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**Presentations by Michael Brandwein for
Organizations & Associations Serving
Young People & Families**

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Presentation Topics by Michael Brandwein for

- **Keynotes**
(Please see Part One below)
- **People who supervise & lead staff, volunteers,
& employees**
(Please see Part Two below)
- **People who work directly with young people
& families**
(Please see Part Three below)

**The following are sample topics. Other sessions can be
developed to meet your specific needs. Please contact Michael
at 847-940-9820 or michael@michaelbrandwein.com.**

PART ONE: Keynotes

THE REAL TRUTH ABOUT STICKS AND STONES: Recharging our Batteries & Creating Changeability

Successful leadership of others begins with more expert leadership of ourselves. Michael uses a creative, highly entertaining approach to present a practical, no-nonsense set of tools to help people:

- handle stress and keep balanced
- be more open to learning new things and keep growing professionally
- work better with others
- resist burnout
- meet challenges with more flexibility and skill
- handle change in positive ways

This session lets each of us take a refreshing and often surprising look at the conclusions we've made about ourselves, why we believe them, and how they unconsciously hold us back by limiting our choices. It demonstrates how to listen to ourselves with greater skill and replaces the prevailing myth about people's "styles" with more positive steps to help us be more flexibly effective. You'll be recharged and revitalized!

THE LEADING SECRETS TO LEADING OTHERS: *Why There's No Such Thing as a Born Leader*

To be terrific leaders who continually develop new and stronger skills in ourselves and others, we need to become really expert at one thing: focusing on skills instead of qualities. This energizing session shows exactly how to do it. We will:

- demonstrate to ourselves a surprising critical error in how we've been trained to look at successful people;
- use "Olivier's Law," three key communication rules, and two specific steps to more immediately improve individual and team skills;
- learn and practice a simple but powerful "reverse engineering" technique to identify and use skills that develop better working relationships with others; and
- take home over 200 immediately useable examples of what outstanding leaders say and do that will make a positive difference in our own work every day.

HOUDINI'S GREATEST SECRET WAS THAT THERE WAS ONE:

Unlocking & Unblocking the Path to Personal & Organizational Success

Houdini, the most famous magician in history, performed such unbelievable escapes and illusions that many highly intelligent people believed these unexplainable feats could be only performed with supernatural powers. You'll be shocked—and see for your own eyes—what Houdini did to prove them wrong. His legend still fascinates and entertains us—but we can learn some surprising and highly useful techniques from his approach to competition, innovation, and reaching for the top goals that may seem unreachable. This unique keynote presentation creatively employs actual demonstrations of some incredible magic to disclose some amazing secrets about the master magician that help us handle problems, fears, challenges, and change. They can help us achieve success as an organization and as professionals. And, at its conclusion, we will see for ourselves what Houdini called his greatest physical and mental challenge: an escape in full view from a real, regulation hospital straitjacket—not the tricky way with a magician's prop that we may have seen on TV, but a real demonstration with a real restraint done in the way Houdini thrilled audiences over a hundred years ago.

INVISIBLE HANDCUFFS & THE LIMITS OF LABELS:

Bringing Out the Best in All Young People

When working with young people, what we expect is a prime cause of what we get. And it's not just low expectations that matter. People with good feelings and high expectations of themselves as "social" may not see themselves as good at reading or writing. Every one of us, adults and youth, are limited by what Michael calls "invisible handcuffs"—an often unexamined and unchallenged inventory of self-beliefs. This presentation is a fun, inspiring, and practical demonstration of specific things we can do to motivate young people and bring out their best while cutting through often unconscious barriers that may unnecessarily limit their abilities as well as our own. You will feel energized, powerful, and ready to make a difference.

SHOW VS. TELL:

Powerful Ways to Teach Essential Skills for Life & Learning

There are dozens of positive opportunities every day where we can take what is already going on and use it to demonstrate outstanding life skills. Young people learn most from what they are shown, not told in lectures. This energizing, nationally-acclaimed presentation is packed with specific and practical examples of things we can do immediately to help young people learn skills that maximize learning and success, including: handling challenges, mistakes, problems, and anger in positive ways, communicating feelings, developing critical life skills,

increasing respect, politeness, and responsibility, and more. We will be refreshed and invigorated with the powerful and lasting differences we can make in the lives of young people.

**“LOOK, I’M READY FOR LIFE-LONG SUCCESS—
I CAN USE A PROTRACTOR!”**

**How to Prepare Young People—and Ourselves—for Real
Life, Leadership, & the Challenge of Change**

Where are the most essential skills for success in life really learned? Our increasing interaction with technological wonders leaves us to wonder: what will happen to our abilities to deal with the more personal skills needed to work together, face-to-face with others? Where change is constant and happens at increasing speeds, what do we do to help our children grow as life-long learners and develop the flexibility, innovation, and creativity needed to meet the challenges of a more complex world? As leaders of youth, how can we become the best daily models of handling change in positive ways? This exciting, fun, and practical presentation demonstrates specific things we can do right away to equip ourselves and our young people with the tools needed for success.

“SAFE” THE ENVIRONMENT:

How to Build Greater Respect in a Culture of Perpetual Put-Downs

We know that positive culture changes will boost respect and trust while reducing bullying and non-verbal behavior that is demeaning and disrespectful to others. What’s missing are practical, no-nonsense ways to actually create that culture. This revitalizing presentation meets that challenge. Two of the reasons that some young people continue to engage in inappropriate behavior and make disrespectful choices that interfere with learning are (1) that they simply don’t believe us when we say that such conduct is not acceptable, and (2) that they don’t know how to replace the “dissing” attitude so prevalent in media and peer groups with anything that works better. How do you disagree, for example, without saying “shut up, stupid!”? This presentation demonstrates the exact way to fortify our credibility by using specific skills to communicate and guide behavior in positive, firm, and effective ways. It also shows how to increase young people’s respect of the diverse views, cultures, and personalities, teach them how to disagree without disagreeability, and improve communication, teamwork, and understanding.

PART TWO:

for people who supervise & lead staff, volunteers, & employees

CONFLICT COMMUNICATION: How to Deal with Disagreement, Conflicts, & Hot People without Using a Blowtorch

Powerful, practical persuasion: This skill-packed session has been acclaimed internationally for teaching specific techniques you will use immediately, every day, to resolve conflicts constructively with less stress while building greater trust, credibility, and cooperation.

It includes:

- precisely what to say and not to say when resolving disagreements
- replacing the myth that blocks effective persuasion
- tailoring responses to the needs and concerns of others
- handling yellors and other angry people with both respect and confidence
- specific “maps” of steps and statements to motivate increased agreement and collaboration
- and more

Super Staff SuperVision: Practical & Powerful Techniques to Lead & Motivate Teams to Success

This session is packed with specific skills to make an immediate difference in our leadership and management of others. Techniques include:

- the single most important thing a boss or team leader is supposed to do every day and how to do it better right away
- the *Dozen Do's*—credible actions that motivate and build positive working relationships to get things done
- “Special Delivery” — how to best provide workers what they need for continued growth, job satisfaction, and increased performance
- making the most of management by modeling, with detailed examples of the fastest and most effective ways to lead by example
- the *Facilitating Phrases*—what to say when leading people to improve
- and more

THE VALUE OF VARYING VIEWS: Building Collaboration, Creativity, and Constant Improvement

Team success requires an open exchange of ideas, yet people bring to work an increasing diversity of attitudes, values, assumptions, and beliefs. This engaging session demonstrates specific ways to use these differences as a strength, encourage the communication of fresh and different views, and manage the inevitable conflict in positive ways. Plus:

- increasing listening and flexibility in ourselves and others
- disagreeing without being disagreeable
- reducing fear of new thinking and motivating more of it
- how to promote change and improvement without raising defensiveness
- getting people to *expect* different opinions and to better understand the value of our differences
- identifying and communicating assumptions to improve group problem-solving and planning
- and more

L.A.S.E.R.B.E.A.M.:

Using Powerful & Positive Communication to Supervise & Lead People to Better Performance

If you manage, supervise, coach, and lead people to better performance, this session is your toolbox for success. Though many supervisors are often unaware of it, most of our communication with workers (even lots of the so-called “positive” kind) is what Michael calls “negatively triggered”—it is a response to things that are wrong, aren’t good enough, or need to be changed or improved. This produces a pervasive “balance” problem which can undermine virtually everything we do as bosses while adding unnecessary tension and stress to the work environment.

This presentation fixes these problems in four steps while providing outstanding tools you’ll use every day to help teach and motivate others to work better, be stronger team members, and provide improved service. Included:

- a much improved way to identify and communicate expectations
- motivating others by making the qualities we expect accessible to everyone
- puke-proof praise — making positive communication more credible

- the most realistic and effective techniques to produce change and teach indispensable skills to others, including *cooperation and teamwork, organization and follow-through, clear communication, problem-solving, dependability, enthusiasm, creativity, responsibility*, and more

MOTIVATING COMMUNICATION: How to Get People to Talk More about What Matters Most

Ever had a meeting where the meeting in the parking lot after the meeting was longer than the meeting itself? What people *don't* tell us can hurt us big time. This one-of-a-kind session provides practical, specific tools to increase open, full, and prompt communication, including:

- decreasing “talk behind backs” and encouraging “problem talk” about even difficult things to head off problems before they grow
- four direct steps you can use daily to get people to come directly to us with problems and concerns – and how to credibly show we want to hear them
- promoting positive problem-solving instead of whining
- identifying and cutting through communication barriers
- overcoming our own problem avoidance and modeling better communication for others; and more.

WORKING SMARTER: How Team Leaders Can Increase Workers' Thinking, Decision-Making, and Problem-Solving Skills

This unique session demonstrates exactly what to say and do to help team members develop better skills for solving problems, making wise decisions, correct mistakes, handle challenges, and think for themselves with greater confidence and independence. Included: using and teaching the D.O.T. steps to problem-solving and an organized set of over 200 terrific questions that help teach better thinking and smarter choices.

THE CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS BRIGHT: How to Deliver Outstanding Services and Satisfaction

This results-oriented presentation is loaded with fresh approaches and practical skills to provide greater service and cut through problems and common challenges with greater confidence. Techniques include:

- the fastest, no-nonsense, no “theory” way to nail down what makes service succeed
- how to creatively motivate workers to be excited about and value high standards instead of having “client/customer service” imposed upon them as the “theme of the month”

- lead to serve: the details on how maximizing supportive supervision provides superb service impact to client/customers
- defining what we want others to believe about our service and figuring out what we need to do and say to make this happen
- practical and creative ways to figure out what client/customers want and how to exceed these expectations
- the best persuasive communication skills to handle conflict, disagreement, and people who are upset
- the critical but rarely used secrets to skillfully make problems and complaints become positive opportunities
- developing service teamwork

THERE'S NO FUN IN FUNGIBLE:

The Fast & Effective Way to Define, Communicate, & Deliver Our Distinctiveness

This special session demonstrates how marketing and service leaders and team members can set their organization apart from the competition using more creativity and deeper analysis. Even when trying to look distinctive, it's astounding how similar organizations and other groups look and sound when trying to explain why community members should pick them out of the crowd. The feature of the session is Michael's nationally acclaimed "So Why Us?" activity that gets the whole team to understand and feel excited about why service is essential to competitive success, how to figure out exactly what is distinctive about our services, and how to communicate this to current and potential clients, members, and others.

MANAGING VOLUNTEERS BEFORE THEY MANAGE TO GET AWAY

National, state, and regional organizations have acclaimed this session for its fresh and positive approach to the supervision and motivation of volunteers. Get techniques you can use right away, including:

- what makes volunteers tick and what ticks them off
- setting up the relationship with greater clarity to ensure future success
- communicating and enforcing expectations
- compensating volunteers when we don't use money
- surprising rules about rewards
- how to keep them motivated, enthused, and cared for
- handling volunteers who aren't working out

- professionalizing your volunteer force
- solving common problems and challenges

THE DEATH OF MEANINGLESS MEETINGS: Ten Powerful Techniques to Make Meetings *Move*

Meetings are supposed to *so/ve* headaches, not create them. Everyone hates wasteful, boring, unproductive meetings -- yet we go on having more of them. This dynamic and refreshing presentation has been acclaimed for teaching ten direct and specific techniques you can use right away to prepare and lead meetings that convert talk into action. Skills include:

- how to have fewer meetings right away
- organizing what needs to be done in ways that dramatically increase efficiency and cooperation
- accomplishing far more in less time, with greater confidence in decisions
- how to get meetings back on track when you're not running them
- stopping "meeting saboteurs" in their tracks
- getting people who never participate to do so while respectfully controlling the people who monopolize
- how to find out what people are really thinking
- keeping people on the subject
- maintaining attention, pacing, and productivity

HOW TO SPEAK SO PEOPLE STAY AWAKE & DO NOT HATE YOU Fast & Highly Effective Ways to Give Outstanding Presentations That Really Captivate, Educate, & Motivate

Many well-intentioned people believe—incorrectly—that having a PowerPoint® presentation on their computer means they have a successful speech. If you believe, like Michael, that we can do better than watching people stand up in front of groups in darkened rooms using what's on a screen as their "script" as they "comment" on "slides," then this fun, skill-packed session is for you. It's loaded with exactly what you can do and say to make truly powerful presentations to large or small groups that inform and motivate others to take positive actions in response to your message. You won't find boring commonplace suggestions like "use good eye contact" in this session. Instead, learn high-level techniques that can be used right away by anyone from the beginner to the advanced presenter. Best of all, they can be plugged into or applied to existing presentations or used to create new ones that will make you extremely confident and a real star up in front. Included:

- the most critical do or die question that we must ask (that no one ever told us about)

- how to *grab and hold* attention in ways that drive messages home (you'll never, ever need to ask, "Can I have your attention, please?")
- get people to care about what you're saying and actually remember it
- simpler, faster, fool-proof ways to organize and prepare material to maximize impact
- fresh, easy ways to craft outstanding openings for terrific first impressions
- wiping out *extremely* common but mostly unknown blunders
- using presentation software like PowerPoint in effective ways that nobody else knows about
- why nervousness makes sense and how to make it work for you

TIME MANAGEMENT for People Who Do Not Have Time to Take a Time Management Course

This special session was developed as a no-nonsense alternative to "time management" seminars that propose detailed plans that you never seem to use after the second day. It demonstrates six groups of useful tools that have been acclaimed by extremely busy people for their flexibility, practicality, and ease of use. You don't have to use all of the techniques every day—just when you need them. They can be applied quickly and are easy to remember. The best thing is that they can be tailored to your individual needs and work habits. Get more done with greater efficiency and organization and less stress—and learn how to *never* have a day when you got "nothing done."

PART THREE:

for people who work directly with young people & families

Teaching Great Skills for Life, Terrific Behavior, & Developing Self-Esteem & Resiliency

BUILDING BETTER CHILDREN:

Fast & Effective Techniques to Teach Terrific Life Skills & Develop Self-Esteem and Resiliency in Young People

It's one thing to "identify qualities and assets (the current 'buzz' word)" that young people need for success, but what's usually missing are rock solid ways to actually *teach* these things. This breakthrough session has been enthusiastically endorsed and used by education and youth development professionals throughout North America and is packed with specific and practical techniques you will be able to use immediately to increase your abilities—and train others—to teach life skills, enhance self-esteem, and deal with behavior in more positive and confident ways, including:

- exactly what to say and do to teach cooperation, caring, responsibility, respect, persistence, patience, independence, and more
- conquering the biggest barrier to positive self-image: moving kids to "Group Four"
- the key secret to resilient self-concepts that really stick
- making praise credible and effective
- increasing positive communication to develop warmer, more supportive relationships

L.A.S.E.R.B.E.A.M.

A Positive System to Teach & Motivate Great Behavior

An energetic, exciting presentation of practical and effective techniques that you can use right away to teach young people outstanding behavior and great choices. Critically acclaimed and enthusiastically endorsed by hundreds of thousands of educators and professional youth leaders throughout North America, this session recognizes that great qualities can be learned, and shows you in four warm and logical steps how to teach

those qualities and *make success accessible to all young people*. It cuts through some surprising but common misconceptions about developing self-esteem and demonstrates specific methods to lead young people to improve their own self-image and confidence. Skills include:

- how to identify what you want young people to do and then communicate these expectations in a warm, motivating, and encouraging way;
- specific, step-by-step techniques to teach the most critical **lifeskills**, including:
 - *making good choices*
 - *cooperation, teamwork, working well with others*
 - *self-esteem, confidence, and independence*
 - *friendship, sensitivity, and trust*
 - *problem solving*
 - *enthusiasm and energy*
 - *excellent communication skills*
 - *accepting and exercising responsibility*
 - *thinking, reasoning, studying, organizing*
 - *creativity*
 - *patience and persistence*
 - *flexibility and management of stress*
 - *leadership of self and others*
- six techniques to provide praise that is more credible and more effective in teaching great behavior; the dangers of ineffective responses and how to eliminate them
- cutting through the tension, frustration, and friction often present when managing behavior
- rediscovering the joys of leading and teaching young people -- regenerating the excitement of knowing we can make important and immediate differences in the lives of young people

LEADING THE LITTLER ONES:

Terrific Ways to Develop Self-Esteem, Responsibility, and Confidence in Young Children

Learn loads of great, easy-to-use techniques to give success to those ten years old and under so they'll develop strong life skills and feel great about themselves and their experiences in our programs. This session includes highly effective ways to develop strong, warm relationships with young kids, get and hold their attention, and build their cooperation, responsibility and respect for themselves and others.

HANDLING UNDESIRE BEHAVIOR IN POSITIVE WAYS**“WHY DON’T YOU BEHAVE?!”:****The KEY SYSTEM Solution to Handling Negative Behavior While Teaching Positive Choices**

Dealing with bad behavior does NOT have to be exasperating. In fact, when properly done it is an outstanding opportunity for terrific teaching of positive life skills. To be successful, we don’t want theory or impractical, general “approaches” — we need to know what to say and what to do. Michael’s **KEY SYSTEM** is a proven, *practical*, warm, and consistent set of very specific techniques to immediately teach children how to make better choices while guiding them away from undesired behavior, including fighting, grabbing, put-downs, whining, non-cooperation, “talking back,” and other inappropriate and problem behaviors.

In four clear steps, you will learn to confidently handle even the most difficult behaviors and how to get young people to accept more responsibility for their conduct. The **KEY SYSTEM** has been widely acclaimed not only for its effectiveness, but for the fast-paced, fun way in which you will learn the skills, which include:

- four reasons why young people often do not listen to adults and the four essential skills that restore credibility, consistency, and trust
- ten steps to doom: the exact ineffective phrases to eliminate in our work with kids
- the two big secrets to changing behavior
- deploying the A.I.R.B.A.G.—precisely what to say and do to replace inappropriate behavior with better choices
- calmly handling resistance and how to respond confidently to over a dozen of the most common “come-backs” that young people use when adults speak to them about bad behavior
- the statements to make to young people to support their efforts to change, set positive expectations, and develop positive relationships with even the most frequently misbehaving youth

“I’VE TOLD YOU A THOUSAND TIMES!”:**How to be Calm, Confident, & Consistent When Handling Undesired Behavior**

“Did I say NO?!” Sure you did, but do they care? If you’ve ever wondered in frustration, “Why don’t these kids listen to me?”—this session is for you. Why

must we tell some young people five or more times, but others only once? Why do children behave one way in front of some adults, but another way with others? Teaching children to make good choices requires credibility and trust. Learn specific techniques to establish that relationship. This session demonstrates exactly what credible adults do and say, including:

- meaning what we say and saying what we mean
- being consistent and firm without losing control and without being “mean”
- teaching children to be responsible
- reducing the stress of leading and teaching children and establishing a calm, effective environment for learning good life skills and choices

DUMPING THE D’S:

How to Stop Put-Downs, Bullying, Taunting, & Teasing While Creating a Safe & Respectful Environment for Learning & Growth

One of the key conditions required to assure successful education and youth development is safety—not just physical, but emotional. When anxiety goes up, learning and the willingness to participate go down. Youth development research reveals that adults often believe most young people feel basically safe, yet the youth themselves report otherwise. This session presents specific and practical tools and techniques. Past participants have used these skills with success throughout the U.S. and Canada in schools, camps, and other organizations. These methods teach young people increased respect while reducing put-downs and other negative behavior. This is not “theory”—it’s a hands-on skills session that demonstrates precisely what to say and do to handle these undesired behaviors pre K-12 and how to help young people take more responsibility for their peer environment while learning to handle disagreement and conflict without hurting the feelings of others.

Communication Skills

TALKING IT OUT:

Superb Listening Techniques to Build Excellent Relationships

The most important skill we use in working with and teaching young people is communication, and it’s also one of the most important things we must teach them how to do themselves. Most of us learned how to listen by observing models around us—which, as this presentation proves in a highly entertaining way, are often not the best examples. This session demonstrates:

- exactly what to say and do when communicating with young people

- how to help them work out problems and even difficult feelings with more calmness and confidence
- the best techniques to help kids to be more responsible and respectful
- helping young people to handle anger, disappointment, and frustration in positive ways
- how to eliminate from our vocabulary the common phrases we've all used but which get in the way of good communication
- reaching even the ones who are reluctant to "open up"
- fast ways to build greater trust in relationships with young people
 - teach young people to listen and communicate with each other, not just the teacher
 - develop a greater depth of learning
 - responding to strong and weak answers to maximize deeper learning, thinking, and communication skills
 - handling "I don't know..."
 - not just expecting and "grading" participation but helping all students reach these expectations
 - using a special "platforming" technique in every class to build on success

Leading, Counseling, & Teaching Young People

THE MAGIC OF MIGHTY MINDS

How to Teach Responsibility, Problem-Solving, & Other Great Skills to Young People

Long after young people forget massive amounts of the "stuff" they memorize in school, the most important part of their education will be whether they've learned *how* to think. Only by working on the process of good thinking will we really produce generations of successful life-long learners. As just one example, many adults say "Good question!" to youth without ever teaching *why* it's a good question or how people can develop and practice the skill of asking good questions, which is the very essence of being "smart." The session demonstrates how to teach kids what the good questions are.

It provides strong, effective skills to build and reinforce essential mental life skills in young people: the three-step "Doing the D.O.T." method for solving problems, the secret to muscular brains, decision-making, reasoning, creativity, self-confidence, persuasive communication, and more. You'll learn exactly what to do and say to build independent, responsible, and capable young people.

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES

Positive 1 on 1 Communication & Counseling Skills to Boost Self-Image, Confidence, & Self-Motivation

This special group of techniques for improving *one-on-one communication* is designed for social service personnel, caseworkers, health workers, youth leaders, guidance staff, counselors, educators, and others who understand the challenge of silence—knowing that a young person needs to communicate feelings and information, but is reluctant to do so because of the difficult or personal subject matter, lack of confidence, fear, and other factors. Includes:

- over 60 specific things a young person does or says during even limited conversations and how to respond to them to develop more positive self-concepts
- positive opportunities you can use right away to provide youth with credible evidence of their own competence and success
- increasing trust of others and trust of self
- improving responsibility, independence, and cooperation
- building communication and problem-solving skills

How to Lead Fabulous Discussions

Learn superb practical techniques to stimulate exciting and productive group discussions. This session demonstrates original and effective tools you can use immediately to:

- increase attention
- motivate participation from everyone, including those hardest to reach and the ones who don't volunteer
- teach thinking, cooperation, problem-solving, and other essential skills
- encourage communication with each other, not just with the leader
- develop a greater depth of learning
- and more

IMPROV TO IMPROVE:

Fast & Fun Activities to Teach & Learn Leadership, Creativity, and Teamwork

These terrific improv-based games and activities successfully teach creativity, team-building, leadership, communication, and more. Once they've experienced them, staff are shown how to use them with campers, too! They comfortably involve everyone, are easy to lead, and—most importantly—staff learn the exact post-activity discussion points for maximum impact.

How to Grab & Keep the Attention of Media-Saturated Kids Without Having to Set Your Hair on Fire

You'll never again have to shout, "We're not going to start until it's quiet!" (You may never start...) The days of "Can I have your attention, please?!" will be over forever. (They might reply, "No—but thanks for asking...") This one-of-a-kind, creative presentation demonstrates the real secrets to motivating increased and respectful attention and participation in large groups and small. Whether you want attention to teach, to play, or both, you'll pack your toolbox with skills that include:

- why "short attention span" is mostly a myth made up by frustrated adults who haven't figured out how to get the attention of kids, how to get rid of techniques that don't work and replace them with those that work every time
- the single most important attention-grabbing secret and dozens of easy ways to use it
- the A.R.T. of Michael's attention redirection techniques: the counter-intuitive, fool-proof way to get large, noisy groups quiet in an instant—and why "If you can hear me, clap once..." doesn't cut the mustard or any other condiment
- making the attention-getting process one of the best parts of the program or activity
- "grand openings"—immediately effective ways to begin that establish the best atmosphere to learn and play

Great Games: The Powerhouse Collection

Young people can learn a great deal from play. This session demonstrates outstanding games and activities that require no or virtually no set up, are lots of fun, and also teach important life skills like teamwork, respect, problem-solving and more to bring out the best in young people. Most importantly, you not only learn the games but you learn the secrets of great game leadership. Grab attention, motivate and maximize participation, build respectful behavior, and boost creativity and flexibility. Included: the 10 best instant set-up games that every youth leader should know.

Especially for parents...

How to Have Great Communication with Your Kids without Losing Your Hair or Your Mind

From the writer and presenter of the Emmy® award-winning television programs *Parenting Puzzle*, this is a highly entertaining, *practical* presentation that will recharge and refresh you — and help you meet the challenges of building great relationships with your children. To succeed, families need to do their best to talk and listen to each other with skill and confidence. Michael Brandwein’s presentations have been critically endorsed and acclaimed internationally by teachers, parents, and professionals working with youth—not just because his techniques really work, but because of the enormous warmth and laughter with which they are taught. This presentation is not “theory”—it’s a nationally acclaimed, fast-paced, enjoyable session of specific things that you can *use the moment you return home* to improve family communication and help young people from pre-school to high school to:

- develop greater responsibility
- learn how to solve problems by talking things out
- communicate their feelings respectfully and effectively
- and more

THE MAGIC OF FAMILY COMMUNICATION: A Special Presentation for Parents & Their Children

A fun, fast-paced event that families can attend together — a fresh, entertaining way to see and learn some very practical, very specific skills to improve family communication, trust, and cooperation. Michael takes the acclaimed techniques he’s developed as a national expert on working with children and uses his skills as a professional magician to deliver a program filled with surprises, laughs, comfortable participation, and lots of cool tools that take the mystery out of working together to be a great family. This presentation is a unique and comfortable way for parents and their children to grow closer with warmth and good skills.