

Anthony Berryhill Wins 'Disruptor of the Year' at Influencer Magazine Awards 2026

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, July 1, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Anthony Berryhill](#), founder of [Elite College Hacker](#) and creator of the ACCESS Code Method of college admissions coaching, has been awarded the 'Disruptor of the Year' Award at the Influencer Magazine Awards E2 ([IMA](#)), recognizing his transformative work in democratizing access to elite educational opportunities across the globe.

With over 25 years of experience, Berryhill has fundamentally challenged the traditional college admissions consulting industry, which has long restricted access through pricing structures reaching \$15,000–\$20,000+ per student. His pioneering advanced debate skills integrated methodology has achieved a remarkable 95% client success rate, measured by acceptance to at least one of a student's top ten university priorities. The ACCESS Code Method has delivered consistent results across six countries, serving students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds—from low-income first-generation scholars to high-net-worth families in China, Hong Kong, the UK, and the Gulf States. Crucially, the rigor of his system remains unchanged regardless of a family's ability to pay, reinforcing his unwavering commitment to educational equity.

Anthony's work has also spilled over into his training of national championship level high school debaters. In 2026, Anthony coached 4 national championship qualifiers, including a student in their freshman year. Among these students, one of them placed in the top 43 of all United States debaters in 2 events—Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Extemporaneous Debate during the National Speech and Debate Association's National Championship in Richmond, Virginia. This recent achievement supplements Anthony's past experience in coaching 3 national debate champions



along with 21 state champions across his coaching career.

"Disruption, when done right, is not about chaos—it is about opening doors that were never meant to be closed," said Berryhill. "I have spent my career proving that great leaders are trained, not born, and that access to elite education can be systematized and made equitable for anyone willing to do the work. To have that mission recognized on a global stage is profoundly humbling."

At the core of Berryhill's work lies the ACCESS Code Method, a debate-integrated strategic framework that decodes the "hidden curriculum" of elite institutions. By transforming competitive communication into a tool for social mobility, he equips students with the intellectual assets needed to navigate high-stakes academic environments. Beyond individual student outcomes, his impact extends into global education systems and corporate environments. Over 25 years, his methodology has reached over 7,000 students and professionals, redesigning onboarding and training systems for Gen Z and Gen Alpha at major organizations such as PIMCO and GLG, where his pedagogical approach became the global benchmark across APAC and MENA regions. Through national training initiatives with the National Speech & Debate Association and features with the National Federation of State High School Associations, Berryhill has shaped how institutions approach admissions strategy and student development at scale.

A respected thought leader, Berryhill has delivered keynote addresses at international forums, including the upcoming 18th World Leaders Summit at Oxford in September, where he was confirmed as one of seven awardees selected from 240 winners. His advocacy extends to organizations such as the Yale Association of Asian American Alumni, and he has dedicated a decade to designing a proprietary strategy helping hundreds of students from the Asian diaspora overcome structural barriers and intense competition. Successful students from the past two years alone have won admission to Harvard Law, UChicago STEM PhD with full scholarship, Northwestern Early Decision (twice), Chicago Booth MBA (twice), Harvard undergraduate, and all eight University of California schools, including Berkeley and UCLA.

"This recognition reinforces my commitment to rewriting the rules of access for generations to come," Berryhill added. "To me, disruption is about responsibility—the responsibility to replace exclusivity with transparency, to turn scarcity into opportunity, and to ensure that success is never determined by who you know or how much you can pay."

Berryhill's groundbreaking contributions have earned him additional prestigious recognition, including two Silver Stevie Awards at the 2026 American Business Awards for Thought Leader of the Year and Communications Professional of the Year, a Bronze for Start-up of the Year, three Hermes Creative Awards including a Platinum Award for his pro bono webinar with the National Speech & Debate Association, the 2026 CEO Clubs' Burj Global Power 100 Award, and the Green Organisation's International CSR Excellence Award, with the latter's ceremony held at St. Paul's Cathedral, London. He also holds fellowships with the Royal Society of Arts, the Royal

Geographical Society, and the Royal Asiatic Society, and was included on the Forttuna Global 100 Game Changers List, accompanied by a New York Times Square Billboard feature.

What has truly defined Berryhill's disruption is not just his habit of innovation, but the consistency with which he acts as an "ethical hacker." By proving that access to elite education can be systematized, scaled, and made equitable for all who are willing to do the work, he is reshaping the future of academic opportunity. His win at IMA 2026 honors not only his achievements, but his ongoing mission to rewrite the rules of access, opportunity, and success for generations to come.

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