



District Leader

Biographical Information

Candidate's Name: **Priya Shastri**

Candidate's Office: **Club Growth Director** District Number: **101**

Toastmasters member since: **2021**

Education:

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

President- Big Basin TM -7019936- D101 - Jan 2024 - Present
Area Director - D57 - F19 - July 2023 - Present
VPE - Big Basin TM -7019936- D101 - Jan 2023 - Dec 2023, Jan 2022- Dec 2022, July 2021-Dec 2021
VPM - Women LEAD TM - 07854613 - Jan 2021 - Dec 2021
DivisionDirector-CD101July2022-June2023
AreaDirectorC2July2021-June2022

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

Distinguished Toastmasters - June 2023

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:

- I have been a technical lead at Couchbase Jan 2022 - Feb 2023. I have led a team of motivated engineers to deliver software product testing on a fixed schedule. Communication is an important aspect of my job. I am responsible for keeping the stakeholders, the operations, the software development teams and the SRE on the same page with respect to releases and timelines.
- I have obtained certifications in order to enhance my technical skills and I am committed to learning.
- Learning is a lifelong process and I strongly believe in that.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

I have been a Technical lead and planning is part of my day to day job. I have led several successful projects at work and outside of work in my son's school.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

I have been the ticket sales person for the high school grad night programme. I am aware of Corporate finance and the Revenue calculations that goes on a quarterly basis.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

I have developed best practices for technical work, and specialize in creating "How to " videos for members when they join toastmasters. I have the necessary skill set.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

I have learnt that constant communication is an essential aspect of leadership. By keeping the team best informed on the next obstacles, there is greater chance of success.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

I want to use my technical skills and communication skills to benefit the community of toastmasters. I have been blessed to have committed mentors in my life who have helped me throughout my journey. I want to bring clubs to success by removing obstacles and providing guidance.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

District's mission is to maintain the total number of clubs at 147 and continue to grow. So my objective is to make the district successful in retaining clubs and members. There are multiple ways to get that done, I have outlined 3 main objectives here 1. Make members excited about toastmasters meeting by introducing variety in meetings. 2. Encourage members to speak more outside of toastmasters so that friends and family network can benefit and join TM. 3. Use communication skills at public forums in their city or neighbourhood and be a leader for change.

Additional information about yourself:

I am a software engineer by profession and been in the industry for 17 years. I beleive in continuous learning and development. Toastmasters is a forum that has helped me trmendously in my career and I want to continue to grow further.