



Toastmasters District 9
2024 Conference Schedule
100 Years of Transforming Lives
 Subject to change



All conference activities, except Registration, take place in the Main Conference Room. Registration takes place in the Narthex.

Friday, May 17

Time	Event
4 PM – 6:45 PM	Registration Table open in the Narthex.
	Dinner on your own: Join us later for the Ice Cream Social!
6 PM – 6:05 PM	Conference Welcome: Friday Evening Toastmaster Mark Havens
6:05 PM – 6:30 PM	Friday Evening Keynote: "The Dream . . . We Almost Never Heard:" Arthur Broady
6:30 PM – 6:45 PM	Break
6:45 PM – 7 PM	Grab Your Ice Cream!
7 PM – 9 PM	PowerPoint Karaoke

Saturday, May 18

7:30 AM – 2:30 PM	Registration Table open in the Narthex.
7:30 AM – 8:45 AM	Pancake Breakfast by donation, served by church Youth Group
8:45 AM – 9 AM	Orientation for First-time Attendees: All attendees welcome
9 AM – 9:30 AM	OPENING CEREMONY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color Guard Flag Procession • National Anthem • Welcome: Morning Toastmaster Maura Durrant • Welcome: Conference Committee • Welcome: District 9 Director Victoria Leuba
9:30 AM – 10:20 AM	MORNING KEYNOTE ADDRESS: "Yikes! I'm in Leadership! Now What? Leadership Lessons Learned the Hard Way:" International Director, Toastmasters Region 1 Sonda Nunez, DTM, PRA
10:20 AM – 10:30 AM	10-min. Break
10:20 AM – 10:30 AM	Briefings for Table Topics Judges and Contestants (concurrent w/Break)
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	TABLE TOPICS CONTEST: Maura Durrant, Contest Toastmaster
11:30 AM – 12:15 PM	BUFFET LUNCH District Recognition + DTM Photo: Noon to 12:15
12:15 PM	AFTERNOON SESSION BEGINS: Stephanie Walsh, Afternoon Toastmaster
12:15 PM – 1:15 PM	SMED TALKS: D9's take on TED Talks, named for TM founder Ralph Smedley <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Ladder of Accountability:" Hannah Poush • "Prepare a Speech in 1 Hour:" Dick Jensen • "Creating a Sense of Belonging in Your Club:" Mary Morrison, DTM, PID, PRA
1:15 PM – 1:30 PM	15-min Break

1:30 PM – 2:05 PM	"The Hidden Gems of Toastmasters:" International Director, Toastmasters Region 1 Sondra Nunez, DTM, PRA
2:05 PM – 2:20 PM	Briefings for International Speech Contest Judges and Contestants (concurrent w/Break)
2:20 PM – 3:50 PM	INTERNATIONAL SPEECH CONTEST: Lloyd Smith, DTM, Contest Toastmaster
3:50 PM – 4:20 PM	International Speech Contest with Contestant Interviews while ballots are counted.
4:20 PM – no later than 5 PM	<p>CLOSING: Announcements, Appreciations, and Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table Topics Contest winners announced • International Speech Contest winners announced • Closing Announcements and Appreciation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Afternoon Toastmaster Stephanie Walsh ○ Conference Committee: Kathy Hansen, DTM ○ District 9 Director Viki Leuba, DTM • Adjourn

Our Speakers



Keynote Speaker
International Director, Region 1
Sondra Nunez,
DTM

Yikes, I'm the Leader! Now What? Leadership Lessons Learned the Hard Way

Were you absent the day your club elected incoming club officers, and returned the next meeting to find you had been elected Club President? Did you accidentally stretch during the last District Executive Committee meeting and the District Director yelled out, "thank you for volunteering to serve as area director?"

Service as a club or district officer in Toastmasters is one of the greatest opportunities a person could ever be offered, yet serving is often seen as a chore or something you'll say begrudgingly yes to one more time, because no one else will.

Join us for a 45-minute interactive workshop where we will discuss the personal benefits of leadership and ways you can avoid common leadership challenges.

The Hidden Gems of Toastmasters

Why do people join Toastmasters? Why do they stay? For many, once the interview skills are learned, the promotion secured, or that much-rehearsed wedding toast was smashing success, members feel they "got what they came for" and start to fall away. Wait, members who think there is nothing else to be gained! There's more!

During today's 30-minute, interactive education session, International Director Sondra Nunez will facilitate a discussion to uncover the Hidden Gems of Toastmasters.

Bio: Since 2010, Sondra Nunez, DTM, has held almost every club and district leader position, is a two-term region advisor, and is currently serving as 2023-2024 International Director, Region 1. Sondra currently serves on the 2022-2024 Executive Committee of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women as well as the board of a local non-profit organization, Tower of Niceness, dedicated to sharing niceness with those in need.

As a professional, Sondra is the CFO of her family-owned business, Mountain Valley Petroleum. During her free time, you'll find Sondra renovating another room in her home or posting tons of photos of her 3-pound Yorkie, Miss Poppy.



**Friday Evening
Keynote Speaker
Arthur Broady**

The Dream . . . We Almost Never Heard

As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of Toastmasters International, history is on our minds. Our Friday-night keynote speaker will bring us a little-known piece of history about one of the most famous speeches of all time.

"Nearly 60 years ago," Arthur explains, "our nation's struggle with civil rights and injustice was given a national platform with the famous March on Washington on Aug. 28, 1963. More than 250,000 people gathered in Washington, D.C., and heard keynote speaker Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., deliver his speech 'I Have a Dream,' now regarded among our nation's most highly celebrated speeches. Today, very few know the essence of the speech and fewer know the speech was unplanned."

Learn the inside story in what is sure to be a stirring and informative speech during the Friday-evening kickoff to the conference.



**SMED-Talk
Speaker
Hannah Poush**

Ladder of Accountability

During her presentation, Hannah will introduce us to a transformative tool – Stewart's Ladder of Accountability – that provides a structured approach for individuals and leaders to enhance personal and professional growth through self-reflection and fostering a culture of accountability.

Hannah will unveil the ladder's rungs during the presentation, emphasizing its significance in personal development and leadership. By exploring real-life examples and practical exercises, attendees will gain actionable insights to climb the ladder, fostering responsibility and continuous improvement.

This will be an engaging and interactive session, empowering the audience with a tool they can use to coach themselves and others.



**SMED-Talk
Speaker
Dick Jensen**

You Can Do It! Create a Speech in One Hour

Can't think of a topic to speak on? Are you under a time constraint to finish your speech assignment for tomorrow? Have you hit a brick wall? Come and learn a quick and simple method to overcome that obstacle and shatter that wall.

Be prepared to create your next speech in just one hour. With 37 years of Toastmasters experience, District 9's 2022-2023 Toastmaster of the Year Dick Jensen is poised to share his simple technique to create a speech in an hour



**SMED-Talk
Speaker
Mary Morrison,
DTM, PID, PRA**

A Longing for Belonging

Many people say the best thing about Toastmasters is the people they meet and get to know through their speeches and Table Topics. It's a grand feeling to walk into a meeting and know you belong. And the more diverse your club is, the more people will feel they belong. Mary Morrison, DTM, Past International Director and Past Region Advisor, will share tips for creating a belonging space that welcomes EVERYBODY.

In her 18-minute SMED Talk Mary will share a "welcome-to-our-club" assessment tool, along with three tips to create a welcoming space, and a list of participant ideas for creating a belonging environment.

Many thanks to Washington Trust Bank for printing this schedule and all Toastmasters District 9 Conference printed materials.

