



Clarisse Kresser, DTM Candidate For District Director 2021-22

As a candidate for District Director, my vision is for all District 33 members to achieve their communication and leadership goals while enjoying their Toastmasters experience. When I joined Toastmasters over six years ago, my sole goal was to improve **my** communications skills. With each club meeting I attended, I quickly learned that the Toastmasters experience is so much more than improving “my” communications skills. As I improved in my communication skills, the more I discovered new opportunities and interests. The more I developed and strengthened my leadership skills, I discovered that I could help more people. As a Toastmaster, I meet many wonderful and supportive people who are very generous with their time in support of others. I am inspired and empowered by other members through the sharing of their personal stories through their speeches and by their active participation in various leadership opportunities --- at the club, area, division and district levels ---- Toastmasters offers. The opportunity to serve as a District Officer is a tremendous honor for me. It provides me great personal enjoyment because it allows me to use my knowledge, skills and experiences to help others learn and grow in **their** skills and help them discover and achieve their personal goals and dreams. The professional and Toastmasters experience I bring as a candidate for District Director include:



- **Professional Experience:** Over 25 years of experience in the nonprofit sector in the areas of administration, finance, strategic partnerships, program management, service delivery to targeted populations, managing staff and teams, staff training, and program evaluation
- **District Leadership:** Program Quality Director (current term); Club Growth Director (2019-20); Division A Director (2018-19; achieved Select Distinguished); Area A-3 Director (2017-18)
- **Club Leadership** (since 2015 to present; for multiple terms for 4 clubs since 2015): Club President, VP Education, VP Membership, VP Public Relations, Secretary, and Treasurer
- **Toastmasters Trainings:** Coordinated and facilitated club officer trainings at the area, division and district levels
- **Speech Contests Logistics:** Served as Contest Chair (club, area and division levels) and Chief Judge (club and area levels)
- **Educational Awards:** DTM (earned January 2020) and currently Effective Coaching 4, Strategic Relationships 2 and Team Collaboration in Pathways

I am a firm believer that if each member has a **positive, fun, supporting, and enriching club meeting experience**, then the club will have a solid foundation for success in member retention, member advancements in educational awards and new member recruitment. The District’s major objective is to achieve Smedley Distinguished. If elected, I commit, as District Director, to manage, support and lead the District Leadership Team towards this objective so that our members’ Toastmasters experience is further enhanced, more members are achieving their communication and leadership skills, and more people are experiencing the value and benefits of Toastmasters in their personal and professional lives. I also commit to work my hardest and always serve to the best of my ability, upholding the Toastmasters Core Values of respect, integrity, service and excellence.

I humbly ask for your vote --- Clarisse Kresser for District Director!