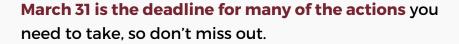
DISTRICT 60



NEWSLETTER

Our Family Is Growing!

And our "Grow The Family" Initiative is in full swing. Clubs are already racking up points that will help them achieve a **US\$200 prize** - <u>you can see full details here</u> and, if you need any help, ask your Area Director.







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Supercharge Your Passion!

Registration for the District Conference is now open. Join us on May 10 and 11 for a day and a half of energizing experiences, including:

- 8 workshops on leadership, communications, and personal and career development led by subject matter experts
- 1 special keynote speaker
- International Speech, Evaluation and Table Topic contests
- Opening Ceremony and Parade of Banners
- Communication and Leadership Award lunch
- George Keenan Award celebration
- DTM ceremony
- Hall of Fame celebrating educational and leadership accomplishments
- District Director's Dinner.

We're hybrid, so you can attend in-person or online. Check out all the <u>registration packages right here</u>.

Getting Ready For Conference

Conference is just 10 weeks away, but there are a couple of items you need to action much sooner:

- 1. Nominations for the George Keenan Award close on March 15th. If you know a Toastmaster who goes above and beyond to bring the benefits of Toastmasters to current and potential members, nominate them now using this link.
- 2. Dust off your club banner, and make sure it's looking sparkling for the Parade of Banners.

New Member Orientation

A very warm welcome to the 650 new members who have joined a District 60 club since July 1!

We hope you're enjoying your club meetings, and already seeing the benefits of regularly practicing your communication and leadership skills. You - and longer-standing members - are invited to join us for a one hour orientation session that will unpack all the value you can gain, including some unexpected (and little known) benefits.



These sessions are online only, 7.00-8.00pm. Register for your preferred date using these links: March 19, Tuesday April 17, Wednesday May 15, Wednesday June 20, Thursday

CLUB STORIES

Club Anniversaries



District 60 celebrates the success of its clubs that are completing another year of helping people hone their communication and leadership skills, and enriching the lives of their members. Click on the clubs' names to know more about them.

- Deloitte Toronto Toastmasters turns 12 on March 1
- Royal Class Club turns 35 on March 1
- Deer Park Toastmasters Club turns 36 on March 1
- Goodyear Toastmasters Club turns 43 on March 1
- LCBO Toastmasters turns 25 on March 1
- Downtown Achievers turns 16 on March 6
- Inspiring Women Toastmasters turns 2 on March 8
- Orange Nation turns 7 on March 10
- Smart City Speakers turns 4 on March 12
- The Communicators Toastmasters Club (BMO) turns 19 on March 14

- 1 For U KSS Toastmasters turns 15 on March 17
- Ebony Toastmasters Club turns 18 on March 21
- Eglinton-Yonge Toastmasters turns 16 on March 27

Fastest 10 DCP - Inspiring Women Toastmasters



Continued on the next page...

Inspiring Women Toastmasters chartered on International Women's Day on March 8th, 2022. Less than 4 months later by the end of its first term on June 30th, 2022 it became a Distinguished Club. and a President's Distinguished Club the following 2022-23 term. This term Inspiring Women Toastmasters became the first club in D60 to become

President's Distinguished on January 10th, and the first to receive a maximum of 10 DCP points on January 20th.

Membership is open to all genders as a safe space to lift up, and to be inspired by, the voices of women and their supporters.

Special features of a regular Inspiring Women Toastmasters meeting includes a wonderful stretch to keep us energized before the meeting starts, an education tip or inspirational moment, and breakout rooms to allow members/guests to connect in smaller groups after the meeting time permitting.

-Article contributed by Angela Ho, VPEd/Treasurer, Inspiring Women Toastmasters

BEYOND THE CLUB

Message from the Program Quality Director...



David Veights, PQD

Open Houses!

Club Officers! Are you trying to attract more guests to your Club Meetings? Consider holding an Open House!

April is a great month to hold Open Houses because:

- By April, all Club-level and most (if not all) Area-level international Speech Contests will have been concluded.
- An Open House in April will align nicely with the April 1 Dues Renewal at Toastmasters International

District 60 is here to support you. The District 60 website includes a number of resources that you can use to plan your event, including checklists, tips and tricks on holding Open Houses, and many more. Simply hover over the "Resources" Tab on the D60 website and then click the <u>Open House Resources link</u> - it is that easy! Here is a snapshot of the page:



Some additional resources may be found on the Toastmasters International Website by clicking here.

Of course, please reach out to your Area or Division Director if you have any questions.

By the way, Talk-Up Toastmasters, one of the Membership Building Programs of Toastmasters International, runs until March 31. Clubs that add five new, dual or reinstated members will receive recognition and potentially earn a 10% discount on their next order from Toastmasters International. More information may be found at Talk Up Toastmasters.

Plan now for a Club Open House in April! It will greatly help the Club achieve the fourth item in the "Grow the Family" initiative - "Count Your Guests" and better position the club toward winning the \$200 US prize!

Division International Speech Contests

Get ready for the Division-level International Speech Contests. The Contests will be held in hybrid format, with the in-person venue at 30 Adelaide Avenue East (the same location as the Division-level Evaluation and Table Topics Contests) on March 16, 2024 (for Divisions D, F & A) and March 23, 2024 (for Divisions B, E &C). Registration is now live through Eventbrite. Register today by going to the <u>Events Calendar on the D60 Website</u> and clicking the Division Contest(s) of your choice!

Message from the Club Growth Director...



Teamwork or Nothing!

Leaders set BIG, HAIRY, AUDACIOUS goals. But who delivers?

In the eight months since this term began, I have come to realize that it's teamwork or nothing. Hence, a shout-out to the members of my team!

Starting a new club is pure joy. Only because **Johanne** doubles down to ensure her team members stay the course so the club charter kick-off meeting (at Flexitallic, our 2nd!) goes off without surprises, while **Andrew Mertens** (a friend of the team) with seeming nonchalance executes on another (at Capgemini, our 3rd!), and another (at Munich RE, our

Shubha Amba, CGD

4th!) and yet another (at Sunnybrook, our 5th!) alongside **Janet** who warmly beckons the audience to attempt impromptu speaking with her words that sparkle like well-polished gems. With four more strong leads in the hopper, building 10 new clubs doesn't seem like a far cry, but their work is certainly cut out.

Rhonda with her beaming searchlight probes the membership for the best support (club sponsors and club mentors) to nurture these fledgling clubs to ensure a strong foundation so they may soar.

Helping struggling clubs tugs at heartstrings. As Dave listens to their stories, his heart bleeds. Determined by their plight, he soldiers down a long winding dark trench determined to take them to the light. While Andrew Horberry (another friend of the team) keeps a vigil with an extended hand to those striving to resurface in good standing. FYI: 5 clubs back in good standing; 4 not in good standing; 3 likely to dissolve and 3 dissolved.

Minard and Louise scan the membership, one member at a time, infusing inspiration and encouragement to those who wish to maximize their Toastmasters experience, while Glynis feeds me the much needed doses of wisdom on team management.





Tim Sulisz



Stephen Schroeder

A special shout-out to Tim Sulisz for sharing his insights on struggling clubs and to Stephen Schroeder for joining hands in directing hand-raisers to our clubs as guests so they may reach their goal of 20 members. And to all the unnamed - whether as part of a club kick-off team, in club support roles, or saviours of their clubs - who by extension are a part of this team: Muchos Gracias!

Yes Team! Because of your hard work and selfless dedication to the District, we will deliver. Without you there would be nothing. So, Thank You from the bottom of my heart!

Message from the Public Relations Manager...

Amplify Your Voice and Win \$200USD with Grow the Family Initiative!

As your dedicated PR Manager, I'm excited to share the incredible strides we've made since the launch of our <u>Grow the Family</u> initiative last month. The response has been phenomenal, and we're well on our way to not just expanding our Toastmasters community but creating a ripple effect of growth and success.

To make the journey even more rewarding, we're offering a fantastic incentive: the chance to win \$200US for your club! How? It's simple - participate actively in our initiative. Update your club's website and TI Club Page, engage on social media, create guest kits, and



Yukta, PRM

ensure timely responses to the potential new members. Check out the comprehensive details and deadlines here.

Remember, the responsibility of public relations doesn't fall solely on the shoulders of the VP of PR. **Each member** is a brand ambassador, representing the club and contributing to its growth. Embrace this opportunity, not only to win, but to enhance your confidence and influencing skills.

In our commitment to supporting your efforts, we've been running monthly advertisements on social media and in print. The response has been overwhelming, and the district team is actively engaging with interested individuals. We take the time to understand their preferences, guiding them to the clubs that align with their schedules and preferences.

For any support or guidance you might need in your club's journey towards growth, don't hesitate to reach out. We're here for you – whether it's about increasing membership or enhancing the overall quality of your club. Together, let's continue to grow, inspire, and achieve excellence!

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Frankly Speaking with Bruce Laing



Bruce Laing

Embark on a journey of inspiration with Bruce Laing, a seasoned Toastmaster of 18 years, whose transformative experience is now shared on **Frankly Speaking** series on the <u>Toastmasters District 60 YouTube channel</u>. A trailblazer in every sense, Bruce is the founding member of three clubs, served as Area Director (twice) and Division Director, and currently holds the roles of President, VP of Education, and Sargent-at-Arms across various clubs, apart from being the Newsletter Proofreader for the past six years in a row. An Honorary member of clubs in Europe and England, Bruce exemplifies the profound impact Toastmasters can have on one's communication skills and personal growth. Tune in to his interview for a testament to the limitless potential waiting for you in the Toastmasters community.

CANDIDATES FOR 2024-25 D60 LEADERSHIP

Every year, the District Leadership Committee (DLC) evaluates and nominates candidates for District elected roles. The DLC Chair, appointed by the District Director by November 1, selects committee members by December 1, ensuring equal Division representation. The DLC ensures timely processes, identifies qualified candidates, meets regularly to assess candidates, confirms qualifications, and nominates the required number of candidates for each District office. Click here to read more about the process.

Below you have the opportunity to meet the people who are running for an elected position in the 2024-2025 District 60 leadership election scheduled for Wednesday May 8, 2024.

The District Leadership Committee has nominated the following qualified candidates for the following District 60 roles for the 2024/25 Toastmasters year.

Many thanks to the District Leadership Committee of Renee Chan, Brian Master, Adelin Brunal, Pandora Chung, Joe Ciccone and Leticia Sanchez. A commitment to excellence, thoughtful and robust discussions ... they have been a fantastic team to work with - thank you all!

The nominated candidates are:



District Director: David Veights



Program Quality Director: Shubha Amba



Club Growth
Director: Yukta



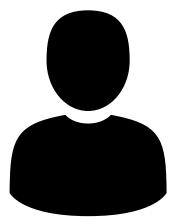
Club Growth Director: Gin Aldeguer



Division A Director: Adrian De Souza



Division B Director: Monti Ghai



Division C Director:
Open Position



Division D Director: Yolanda Haywood



Division E Director: Caroline Nguyen



Division F Director: Helen Du

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE FEATURED IN THE UPCOMING NEWSLETTER?

District 60 is looking forward to featuring you on its next edition. Are you ready with your story about the impact you have created through Toastmasters? As a group, or an individual, if you think you have a story that's extraordinary and can inspire more than 100 clubs, reach out to us now. <u>Click here</u> and share more details.