





Keynote Speaker

<p>Jim Key</p> <p>Keynote address</p> <p>Hitting the Mark: The Quest for Excellence</p> <p>Refer to the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio</p>	<p>Would you like to know how to be more successful in your personal pursuit of excellence? Having high and focused expectations, along with goal-oriented “stick-tuitiveness” are part of the answer. For more, join Jim Key, the 2003 World Champion of Public Speaking, as he shares the rewarding lessons about excellence he learned on his journey to the championship.</p>	
<p>Keynote Speaker Bio</p> <p>Jim Key comes from a background in computer technology, sports, music, leadership, and public speaking. After entering the world of Information Technologies in 1987, Jim developed an IT consulting practice, working with leaders and managers from national non-profit organizations, manufacturing companies, and service companies across the United States. Additionally, he has volunteered for many years in his community and church, working with children and teenagers in various capacities for 20+ years.</p> <p>Jim’s volunteerism and information technologies background converged in 1996, as he brought much needed automation to a national youth development program. His efforts led to an invited position of serving 6 years on the national steering committee for this youth program, and to a cutting edge computerized solution that is still in use today. Additionally, participation in the program more than quadrupled during those 6 years of Jim’s influence and involvement.</p> <p>Simply put, Jim is a difference maker. He believes in pursuing excellence unapologetically, and without reservation. This passion for excellence enabled and drove him to become an award-winning speaker. Reaching the finals of the World Championships of Public Speaking an unprecedented three consecutive times, Jim set an unparalleled mark for continued presentation excellence on his way to becoming the 2003 World Champion of Public Speaking. He currently serves as an adjunct professor of communications at West Coast Bible College and Seminary.</p> <p>Though Jim speaks to a variety of audiences, he always speaks from his heart directly to the hearts of the audience members. His presentations include examples to which everyone can relate, as he blends everyday humor with messages of gravitas to produce programs that yield results. You can expect his uplifting message to inspire your people to higher levels of achievement in your organization.</p> <p>On a personal note, Jim is a devoted husband and father. He has three children: Jay (31), Michael (27), and Veronica (20). He has been very active in coaching soccer, baseball, and basketball with kids in the YMCA sports program.</p> <p>Refer to the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio</p>		




Conference Speakers

<p>Jim Key</p> <p>Maximum Value: Getting the Most from your Toastmasters Membership</p> <p>Refer to the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio</p>	<p>Why do some Toastmasters clubs struggle to maintain healthy membership roles and hold meetings that are both enjoyable and productive? Join Jim Key, the 2003 World Champion of Public Speaking, as he shares methods and materials which will help your club maintain health and vitality.</p>	
<p>Dr. Gerard T. van Belle</p> <p>C+L Award</p> <p>The Art of Science Communication in Astronomy</p> <p>Refer to the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio</p>	<p>Dr. Gerard T. van Belle is foremost a teacher and an educator. He is also an astronomer and the new Director of the Navy Precision Optical Interferometer (NPOI) Telescope Array at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, where he has been since 2011.</p>	
<p>Nancy Starr-Cassidy</p> <p>The Pathways Learning Experience</p> <p>Refer to the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio</p>	<p>Join us as District 3 Pathways Chief Ambassador, Nancy Starr-Cassidy, presents details on the December 7th transition to the Pathways Learning Experience</p>	



Leadership Breakfast Speaker

<p>Sharon Tewksbury-Bloom</p> <p>Falling Forward: The courage to Keep Showing Up</p> <p>See the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio.</p>	<p>Sharon's success in becoming a professional speaker, trainer, and podcaster came after a number of costly mistakes. In this humorous and engaging keynote, she will remind you of the importance of failure to your ultimate success. Her speech will inspire you to fail forward and keep showing up.</p>	
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Education Session Speakers

<p>Mike Cox</p> <p>Stories for Speakers & Leaders</p> <p>See the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio.</p>	<p>Attendees will gain a working knowledge on crafting stories that entertain, educate, and inspire. Great speakers and great leaders have one thing in common: the ability to craft stories that educate, entertain, or inspire others. Objectives include: Identifying the elements of a story; finding story ideas from one's life that can entertain, educate, and inspire; & learning to use conflict as a tool that creates interest in a story.</p>	
<p>Barb Hildenbrand</p> <p>Everyone Communicates, Few Connect</p> <p>See the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio.</p>	<p>Can you hear me now? Have you wondered if you are actually getting through to others with whom you communicate? Do people look at you like a deer in headlights? Well, let me tell you, there is more to communication than just speaking. We must CONNECT with others. This session will help you discover the Connecting Principles! You will learn how connecting increases your influence. You will learn that connecting is more skill than natural talent. We will touch upon Everyone Communicates, Few Connect, by John Maxwell.</p>	
<p>Travis Hardin</p> <p>Leadership; The Influential Side of Your Purpose</p> <p>See the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio.</p>	<p>Have you ever asked, "Am I leading to the best of my ability?" Together, we will look into the need for structure, while not allowing structure to get in the way of personal growth. We'll unfold leadership as a process that depends on influence rather than rank or title. Objectives: Exhibiting the ability to work in harmony w/ those different from themselves; understanding group dynamics and effective teamwork; growing skills to lead through change while motivating others.</p>	

Education Session Speakers

<p>Luanne Kent</p> <p>Let Your Body Speak</p> <p>See the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio.</p>	<p>Body language is one of the most important tools we possess in our quest to be effective speakers, but unfortunately, it's often like an unknown foreign language. In this session, you'll learn the types of body language, why each is important, and how to execute them. And as a bonus, you'll gain ideas to incorporate into your evaluations, especially when evaluating those "pesky" advanced speakers.</p>	
<p>Julie Lancaster</p> <p>The Role of Risk-taking in Leadership</p> <p>See the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio.</p>	<p>Have you ever been scared but took the plunge anyway? Join us for this interactive session where we examine our connection between our fears and our actions, grow our courage, and champion in our own lives. Walk about with four fail-proof strategies to be more effective, risk-taking leaders. Set "bravery goals" and impact your team. Understand the importance of innovation and challenge your status quo. Come to this session if you are eager to lead and innovate bravely, believe in enhancing your leadership toolbox, & want to create a culture of risk-takers.</p>	
<p>Kegn Moorcroft</p> <p>Social 101/102</p> <p>See the District Conference Webpage for a full session description and bio.</p>	<p>This session will introduce many social media platforms and describe their functions, how to post engaging content, and how social media can assist individual Toastmasters. The session will also demonstrate how to attract and retain club members through the use of social media. Session objectives include: 1) creating engaging, unique content; 2) achieving a basic understanding of many social media platforms; and 3) being comfortable w/ building an audience while keeping them informed & engaged.</p>	