

# Michael Kalberer

Nationally & Locally Featured Speaker



[www.michaeljkalbererpresents.com](http://www.michaeljkalbererpresents.com)

Special Instructor at Hofstra University & Adelphi University

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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 pleasure of watching your presentation in my class yesterday. I came to class after having, what I thought was, a rough day. I was really thinking about dropping out of Grad School because of my anxieties and how stressful it has been. My dream is to become a high school English/ Special Ed teacher and I will have my masters this coming May. It all seems so great but I've been truly searching for happiness in life lately, something that seems very hard to find. - Taylor

### COMPLIANCE

**Key Point:** Instruction on how to create the least restrictive physical environment will cultivate a classroom environment of authentic acceptance.

### EMPOWER YOURSELF BY TRANSCENDING LABELS

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

### APPRECIATING DIVERSITY WHEN COMMUNICATING FROM A STRENGTHS-BASED PERSPECTIVE

**Key Point:** There is far more that unites us than divides us. Every individual has unique abilities that allow them to contribute to the greater good in a classroom, workplace, professional setting or in life.

### THE ART OF COLLABORATION: AUTHENTIC WORKPLACE AND CLASSROOM COMPLIANCE AND ACCEPTANCE

**Key Points:** Communication etiquette during learning and/or interview process.

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

Will teach audience members and education professionals how to adjust lighting and other environmental factors, including proxemic and spatial 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 educational success and gainful employment.

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

True classroom acceptance. The assessment process must be continuous and remain in the spirit of collaboration. A strengths based perspective on disability is the cornerstone of this portion of my presentation. Examples of the unique strengths and abilities of individuals with "limitations" will be briefly discussed. Short anecdotes as to my success as an entrepreneur, educator and tutor will show audience members how to join their recipients of service, and colleagues in assessing academic performance and removing barriers to productivity.

### THE PROVISION OF PERSON-CENTERED CULTURAL COMPETENCE

**Key Point:** Learning how to join and appreciate the individual's perception of where they are in the pursuit of success and acceptance.

### EDUCATION THROUGHOUT THE LIFESPAN

**Key Points:** Address stress management and how it impacts academic performance for elementary through college education, and beyond!

Kindergarten – Third Grade, Fourth – Eighth grade. Higher education stress management - test anxieties.

