

Sarah Neville

From the front line to the C-suite, Sarah Neville helps organizations in virtually every sector - from small non-profits to Fortune 500 companies - to connect, inspire and drive change through powerful communication.

A sought-after speaker at conferences and events across North America, Sarah shares her deep knowledge of business communications with expertise in diversity and inclusion, with a particular focus on gender balance in organizations. She combines current research with irreverent humour to create an engaging and experiential and approach to learning.

Founding partner and Director of Open Line, Sarah has an M.Ed in Adult Learning from OISE and a background as a professional actor. She was a co-creator of the acclaimed Voices of Young Women program in partnership with the Ontario Arts Council and Toronto District School Board. Sarah is an instructor at the Rotman school of Business Executive Programs, and a regular contributor to the Globe and Mail, the Toronto Star, and the Huffington Post.



Keynote – Power Up: Leadership Presence for Women

If you are a woman who would like to be seen and heard at work, a woman who is ready to crack the glass ceiling, a woman who is striving to be both authoritative and authentic, then this session is for you.

Stepping into leadership as a woman means becoming truly visible in the workplace. Women have been told to “*be more assertive,*” “*lean in,*” and “*live your personal brand,*” but what does this all mean? How can you step into the spotlight, and be seen – and heard – as a female leader?

In this keynote talk, Sarah Neville will examine gender differences in communication and leadership style – and how these differences often result in unconscious bias towards women in the workplace. We’ll challenge the notion of a “confidence gap” for women, and uncover more useful ways to manage self-doubt and build resilience. In highlighting the elements of leadership ‘presence’, we’ll explore how women can uniquely leverage their natural strengths to wield serious clout.

Breakout Session: Power Up

In this session, Sarah Neville will go deeper into the concepts introduced in the keynote, and offer a chance to put the ideas introduced into action through practice. We’ll look at the importance of clear messaging and powerful non-verbal delivery in expressing leadership presence.

We’ll spark ideas for you to convey dignity and composure every time you communicate – in-person, on the phone or giving a presentation.