

## **SAVE THE DATES**

Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI)  
June 20, 2015  
Siegle Hall - 6475 Forsyth Boulevard  
Washington University  
Saint Louis, MO 63105

District 8 Fall Conference  
November 13-14, 2015  
Double Tree Hotel  
Chesterfield, MO



*Thank you!*

# **CULTURES AROUND THE WORLD**



## **District 8 Spring Conference**

Friday, May 29 - Saturday, May 30, 2015

Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel  
900 Westport Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63146

*Division B welcomes you!*



**Sandy Kardis, DTM**

District 8 Governor

While recently in Ireland, I learned several Gaelic phrases. One of them is Céad míle Fáilte! (Chade – meal – ah – fall – chah) which translates to A Hundred Thousand Welcomes. This is my greeting to all fellow Toastmasters and guests attending the District 2015 Spring Conference!

Our Conference Chair and Committees have planned a fun, exciting, and event-filled conference centered on the theme, “Cultures around the World”. I hope you will join me in thanking the conference volunteers for their hard work. We have a variety of events including our keynote speaker Rebecca Clark, a fashion walk, educational sessions, slide show presentations for cultures around the world and the USA, Evaluation and International speech contests, and recognition of our newest DTMs.

Many Toastmasters competed in the speech contests which began at the club level. The highlight of the Toastmaster’s year is the International Speech Contest. Aren’t you curious who will represent District 8 at the 2015 Toastmasters International Convention held in Las Vegas, Nevada during August 12 – 15?

The Education Committee has planned some great educational sessions. Among them are:

- How to pick the perfect speech topic, HPL project, and make the canned TM speeches your own
- A panel discussion on three Leadership Excellence Series topics: Values in Leadership, Service and Leadership and The Visionary Leader
- Storytelling with cultural stories from around the world

Where else are you able to applaud speakers, dine and laugh with fellow Toastmasters, learn something new, make new Toastmasters acquaintances, network, observe the contestants’ delivery styles to enhance your presentations, and socialize?

Have a wonderful time at the conference!

**CREDITS**

*Thank you to all involved who helped to make a successful conference.*

**COMMITTEES**

Conference Chair:	Lisa Cooksey-Cannon
First Timers Chair:	Barbara Kryvko
Education Chair:	John Doyle
Facilities Chair:	Erin Brooks
Registration Committee:	Barbara Kryvko
Hospitality Committee:	Joe Krewson
Activities Chair:	LaVerne Gillispie
Conference Treasurer:	Wayne Allen
Bookstore:	Gail Vaucher, Kathryn Mokriakow
Publicity:	Laura Rebbe
Decoration:	LaVerne Gillispie
Audio-visual:	Frank Yates, David Kincade
Photography:	Chuck Carpenter
Contest Masters:	Carol Steinbach and Tom Gillard

**EDUCATION SESSION PRESENTERS**

Willie Blue	Vickie Calmese
Farzana Chohan	Rebecca Clark
Michael Costello	Regina Dennis
Jason Finks	Ron Gossen
Larry Kimbrow	Anthony Neal
Rebecca Now	Greg Phillips
Donna Troy	Stuart Welter
Jef Williams	

## WELCOME NEW DTMs!

### DIVISION A

Carole Breckner, DTM	May 7, 2015
Aruna Garlapaty, DTM	May 12, 2015
Elizabeth Link, DTM	May 1, 2015
Jason Obert, DTM	May 12, 2015
Carrie Radnov, DTM	November 1, 2014
Stuart Welter, DTM	May 1, 2015

### DIVISION B

Kathryn Mokriakow, DTM	February 25, 2015
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### DIVISION C

Larry Hemingway, DTM	May 13, 2015
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### Farzana Chohan, DTM

District 8 Lieutenant Governor, Education and Training

Heartiest welcome to our District 8 Spring Conference! A gathering of fun, learning, and embracing each other with open hearts and minds!

This is an occasion to be surrounded with friends and mentors and strengthen our bonds!

The theme for this conference is “Cultures around the World”, which is a way to celebrate the distinctiveness of all Toastmasters. This theme captures the powerful global presence of Toastmasters International and reflects the soul of the organization during current times in which we live. Toastmasters International has led by example in how to embrace the global differences; and make us all proud as members of one organization which exists in 126 countries and in 5 different languages. We are excited and invigorated whenever and wherever we see each other because “despite our differences, we all are the same!”

The Keynote speaker on Saturday morning, Rebecca Clark, will share with us the “power of words”. How do we use our words to make meaning and craft contexts that move us and others or even engage us to look at a night sky differently?

The educational sessions are a reflection of our conference theme. The recent world of technology is growing with the blink of an eye. If you want to learn about various medias like Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter and Blogging, how to use each, what to tweet, what makes a good blog, and about the new Toastmasters International website, then a session on Tech Talks is worth attending. If you want to learn about HEALTHLARIOUS, then attend this session, along with sessions on communication and leadership.

The International Speech contest champion for District 8 will be decided at this conference and will represent D8 at the International Convention in Las Vegas in August 2015.

The excitement of fashion walk, activities, and games, and decorations mirroring the theme will be worth remembering with your participation.

Have fun with our individual and collective uniqueness, while celebrating “Cultures around the World”!

# INTERNATIONAL SPEECH CONTEST

Saturday May 30, 2015

Contestants:

\_\_\_\_\_ Tawanna Watson

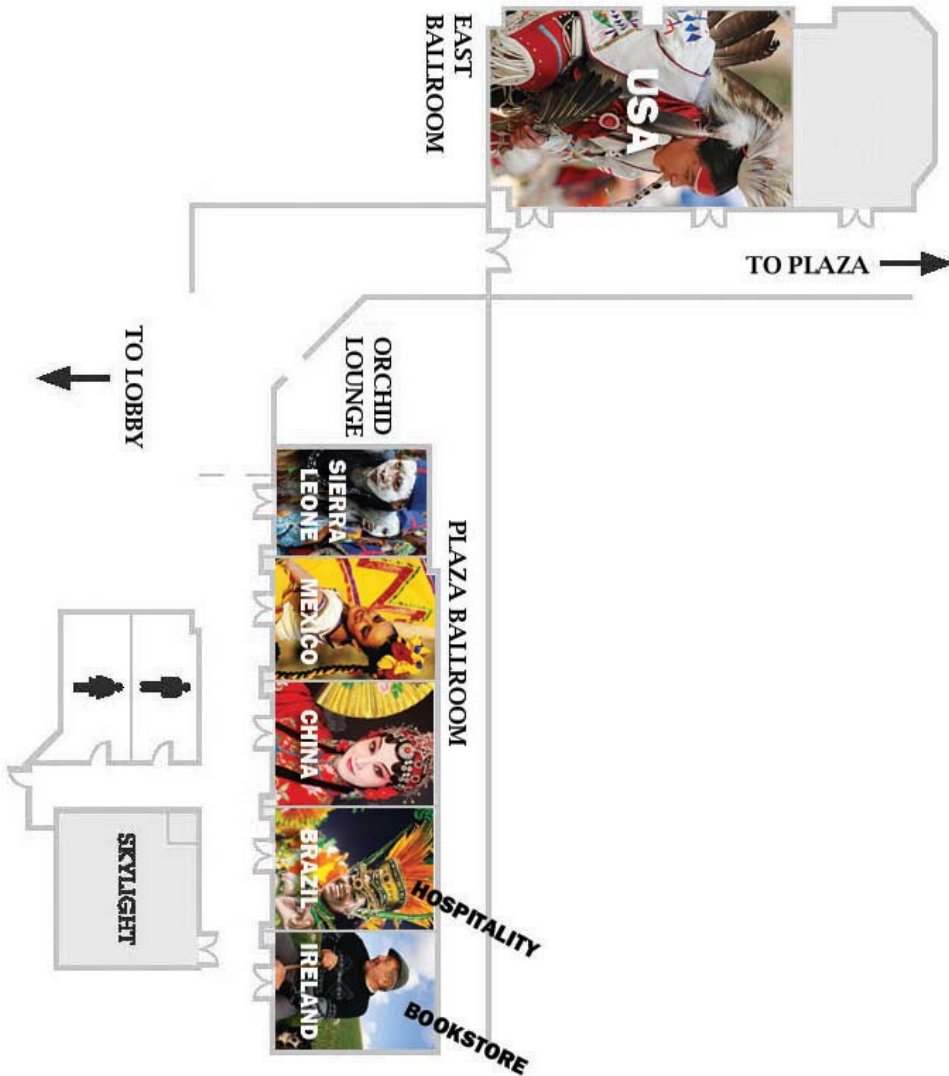
\_\_\_\_\_ Marquetta Anderson

\_\_\_\_\_ Raymundo Marcelo

\_\_\_\_\_ Julius Adewunmi

\_\_\_\_\_ Christine Mosbrucker

## CONFERENCE MAP



In keeping with the “Cultures Around the World” theme, you will find that the ballrooms have been renamed representing several unique and rich world cultures.

JUDGING ITEMS (See Over for Description)	SUGGESTED POINT VALUES																			
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10						
<b>Speech Development</b> Structure, Organization, Support Material	C O N T E N T	20	14-19	9-13	0-8															
<b>Effectiveness</b> Achievement of Purpose, Interest, Reception		15	11-14	6-10	0-5															
<b>Speech Value</b> Ideas, Logic, Original Thought		5 0	15	11-14	6-10	0-5														
<b>Physical</b> Appearance, Body Language, Speaking Area	D E L I V E R Y	10	7-9	4-6	0-3															
<b>Voice</b> Flexibility, Volume		10	7-9	4-6	0-3															
<b>Manner</b> Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm	3 0	10	7-9	4-6	0-3															
<b>Appropriateness</b> To Speech Purpose And Audience	L A N G U A G E  2 0	10	7-9	4-6	0-3															
<b>Correctness</b> Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection		10	7-9	4-6	0-3															
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b> (100 Points Possible)																				

# EVALUATION CONTEST

Friday, May 29, 2015

Contestants:

\_\_\_\_\_ Valerie Rasche      \_\_\_\_\_ Claire Anderson

\_\_\_\_\_ John Barry      \_\_\_\_\_ Carol Warner

\_\_\_\_\_ Aditi Sinha



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Rebecca Clark, M.Ed., DTM**  
 “The Power of Words”

Saturday Morning

*USA Ballroom*

Leadership development speaker, trainer/facilitator, program designer, and executive coach, Rebecca Clark, DTM works with adults to increase workplace leadership skills like: leading and managing, communication, leading change, conflict management, leading with influence, emotionally intelligent leadership, project leadership, gaining productivity, customer service, and other leadership skills. Her professional passion and purpose is to contribute to developing leaders in the world.

She comes to this work from a background of over 20 years of operations and project leadership, with an educational background in English, Communications, and Masters degree in Adult and Organizational Development. Her consulting practice, Excelegy Consulting Group, is in its fourteenth year.

Rebecca was a member of the National Speakers Association from 2003 through 2008 and has been a member of Toastmasters since 2009, earning her DTM designation in 2012.

What creates power within the words we use? How do we use our words to make meaning and craft contexts that move us and others or even engage us to look at a night sky differently? As Toastmasters, and people, we can create incredible meaning in people’s lives through the focus we place on the meaning and “why?!” behind the words we use.

JUDGING ITEMS (See Over for Description)	SUGGESTED POINT VALUES														
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<b>Analytical Quality</b> Clear, Focused	40	28-39	17-27	0-16											
<b>Recommendations</b> Positive, Specific, Helpful	30	22-29	13-21	0-12											
<b>Technique</b> Sympathetic, Sensitive, Motivational	15	11-14	6-10	0-5											
<b>Summation</b> Concise, Encouraging	15	11-14	6-10	0-5											
<b>TOTAL SCORE (100 Points Possible)</b>															



## EDUCATION SESSIONS I



### *Laugh a Lot! Live Better! Healing From Within*

Vickie Calmese  
► Sierra Leone

Vickie is the founder of HEALTHLARIOUS and is widely known for energetic, inspirational, motivating, and hilarious style of speaking.

During this session you will be educated and entertained about the benefits of laughter and provided with practical applications to improve the quality of your life. Healing from within. She invites you to Laugh a lot... Live better!



### *Personal Branding: Let Your Brand Speak for You*

Jef Williams  
► Mexico

Jef Williams is a DTM and has been a Toastmaster for 10 years. He served 26 years in the United States Air Force and retired as a Chief Master Sergeant, the highest enlisted rank. He is also the founder of JCW Consultants which specializes in helping leaders develop dynamic and effective teams. Jef is currently a PhD in Organization and Management with a specialization in leadership at Capella University. He is the senior pastor of New Christian Fellowship Church in Fairview Heights, IL.

The Personal Branding Workshop is for Toastmasters and guests who want to have a positive reputation in their personal and professional lives. The 45 minute session provides an overview of branding, why you need an effective brand, and the tools needed to create your brand.



### *Deciphering Social Media*

Jason Finks  
► China

Jason Finks has been an educator of adult learners for 16 years in healthcare, career education, and the corporate world. He knows what great teaching looks like and how to coach teachers to perform at their best.

If you find Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn confusing, you are not alone. This session will cover these and other common social media websites and smart phone applications. If you are new to social media, this is the session for you.

## EDUCATION SESSIONS III

### *Storytelling Session*

Regina Dennis, Larry Kimbrow, Rebecca Now  
► China

Using humor, imagery, and in some cases spices, three talented Toastmasters will share stories from their own life experiences.

### *There is NO African Spice Crisis*

Regina Dennis

Regina R. Dennis has over 30 years of experience leading international development programs, including 20 years working directly on United States Agency for International Development-funded programs, until she retired in July 2014. Ms. Dennis holds a Master's Degree in Development Anthropology from State University of New York at Binghamton, where she also received a certificate in French/English Translation from the Comparative Language Department of the same institution.



### *Toto, I Don't Think We're In Kansas Anymore!*

Larry Kimbrow

Lieutenant Commander Larry Kimbrow, United States Navy (Retired) completed 28 years of combined enlisted and officer service in Naval Aviation. He served in both the Vietnam War and Persian Gulf War. Additionally, during his Navy career he visited over 40 countries and served extensively in Southeast Asia. He earned his Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree in Higher Education Leadership from Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and a Master of Science (MS) degree in Operations Management at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas.



### *No Small Potatoes*

Rebecca Now

Rebecca Now is the Executive Director of the Webster Groves Chamber of Commerce, and the Producer of FemFestNow events, including the Inaugural "She is SO Funny Comedy Contest" A Toastmaster for 5 years in St. Louis, she is the Area 9 Governor.



## EDUCATION SESSIONS III



### *Building an Inclusive Community*

Anthony Neal  
 ► Sierra Leone

Anthony is currently President / CEO of Educational Equity Consultants. He served as Director of Southern Illinois University East St. Louis Charter School for eleven years. He is currently regional facilitator for the St. Louis Metropolitan School Leaders Network.

This workshop will assemble a panel of experts that will discuss culture, climate, and conditions that promote academic success for students and increased work productivity in businesses and community organizations. What does it take to gain a deeper understanding of other cultures? How do you maintain an inclusive and collaborative environment not only in schools but in all sectors of society? This session will address these questions and explore ways that we can all begin to create a more just world.



### *What's Behind Door #3?*

Stuart Welter and Ron Gossen  
 ► Mexico

Stuart Welter has been a Toastmaster, and a proud member of West County #2905, for 9 years. He has served his club as President, VP of Education and Sergeant at Arms, while completing his ALS, ACS and pursuing his DTM.



Ron Gossen is the senior associate vice chancellor for marketing and communications at the University of Missouri—St. Louis. At UMSL, he leads university public relations, marketing, publications, web, social and digital media, and internal communications.

Stuart and Ron will provide useful tips for choosing a speech topic, no matter where you are on your Toastmasters journey. They will explain the Leadership track and provide an example of presenting from the Successful Communication Series.

## EDUCATION SESSIONS II

### *“Soft Skills for International Business Negotiations”*

Michael Costello  
 ► Sierra Leone



Michael Costello is an Assistant Teaching Professor at the University of Missouri St. Louis, Founding Member of Agreeco, Inc., a consulting company composed of former Agribands officers focused on assisting companies expanding abroad, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for Agribands Int'l, Inc. a Fortune 500 spin-off, NYSE listed company, manufacturing, marketing and selling Purina agri animal feed products globally.

Michael brings his years of international business experience to teach us all the soft skills, or interpersonal skills, we need to be effective business leaders here and abroad.

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### *How We Influence?*

Rebecca Clark  
 ► Mexico

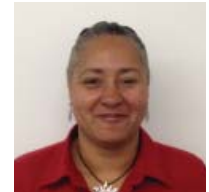


In this interactive breakout session, the participants will explore how to focus on influencing, learn tactics on how to reach four different communication styles of people, and learn what creates the ability to influence. Participants will dialogue about influence and learn a step-by-step method to relate information. The group and Rebecca will create a best practices list based on the information in the session and ideas the participants contribute.

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### *Values in Leadership, Service and Leadership and the Visionary Leader* - Willie Blue, Farzana Chohan, Greg Phillips and Donna Troy

► China



The objective of this interactive learning session is to gain knowledge about what makes a leader more credible and effective in a diverse work environment. The times have changed where professional, business, and personal worlds are intricately woven together and universally connected in real time.

# DISTRICT 8 SPRING

## Friday Night, May 29, 2015

5:00pm	Registration	
5:00 - 7:00pm	Bookstore	<i>Ireland</i>
5:00 - 6:45pm	Hospitality Room	<i>Brazil</i>
6:00pm	First Timers Event	<i>Sierra Leone</i>
7:00pm	Conference Call to Order Proclamation Presentation Invocation and Dinner "Cultures Around the World" Event	<i>USA</i>
8:00pm	Contest Briefings	<i>Sierra Leone</i>
8:30pm	Evaluation Contest	<i>USA</i>
9:30pm	Winners Announced and Contest Photos	
9:45 - 11:00pm	Bookstore	<i>Ireland</i>
9:45 - 11:30pm	Hospitality Room	<i>Brazil</i>

## Saturday Morning, May 30, 2015

7:30am - 1:00pm	Registration / Credentials / First Timers	
8:00 - 8:45am	Bookstore	<i>Ireland</i>
8:00 - 8:45am	Hospitality Room	<i>Brazil</i>
9:00 - 9:45am	Keynote Speaker Rebecca Clark, "The Power of Words"	<i>USA</i>
10:00am - 12:00pm	District Council Meeting	<i>USA</i>
12:15 - 1:15pm	Invocation and Lunch	<i>USA</i>

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## Saturday Afternoon/Evening, May 30, 2015

1:30 - 2:30pm	Education Sessions I Vickie Calmese Jef Williams Jason Finks	<i>Sierra Leone</i> <i>Mexico</i> <i>China</i>
2:30 - 3:30pm	Education Sessions II Michael Costello Rebecca Clark Panel Discussion	<i>Sierra Leone</i> <i>Mexico</i> <i>China</i>
3:30 - 4:30pm	Education Session III Anthony Neal Stuart Welter and Ron Gossen Storytelling	<i>Sierra Leone</i> <i>Mexico</i> <i>China</i>
4:30-6:00pm	Bookstore	<i>Ireland</i>
5:15pm	Contest Briefings	<i>Sierra Leone</i>
6:00pm	Dignitary Line up and Procession Invocation and Dinner	<i>USA</i>
7:15pm	International Speech Contest	<i>USA</i>
8:45pm	Distinguished Toastmasters (DTM) Line	
9:15pm	Winners Announced and Contest Photos	
9:45 - 11:00pm	Bookstore	<i>Ireland</i>
9:45 - 11:30pm	Hospitality Room	<i>Brazil</i>

## Sunday Morning, May 31, 2015

9:00am	Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters Meeting	
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