

Michael Kalberer

Nationally & Locally Featured Speaker



www.michaeljkalbererpresents.com

Featured Speaker at Spring Forward Fundraiser for Foundation Fighting Blindness

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Available to travel



BIO: LIVING MY LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS

Michael Kalberer is a native Long Islander with Cerebral Palsy and lives with a retinal degenerative disease which slowly robbed him of usable sight. Michael earned his BA in Psychology and Speech Communications from Hofstra University as well as his Master's degree in Social Work from Adelphi University. Michael has a passion to empower all individuals and embraces every opportunity to educate, inform and interact with family, friends, students and audiences. Anyone who's had the pleasure of knowing Michael acquires knowledge on how to enjoy life and transcend their limitations, while experiencing the unconditional support and friendship Michael extends to all.

A New York State Licensed Social Worker, Michael has given lectures on a multitude of topics such as stress and time management, the transition to college life, and disability etiquette. As a guest lecturer at Hofstra University and other Universities, Michael specializes in helping those who wish to sustain relationships with him, reach their full potential. Michael removes social stigma and continues to change the medical and societal definition of disability through his belief that Humanity brings us together and unites us more than any group of limitations segregates us.

Michael has appeared on national TV, speaking in an effort to end prejudice. He continues to capture and inspire audiences to whom he speaks, through his use of humor and his authentic nature.

I had the honor of meeting Michael at a Foundation Fighting Blindness event. Michael inspired me immediately with his friendliness, wit, great story telling and positivity. I was struck with Michael's deeply inquisitive nature and desire to understand who I was from the moment we met. Michael has a passion for living with great purpose and in also encouraging others to do the same. His ability to reach every person in a room with his words is incredible and I know that not a single person leaves unaffected. I am so grateful to have had the privilege of meeting and continuing to learn more about my dear friend. - Jen Kim

MAJOR LIFE CHANGE/LOSS – STRESS MANAGEMENT

Key Points: Discuss job loss and disability.

THE ART OF COLLABORATION: AUTHENTIC WORKPLACE COMPLIANCE AND ACCEPTANCE

Key Points: Communication Etiquette during Initial Meeting.

Provide examples of effective communication in individual and group interviews through personal experience.

Will teach audience members how to adjust lighting and other environmental factors, including proxemic and special communication, body language and greeting those with disabilities.

A brief overview of Legislation and Government entities designed to assist individuals with disabilities in the acquisition of gainful employment.

Article 2 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, a brief discussion of the original Social Securities act of 1935 and how the law still applies today. Emphasis on supported employment, WIPA, and discussion about Public Law 3806. Refer audience members to www.NCD.gov for further reference after presentation.

Creating the least restrictive environment not only with the design of office space, but with an attitude of collaboration and compliance.

Assisted technology, headsets, height adjustable desks will be discussed here.

Differences between voice recognition software and other assistive technologies will also be covered.

True workplace acceptance. The vocational assessment process must be continuous and remain in the spirit of collaboration. A straight-faced perspective on disability is the cornerstone of this portion of my presentation. Examples of the unique strengths and abilities of individuals with autism and other intellectual disabilities will be briefly discussed. Short anecdotes as to my success as an entrepreneur, writer and tutor will show audience members how to join their recipients of service, and colleagues in assessing work readiness and removing barriers to productivity.

VICTORY OVER VICTIMIZATION

Key Points: Growth opportunities, evolving in the workplace and evolving in life.

EMPOWER YOURSELF BY TRANSCENDING LABELS

Key Points: From label to strength. Label to organization and classify is key but further labeling can lead to misconception. Victory Over Victimization!