

# TEDXZumbroRiver 2016

## Local Speaker Line Up

### Local Speaker #1

#### **Tori Utley**

*"Entrepreneur and Addiction Recovery Advocate"*



Tori Utley is an entrepreneur working jointly in technology innovation and addiction recovery, holding an M.B.A. and an addictions counseling license in Minnesota. By day, she works as a mobile Product Manager at Mayo Clinic and is working with the Department of Psychiatry and Psychology on a new mobile application, "MoodCheck" for mood-monitoring and digital health. Outside of Mayo Clinic, she is the Founder and CEO of an early-stage tech and social venture startup company, Tinua, with the goal of reducing monetary waste by reallocating for social impact. She is also the Founder and Executive Director of More Than An

Addict, an organization committed to the reduction of addiction stigma through promoting education, employment, and entrepreneurship for individuals in long-term recovery, as well as the Co-Founder and Executive Director of an upcoming innovation to addiction treatment and sober housing, with the goal of keeping recovering individuals "safe, sober, now." In addition to her work with addiction recovery, she is a Contributing Writer with Forbes and serves as the Director of Strategic Engagement at Mission 21, an anti-trafficking organization in Minnesota.

[tori@morethanaddict.org](mailto:tori@morethanaddict.org)

## Local Speaker #2

### Joyce Balls-Berry

*Inspirational Speaker and Transformer of Inabilities*



Joyce (aka Joy) Balls-Berry is a connoisseur of fine shoes and food. Despite being diagnosed with dyslexia in childhood, Joy is an avid reader. Joy is an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and serves as the Program Manager for the Office for Community Engagement in Research in the Mayo Clinic Center for Clinical and Translational Science. She is a psychiatric epidemiologist and a health educator. She completed her undergraduate education at Xavier University of Louisiana and received graduate training at Washington University

School of Medicine and The University of Toledo. Joy completed a post-doctoral research fellowship in health equity, epidemiology, and biostatistics at the University of Florida. Her scientific focus is to increase awareness of the importance of collaborative research partnerships among scientists, potential study participants, healthcare providers, peer scientists, and the community. This work fosters the active engagement of diverse groups to increase health-research literacy and, ultimately, improve health. Joy is an active member of several national and international health-related research organizations and an ad hoc reviewer for several medical journals. Recently, Joy began sharing her struggles with dyslexia with her students. This helps to inspire these students to reach their full potential and find their passions despite what some may see as what she calls “inabilities”. She is an active board member of several educational foundations including the Rochester Community and Technical College Foundation and The Reading Center. She even finds time to serve as an advocate for educational advancement for students in her hometown of St. Louis, Missouri. Joy lives in Rochester, Minnesota with her husband, Bernard Berry, a professional musician and music educator.

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# Local Speaker #3

## Randall Munson

*Ventriloquist and World-Renowned Clown*



Randall's refreshing blend of inspiration and practicality, delivered with warmth, humor, and magic, has propelled him into the [Speakers Hall of Fame](#). Not surprisingly, Randall has garnered more than [100 Gold Medals in the International Speaker Olympics](#), an IBM Award for Excellence, and is the first person to be honored as a [Distinguished Speaker](#). Having spoken in 40 countries across 6 continents, Randall earned the [Certified Speaking Professional](#) designation which has been achieved by only 7% of the professional speakers in the world.

### **As an executive:**

Randall has been named one of "[The Worlds Greatest Business Mentors](#)." His messages stem from a rock solid business foundation: an IBM Program Manager and an IBM Executive Advocate, who for 20 years led IBM research and development projects with management, architecture, education, and marketing responsibilities. He also held an executive position for 5 years in the Target Corporation. Randall is listed in the **International Who's Who of Professionals**. He was the **Vice President of Administration** at Crossroads College and member of the **Board of Directors** of Hope International University.

He is the founder and president of Creatively Speaking®.

### **As a best-selling author:**

Randall is the best-selling author of 9 books including [Create The Business Breakthrough You Want](#), [Humor 101](#), and [Creativity 102](#). He shares his insights from platforms around the world and through his writing in a column in an international magazine and numerous published articles. His acclaimed electronic magazine, [Business Magic®](#), is read monthly by thousands of decision makers in all 50 states and more than 70 countries around the world who want to experience the magic of Randall's creative insights, ideas and inspirations for themselves and their businesses.

### **As an educator:**

Randall is an expert at conveying complex, abstract, and potentially dry information in a manner that's engaging and easy for the audience to grasp. **IBM's highest rated instructor**, he has designed and taught courses for the **IBM Advanced Business Institute**, IBM Management and Technical Education, Asia/Pacific Marketing Masters Seminars, and served as an **Adjunct Professor** at the University of Wisconsin. Randall holds an M.S. degree in Computer and Information Science from the University of Minnesota.

### **As an entertainer:**

Randall's talents as a master magician, comic ventriloquist, emcee, and professional clown contribute to his ability to captivate audiences in any setting -- including **MGM Grand** in Las Vegas, **Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus**, **Disneyland**, **Disney World**, and **The White House**. He has made televised appearances internationally and has been featured on major network broadcasts. Randall has won 40 national and international entertainment awards, and his likeness has been displayed in the **Clown Hall of Fame** and the **Smithsonian Institution**.

[Randall@CreativelySpeaking.com](mailto:Randall@CreativelySpeaking.com)

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## Local Speaker #4

### **Anthony Desnick**

*Architect, Urban Designer, and Bike Advocate*



Tony Desnick is a parent, educator, architect, urban designer, blogger, bike activist and bike share promoter. As Director for Development and New Projects with Nice Ride Minnesota, he looks after bike programs in Greater Minnesota. He also works with companies to help them sponsor Nice Ride to promote biking as a legitimate form of daily transportation. He writes for the blogs, [minneapolisize.com](http://minneapolisize.com) and [streets.mn](http://streets.mn) where he makes a case for bikes saving the world from itself. He sits on the Board of Directors for Smart Trips St. Paul, the St. Paul TMO. Most days you'll find him on his "barkfiets" carrying his greyhound Lucy to and from work. He has been riding a bike for 55 years and rides everyday of the year.

[desnick@mac.com](mailto:desnick@mac.com)

# Local Speaker #5

## Chris Sched

*Beekeeper and Master Naturalist*



Chris is a biologist by training, with several peer-reviewed papers published in scientific journals. He works at the Mayo Clinic as an Operations Manager in a unit tasked with moving genomics into the medical practice. He is a certified Master Naturalist, sits on the Olmsted County Parks commission, and is a past president of the SE Minnesota Beekeepers Association. Several years ago he restored a portion of his home property to native prairie, and shortly after that began keeping bees. He currently manages honeybees on his rural Rochester, MN property plus on other sites in the region. He is co-founder and president of The Bee Shed LLC, which produces and sells honey through regional stores, sells beekeeping supplies to beekeepers, and teaches beginner beekeeping

courses in several communities in the region.

Chris' vision is to soften the hard edges of urban and suburban ecosystems by re-introducing native prairie grasses and wildflowers back into the American landscape.

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# Local Speaker #6

## Julie Brock

*Educator & Failure-Embracer*



Julie Brock, educator of 16 years, works to create more experiential learning opportunities for students in southeast Minnesota as Director of Workforce and Education at the Rochester Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

Creator of [offthegridedu.com](http://offthegridedu.com), Brock encourages parents, students and educators alike to get off the systematic grid and try a new approach to education that makes room for community partnerships and failure. Through her Master's work in Human Development at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, Brock focused on messaging and motivation. The messages we cement early and often are the ones we believe

and then allow to steer our lives. "The best thing we can do for our future is to encourage them to analyze their life without judgement. Encourage them to find where passion and skill set intersect, and pursue that honey spot. It doesn't happen overnight, and it doesn't happen without failures. Expect failure, praise it when it happens, applaud when they recover, and what they will be left with is the key to success: a life examined."

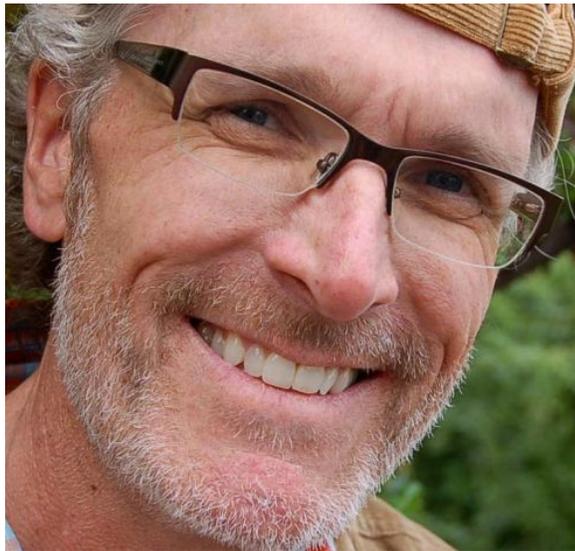
Julie Brock resides in Eyota, Minnesota with her husband Randy and their two sons, Drew (12) and Owen (9). Oh, and the English Setters, Lenny and Brandy.

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# Local Speaker #7

## Jim Maher

*Biochemist and Molecular Biologist*



Jim Maher, 55, has been a scientist at Mayo Clinic since 1995, where he is a professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, and is dean of Mayo Graduate School, the PhD training program of the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. Maher received his BS and PhD degrees in molecular biology from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. He did postdoctoral research training at the California Institute of Technology. Maher directs a basic science research laboratory with professional technician employees, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate student apprentices. All of these scientists perform

and publish cutting-edge molecular biology research. The Maher lab is funded by competitive grants from the National Institutes of Health and other agencies and foundations. His research interests involve understanding how very long DNA molecules are folded and packaged inside cells, whether new kinds of drugs can be made using RNA molecules, and how some cancers are caused by defects in cell metabolism.

Maher is married with two grown daughters. His wife, Laura, works in Mayo Clinic's Cancer Education Center. In his free time Maher is an avid musician in the Rochester community and is passionate about serving the congregation of Autumn Ridge Church. He is also particularly fond of his house rabbit, Kyle. Maher blogs about life, science, and faith at [jim-maher.blogspot.com](http://jim-maher.blogspot.com).

[maher@mayo.edu](mailto:maher@mayo.edu)

## Local Speaker #8

### Victor Montori

*Healthcare Revolutionary*



Victor M. Montori, MD is a Professor of Medicine at Mayo Clinic. An endocrinologist and health services researcher, Dr. Montori is the author of more than 500 peer-reviewed publications and is recognized as among the top 1% of researchers with most cited papers in clinical medicine worldwide in the last decade. He is a recognized expert in evidence-based medicine and shared decision making, and developer of the concept of minimally disruptive medicine. He works in Rochester, Minnesota, at the Knowledge and Evaluation Research (KER) Unit, to create a patient revolution.

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