

Robyn Benincasa

Leadership and Teamwork Motivational Speaker, Full-time Firefighter, Adventure Racing World Champion

Please contact a GDA agent for information.

Topics

- Adventure
- Business
- Change Management / Organizational Change
- Employee Engagement
- Goal Setting
- Inspiration / Achievement
- Leadership
- Overcoming Adversity
- Peak Performance
- Teamwork / Teambuilding
- Virtual

About Robyn Benincasa

When the challenges are steep and the competition fierce, Robyn Benincasa provides the tools individuals and organizations need to cross their most challenging finish lines.

As a two-time World Champion Adventure racer, San Diego Firefighter, and CNN Hero, Robyn knows a thing or two about creating Human Synergy, or as she puts it, “That magic that allows ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things together.”

Through harrowing experiences in places like the jungles of Borneo and the Himalayan peaks, Robyn has studied the good, the bad, and the not-so-pretty of Extreme Teamwork. Her refreshing and unique techniques build and foster impactful, inspired teams that succeed against all odds and turn setbacks into comebacks.

Robyn was named one of 2020s World’s Top 50 Keynote Speakers (Real Leaders Magazine), the #1 Female Speaker for [Meetings.net](https://www.meetings.net), and is one of the Top 10 Speakers featured by Harvard Business Review. She has motivated countless leaders and teams for Fortune 500 companies, including IBM, Starbucks, Walmart, Boeing, Johnson & Johnson, HubSpot, Intel, and more. Her game-changing keynotes inspire us to grab life with one hand, our teammates with the other and create that special magic that makes each of us stronger together than we could ever be alone.

Select Keynotes

- **Adapt, Overcome, and Win as One!**

Get Ready to Win YOUR Most Challenging Races... Add the Inspirational Force of Leadership and Performance to Your Next Event!

If there’s one thing we can all be certain of right now, it’s that change is the only thing that’s going to stay the same. It’s our response to that change that dictates our success. So how do we as leaders inspire the kind of mindset and build the kind of teams that drive our organizations to adapt, overcome and win as ONE in the face of times of extreme challenge and change?

This unique and fast-paced multimedia keynote is inspired by a Fast Company Magazine feature story entitled “Extreme Teamwork” about Robyn’s World Champion Adventure Racing team. Robyn shares the Secrets to Extreme Teamwork that allowed her team to be the most prolific and consistent World Champions in the sport, lessons that are easily applied to the adventures in our business lives. Their team culture of innovation, visionary creativity, relentless lead building, and embracing calculated risk as a strategy for success made them one of the most exciting and successful teams in the history of adventure sports, and in Robyn’s Adapt, Overcome, and Win as One keynote, she shares the mindset and strategies that created their consistent breakthrough performance.

AND Each Virtual Keynote includes a full super experienced tech team on Robyn's end to ensure everyone's success in creating the magic! You book the event, and our team makes you look like a rockstar.



* available for virtual & in-person events

• **Why Winners Win: The Game Changing Mindset That Creates Next Level Success**

What are the common attributes of people who make a lifelong habit of winning... and who succeed against all odds?

Drawing inspiration from Robyn's team of World Champion adventure athletes as well as Winners from all walks of life, Why Winners Win uncovers the common traits and attitudes of the world's most consistent high performers. The Best of the Best experience times of great challenge and change just like everyone else; but with characteristic Courage, Luck (Opportunity + Preparation), Adversity Management Skills, and a keen ability to create Synergy with their colleagues, they possess the ability to continually motivate and inspire themselves and those around them to the top of the podium in any endeavor.

This inspiring keynote addresses the following goals, dreams and themes:

- Teaching and leveraging a game-changing strategy that shifts one's mindset from "not losing" to winning.
- Embracing times of great challenge and change as a springboard to future success.
- Empowering continuous improvement to spur change and reinvent the game.
- Capitalizing on resources and building a world class team to achieve even bigger goals.
- Demonstrating the importance and value of G.U.T.S. (Going the Distance, Unwavering in your patience and faith, Taking Calculated Risks and Shattering the Norm).
- Solidifying how Luck is a proven formula of Opportunity + Preparation that drives peak performance and consistent results.

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• **Building World Class Teams: How to Achieve Breakthrough Performance Through Collaboration, Creativity, and A Culture of ONE**

How do you inspire individual team members to become great teammates? What if your teams were not only driven to achieve goals with each other but FOR each other? The world's most successful teams have one thing in common: Human Synergy, which Robyn describes as "the magic that allows groups of ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things together." If your goal is to take a group of successful individuals and make them successful as a team, this team-building keynote is the perfect message to set the tone for your event!

Robyn's most requested keynote is based on her best-selling book, "How Winning Works: 8 Essential Leadership Lessons From The Toughest Teams On Earth". Robyn's innovative team-building strategies offer practical tools to adapt, overcome, and win as ONE, against all odds. In this fast-paced, story-driven keynote, Robyn Benincasa takes your group on a multimedia adventure which visually and viscerally imparts the mindset that allows teams to adapt, overcome, and win as ONE even when the stakes are high and the only thing constant is change. Your world class team will discover that achieving at peak levels isn't about only reaching UP and trying harder as an individual, but reaching OUT and sharing strengths, talents, and challenges within a World Class Team.

Robyn gets attendees buzzing with inspired ideas about how to raise their team to the next level, both personally and professionally. And they'll take home simple and easily applied skills that will cultivate deep and lasting connections in any team.

The hallmark of a world class team is when they're not only working WITH each other, but FOR each other. – Robyn

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• **Inspiring Greatness Through G.R.I.T.: Creating The Passion To Pursue The Impossible**

What inspires the resilience to chase challenging finish lines and achieve world class results in times of incredible challenge and change? How do we create the passion and internal drive to pursue goals that seem impossible? We create this kind of greatness in ourselves and our teammates through G.R.I.T!

G.R.I.T is that magical combination of:

GUTS

RESPECT for our teammates and the mission

INNOVATION

TEAMWORK that makes us "sticky" to our goals and dreams.

In this keynote, Robyn shares the real secret to her and her teams' success over 20 years of leading the pack in the sport of adventure racing and as a San Diego Firefighter—their "we will find a way or make one" attitude, their love of the mission, their deep respect for one another, their ingenious solutions and white space thinking, their intensive preparation for all contingencies and conditions, and their incredible ability to not just work with each other, but FOR each other. Having the GRIT to go the distance in any endeavor isn't just a matter of mental fortitude.

Much of our endurance and drive to succeed in those tough times when others would quit comes from our connection to something greater than

ourselves, the inspiration that comes from mission driven innovation, the passion we have for our goals and the people whose lives we will touch along the way, the understanding that we are writing our life story during our most difficult challenges, and the respect for a team whose success is inextricably tied to ours.

When you leave Robyn's Inspiring Greatness Through G.R.I.T keynote, you will have a deep understanding of how to create GRIT in your own life and in your team culture, but most importantly, you'll be on a mission to inspire that GRIT in everyone who is lucky enough to know you-- the kind of leader every organization needs to help them climb their tallest peaks, fight their biggest fires, and cross their most challenging finish lines...

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Select Book Titles

- **2012:** How Winning Works: 8 Essential Leadership Lessons from the Toughest Teams on Earth

Select Testimonials

"Robyn, you were amazing! You are a "rock star"! I really appreciate you being at our meeting. Your powerful presentation and message aligned perfectly with what I wanted to accomplish and you knocked it out of the ball park! I can't tell you how many people have come up to me and sent me notes on how great they thought your presentation was. I want to sincerely thank you for traveling here and being such a big part of our meeting. I could not have been happier!"

– *Greg Guidos, President, Allstate Benefits*

"One word, PHENOMENAL! Robyn had the audience's attention from the moment she stepped out on stage. The Adventure Racing stories she shared were not short of incredible and showed the epitome of TEAMWORK. I have no doubt that every single person at the conference walked away with a new perspective and appreciation of what TEAM really means. You rocked it!!"

– *Jessica Donnelly, RN – Chair Perioperative Professional Nurse Council, Christiana Care Health System*

"Robyn, I had the pleasure of hearing you speak today at Microsoft and I have to tell you how you left me inspired and with a renewed faith in a different way to think about teamwork. I have always valued working in a team but you gave me some great insights into new ways of thinking and while I cannot say I have ever been an Adventure Racer – in fact, I couldn't be further from it....today I left feeling as though I AM an adventure racer each and every day in my role."

– *Microsoft Attendee*

"MORE THAN PERFECT...AMAZING...MESSAGE ON TARGET FOR US AND FUN...SO MANY OF OUR ATTENDEES TOLD ME SHE WAS THE BEST KEYNOTE WE'VE EVER HAD!"

– *Mitchell Bayer, Medidata*

"Your session hit on all marks – energy, entertainment and information! This is what the attendees had to say: 'Inspiring!' 'Great speaker to kick things off and set the tone for the rest of the conference!' 'Great learning experience!' The IAMC audience tends to go to a lot of events each year, and they hear a lot of speakers. So, they can be a tough crowd to please. You and your presentation were unequivocal hits."

– *Rya Hazelwood, Director of Marketing & Conference Programs, IAMC*

"Thanks for joining us in Atlanta for our global management meeting. Your presentation was excellent and very inspiring. I heard from many of our people telling me how much they enjoyed your presentation and how quickly the time went by. Many said you were the best keynote speaker that we have had over the 18 years that we have been in existence."

– *Tony Cherbak, Chief Executive Officer & President, Resources Global Professionals*

"Robyn was a HUGE hit as our virtual keynote speaker. The comments that came through in the chat were AMAZING. Our industry is hurting so badly and everyone was so inspired by Robyn. My president just sent me an email saying Robyn was one of the best if not the best keynote we

have ever had!"

– *Vice President of Conference and Events, Travel Leaders Group*