundation, an organization dedicated to preserving and revitalizing cultural heritage through music, art, education, and storytelling. Through GOCA's signature initiative, The Lost Music of Peru, he is helping safeguard cultural treasures for future generations.

### SIGNATURE SPEAKING TOPICS

- Leadership from the Wreckage
- Turning Adversity into Impact
- Purpose After Loss
- Reinvention at Any Age
- The Future of Work and Human Potential
- Veteran Leadership Lessons
- Cultural Identity, Legacy, and Belonging
- Building Resilient Organizations

### KEY MESSAGE

***“The events that bend and twist us are often the very experiences that prepare us to make our greatest impact.”***