

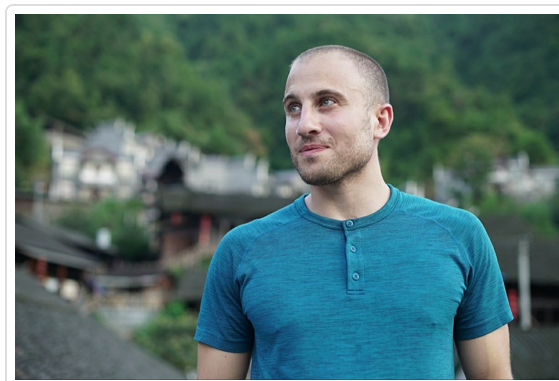
Chris Bashinelli

National Geographic Explorer & TV Host

Please contact a GDA agent for information.

Topics

- Communication
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Leadership
- Mental Health / Psychology
- Teamwork / Teambuilding
- Wellness



About Chris Bashinelli

Chris Bashinelli, better known as “Bash”, was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York to **Lebanese** and Italian-American parents. After a decade-long acting career including an appearance on the HBO hit television show, ***The Sopranos***, Bash decided to follow his real passion - using media to build bridges between cultures. He now traverses the globe from Uganda to Haiti as Host of ***Bridge the Gap***, a television series featured on PBS and the National Geographic Channel, where he experience’s life in someone else’s shoes.

A celebrated **Diversity and Inclusion** speaker, Bash has traveled the world for more than a decade sharing a message of empathy and understanding everywhere from Fortune 500 Companies, to inside prison walls, to the United Nations General Assembly Hall. His world view was shaped on his childhood “**Stoop**” where his friends shared a combined total of thirteen nationalities. He has shared the stage with Stevie Wonder, the UN Secretary General and his mentor – Dr. Jane Goodall.

After studying Anthropology in East Africa at 20 years old, Chris Bashinelli returned home to discover his father had been diagnosed with terminal cancer. The death of his father sent him on an international quest to better understand the human condition and the universal qualities that lead to a happy, meaningful life. Bash has lived with nomads in Mongolia, worked with suicide prevention activists in Pine Ridge and Sumo wrestled the heaviest Japanese human being in recorded history. Through one of kind stories of adventure and authentic moments of human connection, Bash truly *bridges the gap* between self and other, **helping us recognize our shared humanity**.

Bash has spoken around the world - from TEDx, to Abu Dhabi, to Azerbaijan, at multi-million dollar corporations and Ivy League Universities. At 24 years old he became one of the youngest moderators in the history of the United Nations. Bash is a National Geographic Explorer, a UN Moderator, an Eagle Scout and has interviewed some of Time Magazine’s 100 Most Influential People on the Planet.

Select Keynotes

- **The Power of Human Connection – Embracing Diversity, Building Stronger Teams**

Embark with Bash on an international adventure, from the sweeping grasslands of Mongolia to the remote hillsides of China, coupled with stunning video footage and thought provoking exercises, where we learn to truly embrace diversity and harness the collective power of our shared humanity.

It is only when every single team member, from the office manager to the CEO, feels safe to bring their whole, most authentic selves to work every day, that our organization will realize its full potential. So long as anyone feels they must hide who they are, we leave untapped resources on the table – negatively impacting our bottom line. Embracing the powerful metaphor of his childhood “Stoop” in Brooklyn, where his friends shared a combined total of thirteen nationalities, Bash reminds us that it is only when our uniqueness is celebrated and all perspectives equally welcome, that we can truly tap into the power of human connection.

Takeaways

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion within a simple, powerful framework.
- How to encourage every employee to be their authentic selves.
- How to create a safe, inclusive environment in the workplace.
- The benefits of creating a “Stoop” with our teams.

- ◊ How to build lifelong bridges between cultures.

• **Creating a Culture of Trust & Empathy – The Superpower to True Business Growth**

In this flagship keynote, Bash shares the profound method he's used to build trust and forge lifelong friendships around the world as a National Geographic Explorer. From living with nomads in Mongolia, to Sumo-wrestling Japan's heaviest human being of all time, Bash shares the superpower for true business growth in engaging, humorous and practical terms.

Without trust, business suffers profoundly - with it, our people and our company thrive. When our clients *feel* on a core level that we have their best interest in mind, they will be inspired to work with us, and business will flourish. As we live and work from a place of empathy we will naturally create an inclusive culture that inspires teammates to want to work together towards our mission and attract clients who trust us with their business.

Takeaways:

- ◊ Discover our "In" – Bash's trademarked secret to true human connection.
- ◊ Why focusing strictly on our bottom line undercuts our clients' trust in us.
- ◊ The short and long term business benefits of emotional intelligence.
- ◊ How to create an inclusive culture where teammates are inspired.
- ◊ Why deep trust is the foundation to long term business growth.

• **Inspirational Leadership – Reignite Employee Inspiration & Bring Your Best Self Everyday**

Join Bash on an international adventure, from the distant hilltops of Western Hunan, to the iconic Mongolian steppe, where we learn, through the power of story, that the most effective way to lead others is to become our best selves, each and every day. Pulling from his most memorable experiences in travels to over 40 countries, Bash shows that it is only *because of challenge*, not in spite of it, that we can realize our full potential – the space between who we are and who we can be.

When our leaders truly embrace empathy and show an unwavering commitment to realize their full potential, the result is inspiration. Leaders inspire us by what they say and do, but perhaps more than anything else – by who they are. In this revolutionary keynote we'll explore how the results of *influence* are often short term and self serving, whereas the impact of *inspiration* lasts a lifetime.

Takeaways:

- ◊ "Inspiration vs. Influence" – Why inspiration always outperforms influence.
- ◊ Re-Ignite your team's passion for your mission and purpose.
- ◊ Inspire your team by becoming the best version of yourself.
- ◊ Embrace challenge as a means to realize your potential.
- ◊ Harness the magnetic power of selflessness.

• **The Power of Mental Wellness – Mindfulness, Mental Health & Creating a Healthy Workforce**

We are working harder, under more pressure, and for longer hours than ever before – but without a mindful approach to work and life, one that values our well being as well as the bottom line – burnout and turnover are inevitable. Pulling from more than a decade of in-depth mindfulness and meditation studies, Bash shares how to incorporate positive mental health strategies into our work and life in order to increase productivity, profit and happiness.

Colored by Bash's extraordinary adventures around the world as a National Geographic Explorer, this keynote brings to life the core lessons he's learned to create a healthy workforce in fun, engaging and practical ways. No matter what our organization is struggling with – employee retention, company layoffs, or economic downturns – it can fuel our path to a wiser, more caring and more innovative culture.

Takeaways:

- ◊ Mental Health tools to increase happiness, productivity and profit.
- ◊ The power of mindfulness to reduce stress and increase concentration.
- ◊ How to create work/life boundaries that empower joy & productivity.
- ◊ How embracing challenge gives rise to real innovation.
- ◊ The scientific link between "Happiness" and "Trust".

• **Start at Step Z – A Guide to Realizing Our Potential**

In this interactive keynote Bash walks attendees through the step by step method of how to get from Step "A", to Step "Z", reverse-engineering the path to their goals. With total clarity, he emphasizes that the swiftest way to get from where we are, to where we want to be, is to *be there first* – on the inside.

From speaking in the United Nations General Assembly Hall at 23 years-old with no prior training, to attracting partnerships from some of the

world's most recognizable brands, to leading a National Geographic Expedition in Mongolia, Chris Bashinelli has forged his own path in life. This talk is a call to action for each of us to embrace our full potential – first by imagining it, then by believing it, and finally through definite action.

Takeaways:

- ◊ Bash's patented 4-step method for achieving seemingly out of reach goals.
- ◊ Why mental wellness comes from focusing on *what is in our control*.
- ◊ How to reverse-engineer the pathway to our potential.
- ◊ How to embody the qualities that manifest our vision.
- ◊ The scientific link between confidence and action.

Select Testimonials

Chris has a passionate, captivating personality, and is a truly inspirational speaker. He breaks through cultural and generational boundaries and puts life into perspective. He ignites sincere emotions, which tend to get lost in our full and busy lives. His message inspires individuals to become more committed members of the society. Chris motivates with vivid stories from all over the world and encourages people to use obstacles as building blocks and to see "failures" as lessons. And, he reminds us that success in business and in life also comes from thinking outside our own boundaries.

— *BMW GROUP*

Caesars Entertainment is committed to our core value of building community and "Bash" magnified the importance of that value in style... Chris Bashinelli's powerful keynote at one of our flagship events helped drive home the true meaning of cultural awareness and compassion. By inviting clients and co-workers to sit on our "stoop", we can strengthen any relationship. He reminds us to simply start where we are and we will see our partnerships and business relationships grow. When we care about each other and the communities we live and work in, the stakes become that much more important, and the positive results are evident. I highly recommend "Bash" for any corporate event."

— *CAESAR'S ENTERTAINMENT*

"Chris Bashinelli was the closing guest speaker at the Entrepreneurs Organization's Global Leadership Conference in Manila, Philippines. His dynamic entrance, larger than life, unabashed manner turned heads, our attention on him right from the start. Chris tells an amazing story of his life, his quest and his vision. For someone so young, he's done some crazy stuff. He had the audience captivated mentally and emotionally. He totally owned the space and the hour of his presentation. Great guy."

— *ENTREPRENEURS' ORGANIZATION Sue Duncan, President of EO New Zealand*

"Chris you were absolutely amazing and a pleasure to work with. You are so comforting to be around and I feel as if I have known you for years! Chris connected with our audience in a way that captivated them, and left them wanting more. For the Greater Nashville Apartment Association Chris absolutely exceeded our expectations on delivering our goal to Educate, Empower & Motivate our members."

— *GREATER NASHVILLE APARTMENT ASSOCIATION Daniel Sircy- Director of Education & Events*