



### ABOUT US

TEDxNaperville is a community organization and disruptive ideas conference that shares powerful ideas from the greater Chicago area's most original and visionary thinkers. Our platform amplifies movements through large-scale events, community initiatives, and an ever-growing content library of online talks.



**2,000,000+**  
TOTAL ONLINE TALK VIEWS

**750+**  
ATTENDEES PER CONFERENCE

**54+**  
YEARS SPENT VIEWING OUR CONTENT

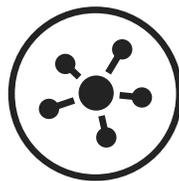
### COMMITMENT AND REQUIREMENTS

We invest extensive time and energy and provide the highest production values for ideas presented on our stage. We expect the same level of investment from you to ensure the most powerful talk possible.



#### Responsiveness

You're required to be responsive and provide talk outlines, slides, and other info on time



#### Collaboration

You're expected to work with the curation team to modify your talk to optimize impact



#### Attendance

You must be present the entire event and interact with attendees before and after your talk



#### Rehearsal

You're required to attend in-person and (possibly) online rehearsals with our curation team

## WHICH IDEAS ARE ACCEPTED

Though many ideas have their place, not all are accepted at TEDxNaperville. Ideas with the highest chances of being accepted are:

- Relevant to current events
- Data-backed, quantifiable, or scientifically-founded
- Unique, new, or add to an established body of work in a new way
- Challenge standard conceptions

Ideas that are either less likely or **not** accepted at all:

- Excessively vague or generalized
- Pseudoscience
- Personal belief systems lacking research
- Purely-motivational
- Uncredentialed coaching
- Excessively-discussed or already ubiquitous
- Solely about overcoming adversity or obstacles
- "I did it, and so can you."
- Corporate, political, or religious agendas

## SPEAKERS BY INDUSTRY

- 13% technologists
- 11% scientists
- 11% musicians
- 8% healthcare professionals
- 8% educators
- 7% serial entrepreneurs
- 5% artists, designers

## OUR MOST POPULAR TALKS



**Roger Anderson**

*Telephone spam? Send in the robots!*



**Scott Tillema**

*The secrets of hostage negotiators*



**Dr. Michelle Drouin**

*Online love and infidelity: We're in the game, but what are the rules?*



**Gunnar Branson**

*Moore's law of real estate*



## APPLY TO SPEAK OR CONTACT US

[tedxnaperville.com/participate](https://tedxnaperville.com/participate)  
[info@tedxnaperville.com](mailto:info@tedxnaperville.com)

# TALK GUIDELINES

Talks shared on our platform follow a strict set of guidelines to ensure maximum impact.

- Sharp, focused content
- Deep, not broad
- 3-18 minutes max
- Include interactivity or unique engagements during and/or after the talk
- Include visuals, props, or demonstrations
- Include data or research, visualized if possible
- With exception, no note cards allowed
- No religious, corporate, or political plugs

## ENSURING YOUR BEST TALK

### 1. Dream big

Strive to create the best talk you have ever given. Reveal something never said before that the audience will remember forever. Share an idea that could change the world.

### 2. Show us the real you

Share your passions, your dreams, as well as your fears. Be vulnerable. Speak of failure as well as success.

### 3. Make the complex, plain

Don't try to dazzle intellectually. Don't speak in abstractions. Explain! Give examples. Tell stories. Be specific.

### 4. Connect with people's emotions

Make us laugh! Make us cry!

### 5. Don't flaunt your ego

Don't boast. It's the surest way to switch everyone off.

### 6. No selling from the stage!

Unless specifically relevant, do not talk about your company or organization. Pitching products and services, or looking for funding is strictly prohibited!

### 7. Feel free to comment...

...on other speakers, to praise or criticize. Controversy energizes and engages!

### 8. Don't read your talk

With exception, notes are not allowed on stage. You will underrepresent yourself by reading your talk and not looking at your audience.

### 9. You must not go over your time

Doing otherwise is to steal time from those speakers that follow. If you exceed your allotted time, the coordinator will ask you to end your talk.

### 10. Rehearse, rehearse, rehearse!

Do so in front of trusted friends for timing, clarity, and impact.