



DISTRICT 54 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Path to Excellence



Make a Difference
Yes We Can Attitude
Funtastic Meetings
Dynamic Leadership
Engaged Members

Click [here](#) for Conference Zoom Links

April 22 & 29, 2023

Welcome to Toastmasters District 54 2023 Annual Conference April 22 & 29, 2023

Greetings and welcome to the Toastmasters District 54 2023 Annual Conference!

We may not be in person this year; however, I think you will find there is a wealth of excitement, enthusiasm and camaraderie throughout the district and the Conference.

Many things this year are not as we would like them to be both within Toastmasters and in other areas. How we deal with those things is entirely up to us. We choose to grow. We choose to **Make a Difference**. We are the instruments of change. We can accept where we are or we develop a **Yes, We Can Attitude**. It is in our growing and changing that enables us to grow and change the world (or at least our corner of it).

I feel Toastmasters is the best kept secret. When was the last time you talked to someone about what Toastmasters does for you? How your club is wondrous with **Funtastic Meetings** and **Engaged Members**. How you have learned to become a better speaker, better leader, better person. Toastmasters can do that if you do the work. If we all do the work.

This conference is a work of love. Our International Director is giving a heartfelt keynote. The contestants of both speech contests are speaking from their hearts. The educational sessions are being led by extremely dedicated folks who have given years of service to this organization. You cannot do that if you do not believe in it and love it.

My hope is you too will remember why you joined Toastmasters. The conference will inspire you to continue on or start fresh.

Come, walk **The Path to Excellence** with us. Be wondrous!

Your District Trio,

Bonnie Tippey



Bonnie Tippey, DTM
District Director

Heather Blase



Heather Blase, DTM
Program Quality Director

Darrel Felty



Darrel Felty, DTM
Club Growth Director



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D54 2023 Annual Conference Zoom Links

Zoom Room 1 - for all sessions, both days:

You can download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system:

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/tZ0ocOitqzsJG9VhXnPM8mKrkhCpo73K_PZN/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhqzwrH9GVuRiGRpx5GY_Cd-wmGJEjfpRlCfrMw0LbyjkPephIr0oQ_Pv

Join Zoom Meeting – Room 1 – all sessions:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89571550911?pwd=d2REdC9yU0pzNkNmcmFjUXBpL1dvdz09>

Meeting ID: 895 7155 0911

Passcode: D54Toast

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,89571550911#,,, *55484588# US (Chicago)

+13092053325,,89571550911#,,, *55484588# US

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 895 7155 0911

Passcode: 55484588

Find your local number: https://us06web.zoom.us/join/tZ0ocOitqzsJG9VhXnPM8mKrkhCpo73K_PZN/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhqzwrH9GVuRiGRpx5GY_Cd-wmGJEjfpRlCfrMw0LbyjkPephIr0oQ_Pv

Hospitality Room

We will have one or more Zoom Breakout Rooms available for Hospitality where attendees can mingle and enjoy each other's company. Details for access to the breakout room (s) will be provided at the conference.

Toastmasters Mission, Values

Toastmasters International Mission

We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.

District Mission

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

Club Mission

We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

Toastmasters International Core Values

- Integrity
- Respect
- Service
- Excellence

Toastmasters Vision

Toastmasters International Envisioned Future

To be the first-choice provider of dynamic, high-value, experiential communication and leadership skills development.

District Vision

To end the year with a healthy, dynamic District with 70+ Clubs, all achieving Distinguished or better.

Conference Purpose

District 54 Conferences feature accomplished speakers delivering interesting, entertaining, and informative speeches on a variety of topics.

The purpose of the Toastmasters Annual District Conference is to:

- Conduct District business, including District Officer elections
- Provide communication and leadership training opportunities in support of the District Mission
- Provide opportunities for networking and the exchange of ideas
- Recognize and celebrate District accomplishments
- Conduct Speech Contests

Conference Schedule

Time	Day 1 - Saturday, April 22, 2023
8:00 - 8:15	Opening Remarks Club acknowledgement
8:15 - 9:00	Keynote Address - Monnica Rose - International Director Connecting the Dots
9:00 - 9:15	Break
9:15 - 10:45	Humorous Speech Contest
10:45 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 11:30	C&L Award - Cecilia Ruffin
11:30 - 12:00	Lunch Break
12:00 - 1:30	International Speech Contest
1:30 - 1:45	Break
1:45 - 3:00	Candidate showcase for elected positions
3:00 - 3:15	Break
3:15 - 4:00	Roast Outgoing District Director

Time	Day 2 - Saturday, April 29, 2023
8:00 - 10:30	District Council Meeting
10:30 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 11:15	Officer installation
11:15 - 11:45	Lunch Break
11:45 - 12:45	Education Session - Dick Poirier Get Your Club Back on Track
12:45 - 1:00	Break
1:00 - 2:00	Education Session - Jon Greiner The New and Old But Not Well Understood in Toastmasters
2:00 - 2:15	Break
2:15 - 3:15	Education Session - Monnica Rose - International Director A Show of Hands - how your passion can springboard you into leadership
3:15 - 3:30	Closing

20-Apr-23

Note: Club Banner Parade will be displayed during the breaks

Keynote (4-22) & Education Session (4-29)

April 22 - Keynote
“Connecting the Dots”

April 29 – Education Session
“A Show of Hands!”

Monnica Rose, DTM - International Director, Region 5

Keynote (April 22) – Connecting the Dots

What can you do Today as a Toastmaster member to alter your trajectory, Tomorrow?

Join us as we explore how our successes as a member, officer, and leader help us connect the dots on the value of fully engaging in the Toastmasters program!

Education Session (April 29) – A Show of Hands

Are you looking to build a better you? It starts with taking that first step!

From the Toastmasters perspective, we will unfold those critical first steps and learn how our PASSION can springboard US into District leadership!



Biographical Information

Monnica Rose is currently serving on the Board of Directors for Toastmasters from Region 5. She joined Toastmasters in February 2006 to improve her communication and leadership skills. Can you believe, she was once shy. After attending a Toastmasters event outside of her club, Monnica was hooked on all the exciting opportunities the program had to offer.

Now, Monnica doesn't meet a stranger...As a retired mechanical engineer, Toastmaster and Board President for Women of Visionary Influence, she has mentored, motivated and encouraged many in achieving their communication and leadership goals.

From her experiences, Monnica states, “Those who fully embrace all that the Toastmasters program has to offer will truly have a life-changing experience.”

When she isn't running half marathons, you can find Monnica cheering for her New Orleans Saints, solving Sudoku puzzles or reading the latest book on leadership.

Education Sessions – April 29

“The New and Old, But Not Well Understood, in Toastmasters!”

Jon Greiner, DTM - Past International President

Session Description

Join us for a quick look at both the new and the old, but not well understood, activities in Toastmasters. Your host, Jon Greiner, DTM, will lead us on a tour of the latest Toastmasters International website with brief stops at “Your Profile”, the new Self Pay feature, and Yoodli, the new evaluation tool.

Many of you are now completing your first educational path and are starting to think about what’s next. The obvious question is “How close am I to achieving the DTM award? **Donna Gerig**, will review the new Pathways based Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award requirements.

Mentoring skills are increasingly important in today’s world. The new Pathways Mentoring program appears to be somewhat misunderstood, so our final presentation led by **Tom Willison**, DTM, will help clear up those misunderstandings.

As time allows, we will then open the floor to any questions or comments you have about any of the above sessions.

Biographical Information

Past Toastmasters International President Jon Greiner joined Toastmasters International more than 50 years ago in Decatur, Illinois. He earned his Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award in 1989.

Jon served in all Toastmasters Club and District Offices in the 1980’s. In August 1991, he was elected International Director. He was elected to the Executive Committee of Toastmasters International Board of Directors in August 2001 and served as President of Toastmasters International from August 2004 to August 2005.



He is currently a member of 8 Toastmasters clubs in the Central Illinois area. He is also serving as District 54 Prison Club Manager.

Education Sessions – April 29 (cont'd)

“Get Your Club Back on Track”

Dick Poirier, DTM - Past International Director

Session Description

Does it feel like your club has derailed or is about to? Are members not participating in meetings or not even showing up? Are guests not joining? You don't even have guests at all?

If you answered “yes” to one or more of these questions, then attendance at this conference session is a must for you and your club members.

Dick Poirier will moderate this panel discussion, comprising members of clubs that have a proven track record of success! Panelists **Julia Issa-Ghantous, Julia Hsia, Garrett Gray** and **JR (Primitivo) Robles** will be sharing ideas to help get your club back on track.



Biographical Information

Dick Poirier has been a Toastmaster for more than 28 years. He earned his Distinguished Toastmaster status in 2000 and was District 54 Governor in 2001-2002. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors for Toastmasters International in 2004-2006, he has held all club officer positions multiple times.

Dick continues to support District 54. He is currently PR Chair and Program Booklet Chair for the Annual Conference, is D54 Webmaster and serves as the D54 Strategic Advisory Committee Chair.

His passion is in helping others gain from participating in the Toastmasters program and in guiding members and clubs on the Path to Excellence.

District Council Meeting – April 29

The purpose of the District Council Meeting is to conduct the business of the district, especially to elect the District Leadership Team for the 2023-2024 Toastmasters year. Officials to be elected include:

- District Director
- Program Quality Director
- Club Growth Director
- Division A, B, C, and D Directors

Agenda and materials for the District Council Meeting can be downloaded from:
<https://d54tm.com/dec-and-council-meetings>

Communication and Leadership Award



Cecilia Ruffin

We are pleased to award the 2023 District 54 Communication and Leadership Award to Cecilia Ruffin, Executive Director of the Multicultural Leadership Institute, Inc.

Our leadership tapestries are not beautiful just because of our successes and accomplishments. Our leadership tapestries are beautiful because they are interwoven with our failures and losses.

Each lived experience provides a thread that strengthens our resolve. As we evolve, our mission becomes clear – our tapestry was designed to be shared. Cecilia's leadership tapestry is a rich fabric that she willingly shares with others. She is a wife, mother, and grandmother. She delights in all three roles.

Cecilia is a committed servant leader with a demonstrated history of leading with values. She is passionate about trauma-informed supervision, family engagement and leadership development. Cecilia has volunteered at the Mclean County Detention Facility for over 20 years. Cecilia believes that when people tap into their purpose, passion, and potential; goals become reachable, visions are manifested, and transformation becomes a reality.

Cecilia graduated from the University of Phoenix with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. She received a Master's degree from Liberty University in Pastoral Counseling and a subsequent Master's degree in Human Services Counseling: Marriage and Family.

As an MCLP graduate, class of 2018, Cecilia embraced the model of servant leadership. Cecilia leads with the value of social responsibility and this value has led her to being instrumental in building core programming within the Dept. of Juvenile Justice which greatly impacts the community and amplifies the voice for youth and families. She serves on the Family Engagement Committee and the Trauma Informed Aftercare Implementation Team. She assisted in the establishment of the current Aftercare Transitional Program.

Cecilia is now building upon the capacity of the Multicultural Leadership Institute as the Executive Director. She understands that the Multicultural Leadership Institute and the Multicultural Leadership Program provide a beacon of leadership development, not just within the Bloomington/Normal community, but beyond this geographical landscape. She is committed to the mission of developing a more diverse and inclusive community, one leader at a time.

Cecilia Ruffin is honored and humbled to accept Toastmasters District 54's annual Communications and Leadership award!

Education Awards

Congratulations to the dedicated District 54 members who are actively working in Pathways and Leadership Projects. They achieved these awards from July 1, 2022, through April 19, 2023.

Congratulations to them all!

District 54 Education Awards from 7/1/22 through 4/19/23							
Member	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	DTM & PWMENTOR PGM	Club
Alves de Oliveira, Andre	VC1						ADM Toastmasters
Applegate, Daniel	LD1	LD2					Rockford Comm. League
Ash, Steve	TC1						Inspiring Speakers
Avusali, Shashank C.	PM1	PM2					Forging Leaders
Barry, Mike				IP4			Timely Talkers Toastmasters
Beal, Denise	IP1	IP2					Pioneer Club
Beckler, Beth E.		PI2	PI3				Professional Communicators
Berry, Rachael	PI1				DL5		Rockford Comm. League
Blase, Heather	LD1						Progressively Speaking Club
Boyk, Christopher			MS3				Lincoln-Way Toastmasters
Burger, Jerry	EH1	EH2	EH3	EH4			State Farm Talk of the South
Carrillo, Lino		PI2					Advanced Expressives
Carrillo, Lino		EC2					Talk of the Town
Catania, Sharon				MS4			Bridge Builders Club
Chapa, Olga E.	PM1						Rock On!
Cohen, Steve	MS1	MS2					Talk of the Town
Cook, Casey	TC1						State Farm Talk of the South
Cox, Michael D.	IP1	IP2					Esprit De Corps Club
Creighton, Lori A.				IP4	IP5		Professional Communicators
Crook, Darrel	PM1	PM2	PM3				Forging Leaders
Deleonardis, Sherri	VC1						State Farm Speakeasy Club
Deleonardis, Sherri					EH5		Four Seasons Toastmasters
Demosthenes, Jean		PM2	PM3	PM4			McKinley Club
Easter, Erin		DL2					Thursday Noon Talkers
Eimer, Catrina	EC1						State Farm Speakeasy Club
Elumalai, Gopalakrishnan	PI1						ADM Toastmasters
Evans, Christina M.	PM1	VC2	VC3				Delightful Greeters Advanced
Felty, Darrel D.	LD1						Delightful Greeters Advanced
Foard, Wyatt	SR1						Fox Valley Toastmasters
Foster, Estelle	TC1						Rockford Comm. League
Gallivan, Janet	PI1	PI2					McKinley Club
Ganay, Noel		PI2	PI3	PI4	EH5/PI5	PWMNTR	De Kalb Area Toastmasters
Gerig, Donna				LD4			Delightful Greeters Advanced
Gibson, Teresa	LD1						State Farm Windjammers
Goerlich, Pamela	DL1	DL2					RLI Toastmasters Club
Gopalakrishnan, Lakshmi	IP1						Power Communicators Club
Gray, David	EC1	EC2					McKinley Club
Greiner, Marcus	DL1						Forging Leaders
Grundmeier, Margaret	IP1	IP2		EH4/SR4			Listen, Learn, Lead Club
Grundmeier, Margaret	SR1	SR2	SR3		EH5		Toast of the Fox Club
Hankins, Frank L.	EH1						Morris Area Toastmasters Club
Hanks, Phillip O.	PM1	PM2					Lincoln-Way Toastmasters
Hartung, Susan L.				EC4			Talk of the Town
Heissler, Jason B.					DL5		Sunrise Speakers Club
Heissler, Jason B.	EH1						Delightful Greeters Advanced

District 54 Education Awards from 7/1/22 through 4/19/23							
Member	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	DTM & PMENTOR PGM	Club
Hendricks, Ruby		PM2	PM3				Listen, Learn, Lead Club
Hornickel, Bev K.			MS3				Delightful Greeters Advanced
Issa-Ghantous, Julia M.					DL5		Forging Leaders
Janardhanan, Brijesh		IP2	IP3				Power Communicators Club
Jandeska, Katie	PI1						New Lenox Toastmasters
Jawadwala, Fatema		EC2					State Farm Speakeasy Club
Jenkins, Steve		PM2					Advanced Expressives
Johnson, Bridget N.			EC3				Rockford Comm. League
Judd, Sarah			PM3	PM4			State Farm Talk of the South
Kaufman, Kim		VC2	VC3				State Farm Talk of the South
Kenady, Matt			PM3				Forging Leaders
Kind, Kristian	PM1				PI5		New Lenox Toastmasters
Kizer, Kristoffer					VC5		Lincoln-Way Toastmasters
Kostelec, Chris		VC2	VC3	VC4	VC5	PWMNTR	De Kalb Area Toastmasters
Kounduri, Ashwini Kumar	MS1	MS2	MS3	MS4	MS5		Fireside Toastmasters Club
Kreppert, Louis	MS1						Fox River Toastmasters
Kurup, Nandini			LD3				Inspiring Speakers
Kurup, Nandini			IP3				Advanced Expressives
Kyburz, Daniel	LD1	PM2	PM3				Fox River Toastmasters
Kyburz, Daniel	PM1						Timely Talkers Toastmasters
Langevin, Joshua		DL2	DL3				Bridge Builders Club
LaPorte, Troy H.	LD1						Toast of the Fox Club
Lehmann, Jeffery		DL2		DL4	DL5		Toast of Champaign Club
Lehmann, Jeffery	PM1	PM2	DL3				Fireside Toastmasters Club
Lindsay, Marc	MS1	MS2	MS3				Fox River Toastmasters
Lou, Yi			IP3				State Farm Speakeasy Club
Martin, Dalton	SR1	SR2	SR3				ADM Toastmasters
Martin, Katie	PM1	PM2	PM3				Toast of Champaign Club
Menon, Arun			LD3				Lincoln-Way Toastmasters
Michael, Chris	EC1	EC2					ADM Toastmasters
Nash, Rosemary				LD4			ADM Toastmasters
Negi, Saurabh				DL4			State Farm OAKS
Norquist, Richard E.		DL2					Toast of the Fox Club
O'Brien, Justin D.	PM1	PM2					Sunrise Speakers Club
Olson, Patrick				VC4			Quad Cities Easy Speakers
Olvera-Ocampo, Alberto			IP3				Inspiring Speakers
Parker, Kashaun		IP2	IP3				Confident Communicators
Paul, Pierre A.	PI1	PI2					Pimiteoui Club
Pesavento, Wendy	LD1/MS1	LD2/MS2	LD3/MS3	LD4/MS4	MS5	PWMNTR	De Kalb Area Toastmasters
Petravicz, Valerie A.	MS1						Rock On!
Poirier, Dick	PM1						Fox River Toastmasters
Riordan, Nicholas	VC1						Thursday Noon Talkers
Salela, Patty	PM1	PM2					Fox Valley Toastmasters
Scampini Michael J.	PI1						Yes And Toastmasters
Schmehl, Alyssa		EC2					Fox River Toastmasters
Serratore, Mark		EH2					Yes And Toastmasters
Shaik, Reshma Vali	IP1						Astounding Communicators
Slaughter, Elon	IP1	IP2					McKinley Club
Slininger, Edward E.		PM2	PM3	PM4			Pimiteoui Club
Sours, Kenneth R.		IP2					State Farm OAKS
Sreedharan, Bala T.		EH2					John Deere Toastmasters
Stickel, Leann			PM3	PM4			Forging Leaders
Su, Ching-Yuan					PM5		Fireside Toastmasters Club
Traywick, James D.			PI3				Lincoln-Way Toastmasters
Trent, Paula G.				PM4			Inspiring Speakers

District 54 Education Awards from 7/1/22 through 4/19/23							
Member	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	DTM & PWMNTOR PGM	Club
Trowers, Lloyd			PM3	PM4	PM5		Esprit De Corps Club
Vaccaro, Steven			PM3	PM4			New Lenox Toastmasters
Vaughn, Gary A.					DL5		Sunrise Speakers Club
Venecia, Arturo					DL5		Fox River Toastmasters
Venugopal, Vinayak	DL1	DL2					Fox River Toastmasters
Versendaal, Brent	PM1						Rock On!
Walch, Karen		EC2					State Farm Talk of the South
Warren, Kristina L.				DL4			Thursday Noon Talkers
Weber, Dawn	DL1						Pimiteoui Club
Weinreb, Laura		PM2					Pioneer Club
Wilder, Molly			PM3				State Farm Talk of the South
Willison, John T.						DTM	Inspiring Speakers
Willison, John T.				VC4		PWMNTR	Rock On!
Willison, John T.					VC5		Advanced Expressives
Wroblewski, Cecilia L.			EH3				Caterpillar Employees Club
Wroblewski, Ronald	MS1	MS2	MS3				Pimiteoui Club
Wyatt, Jason N.	LD1	LD2	LD3				Toast of Champaign Club
Zaidi, Mesum	IP1	IP2					Fox Valley Toastmasters
Zerbonia, Noel			IP3				Progressively Speaking Club
Zuzevich, Joseph	VC1						Rock On!
Names Unavailable - sorted by Club							
07980396 - Name unavailable	PM1	PM2				PWMNTR	De Kalb Area Toastmasters
05327356 - Name unavailable				DL4	DL5		Forging Leaders
07959949 - Name unavailable	DL1						Forging Leaders
05562390 - Name unavailable			PI3	PI4	PI5		Fox Valley Toastmasters
07093117 - Name unavailable	IP1	IP2	IP3	IP4			Fox Valley Toastmasters
01174512 - Name unavailable		PM2					John Deere Toastmasters
00493269 - Name unavailable	LD1						Key City Toastmasters Club
07957810 - Name unavailable	DL1						Lincoln-Way Toastmasters
07677144 - Name unavailable	VC1	VC2		DL4/PM4	DL5/PM5		Listen, Learn, Lead Club
67483427 - Name unavailable	PM1						Listen, Learn, Lead Club
67483433 - Name unavailable	TC1	TC2	TC3				Listen, Learn, Lead Club
03818594 - Name unavailable				DL4			Logistically Speaking Club
04055685 - Name unavailable			MS3				New Lenox Toastmasters
07791085 - Name unavailable		DL2					Pioneer Club
03782343 - Name unavailable		DL2					Professional Communicators
05769479 - Name unavailable	VC1						Rockford Comm. League
06575754 - Name unavailable				IP4			State Farm OAKS
02382974 - Name unavailable		EH2	LD3				State Farm Windjammers
03604094 - Name unavailable		MS2					Talk of the Town
00616887 - Name unavailable			MS3				Thursday Noon Talkers
07814911 - Name unavailable	PM1						Thursday Noon Talkers
03169364 - Name unavailable				MS4			Timely Talkers Toastmasters
06063206 - Name unavailable				IP4			Timely Talkers Toastmasters

Club Anniversaries

Congratulations to these District 54 clubs, celebrating special anniversaries this Toastmasters year!

Charter	Years	Club name	City
4/1/1947	76	McKinley	Champaign
4/1/1993	30	State Farm Speakeasy	Bloomington
5/1/1993	30	Four Seasons	Bloomington
12/28/2002	20	State Farm Talk of the South	Bloomington

1/23/2003	20	Delightful Greeters Advanced	Bloomington
6/30/2003	20	Thursday Noon Talkers	Bloomington
4/14/2003	20	Lincoln-Way	Frankfort
10/10/2007	15	Advanced Expressives	North Aurora
6/11/2013	10	ADM City Center	Decatur
10/10/2017	5	Bolingbrook Area Chamber of Commerce	Bolingbrook

Toastmasters Abbreviations

ACB	Advanced Communicator Bronze	DivD	Division Director
ACG	Advanced Communicator Gold	DTM	Distinguished Toastmaster
ACS	Advanced Communicator Silver	HPL	High Performance Leadership
AD	Area Director	ID	International Director
AL	Advanced Leader	IPDG or IPDD	Immed. Past District Gov. or Director
ALB	Advanced Leader Bronze	LDREXC	Leadership Excellence (for HPL)
ALS	Advanced Leader Silver	PDG or PDD	Past District Governor or Director
AS	Accredited Speaker	PID	Past International Director
ATMB	Advanced Toastmaster Bronze	PIP	Past International President
ATMG	Advanced Toastmaster Gold	PQD	Program Quality Director
ATMS	Advanced Toastmaster Silver	PRM	Public Relations Manager
CC	Competent Communicator	SAA	Sergeant at Arms
CGD	Club Growth Director	TI	Toastmasters International
CL	Competent Leader	TLI	Toastmasters Leadership Institute
CSP	Certified Speaking Professional	TM	Toastmaster
CTM	Competent Toastmaster	VPED	Vice President Education
DD	District Director	VPM	Vice President Membership
DC	District Council	VPPR	Vice President Public Relations
DEC	District Executive Committee	WHQ	World Headquarters
Pathways Education Achievements			
DL	Dynamic Leadership	PI	Persuasive Influence
EC	Effective Coaching	PM	Presentation Mastery
EH	Engaging Humor	SR	Strategic Relationships
IP	Innovative Planning	TC	Team Collaboration
LD	Leadership Development	VC	Visionary Communication
MS	Motivational Strategies	PWMENTORPGM	Pathways Mentor Program

Sample Humorous Speech Contest Judging Form



Humorous Speech Contest

Judge's Guide and Ballot

JUDGING ITEMS		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		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										
Speech Development Structure, Organization, Support Material	C O N T E N T 5 5	15	12-14	10-11	0-9										
Effectiveness Achievement of Purpose, Interest, Reception		10	8-9	6-7	0-5										
Speech Value Ideas, Logic, Original Thought		15	12-14	10-11	0-9										
Audience Response Attentiveness, Laughter, Interest, Reception		15	12-14	10-11	0-9										
Physical Appearance, Body Language, Speaking Area	D E L I V E R Y 3 0	10	8-9	6-7	0-5										
Voice Flexibility, Volume		10	8-9	6-7	0-5										
Manner Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm		10	8-9	6-7	0-5										
Appropriateness To Speech Purpose And Audience	L A N G U A G E 1 5	10	8-9	6-7	0-5										
Correctness Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection		5	4	3	0-2										
TOTAL SCORE (100 Points Possible)															

(Detach and submit to counters)

Judge's Official Ballot – Humorous Speech Contest

NOTE: Votes must be cast for first, second and third place or the ballot will be voided.

Name of Contestant

First Place:

Second Place:

Third Place:

PLACE **RANKING POINTS**
(for counters' use only)

First Place 3 points

Second Place 2 points

Third Place 1 point

(Signature of Judge)

(Judge's Name; Please Print)

Sample Humorous Speech Contest Judging Form

Judging Criteria

Content (55%)

Speech Development is the way the speaker puts ideas together so the audience can understand them. The speech is structured around a purpose, and this structure must include an opening, body and conclusion. A good speech immediately engages the audience's attention and then moves forward toward a significant conclusion. This development of the speech structure is supported by relevant examples and illustrations, facts and figures, delivered with such smoothness that they blend into the framework of the speech to present the audience with a unified whole.

Effectiveness is measured in part by the audience's reception of the speech, but a large part is your subjective judgement of how the speech came across. You should ask yourself such questions as "Was I able to determine the speaker's purpose?" "Did the speech relate directly to that purpose?" "Was the audience's interest held by the speaker?" "Was this speech subject appropriate for this particular audience?"

Speech Value justifies the act of speaking. The speaker has a responsibility to say something meaningful and original to the audience. The listeners should feel the speaker has made a contribution to their thinking. The ideas should be important ones, although this does not preclude a humorous presentation of them.

Audience Response reflects the audience's reaction to the speech. Did the speech hold the audience's interest? Did people understand and laugh at the humor?

Delivery (30%)

Physical presentation of a speech carries part of the responsibility for effective communication. The speaker's appearance should reinforce the speech, whether profound, sad, humorous or instructional. Body language should support points through gestures, expressions and body positioning. The speaker makes effective use of and stays within the designated speaking area.

Voice is the sound that carries the message. It should be flexible, moving from one pitch level to another for emphasis, and should have a variety of rate and volume. A good voice can be clearly heard and the words easily understood.

Manner is the indirect revelation of the speaker's real self as the speech is delivered. The speaker should speak with enthusiasm and assurance, showing interest in the audience and confidence in their reactions.

Language (15%)

Appropriateness of language refers to the choice of words that relate to the speech purpose and to the particular audience hearing the speech. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and should fit the occasion precisely.

Correctness of language ensures that attention will be directed toward what the speaker says, not how it is said. Proper use of grammar and correct pronunciation will show that the speaker is the master of the words being used.

Judge's Code of Ethics

1. Judges will demonstrate the utmost objectivity. Judges will consciously avoid bias of any kind in selecting first, second, and third place contestants. Judges will not consider any contestant's club, Area, Division, District, or region affiliation. Judges will not consider any contestant's age, sex, race, creed, national origin, disability, profession, or political beliefs.
2. Judges will not time the speeches and will not consider the possibility of undertime or overtime when judging a contestant's speech.
3. Judges will support by word and deed the contest rules and judging standards, refrain from public criticism of the contest, and only reveal participation as a judge, selected scores, and the ranking assigned in accordance with speech contest rules.
4. Judges will not be a member of the same club as any contestant when judging at the Division and District levels.
5. Judges will have no conflict of interest with any of the contestants that would cause bias.

Sample International Speech Contest Judging Form



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	20	14-19	9-13	0-8										
Effectiveness Achievement of Purpose, Interest, Reception		15	11-14	6-10	0-5										
Speech Value Ideas, Logic, Original Thought		50	15	11-14	6-10	0-5									
Physical Appearance, Body Language, Speaking Area	DELIVERY	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Voice Flexibility, Volume		10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Manner Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm		30	10	7-9	4-6	0-3									
Appropriateness To Speech Purpose And Audience	LANGUAGE	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Correctness Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection		20	10	7-9	4-6	0-3									
TOTAL SCORE (100 Points Possible)															

(Detach and submit to counters)

Judge's Official Ballot – International Speech Contest

NOTE: Votes must be cast for first, second and third place or the ballot will be voided.

Write contestants' names in the space below. Counters will assign points.

First Place (receives three points): _____

Second Place (receives two points): _____

Third Place (receives one point): _____

(Signature of Judge)

(Judge's Name; Please Print)

Sample International Speech Contest Judging Form

Judging Criteria

Content (50%)

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4. Judges will not be a member of the same club as any contestant when judging at the Division, District, region quarterfinal, semifinal, and final levels.
5. Judges will have no conflict of interest with any of the contestants that would cause bias.

District 54 2023 Annual Conference Committee

A big **Thank You** to our team who helped plan and execute our virtual conference:

Conference Chair	Bonnie Tippey
Education Committee	Jon Greiner, Tom Willison, Dick Poirier
Registration Chair	Chris Boyk
PR Chair and Program Book	Dick Poirier
Humorous & International Contest Chair	Jason Heissler
Humorous & International Contest Master	Vishal Visintine
Contests Chief Judge	Bala Sreedharan
Banner Parade Chair	Lino Carrillo
SAA/Zoom Master Chair	Abraham Gunaseelan
Credentials Chair	Tom Willison
Club Growth Director	Darrel Felty
Program Quality Director	Heather Blase
District Director	Bonnie Tippey



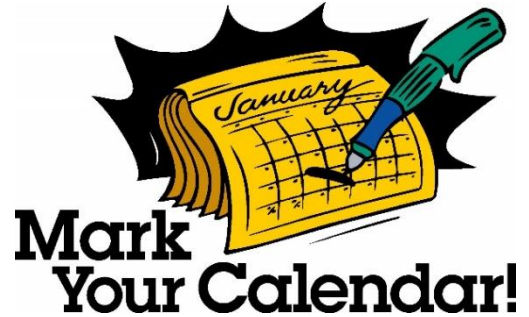
Mark your Calendar

Summer 2023 – D54 Toastmasters Leadership Institute (officer training) **(TLI's will be virtual, unless noted)**

TLI #1 – July 8 (possibly in person) or 9, 2023

TLI #2 - July 10 & 11, 2023

TLI #3 - July 15 (possibly in person) or 16, 2022



Check back on www.d54tm.com as more details are developed.

August 16-19, 2023 - Toastmasters International Annual Convention

Hybrid (in person and virtual) format with in person portion in Nassau, Bahamas

For more information and registration, visit: <https://www.toastmasters.org/events>

2024 – D54 Toastmasters Annual Conference

Dates and venue TBD.

If you are interested in helping plan and execute the 2024 – D54 Annual Conference, please contact Bonnie Tippey: tibohe@frontier.com

Check back on www.d54tm.com as plans are developed.