

SPEAKER PORTFOLIO

2026-2027 Academic Year



TIGGER STAVOLA FOUNDATION
DRUG PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

EST. 2013



A key component of the Tigger Stavola Foundation's drug prevention education offering is the motivational speaker program.

Our foundation is pleased to offer these vetted, professional speakers free of cost to our Partner Schools.

Please review our portfolio to select a speaker who fits your school's needs in terms of audience age and topic.

To ensure the efficient allocation of resources, prior approval from the Foundation is mandatory to engage with any of our listed presenters.

Please reach us via the contact information below with any questions or to contract a speaker.

Cheryl Stavola
cheryl@tiggerstavolafoundation.org
732-245-8724

Dr. Matt Bellace

Delivering Better Highs and Healthier Lows

Audience: Grades 4-12

Topic:

Natural Highs, Mental Health & Resilience

- Natural Highs - Better Highs
- Connecting drug & alcohol abuse, mental health
- Impact of substance use on brain development
- Dealing with disappointment
- Coping mechanisms
- Increasing self esteem



Dr. Bellace has a PhD in clinical psychology with a subspecialty in clinical neuropsychology, the study of the brain and behavior. He was twice awarded the Student Intramural Research and Training Award (IRTA) in neuroscience by the National Institutes of Mental Health. His clinical training included working with patients at the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital (Philadelphia), assessing learning disorders in a pediatric neuropsychology private practice and performing cognitive behavioral therapy at Drexel University's Student Counseling Center.

Matt started out speaking to small groups at local high schools and colleges, but quickly grew to national conferences, professional organizations and the military. He has spoken in forty-eight US states, Canada and Switzerland. Annually, Matt's program reaches over 100,000 people.

As a stand-up comedian, Matt has performed at clubs and colleges across the country, including Gotham Comedy Club and The Comic Strip in New York City. Matt's comedy credits include truTV's hit show The World's Dumbest, the 2005 Just for Laughs Festival in Montreal, National Public Radio and The New York Times.

Matt is the author of the bestselling books A Better High (Wyatt MacKenzie, 2012), which is a humorous look at the comparison between natural highs and chemical highs. His most recent book uses humor to reimagine how we deal with pain, loss and failure, titled Life Is Disappointing and Other Inspiring Thoughts (Wyatt MacKenzie, 2021). He was a contributing author for the National Geographic Kids series This or That and online magazine Edutopia.

<https://www.mattbellace.com/>

Geo Derice

Unlocking & Maximizing a Student's Full Potential

Audience: Grades 6-12

Topics:

- Bullying prevention
- Building resilience
- Optimizing potential during school years
- Focus & engagement in a distracted world
- Student leadership



Geo Derice is a dynamic motivational speaker, entrepreneur, founder of 20/20 Living Inc. and author of "The Thirst Is Real," a transformative guide dedicated to helping students unlock and maximize their full potential. Geo provides inspiration and practical strategies to foster success among today's youth.

His remarkable ability to connect with students has earned him praise from FindSpark, the nation's largest meet-up group for interns and recent graduates, which named him one of the top 30 black professionals whose careers inspire others. Geo also partners with youth empowerment organizations like the Yogi Berra Museum and Foundations for Life.

Growing up in Brooklyn, NY, Geo excelled as a scholar-athlete, winning numerous awards and embodying the principles of excellence and hard work instilled by his parents. He returned to his high school to coach the football team for three years. Many of his former players credited his mentorship for their successes.

Geo's relatable, heartfelt approach makes him a compelling choice for those seeking a motivational speaker who truly understands and uplifts the student experience. He inspires tomorrow's leaders to create environments that are welcoming and fosters growth and opportunity.

Geo has presented at several schools in Monmouth County as well as in NYC teaching students how to create a vision and leave their mark as leaders. He inspires tomorrow's leaders to create environments that are welcoming and that foster growth and opportunity.

<https://geospeaks.com>

Robert Hackenson, Jr.

Don't Get Lectured, Get
Entertained!

Audience: Grades 4-12

Topics:

- Vaping Awareness
- Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco
- Digital Wellness & Social Media Landmines
- Sober Thoughts
- Problem Gambling & Financial Literacy
- Let's Talk Respect/Bullying Prevention
- Building self esteem
- Leading Together & Resilency



Since 2004, Robert Hackenson, Jr. has traveled the globe speaking and keynoting for schools, colleges, organizations and corporations. As a professional youth motivational speaker, Robert is effective at conveying important educational messages through his ability to engage and relate to students. He has been doing this for a decade with students (grades k-12), parents, and professional educators.

Robert's highly interactive performances speak with your students instead of at them, keeps their attention, and delivers relevant messages. He uniquely infuses educational lecture with magic, illusions, stories, and more! This not only keeps your students captivated, but everything he does is used in a way to reinforce the educational lessons.

Robert's presentation topics include: 'Bullying Prevention,' "Social Media Dangers & Cyber Safety," "Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco Awareness (Sober Thoughts)," "Moving Up to New School," and "Vaping & Marijuana Awareness" to students, teachers and parents at elementary, middle schools, high schools and colleges.

<https://dynamicinfluence.com>

Stephen Hill

Speak Sobriety

Audience: Grades 6-12

Topics:

- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) & impact on brain development
 - Addiction prevention
 - Peer pressure
 - Value of strong family and peer relationships
- Know the Law (Seniors only)



Stephen – founder of Speak Sobriety, young person in recovery, bestselling author, recovery coach and a fierce attorney advocating for treatment over incarceration – is a renowned national speaker on substance use prevention & mental health awareness with a truly inspiring comeback story that everyone must hear.

Stephen has presented in front of thousands of people for over 500 schools, drug free community coalitions, alliances and organizations across the country.

Stephen was able to overcome a severe substance use disorder, work in the field of addiction prevention, treatment and recovery, start his own speaking and coaching company, receive his bachelor's with honors from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, earn his J.D. from Brooklyn Law School, pass the New York bar exam, publish his memoir A Journey to Recovery, which was a #1 New Release in Drug Dependency on Amazon, and live a happy and healthy lifestyle with his friends and family.

<http://speaksobriety.com>

Robb Holla, B.S., R.T.(R)

Serious Topics. Zero Lectures!

Audience: Grades 5–12, Parents & Staff
Topics:

- Vaping (Nicotine/THC) Prevention
- Fentanyl, Synthetic Opioids & Counterfeit Pills
- Sports Betting & Gambling Prevention
- Social Media Safety & Cyberbullying
- Substance Awareness & Positive Decision-Making



Robb Holla is a nationally touring author, speaker and youth communicator who has spent more than 20 years presenting to students across the United States and Canada. He has appeared on more than 2,000 school campuses and is the author of *The Vape Rebellion*.

Before entering full-time speaking, Robb spent years working in healthcare. That background continues to shape the way he approaches prevention education today, helping him take serious health-related topics and explain them in a way that is clear, practical and easy for students to understand.

More importantly, Robb knows how to connect with students. His high-energy presentations combine humor, storytelling, audience participation, visual demonstrations and multimedia to create an entertaining environment where students lower their guard and engage with serious subjects. Rather than delivering another lecture about what students should or shouldn't do, Robb brings students into the conversation. His programs are designed around the issues young people are actually facing today, from vaping and counterfeit pills to social media and the rapidly growing world of sports betting.

Robb's programs can be adapted for different grade levels and school needs, with parent presentations available for select topics. Schools get an experienced professional presenter who brings the program, the energy and the technology needed to turn prevention education into an assembly students will actually remember.

<https://www.robboholla.com>

Gabriel John

Resilience of the Human Spirit

Audience: Grades 7th- 12th

Topic:

- Dangers of distracted driving
 - Substance Avoidance
 - Profound impact of choices
 - Resilience in overcoming tragedy
 - Thriving with a disability



From a routine trip to CVS to a harrowing plunge into darkness, Gabriel's life changed in an instant. A catastrophic crash, twelve surgeries, and permanent blindness—his journey is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit. Through sheer will, unwavering determination, and the unwavering support of loved ones, Gabriel emerged from the depths of despair with a newfound appreciation for life.

Now, he shares his story with audiences nationwide, weaving together the threads of pain, loss, and ultimate triumph. With music as his guide and his guitar as his voice, Gabriel imparts a powerful message on the dangers of distracted driving and the profound impact of our choices.

Each step forward is a testament to the strength within us all, showing how stumbling blocks can transform into steppingstones toward a brighter future.

Join Gabriel on his journey as he navigates through darkness, illuminating the path to hope, resilience, and the transformative power of one small choice.

Priscilla Loomis

Live a Life of Excellence, Impact and Insane Confidence

Audience: Grades 6-12

Topics Covered:

- Resilience
- Leadership
- Perseverance/Personal Growth
- Substance Avoidance



Priscilla Loomis is an Olympian, entrepreneur, keynote speaker, media host, and philanthropist. By blending elite performance, compelling storytelling, and modern media, she empowers audiences to embrace change, lead with confidence and create lasting impact.

Recognized for her authenticity and dynamic presence, she inspires individuals to embrace resilience to navigate their lives with confidence – an effective approach for youth substance avoidance.

A 3X Hall of Fame inductee, 2X Female Athlete of the Year and world-class track medalist, Priscilla's success on the global stage became the foundation for a purpose-driven career dedicated to empowering others through leadership, perseverance, and personal growth.

She has been featured in *The New York Times*, CNN, BBC, ESPN, National Geographic, and Disney+.

www.PriscillaLoomis.com

Shawn Metz

You are Not Your Past: You are Who You Choose to Become

Audience: Grades 6-12

Topics:

- Substance Use Disorder, Fentanyl, & Prevention
- Mental Health, Stress & Healthy Coping
- Resilience & Overcoming Adversity
- Motivation, Goals, Discipline & Accountability
- Failure, Fear & Perfectionism
- Peer pressure, Confidence & Self-Worth
- Bullying, Respect & Positive School Culture
- Social Media Safety & Cyberbullying
- Vaping & Nicotine Prevention
- Student-Athlete Leadership & Championship Mindset



In recovery from addiction since July 5, 2011, Shawn's mission is to inspire, redirect thinking, reroute choices and save lives. Through hundreds of compelling presentations at various facilities to serving on panels, Shawn reaches people in a way that insists they hear what he has to say. From teens thinking about drinking or getting high the first time to those who want to turn themselves around, his authentic, heartfelt, real-life story grabs your attention and makes a difference.

Shawn Metz is a captivating, motivational speaker determined to steer younger audiences against the inevitable dangers of substance abuse. Through instilling self-confidence in his listeners and the power of goal-oriented change, he retells his personal compelling story of the positive realities when one takes control of their own life.

With special emphasis on the severity of the growing epidemic of substance abuse, Shawn drives home the message that it's not only okay to leave the party, it's a matter of life and death. With nearly 20 million Americans, some as young as 12 years old, struggling with substance use disorder, Shawn tailors his message to fit his audience as he connects with young and old alike, bridging all socio and economic demographics to facilitate a positive change in people's perceptions, as well as how they think and act.

<https://www.shawnmetz.com>

Timothy Shoemaker, M.S.

Learn More / Live Better

Audience: -12, Parent & Staff

Topics:

- Pre-Prom & Safe-Celebrations
- Drug Free Decisions
- Substance-specific prevention:
Vaping, Drinking, Cannabis &
Opiate Prevention
- Respect Week & Character Ed
- Screen Time & Social Media
- Raising Resiliency
- Parenting Programs (Raising
Respectful & Resilient & Drug
Free Kids)



Tim is a highly-credentialled speaker that has toured schools, colleges and professional training conferences across the country. With a diverse background in public-service, Tim has been uniquely well-recognized by educational professionals, prominent organizations and national politicians.

In 2009, an American flag was flown over the U.S. Capital in honor of Timothy Shoemaker's distinguished service. He is a multiple-time Summa Cum Laude graduate, holds several graduate certificates and is a member of MENSA. A graduate of the FBI Leadership & Supervision Course, Tim is a credentialled trainer and subject-matter expert in many fields. He is a father, an educator, and a former leader of multiple youth-facing volunteer organizations.

He is also the founder of Student Wellness Solutions, an online course platform for students and parents.

Tim is an absolute crowd favorite for audiences of all ages. He uses lighting effects, throwable audience microphones and give-away prizes to engage his students. Cinematic production elements deliver theater-style sound and eye-popping graphics entertain audiences from 4th grade through 12th grade.

And each topic can be age-adjusted for your different audiences

To Learn More:

<https://www.TimothyShoemaker.com>

Mychal Mills and Rodney Salomon

Transforming Youth ,Schools and Communities through Holistic Practices

Audience: Grades 4-12

Topics Covered:

- Holistic wellness
- Mindfulness
- SEL tools
- Self-regulation
- Strengthening relationships



Konscious Youth

Development & Service (KYDS) is a 501c3 non-profit conscious youth development organization that transforms Youth, Schools and communities through holistic practices. KYDS was founded in the Fall of 2014 by Mychal Mills and Rodney Salomon, two passionate individuals looking to support the minds, bodies, and souls of the greater

Asbury Park community and beyond.

Since it takes the transformation of entire communities to sustain the upliftment of our youth, KYDS also offers holistic wellness programming for school educators, administration, educators, parents, and the community. These practices have been shown to reduce stress, increase awareness, strengthen relationships, and make decisions that lead to positive outcomes.

Our programs help youth self-regulate to thrive and instill the ability for educators to be fully present with their students and their needs. This is how KYDS Evidence-Based programming has been positively transforming schools and communities since 2014!

<https://www.konscious.org/>

"IN NEARLY 30 YEARS OF MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKING
IN SCHOOLS, I'VE WORKED WITH COUNTLESS
OUTSIDE AGENCIES. TIGGER STAVOLA IS THE
BEST I'VE SEEN. THEY BELIEVE DEEPLY IN THEIR
MISSION, AND WORK HARD TO CHANGE THE LIVES
OF NEW JERSEY TEENS."

**Matt Bellace, PhD, Clinical Neuro
Psychologist, Comedian & Motivational
Speaker**

"YOU SPOKE AT MY HIGH SCHOOL WHILE I WAS A
STUDENT THERE. YOUR STORY CHANGED MY LIFE,
AND I HAVE NEVER TOUCHED DRUGS. YOU MADE
ME SCARED OF THEM, SO THANK YOU FOR SAVING
MY LIFE!" -

Partner School Student

SNAP BELOW FOR SPEAKER INQUIRIES



CONTACT US:

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