

# a new direction

## DISTRICT 28 - CONFERENCE 2019

### Conference Highlights

The 2019 Toastmaster International District 28 conference is packed full of exciting, energetic, and educational programming. Below are highlights, details and bios of many of those who will be leading us through our weekend. Although the conference staff has done its best to confirm speakers and programming details, please be aware that last minute changes can occur due to emergencies or additions. We can't wait to see each of you at our conference as together we build our skills in speaking mastery, presentation dynamics, leadership, and self-confidence and set a new course in A New Direction!



**Johnny Campbell, DTM, AS**  
**Keynote Speaker**

At some point in everyone's life, you've heard a speaker or performer who captured our attention from the moment they take the stage. In this instructive and revealing session you will learn how the masters of the platform & big screen "Win-the-Crowd" and how you can use those same strategies, techniques and tactics to connect and captivate your audiences. Learn the "how-to's" for communicating with difficult people or hostile groups, identify bad communication habits and rid yourself of these communication "do-nots" for good.

Johnny Campbell is a Distinguished Toastmaster and author who helps organizations Embrace Change, See the Possibilities and Win. He is the Past-President of the National Speaker Association for State of Illinois and is an *Accredited Speaker*, a designation presented by Toastmaster International and held by only (81) professional speakers in the world for excellence in public speaking. Johnny is also a TEDx speaker his talk is called "*How An Enemy Can Improve Your Life*". Visit his website [www.riseupandwin.com](http://www.riseupandwin.com) for more details and videos of Johnny's presentations.



**Carol Prahinski, DTM, International Director Region 6**  
**Featured Luncheon Speaker**

We are so thrilled to be joined by our Regional Director for this year's conference. Carol resides in East Lansing, Michigan and is in her 11th year as an assistant professor at Michigan State University. Carol holds a Ph.D. in operations management from Ohio State University. She also earned her Master of Business Administration from Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Her non-profit work includes a role with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. She says, "With initially below-average student evaluations of my teaching, I needed help. Toastmasters transformed my presentations, evaluations, leadership and relationships. Today, my students' evaluations of my performance have soared."



**Ivory Williams, DTM**  
**Workshop: What is Your Story?**

Bring your funny bone and your thinking cap to this highly interactive, entertaining and educational presentation which demonstrates that Storytelling, the oldest tool of influence, is the most powerful. This session will illustrate how a story can be used to persuade, motivate and inspire in ways that cold facts, bullet points and directives can't, show you where to stories and help you uncover the "X" factor in your Club (all Clubs have them).

Ivory is a master keynote & workshop presenter and is the past President of the Detroit Association of Black Storytellers. After a highly successful career as a sales manager with AT&T, he resigned to accept the position of president of Efficacy Detroit, an organization dedicated to the intellectual development of children. You can find out more out his "story" at <http://ivorytells.homestead.com/index.html>.



**Cliff Suttle, DTM**  
**Workshop: So, You Think You're Not Funny**

Discover the tricks the pros use to make their audiences roll on the floor laughing. This type of speaking is know as infotainment. Research shows that this is the best way to pass on information and have it stick in the minds of the audience. You too can be the "funny" speaker that everyone is dying to hear. Learn how you don't have to be born funny to sound like you were.

Cliff Suttle is a professional speaker and popular author who has spoken and trained at many Fortune 500 companies and major events throughout the northern hemisphere. He has created audio and video training programs on speaking and leadership and has been a subject expert in print, radio and television. Cliff has competed in the district finals of the Humorist Speaking competition 9 times, placed 7 times and won it twice. For more info on Cliff check out <http://www.exciteyouraudience.com/programmasterspeaker.htm>.



**Debby Peters, ATM-G**  
**Workshop: If You Don't Ask, They Won't Come**

Do you want to add more pizzazz to your club meeting? It is easy to do that if you have visitors attending on a regular basis. They bring new energy, new information and new thoughts that will allow both the members and the club to head in a new direction. This session will address how to invite, who to invite and then how to be welcoming so that those energetic visitors want to become members. If you wanted to invite someone in the past, but have been stopped for any reason, this session will open your eyes and ears to future possibilities.

Over the last 25 years, Debby Peters has provided sales training for her clients, and since 2010 has offered **Connex Nation®** to *the world!* This training helps people network less but gain more! She has helped over to 800 people learn these strategies to help with the networking and the relationship building process. [Find out more about Connex Nation here.](#)



**John Klenk, Robin Mahle Piccione & Ashley Pryor, Ph.D.**  
**Workshop: Building a Bridge to Your Audience**

Take your listening, speaking, and leadership skills in a new direction utilizing Improv techniques. As an Improv “troupe,” you are constantly listening to each other, reacting, and building on what people are offering

you through their words, gestures, expressions, and pauses. In this interactive workshop you will learn how to treat your audience as your “troupe” and how to generate a sense of buy-in from yielding a stronger connection and a louder applause.

John Klenk has been connected with improvisational comedy for three years and has a background in film and theater.

Robin Mahle-Piccione is a nationally reputable video producer with over 14 years of experience in broadcast television production and professional media training.

Dr. Pryor is the Associate Dean and Chair of Faculty of the Jesup Scott Honors College at the University of Toledo. Her current research focuses on ways to integrate theater games from improvisational comedy into Humanities education to improve students’ written and oral communication skills. [For more information go to https://glasscityimprov.com](https://glasscityimprov.com).



**Carol and Rik Durling, DTM**  
**Panel Discussion: Pathways, What's In It For You!**

Pathways - What's In It For Me? How it is different than the legacy program? Why now? If you have asked yourself any of these questions, join this workshop and get the answers from a panel of fellow Toastmasters who have completed Levels 1 - 5. Through their stories, you will hear what they have taken away from their Pathways projects. They will describe what they have learned,

electives that have completed and share their overall experience. We will end with opening up the panel for questions. Get clarity on what, how and why Pathways is for you!

Carol Durling has enjoyed being a Toastmaster for eight years and has grown in speaking and leadership. She is an early adopter of Pathways and served as a Pathways Guide. She has been pleasantly surprised at the education offered in Pathways and the quality of tools Pathways offers.

Rik Durling joined Toastmasters to improve his speaking and leadership skills and to help fellow members develop their skills. Rik has been a member of Confident Communicators for six years. Rik is currently the VP of Education for Confident Communicators and other clubs. Rik is an early adopter and proponent of the Pathways Education program. As a Pathways Guide Rik hopes to help all members with their Pathways Journey!





**Angel Vallejo, ACB, ALB**

**Workshop: The Heart of a Leadership Champion "3 Pillars of Developing Great Leaders"**

Have you ever found yourself feeling like you have more potential than you been brought up to believe? How about having other people share with you that they see more in you than you possibly see in yourself? Maybe you feel a calling to Leadership or know deep down that you are called to make a greater impact. In this hands-on Leadership session, you will follow a proven process to generate ideas and identify clarity around the area of building great leaders.

Angel Vallejo is a Speaker, Author, & Real Estate Entrepreneur. He is the Amazon Best Selling author of "The Leadership Mindset" and recently released his 2nd book "21 Simple Ways to Generate Extra Cash". He has a passion for designing programs and developing leaders in their personal & professional calling. [Find out more at http://angelvallejo.com](http://angelvallejo.com).



**Ray Rivero, DTM**

**Workshop: Get Started with Using Pathways**

On July 1, 2020, Pathways will be the only education program available to use for all Toastmasters, worldwide. This workshop will help District 28 Toastmasters learn how to get started with Pathways including selecting a path, how to navigate through Base Camp, understand who your Base Camp Manager is, and other additional features available in the new educational system.

Ray Rivero graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Industrial Engineering in 1987, and has worked as a civilian for the U.S. Army for more than 30 years. He also has a degree in computer science from Marycrest College in Davenport, Iowa, and a masters in business administration from St. Ambrose University, also based in Davenport, Iowa.



**Unfiltered; Toledo's Premier Improv Troupe**  
**Headliner: Friday Night Live!**

You will never look at Table Topics the same! Join Unfiltered as they lead us through a session of improvisation, on the fly writing, laughs and fun! Members of Unfiltered will join us as part of our Friday Night Life festivities. You won't want to miss this guided tour to your inner comedian.



**DCTaylor (Dudley Yetter and Chris Watson)**  
**Host: Friday Night Live!**

DCTaylor is an innovative acoustic duo performing across northwest Ohio. Utilizing creative vocals DCTaylor covers fan favorites from the 50's through today's hits. Known for rich vocals and crowd interaction, DCTaylor has performed in a variety of venues, including the historic Ritz Theatre in Tiffin OH, Rhythm on the River in Grand Rapids OH, Kelly's Island, Island Fest, along with wide selection of wineries, breweries, and restaurant venues across the area. For more information

and videos check out <http://dctaylor.toledo.weebly.com>.



## **A New Direction District 28 Conference 2019 Toastmasters International March 29-30**

**[Radisson at the University of Toledo](#)**

**3100 Glendale Ave**

**Toledo, OH 43614**

**[Online Tickets \(rates may apply\)](#)**

**[Download Conference Registration PDF](#)**