

# District 8 Toastmasters Annual Conference

April 26, 2025



**ELEVATE**  
**SPEAK LEAD SUCCEED**

Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel



# Welcome!

From Your Conference Chair

Welcome to the 2025 District 8 Conference. We're excited you're here! A lot of people have worked hard so you can have a great time while you ELEVATE. It's our goal to help you elevate your speaking, leadership, and opportunities to succeed in your personal and professional life.

We encourage you to take notes so you can remember what you've learned from the keynote speech, the educational sessions, and the speech contests.

Please also make it a priority to meet some Toastmasters you haven't met before. To help you connect and have even more fun, participate in the Conference Connection Quest (found on page 13 of your program)! Complete the quest, visit the Registration Table to show your progress, and collect a prize for playing along!

Let's make this a weekend of learning, laughter, and leadership you'll never forget.

**Brad Adams**

Annual Conference Chair



## **Keynote Speaker: Pamela Rodney**

🕒 11:15 - 12:15

Keynote Speech Title: "LIFT"

Get ready to be inspired and challenged as Pamela Rodney—District 8's celebrated 2023 World Championship of Public Speaking Finalist—takes the stage with her dynamic keynote, LIFT.

Drawing from her journey of perseverance, leadership, and personal growth, Pamela will reveal how embracing your own "LIFT" can transform the way you lead, influence, and succeed.

Expect a powerful, relatable, and motivating message that will leave you energized and ready to rise higher in every area of your life.

✨ Come discover what LIFT could mean for you.

## **Insights That Lift My Leadership**



### **SPEAK: Jennifer Krupp**

🕒 1:40 – 2:20 Salon A

Session Title: "Your Favorite Things, Your Professional Story - Telling Powerful Networking and Interview Stories" Turn your favorite experiences into compelling stories that showcase your strengths and build authentic connections.



### **LEAD: Dan Woods, DTM**

🕒 1:40 – 2:20 Salon B

Session: "Powerful Leading, By Serving?" Want to Level-Up in your career? To be a next generation leader? Are you already the boss – and find yourself overwhelmed? Learn how to lead your team so they follow – and you may even get some sleep at night!



### **SUCCEED: Jim Zboran**

🕒 1:40 – 2:20 Salon C

Session Title: Step up, Step Out, and Step Into Leadership with Toastmasters  
Align with your authentic self, overcome limiting beliefs, and unlock greater success. Discover how to elevate your growth.



## Ideas That Elevate Me

JIM ZBORAN



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jim@transformationalleadershippath.com



### **SPEAK: Dr. Shantay Wakefield**

🕒 2:30-3:15 Salon A

Session: "Dealing with Difficult People: Conflict Resolution in Volunteer Organizations" Struggling with difficult personalities in your volunteer organization? Discover practical strategies to resolve conflicts, foster teamwork, and keep your mission on track!



### **LEAD: Annetta Works Salley**

🕒 2:30-3:15 Salon B

Session: "Elevate – Leading with Impact for Change" Discover how to inspire action, lead with impact, and unlock your full potential to achieve greater outcomes. Elevate your leadership and drive meaningful change in and outside of your Toastmasters journey.



### **SUCCEED: RJ Stratton, DTM**

🕒 2:30–3:15 PM Salon C

Session: "Ain't No Club Like the One We've Got" Panel discussion with representatives from successful clubs across the district will share what's working well in their clubs—from member engagement to creative programming—and offer practical ideas to take back to your club.

## **New Heights: My Key Takeaways**

# Schedule

<b>8am - 5pm</b>	<b>Hospitality Room</b>	<b>Salon 2</b>
<b>8am-7pm</b>	<b>Registration/ Vendors</b>	<b>Ball Room East Foyer</b>
<b>8-8:45</b>	<b>Networking/ Vendors</b>	<b>Ball Room East Foyer</b>
<b>8-8:45</b>	<b>Candidates Corner</b>	<b>Salon C</b>
<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Annual Business Meeting</b>	<b>Salons III, IV, &amp; V</b>
<b>11-11:15</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>11:15 - 12:15pm</b>	<b>Welcome/Keynote</b>	<b>Salons III, IV, &amp; V</b>
<b>12:15 - 12:30</b>	<b>Travel Break</b>	
<b>12:30 - 1:30</b>	<b>Lunch w/ Roast</b>	<b>Salons III, IV, &amp; V</b>
<b>1:30 - 1:40pm</b>	<b>Move to sessions</b>	
<b>1:40-2:20pm</b>	<b>Educational/ Networking/ Vendor</b>	<b>Salons A, B, C (split) East Foyer</b>
<b>2:20-2:30</b>	<b>Break</b>	

<b>2:20-2:30</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>2:30-3:15</b>	<b>Educational Sessions/Vendor</b>	<b>Salons A, B, C (split) East Foyer</b>
<b>3:00-3:30</b>	<b>Functionary Brief</b>	<b>Lambert Room</b>
<b>3:15-3:30</b>	<b>Contestants Brief</b>	<b>Salon VI &amp; V</b>
<b>3:15-3:30</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>3:30-5:00</b>	<b>Evaluation Speech Contest</b>	<b>Salons III, VI &amp; V</b>
<b>5:00-5:30</b>	<b>Functionary Brief</b>	<b>Lambert Room</b>
<b>5:00-5:30</b>	<b>Contestants Brief</b>	<b>Salon VI &amp; V</b>
<b>5:30-6:00</b>	<b>Dinner Processional</b>	<b>Salon C</b>
<b>6:00-7:00</b>	<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Salons III, IV, &amp; V</b>
<b>7:30-9:30</b>	<b>Intl Speech Contest</b>	<b>Salons III, IV, &amp; V</b>
<b>9:30 -</b>	<b>Rising Higher: Our Closing Celebration</b>	<b>Salons III, IV, &amp; V</b>



## Evaluation Contest

### Judge's Guide and Ballot

JUDGING ITEMS	SUGGESTED POINT VALUES														
	E X C E L L E N T	V E R Y G O O D	G O O D	F A I R											
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Analytical Quality Clear, Focused	40	28-39	17-27	0-16											
Recommendations Positive, Specific, Helpful	30	22-29	13-21	0-12											
Technique Sympathetic, Sensitive, Motivational	15	11-14	6-10	0-5											
Summation Concise, Encouraging	15	11-14	6-10	0-5											
TOTAL SCORE (100 Points Possible)															

## EVALUATION SPEECH CONTESTANTS

PATRICK HUNT \_\_\_\_\_

ALEXA DICKSON \_\_\_\_\_

JAMIL MCKINNEY \_\_\_\_\_

MEG LANGLAND \_\_\_\_\_

BRYCE "ROOSTER" RAWERS \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTEST MASTER: MARQUETTA WISE, DTM**

**CHIEF JUDGE: TERRI ORBAN**



# International Speech Contest

## Judge's Guide and Ballot

JUDGING ITEMS		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR										
Speech Development Structure, Organization, Support Material	CONTENT 50	15	11-14	6-10	0-5										
Effectiveness Clear purpose, Achievement of Purpose, Relevance		10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Speech Value Ideas, Logic, Original Thought		25	17-24	9-16	0-8										
Physical Appearance, Body Language, Speaking Area	DELIVERY 30	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Voice Flexibility, Volume		10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Manner Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm		10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Appropriateness To Speech Purpose, and Audience	LANGUAGE 20	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Correctness Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection		10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
TOTAL SCORE (100 Points Possible)															

## INTERNATIONAL SPEECH CONTESTANTS

SETH MCDONALD \_\_\_\_\_

BRAD STOCKTON \_\_\_\_\_

JASON WYATT \_\_\_\_\_

SHANEICE MILLER THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

DAVID MCNEEL \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTEST MASTER: MARQUETTA WISE, DTM**

**CHIEF JUDGE: TERRI ORBAN**



## **Thank You to Our Conference Leaders!**

On behalf of District 8, I want to sincerely thank each of our Elevate 2025 Conference committee heads. Your leadership, creativity, and dedication have made this event possible.

You've helped us lift our members higher and created a truly memorable experience.

Conference Chair: Brad Adams

Conference Advisor: Tom Coscia, DTM

District Director: Charice Manor

Education Chair: Patti Howard, DTM

Facilities/Arrangements: Glory Kindou

Finance Chair: Herman Koester, DTM

Hospitality Chair: Bret Nicolas

Publicity Chair: Deborah Woods

Registration Chair: Mark Bean, DTM

Speech Contest Chair: Angie Breinin

Technology Chair: Leo Breinin

Videographer: Tony Moore

Volunteers

Thank you for helping District 8 shine!

— Patti Howard, DTM

District 8 Program Quality Director

Toastmasters International



# CONFERENCE CONNECTION QUEST

Find someone who...

...joined Toastmasters in the past 2 years	...has competed in <i>any</i> speech contest	...serves as a club officer  .....
...is attending their <i>FIRST</i> Toastmasters conference	... has completed <i>any</i> level in Pathways	...follows Toastmasters on social media
...is wearing a Toastmasters Pathways Pin	... has led a Table Topics session	... can recite the Toastmasters mission from memory (or close enough!)
...has been a Toastmaster for 10+ years	... shared a story that made you smile	... has made a new Toastmasters friend today



**Complete 8+ tasks! Show your Quest page at Registration to claim a prize and enter the prize drawing. Winners announced at the start of the Evaluation Contest (3:30 PM)!**

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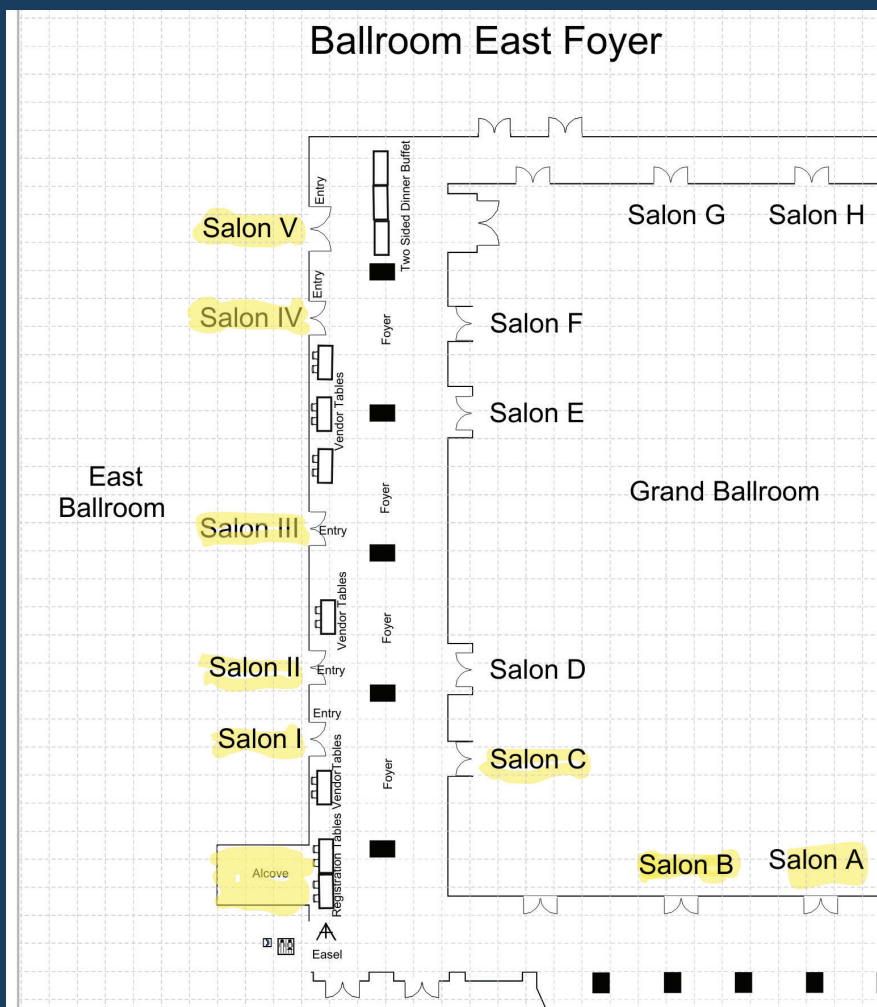


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momentum going – visit the Vendor table  
to see the Vocal Variety Shuffle™ in action.

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"It brings me great pride and deep gratitude to thank each of you for attending and actively contributing to the success of this year's conference. Your presence wasn't just appreciated—it was impactful. You showed up with curiosity, courage, and a willingness to connect, and that energy set the tone for everything we hoped this experience would be. It's an honor to walk this journey with leaders like you—committed to making a difference and elevating together."

**-Charice Manor, DTM District 8 District Director**