

20  
24



DISTRICT 101 CONFERENCE

# TO INFINITY & BEYOND

SUNNYVALE, CA  
**MAY 18 & 19**



# CONFERENCE C O N T E N T S



## Day 1: May 18

<b>8:00 AM</b>	Conference Opening Ceremony	
<b>8:30 AM</b>	Evaluation Speech Contest	<u>07</u>
<b>10:00 AM</b>	Keynote   Radhi Spear “Reach & Achieve”	<u>09</u>
<b>11:20 AM</b>	Keynote   Aaron Beverly “The Hidden Powers of the Introvert & How Extroverts can Use Them Too”	<u>11</u>
<b>12:20 PM</b>	Lunch	
<b>1:30 PM</b>	Edu. Session   Aaron Beverly “The Process: A Step by Step Guide to Craft and Refine Your Speech”	<u>13</u>
<b>2:45 PM</b>	Networking Session	
<b>3:15 PM</b>	Debate   Moderated by Radhi Spear	

## Day 2: May 19

<b>9:00 AM</b>	Conference Opening Ceremony, District Officer Installation	
<b>9:30 AM</b>	Edu. Session   Silvia Davis “Navigating Stress in a Stressful World”	<u>14</u>
<b>10:50 AM</b>	Diverse Viewpoints   Q & A with Radhi Spear & Aaron Beverly	
<b>11:30 AM</b>	Club Excellence & Hall of Fame	<u>20</u>
<b>1:00 PM</b>	International Speech Contest	<u>16</u>
<b>3:00 PM</b>	Contest Results & Recognitions	

<https://d101tm.org/conference>





Dear Toastmasters,

Welcome to the District 101 Toastmasters Conference, where we can embark on a journey "To Infinity and Beyond!" I am excited to have you join us for a weekend filled with inspiration, learning, and camaraderie.

As we gather under this year's theme, let us reflect on the limitless possibilities that lie ahead. Just like the vast expanse of space, our potential for growth and learning knows no bounds. Together, we will explore new horizons, push our boundaries, and reach for the stars in our personal and professional development.

Throughout the conference, you will have the opportunity to participate in workshops, engage in networking sessions, and witness incredible speeches that will ignite your passion and expand your horizons. Whether you are a seasoned Toastmaster or new to the program, there is something for everyone to learn and discover.

I am excited to meet each of you and share this incredible journey together. Welcome to the Toastmasters Conference "To Infinity and Beyond!" May this be a time of learning, growth, and endless possibilities.

Sincerely,  
Radhi Spear

**Radhi Spear, DTM**  
**International President-Elect**  
Toastmasters International  
Where Leaders Are Made  
P (908) 400-7928  
[www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org)

MAY 18-19, 2024  
**DISTRICT 101 CONFERENCE**

**TO INFINITY & BEYOND**

02



**Abhijeet Joshi**  
District Director

### ***Welcome to the District 101 Annual Conference, 2024!***

Are you ready to take your speaking skills to infinity and beyond? The Toastmasters Conference themed "Infinity & Beyond" is your golden ticket to unlocking new levels of confidence and mastery in public speaking.

Reflecting on the transformative experience of attending my first conference in 2020, I recall the invaluable insights shared by Ryan Avery, the 2012 world champion. His wisdom on crafting speeches around the themes of Family, Fear, and Failure

resonated deeply with me and empowered me to connect more authentically with my audience. Moreover, his emphasis on giving feedback with a "why" and specific examples attached revolutionized my approach to honing my craft within Toastmasters.

Now, imagine the wealth of knowledge awaiting you at this year's conference, where you'll have the privilege of learning from none other than Aaron Beverly, the 2019 World Champion of Public Speaking. His expertise and unique perspective are bound to elevate your Toastmasters journey to unprecedented heights.

So, mark your calendars for May 18th and May 19th, and join us for an unforgettable experience filled with inspiration, growth, and camaraderie. Together, let's embark on a journey to infinity and beyond in our pursuit of excellence in public speaking. See you there!



**Raji Bandanapudi**  
Program Quality  
Director

At Toastmasters, each of us sets sail towards our dreams of leadership and communication excellence. Regardless of our ultimate destination, having a clear vision is paramount. This year, our conference committee has assembled a team of passionate individuals united by the vision of creating an experience that goes 'infinity and beyond' for all attendees.

Our keynote speakers, session facilitators, contest crew, and various committee members have gone above and beyond to ensure that every moment of the conference is packed with value and tangible takeaways. Get ready to be inspired as our speakers guide us on the next steps of our personal, professional, and Toastmasters journey, propelling us closer to our goals.

We trust that your participation in the conference on May 18 and 19 will inspire you, ignite your passion, and encourage you to step out of your comfort zone. Hope to see you there!



**Anna Garcia**  
Club Growth Director

The Conference theme this year is “Infinity and Beyond” and that is definitely true for Club Growth – we all achieve beyond our limit!!

Throughout the District, we have enthusiastic Toastmasters who have already set out on their quest for a higher bar. You could too! There are several ways you could take part in this quest – Be a Club Sponsor by starting new clubs and spread the value of Toastmasters, or Be a Club Mentor by getting brand new Toastmasters and their clubs off to a strong start or Be a Club Coach by helping existing clubs grow membership and become distinguished or Be a Club Ambassador by visiting other clubs and sharing ideas on what makes a great club.

Whatever path you may choose in your quest, you are guaranteed to “Experience the Value” that Toastmasters has to offer. You will only become a Better Leader in the process and be able to share your story to inspire others. Meet the growth team at the club growth table to get your journey started!





**Linda Yeh**  
Conference Chair

District 101 has produced several amazing Conferences in the past years. This year we are going above and beyond to challenge ourselves. Not only do we challenge ourselves, but we also help each other to be better.

I am excited about this Conference because both Keynote speakers, Radhi Spear and Aaron Beverly, are here to share with us their journey to overcome personal roadblocks. They will also share tips on how to thrive and be a better public speaker. The caliber of the keynote addresses, evaluations and international speech contests, and educational sessions will greatly enrich our Toastmasters journey.

Let's aim for *Infinity and Beyond!*

# EVALUATION CONTEST



**Phillip Plath**  
Contest Chair

Phillip has been a Toastmaster since October 2019, joining to determine if his clients don't listen to him because he's a bad communicator (the results are in: they're bad listeners). His leadership roles include club President, VP of Education, VP of Membership, as well as Area Director. He's currently a member of VentriTalks and the Humorous Toastmasters Club (Hahaha!). His wife does not find him amusing.

Suhani is a seasoned technology leader with over 14 years of experience dedicated to nurturing and cultivating high-performing teams. Driven by her passion for engineering innovation, she thrives on the challenge of building and scaling projects from the ground up.

As a woman in engineering, Suhani is deeply committed to empowering and supporting other women on their professional journeys. She actively engages with various Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) both within and outside her organization, fostering an inclusive and supportive community for women engineers.



**Suhani Gupta**  
Contest Toastmaster

Recently, Suhani embarked on a transformative journey with Toastmasters, where she completed a year-long commitment, participating in three competitions and completing the esteemed SpeechCrafts program. Through Toastmasters, she found a sanctuary—a safe and nurturing environment where she could freely make mistakes, hone her skills, and embark on a continuous journey of self-improvement.

Suhani firmly believes that Toastmasters provides the perfect platform for personal and professional growth, offering a supportive and encouraging space for individuals to refine their communication and leadership abilities. With her unwavering dedication to self-improvement and her commitment to empowering others, Suhani embodies the spirit of lifelong learning and mentorship.



# EVALUATION CONTESTANTS



**Albert Chang**



**Dustin Kroeker**



**Lalitha Natraj**



**Neesh Neelalojanan**



**Rachel Lee**



**Vicky Lu**





# KEYNOTE

## *Reach & Achieve*



### **Radhi Spear, DTM**

International President-Elect  
at Toastmasters International

All of us have the potential to reach for and achieve our goals! Zig Ziglar said it best: "You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great." Fortunately, you have all started by joining Toastmasters. Come listen to our keynote speaker and be inspired to take the next step to reach and achieve your goals!



# ABOUT THE S P E A K E R



## **Radhi Spear, DTM**

International President-Elect  
at Toastmasters International

Radhi Spear, DTM, of Piscataway, New Jersey, is a software engineer for AT&T in Middletown, New Jersey, and has worked in the telecommunications industry for over 30 years. She has expertise in software development, systems administration, and acceptance testing. She troubleshoots problems and develops software for projects that impact millions of people.

Spear holds a master's degree of science in electrical engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, New Jersey. She participates in employee resource groups at AT&T, including Women of AT&T and InspirASIAN, which fosters development and leadership opportunities for its members. She was also an assistant Girl Scout troop leader for five years.

A Toastmaster since 2000, Spear is a charter member of her home club, AT&T Middletown Toastmasters in Middletown. She has held several high-profile leadership positions within Toastmasters and has attained the Distinguished Toastmaster designation—the highest level of educational achievement in the organization.

She says, “Toastmasters is an investment in yourself. The skills you learn in Toastmasters can be used in all aspects of your life.”

As an officer of the Toastmasters International Board of Directors, Spear is a “working ambassador” for the organization. She works with the Board to develop, support, and modify the policies and procedures that guide Toastmasters International in fulfilling its mission.

# KEYNOTE



## ***The Hidden Powers of the Introvert & How Extroverts Can Use Them Too***



**Aaron Beverly**

World Champion of  
Public Speaking, 2019

Introverts can be invaluable assets to teams, corporations, and other organizations. The key is learning how to tap that resource the correct way. Aaron W. Beverly will discuss growing up as an introvert, the challenges he faced as an introverted person, and how he overcame the misconceptions to become a world champion of public speaking, an international speaker, and as he claims, "a thriving introvert."



# ABOUT THE S P E A K E R



## Aaron Beverly

World Champion of  
Public Speaking, 2019

In August 2019, Aaron Beverly emerged as the winner of the Toastmasters International Speech Contest, an annual public speaking competition that (at the time) included over 30,000 competitors worldwide. Performing the speech entitled “An Unbelievable Story,” Aaron provided a humorous take on the heavy subject of race and the importance of “acceptance despite difference.” That speech won him the prestigious title of World Champion of Public Speaking.

However, even as a world champion of public speaking, Aaron is one of the most introverted people you can meet. Like many others, Aaron believed that public speaking and storytelling were “extroverted” activities meant for the boldest and loudest people in the room. But, with hard work, dedication and a team of invaluable supporters, Aaron has become proficient in both skills and has since learned that introversion is an asset when it comes to communication.

Aaron has been invited to speak at Fortune 100 companies and notable Universities And has engaged audiences in various countries around the world. He doesn't credit his achievements to an advanced degree, or a privileged life. He credits it to learning effective communication and public speaking.

Aaron is living proof that the art of communication can have a profoundly positive effect on the advancement of your professional career and the fulfillment of your life.

# EDUCATION SESSION



## *The Process: A Step by Step Guide to Craft and Refine Your Speech*



### **Aaron Beverly**

World Champion of  
Public Speaking, 2019

Aaron gives a high-level view into how he uses the process to practice all of his presentations. Being dedicated to this crafting and refinement process helped Aaron turn his stories and speeches from good to great and win the world championship of public speaking.

MAY 18-19, 2024  
DISTRICT 101 CONFERENCE

TO INFINITY & BEYOND

13



# EDUCATION SESSION



## *Navigating Stress in a Stressful World*



### **Silva Davis**

Award Winning Author,  
Finalist at the Toastmaster  
World Championship of  
Public Speaking 2023

This session will educate and uplift the audience with the skills to become more resilient and persevere through a world that becomes more challenging and stressful by the day. The goal is to cultivate a resilient mindset, prioritize self-care and embrace the present.

# ABOUT THE S P E A K E R



## **Silva Davis**

Award Winning Author,  
Finalist at the Toastmaster  
World Championship of  
Public Speaking 2023

Silvia Davis is a distinguished Speaker and Author. She earned her place as a finalist in the Toastmasters World Championship in 2023—an accolade that reflects her exceptional oratory skills and compelling presence on stage. Her gift for storytelling also led her to become an Award-Winning Author. Recognized for her engaging presentations, she has earned accolades for her ability to inspire, educate, and uplift her audiences enabling her listeners with the skills to become resilient and persevere through a world that becomes more challenging and stressful by the day.





# INTERNATIONAL SPEECH CONTEST



**Ray Liu**  
Contest Chair

Ray Liu, DTM, has been a Toastmaster since October, 2020. His leadership roles include Club President, Area Director, Club Mentor, and Youth Leadership Program Coordinator. He currently is a member of Cupertino Toastmasters and Holistic Harmony Toastmasters.

Having joined Toastmasters in 2013, the first thing I realized was - this is a place where I could put out my thoughts without any filters. This past decade at toastmasters has been a journey of conquering challenges, helping fellow toastmasters and myself consistently elevate our speech standards, while achieving many milestones at the club and district levels.

As we delve into this conference themed “Infinity & Beyond”, we can be rest assured that it is truly going to unleash our true potential, which has always been the beacon for District 101.

Together let's Rise and create wonderful memories and great learning. Looking forward to seeing all of you at the conference!



**Arun Shivaramakrishna**  
Contest Toastmaster

MAY 18-19, 2024  
DISTRICT 101 CONFERENCE

TO INFINITY & BEYOND

16





# INTERNATIONAL SPEECH CONTESTANTS



**Bob Gulino**



**Jennifer Noble**



**Kari Lynn Morgan**



**Mary Ellen  
Bartholomew**



**Sarah Ivie**



**Vincent Tang**

MAY 18-19, 2024  
DISTRICT 101 CONFERENCE

TO INFINITY & BEYOND



# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE



District Director	Abhijeet Joshi
Program Quality Director	Raji Bandanapudi
Club Growth Director	Anna Garcia
Conference Chair	Linda Yeh
Tech Chair	Kari Lynn Morgan
Registration Chair	Manini Pattnayak
Online experience monitor	Marty Varela
Program Chair	Sarah Tang
Hospitality Chair	Gail Fulcher
Store chair	Parag Vijayvergia
Food	Ashvin Patel
Clean up	Ashvin Patel
Graphics Chair	Shalini Kaushik and Team
Photography	Mahan Soltanzadeh
PR	Shalini Kaushik



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



**Helen Josephine**

Division A  
Director



**Ryan Brown**

Division D  
Director



**Dan Rachlin**

Division B  
Director



**Wendy Fan**

Division E  
Director



**Venugopal Vadapalli**

Division C  
Director



**Hrishikesh Gokhale**

Division G  
Director

# CLUB EXCELLENCE



## Newly Chartered

High Flyers	AI Articulators	[24]7.ai Inspired Orators Americas
Ai Club	Astera Labs Toastmasters Club	J & J Bay Area Toastmasters
Carry The Vision Toastmasters	Austin Toasters	Holistic Harmony

## Club Mentors

Google: High Flyers Toastmasters	Megan Mayer, Charles Park
AI Club (AI Club No1.)	Helen Josephine
Carry The Vision	Shalini Kaushik, Tam Le
AI Articulators (Club No2)	Mark Lin
Astera Labs Toastmasters Club	Marty Varela, Linda Yeh
[24]7.ai Inspired Orators Americas	Ramesh Dewangan, Ann-Marie Joseph
J & J Bay Area Toastmasters	Declan Shalvey, Leena Ambekar
Holistic Harmony	Brian Dosono
Critical Thinking	Priya Sharita
Austin Toastmasters	Vishal Aslot, Kishor Kunal

## Club Coaches

Securely Speaking	Sonya L. Stauffer-Acevedo
Securely Speaking	Vincent L. Tang
Talking Chips Club	Padma Srinivas
QSpeak	Bryan Dosono
Friendly Toasters	Koshy George
Roche Bay Area Toastmasters	Monica Ge

# CLUB EXCELLENCE

## Milestone Years for Clubs



### 70 Years & Counting

San Jose Toastmasters	Monterey Peninsula Toastmasters Club 934
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### 50 Years & Counting

Excalibur Toastmasters	Orbiters	TGIF Management
Jetstream Toastmasters	Salinas Sunrise Toastmasters	Vanguard Toastmasters
Naval Postgraduate School	Santa Cruz Downtown	
North Valley Toastmasters	Saratoga Toastmasters	

### 40 Years & Counting

Adelante Toastmasters	Cupertino Morningmasters	Switch-On Toastmasters
Almaden Valley Orators	Sierra 49ers	Talking Chips
Applied Materials	Silicon Valley Toastmasters	Top Gun Toastmasters
ASML SV	Speakeasy Monterey	
Cupertino Toastmasters	Steinbeck Toastmasters	

### 30 Years & Counting

Adlibmasters	KLA TALK	Silver Tongued Cats
Agile Articulators Speech & Debate Club	MacinTalkers	Sunnyvale Speakeasies
Bayview Toastmasters	Milpitas Toastmasters	Trendsetter Toastmasters
Cadence AHgorithms	Peninsula Pros	Willow Glen Toastmasters
Downtown Speechmakers	Public Speak Easy's	Wry Toastmasters
Friendly Toasters	Redwood Ramblers	
Intuitively Speaking	Silicon Valley JETS (Japanese English Toastmasters)	



# CLUB EXCELLENCE



## Milestone Years for Clubs, continued

### 20 Years & Counting

Adobe Fontificators	Coherent Communicators	SCUMBAT
Altera Innovators	Fair Oaks	Toasters R Us
Aptos Toastmasters	I'm Feeling Chatty	Toastmasters Insiders
ArtICCulators	Laser Sharp Speakers	True Talking Toastmasters (TTT)
Cisco Speaks	Morgan Hill Toastmasters	Xilinx Xpressionists
City Shakers	Santa Clara SweetTalkers	

### 10 Years & Counting

ADI Toasties	Now You're Talk[In]	Silicon Valley Storytellers
Classy Toasters	nSpeak	Startup Speakers
First Street Speakers	Optical Orators	Study Group Toastmasters
Hot Buttered Toastmasters	Oratory Otters	SynapTalks
Juniper Jabbers	Santa Cruz Toastmasters	The Grummarians
Los Gatos Toastmasters	Securely Speaking	ToastItNow!
Lumentum Toastmasters	Silicon Valley Advanced Mandarin English	Vakpatugalu
MCA Toastmasters	Silicon Valley Entrepreneurs	VentriTalks
Next Step Toastmasters	Silicon Valley Speak To Lead	Wharton QuakeMasters

# CLUB EXCELLENCE

## President's Distinguished Clubs



Naval Postgraduate School	Milpitas Toastmasters Club
Startup Speakers	Amazon Cupertino Toastmasters
Maps Toastmasters	Silicon Valley Speak To Lead
Santa Cruz Downtown Toastmasters	Walmart Bay Blitzers
Saratoga Toastmasters Club	ArtICCulators Club

## Select Distinguished Clubs

Cisco Speaks Toastmasters Club	Fair Oaks Club
nSpeak	Ai Club
A2C Toastmasters Club	Women L.E.A.D. Toastmasters Club
Silver Tongued Cats	Downtown Speechmakers
Los Gatos Toastmasters	Sage Toastmasters
Mountain View Toastmasters	ToastNow

## Distinguished Clubs

SCC Speak To Lead	I'm Feeling Chatty Toastmasters Club
Monterey Peninsula Toastmasters Club 934	Toastmasters In Motion
Optical Orators	True Talking Toastmasters (TTT)
TGIF Management Club	Samsung Speaks
Toastmasters of San Benito	VSF Toastmasters
WIP Toastmasters Club	Cadence AHgorithms Club
EMEA Toastmasters	Adobe Fontificators Club
Toastmates	Missionanigans

## Perfect 10

Maps Toastmasters	ArtICCulators Club	Amazon Cupertino Toastmasters
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# HALL OF FAME



## Distinguished Toastmasters

Ashvin Patel, DTM Adlibmasters Club  
Chulwoo Park, DTM Saratoga Toastmasters Club  
Helen B. Josephine, DTM Travel Talkers Toastmasters  
Jaymol George, DTM San Jose Toastmasters Club  
Marianna Jones, DTM Naval Postgraduate School  
Ray Liu, DTM Cupertino Toastmasters  
Rovina Suri, DTM Cupertino Toastmasters  
Sean Wang, DTM Saratoga Toastmasters Club  
Susan Schulz, DTM Interpersonal Toastmasters

## Triple Crown

Members who earned three or more pathway levels by May 15th

Abhijeet Joshi, DTM  
Amruta Hendre, VC5  
Andrija Bosnjakovic, PM5  
Anita Jindal, DTM  
Anita Kumari, DL4  
Anna Garcia, DTM  
Apple Chow, EH3  
BENSON FAN, DL4  
Bryan Dosono, PM5  
Cam M. Hoang, DTM  
Cat Nguyen, PI4  
Catherine Borrowman, PM3  
Chulwoo Park, DTM  
Cletan Sequeira, PM3  
Dave Spence, DTM

Declan Shalvey, DTM  
Doris Tse, DTM  
Dorothy M. King, IP5  
Durgeswar Bahalia, PM5  
Elaine H. Lung, DTM  
Eleanor Britter, PI3  
Francisco Park, EH3  
Gidget Currie, MS2  
Godofredo Contreras, DL3  
Greg Netzorg, DTM  
Harika Vamaraju, DL5  
Harry A. Holland, DTM  
Helen B. Josephine, DTM  
Ilyse Pender, SR3  
Jagan Kaja, EH4

Jagat Banerjee, PM5  
James B. Vitrano, VC4  
Jasmin Rodgers, PM3  
Jay Mojnidar, VC2  
Jeff Sedayao, LD3  
Jennifer K. Noble, MS3  
Joanne K. Rooney, MS5  
Johannes Van Der Made, EH3  
John Love, DL5  
Jose Lopez, SR5  
Julie Thu Nguyen, PI5  
Karina Zafiro, IP5  
Kartik V. Shenoy, IP3  
Kyle Wood, DL1  
Lakshmi Deepa Gurusamy, EC4

MAY 18-19, 2024  
DISTRICT 101 CONFERENCE

TO INFINITY & BEYOND

# HALL OF FAME



## Triple Crown, continued

Lane W. Andrew, PM3

Léena A. Ambekar, VC2

Leo Sandoval, LD5

Maggie Narrett, VC5

Mahan Soltanzadeh, PM3

Malou Kemling, EH4

Marianna Jones, DTM

Namitha Nandakumar, SR5

Neelam Dharnidharka, PM4

Neetish Pathak, EH4

Nick Calenda, PM3

Pamela McHenry, EH3

Patricia Furagganan, IP4

Patricia James, VC5

Peggy McGrath, EH5

Phillip Plath, EH4

Prajna Shetty, IP4

Priya R. Shastri, DTM

Raji M. Bandanapudi, DTM

Randi, Krueger, EC4

Ray Liu, DTM

Reanna Wittman, MS3

Rekha Raman, DTM

Richard Preston, DTM

Robert S. Ogg, IP5

Rohini Naik, EH4

Sachchidanand S. Deo, DL5

Sachin Pandhare, PI4

Sandro Brenciaglia, EH4

Sarah Tang, MS5

Sheena Tu, DL5

Shirlin Tan, PM3

Sonia Jindal, PM3

Sonya L. Stauffer-Acevedo, VC3

Sonya Kleshik, PM5

Stephen Bui, EH2

Sujatha Balakrishnan, LD2

Susan A. Ragsdale-Cronin, VC4

Te-Chuan Chou, EH3

Tetyana Margolina, DTM

Thomas Takashima, SR3

Yuki N. Ascue, DTM



