

DR. IRIS DAVIS **PENDLETON** CLASS OF 2005

Dr. Iris Davis Pendleton is an educator, author, advocate, researcher, and community leader with more than 21 years of experience in Early Childhood Education. A proud graduate of Tallahassee State College, she earned her Associate of Arts degree in 2005 and then continued at Florida State University, where she earned bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees focused on family and child sciences, reading and language arts, communication science and disorders, early childhood education, and autism.

Dr. Pendleton is an Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education at Tallahassee State College, preparing future early childhood professionals to support young children and families. She is also the Founder and Program Director of Camp Summer Garden, a nonprofit that provides specialized programming for children with autism and other developmental differences. As the author of *Now I Can Wear Pink* and the founder of the survivor-centered movement by the same name, she advocates for healing, empowerment, and domestic-violence awareness. In 2025, she was named one of the Tallahassee Democrat's "25 Women You Need to Know" and received a National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Award for Teaching Excellence, reflecting her community impact and commitment to higher education.