



# District 63 Newsletter

February 2025

## District 63

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

*District 63 Annual Conference April 25-26*

**Curt Mencer** is holding a three hour **District 63 Pathways Training** session on March 1, 2025 from 8 am to 11 am central (9 am to 12 pm eastern).

You can register for the Pathways Training Session at

[Click Here to Register](#)

For more information, visit our website

[d63.toastmastersdistricts.org](http://d63.toastmastersdistricts.org)

Toastmasters International  
[www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org)

## Empowering Nonprofit Leaders Through Speechcraft: A Transformational 8-Week Journey

On **January 27, 2025**, The Morning Cup Toastmasters Club (Area 21, Division B) launched the highly anticipated **Speechcraft for Non-Profit Leaders**, an eight-week program designed to equip nonprofit professionals with essential public speaking and leadership skills, at the United Way of Blount County offices. This unique adaptation of the classic Speechcraft program tailors its content to address the specific needs of non-profit leaders—helping them refine their ability to advocate, inspire, and lead with confidence.

### What is Speechcraft?

Speechcraft is an immersive short-term Toastmasters program that introduces participants to the fundamentals of effective public speaking and leadership. Over eight weeks, participants engage in structured speech projects, impromptu speaking exercises, and peer feedback—all within a supportive learning environment. By the end of the program, they gain practical skills and the confidence to communicate their vision effectively.

### Celebrating Our Toastmasters Educators

One of the program's greatest strengths is the wealth of knowledge shared by experienced Toastmasters. Each week, a dedicated Toastmaster (most of whom are from the Morning Cup) presents an education session, covering topics such as speech structure, vocal variety, storytelling, and persuasive communication. Additionally, eight Toastmasters have stepped up as mentors, working one-on-one with nonprofit leaders to help them refine their message and grow as speakers. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these incredible Toastmasters who have stepped up to mentor and guide our Speechcrafters, ensuring they receive the highest quality instruction.

### Tailored for Non-Profit Impact

Understanding the unique communication challenges faced by non-profit leaders, the Speechcraft curriculum was thoughtfully adapted to focus on skills essential for the non-profit sector. Whether it's delivering compelling fundraising pitches, rallying volunteers, or representing their mission with clarity, participants are gaining the confidence to make a meaningful impact in their communities.

As the program continues, we celebrate the growth of our participants and the dedication of our Toastmasters who make this initiative possible. Stay tuned for weekly highlights, participant progress, and success stories that showcase the transformative power of Speechcraft!

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## CLUB SPOTLIGHT

### Calling All Toastmasters – Nashville Toastmasters is Looking For Speakers!

Fellow Toastmasters, we need guest speakers and members to help fill key meeting roles! Your participation keeps our club dynamic and engaging, providing valuable learning experiences for all.

Join us virtually on the First and Third Monday of each month at 6:15 p.m. central time to take on a role, deliver a speech, or support fellow members in their growth journey.

**Zoom Link:** [Click here to join](#)

Your contributions make all the difference! Whether you're looking to complete a speech, serve as an evaluator, or take on another meeting role, we'd love to have you. Let's continue making our meetings impactful and enriching for everyone.

Remember, you can get credit toward your path by speaking in other clubs too.

We hope to see you on Zoom!

## CONNECT WITH US!

Email: [district63communication@gmail.com](mailto:district63communication@gmail.com)

Web: <https://d63.toastmastersdistricts.org>

Facebook: [District 63 Toastmasters](#)

X: [District 63 TM](#)

Linkedin: [District Sixty-three](#)

Instagram: [tiDistrict63](#)

YouTube: [District 63 Toastmasters](#)

**2025 Conference Info:**

[toastmastersconference2025.com](https://toastmastersconference2025.com)



## ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

### Get Ready for the Ultimate Toastmasters Experience!

Mark your calendars! The **District 63 Annual Conference is coming to Hilton BNA Nashville on April 25–26**, and you don't want to miss it!

This year's conference promises **engaging and dynamic speakers, and incredible opportunities to learn, connect, and grow** as a Toastmaster. Whether you're looking to refine your speaking skills, gain leadership insights, or simply be inspired, this is the place to be!

Stay tuned for more exciting details, but don't wait—secure your spot now! For more information, visit [ToastmastersConference2025.com](https://ToastmastersConference2025.com).

***Let's make this an event to remember! See you in Nashville!***



### An Encouraging Reminder from Radhi Spear

"What's special about this organization is that it equips you with the skills and confidence to thrive in all areas of your life. It's truly an investment in yourself—a way to build the confidence that will carry you forward whatever your path may be. And that is what makes Toastmasters so uniquely valuable."

—Radhi Spear, DTM, International President 2024-2025

<https://www.toastmasters.org/magazine/magazine-issues/2025/jan/presidents-message>

## Breaking News!

### Candidate Declarations

As of this newsletter's publication, there **IS** still time to **declare your candidacy** for a **District Leadership role!** If you've been dreaming of making a bigger impact in Toastmasters, now is your chance. Stay tuned for more details, or reach out to **Ahmad Gilliam** at [agilliam0037@gmail.com](mailto:agilliam0037@gmail.com) to take the next step!

### Why Step into Leadership?

Serving as a District Leader is a **rewarding and transformational experience** that helps you grow as a communicator, leader, and mentor. Plus, it's a fantastic way to give back to our amazing District 63 community!

### What You Need to Know

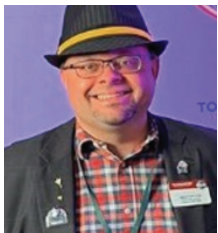
Per *Toastmasters International*, our *Call for Candidate Declarations* includes:

- ❑ **Leadership Position Descriptions** – Learn the competencies and responsibilities of each role (Check out the Call for Nominations form!).
- ❑ **District Leader Nominating Form** – Your official step into leadership District Leader Agreement & Release Statement – Because leadership comes with responsibility!
- ❑ **District Leader Biographical Information Form** – Let us get to know you!

**Bonus:** We've also included the *International President's Call for District Candidates* video in this email—don't miss it!

### Additional Resources

[District Leadership Committee Handbook](#)  
[District Campaigns and Elections FAQ](#)



Best regards,  
Jason Cook, District 63 Director  
[District63communication@gmail.com](mailto:District63communication@gmail.com)

*P.S. If any of the links don't work, just head over to [toastmasters.org](http://toastmasters.org) and search for the relevant forms.*

**Step up, take the lead, and make a difference! w**

## And The Winners Are...!

### Congratulations to Our District 63 Speech Contest Winners!

The competition was fierce, the speeches were inspiring, and the laughter was contagious! A huge round of applause to the winners of the **District 63 Division B, C, D, and E Humorous and Evaluation Speech Contests!**

### Humorous Speech Contest Winners

**Division B:** 1st-Jason Simon | 2nd-Robert McClelland | 3-Paul Jepson

**Division C:** 1st-John Duffy | 2nd-Spencer Harrison

**Division D:** 1st-Christina Slade | 2nd-Wayne Goode | 3rd-Rick Dixon

**Division E:** 1st-Heidi White

### Evaluation Speech Contest Winners

**Division B:** 1st-Jason Simon | 2nd-Lindsey Reneau | 3rd-Paul Jepson

**Division C:** 1st-Jordan Hinton | 2nd-Allen Chesney

**Division D:** 1st-Atoya Weatherspoon | 2nd-Doris Dunn | 3rd-Mary Dunn

**Division E (Appointed):** Heidi White & Jamie Harper

These outstanding speakers are now advancing to the next round at the **District 63 Annual Conference on April 25-26** at Hilton BNA Nashville! Stay tuned for more details, and get ready to cheer them on as they compete for the top honors and a chance to move on to the next level!

#WeAreToastmasters #District63  
#SpeechContest #SeeYouAtTheConference





# Power Hour

**!!ANNOUNCEMENT!!**

## Introducing D63 Power Hour!

Get ready to **energize your Toastmasters journey** with **D63 Power Hour**—a bi monthly educational series designed to deliver high-impact, focused learning to enhance your leadership and communication skills!

## Our Mission

To provide District 63 members with consistent, high-quality educational content while fostering stronger connections across clubs.

D63 Power Hour is designed to fit your schedule while keeping your growth and momentum going. Join us and take your skills to the next level!

## For more info, contact:

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MISSED ANYTHING?  
CHECK OUT THE DISTRICT'S  
WEBSITE FOR PAST CONTENT.

GOT AN ANNOUNCEMENT?  
SEND IT INTO THE DISTRICT'S  
COMMUNICATION SITE.

[www.d63.toastmastersdistricts.org](http://www.d63.toastmastersdistricts.org)

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