

EVON HARRIS

As an original member of the 1988 Jamaican bobsled team and captain of the 1992 and 1998 teams; 3-time Olympian, Devon Harris achieved his grand dream. His current dream is to inspire others to achieve theirs. His real life story of perseverance and persistence combined with his powerful presence and persuasive ideas have positively impacted thousands at Fortune 100 companies, non-profits, governmental organizations, schools and universities.

At the heart of his message are the lessons he has learned of the power of persistence over all sorts of obstacles in order to live one's best life. Whether he is speaking to a large audience, or just interacting one on one, his mission is the same---to bring this message of how everyone can "keep on pushing" and working for their dreams every day of their professional as well as personal lives.

Encouraged by his commanding officer, Devon tried out for and was selected to the first Jamaican bobsled team which competed in the 1988 Olympic Games in Calgary, Canada. Their exploits inspired the Disney blockbuster movie Cool Runnings.



As an ex-serviceman, Devon understands the commitment, sense of duty and sacrifices made by those who volunteer to serve. As a private citizen he is cognizant of the fact that the freedoms he enjoys are paid for by the courage and sacrifice of these men and women. As a result he has also devoted time to visit the troops serving in the Persian Gulf and around the country. He is the author of the motivational children's book, Yes, I Can! and the semi-autobiographical motivational book Keep On Pushing: Hot Lesson From Cool Runnings.

SPEECH TOPICS

HOT LESSONS FROM COOL RUNNINGS -COACHING FOR PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS

In this program Devon Harris skillfully weaves the real life improbable inspirational story of the Jamaica bobsled team with the entertaining portrayal of the Disney blockbuster Cool Runnings. He highlights some of the powerful life lessons he and his teammates learned along the way - lessons the audience can immediately apply to both their personal and professional lives. Suitable as an opening or closing keynote.

THE POWER AND MAGIC OF TEAMWORK

In this inspiring message, Devon draws on his personal experiences as the Captain of the Jamaican Bobsled Team and a former Sandhurst-trained Captain in the Jamaica Defence Force, to show how working collaboratively facilitates success personally and professionally as well as collectively as a group. Devon easily translates the challenges and triumphs of being in the military and competing in the Olympics into easily applicable lessons and insights that will inspire your team to perform at peak levels. Suitable as an opening or closing keynote.

OUT OF MANY; ONE: AN OLYMPIC ATHLETE'S VIEW OF DIVERSITY IN THE WORKPLACE

A fresh look at how diversity in the workplace is not just a legal mandate or corporate ethic it is fundamentally practical, and brings the best teams to the international playing field. Devon Harris brings a creative and inspiring look at how at work, as in the Olympics, what really matters is performance, attitude and teamwork. With humor and understanding that comes from living what he believes, Devon delivers a compelling inspirational message about how to be more bottom-line successful by embracing and applying the innate strengths of a diversity philosophy. Suitable as an opening or closing keynote.

KEEP ON PUSHING™: AN OLYMPIC ATHLETE'S **MESSAGE OF PERSISTENCE**

Devon brings his entertaining and effective message of how to 'keep on pushing', how persistence is a key catalyst in any success formula. Devon's presentation blends the need for every part of an organization to have the ability to persist, but not without good doses of wisdom, preparation, talent, teamwork, humor, passion, hard work and smart planning. Devon illustrates his presentation with his improbable story of a road that took him from the violent ghettos of Kingston, Jamaica; to Sandhurst; to the Olympics; to the hit Disney film Cool Runnings.





TESTIMONIALS

"We have had guest speakers in the past, but none have delivered a message of such significance as yours. It was simple and pure but at the same time profound and extremely moving. Your words motivated and inspired all of us to focus on our dreams and that giving up should never be an option. I personally have your five key principals (Dream, Motivation, Discipline, Faith and Perseverance) embedded in my mind and on my heart. They are applicable in any area of life. You are an example of someone who has taken your role in life seriously and uses it to help others along the way."

Tony Vernaci Director, Globalization/Strategy Integrated Supply Chain Strategy Textron, Inc.

"Devon was the perfect complement to our national sales meeting. He brought elements of sincerity, inspiration, motivation and relevance; in a manner that aligns with any sales organization. In addition, he perfectly aligned his message to our team in a manner that inspired everyone to keep forging forward to achieve their goals and his message continues alive well beyond our meeting and drives our team today!"

Mike Larrain President, Active Cosmetics Division

"Devon Harris was really fantastic today at our recognition event. Not only did he engage the crowd and keep them laughing, Devon also wove in a few key messages that we mentioned in our prep call. Good speakers come and inspire - GREAT speakers understand the objective of the meeting and personalize their message to fit. The extra work Devon put in customizing his presentation really reinforced the goals of the meeting and went a long way in making sure our guests could relate it to their own lives."

Jennifer Wolter **Group Vice President**

"Working with you was a breeze – your grasp of our company, our culture and our business, and the ease in which you worked with the production group and emcee, all resulted in accolades, not just for you, but for me as well. You are generous in spirit and in heart and the time you gave us off-stage was immeasurable. Just about every attendee has a 'Devon' story - you managed to leave them begging for more."

Barbara Blumhof Asst. Vice President Citi Commercial Business Group



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