

Potential Topics for Keynote Speeches

- **The Key Attributes of Thriving Nonprofits**

What are the essential elements that go into building and sustaining a thriving nonprofit? How do you create a financially stable, workplace of choice where there is role clarity and mission driven choices are made? Whether messy, growing, or relatively healthy - this keynote helps you learn to THRIVE.

- **The Power, Responsibility and Joy of Nonprofit Leadership**

Broad, informative and inspiring, this topic creates a snapshot of what it takes to be an effective leader in the nonprofit sector and reminds participants of the privilege of service.

- **You Are Not On Top of Anything: The Nonprofit Model of Shared Leadership**

For organizational leaders (board and staff), these remarks focus on what Garry sees as the nonprofit sector's power structure – a model of shared power and shared leadership – between board and staff.

- **Leading With Intention: Thriving in Times of Uncertainty**

Inspiring and actionable, this topic offers leaders a reminder that they have what it takes to thrive during tough times. She also offers practical steps you can take to prioritize, engage board and volunteers, and rally stakeholders around a vision for the future.

- **Turning Your Board Into A Fundraising Machine (seriously)**

What will it take to engage your board in the work of raising needed dollars for your organization? Garry's advice is smart, funny and actionable.

“Joan is an obsessive champion for the nonprofit sector and for your success as a leader.”



Potential Workshop/Breakout Session Topics

The following workshops can be brought together into full-day sessions as well:

- **Why Boards Matter: Roles and Responsibilities**

Any board will benefit from this session, ideal for the board looking to grow or transform, for a board that is rebooting with many new members or a board whose organization is at an inflection point. Joan will help folks understand the importance of their role and the opportunity board service provides them. You will learn the substantive role boards play in thriving nonprofits as Joan helps you throw out the rubber stamp. Joan will also offer practical advice on either how to recruit new board members or how to become first rate ambassadors and storytellers.

- **Building the Board of Your Dreams: Who Do You Need and Where Do You Find'em?**

In this workshop, Joan begins with a brief discussion of the important role a board member plays in a nonprofit and then offers insights on how to more effectively market board service. She then moves into the heart of this workshop with a practical look at building the ideal composition for your board. You will learn new ways of thinking about recruitment and brainstorm creative strategies for your own organization. Learn to recruit from a place of abundance, with intention and creativity - not desperation. This workshop can help a full board but is also particularly effective as an interactive session with a Board Governance or Nominating Committee tasked with board transformation.

- **Building a Culture of Storytelling in Your Organization - Beyond the Elevator Pitch**

Joan believes genuinely that storytelling is the single most important skill necessary to be a champion for your organization (as a leader, a fundraiser, a board ambassador). She begins with a brief discussion of the critical partnership role a board plays in a nonprofit and then introduces her recipe for igniting board members to become proactive ambassadors inviting folks to know and do more for the organization. This is the essential skill for fundraising success. There will be plenty of actionable advice and an opportunity to workshop your stories.

- **How to Engage your Board: It Starts with your Board Meeting**

The phrase “terrific board meeting” does not have to be an oxymoron and in fact, Joan believes that designing and executing a terrific board meeting is critical to igniting your board to action. If you are concerned about the level of engagement on your board, this workshop will offer a very practical recipe that really works. Joan will also offer some excellent suggestions on how staff can communicate with board between meetings to ensure a high level of engagement between meetings.

Potential Workshop/Breakout Session Topics

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- **Building a Partnership between the E.D. and The Board Chair**

One of the single best moves a nonprofit can make is for the E.D. and the Board Chair to build a strong relationship from day 1. This is not a full board workshop but rather a 90 facilitated session, ideally timed when either the board chair or the E.D. are new to their roles. Joan will set the stage with her insights about the key nature of this partnership and from there will facilitate a discussion about leadership, communications and the ideal partnership. She will guide a discussion leading to a greater sense of role clarity and will likely use a board meeting as a case study for how to be partners in practice. Requires pre-meeting with Joan.

- **Succession Planning: What to think about before your leader is moving on...**

One of the smartest moves a board can make is to have a succession plan at the ready - a comprehensive one that is not simply about who will lead until someone new comes in or how to run a search. A leadership transition rocks an organization to its core and when it's time, the power in the organization shifts away from the staff leader and right into the hands of the board. This will be the time when you are called up to truly lead the organization, to quell anxiety, to communicate often and wisely and to lead a smart search. Joan has worked with hundreds of clients who should have called sooner. She will instill in you the critical nature of getting this right and offer you a practical path to follow. Ideal for boards with long tenured staff leaders nearing retirement (1 - 2 years out) but important to have this plan in place regardless of tenure. Without a plan, a succession plan turns into a crisis (and yes, we have a workshop for that. Read on.)

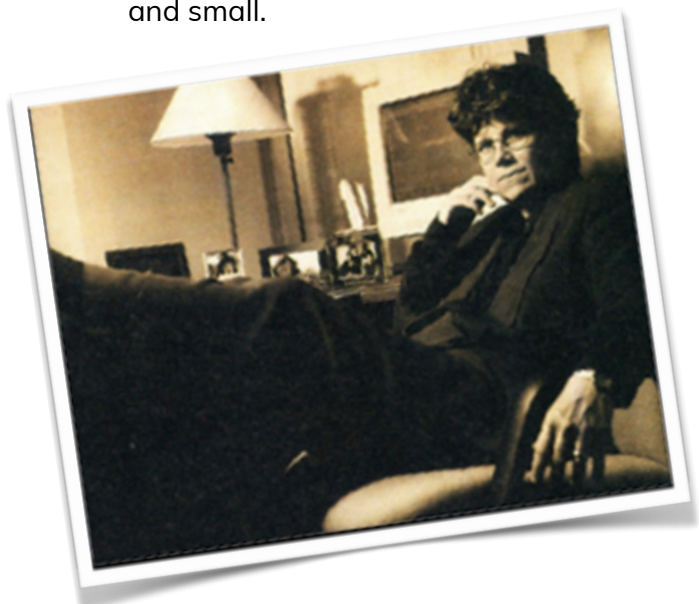
- **Crisis Management 101: Prepare for It**

If you have not experienced a crisis in your organization, you may be smart but it is equally likely that you have just been lucky. Crises can take many forms and one of the most common and most challenging is the abrupt departure of a staff leader. There is always something that can potentially damage the reputation of your organization, challenge your finances, etc. Joan will offer an outline for a crisis management plan, using both real and hypothetical situations to provide actionable takeaways.

A Little About Joan

Joan Garry is an internationally recognized champion for the nonprofit sector and a highly sought after executive coach for CEOs at some of the nation's largest organizations. Joan's firm offers high-end strategic advisory services with a unique combination of coaching and management consulting. She is called upon by large organizations to tackle substantial change management, crisis management and leadership transitions requiring a hands-on strategist, a messaging expert, and a compassionate truth teller.

Joan is the go-to resource for hundreds of thousands of nonprofit leaders worldwide. Through her blog, podcast and book, Joan Garry's Guide to Nonprofit Leadership, she has become the 'Dear Abby' of the nonprofit sector, advocating for the success of nonprofits, large and small.



As a columnist for the Chronicle of Philanthropy, contributor to Harvard Business Review and Forbes Magazine, among others, Joan is a preeminent media spokesperson and thought leader on the role of the nonprofit sector in our society and is a sought after voice on issues facing the sector today.

Joan is also the founder of the Nonprofit Leadership Lab, the online educational and community portal she leads for board and staff leaders of small nonprofits.

Joan Garry began her career in 1981 as part of the management team that launched MTV. She followed this successful eight-year tenure as an executive at

Showtime Networks. Then, in 1997 while either having a midlife crisis or avoiding one, Joan left the corporate world and became the Executive Director of GLAAD, one of the largest gay rights organizations in the U.S.

Joan lives in Montclair, NJ with her wife of nearly 40 years.

Some of Joan's Clients Include:

