TEDxDrexelU SPEAKER INVITATION

Dear Frank Lee,

We are delighted to invite you to speak at the second annual TEDxDrexelU conference. We believe you would bring in a great value of inspiration and kick-start a thought-provoking conversation amongst everyone.

TEDxDrexelU is a local, independently organized event at Drexel University in Philadelphia that strives to re-create the unique experience found at TED. Our conference will be held at Drexel University’s Grand Hall in the Main Building on Saturday, October 5, 2013.

Please find included in this package detailed information for invited speakers regarding TED and the TEDxDrexelU conference. We hope that you will join us in our mission to inspire others and ignite ourselves with ideas worth spreading.

Thank you very much for your consideration and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Dhairya Pujara
Chief Organizer
TEDxDrexelU
TED vs. TEDx

TED is an annual event where some of the world’s leading thinkers and doers are invited to share what they are most passionate about. “TED” stands for Technology, Entertainment, Design -- three broad subject areas that are collectively shaping our future.

Attendees have called it “the ultimate brain spa” and “a four-day journey into the future.” The diverse audience of CEOs, scientists, creatives, philanthropists is almost as extraordinary as the speakers, such as Bill Clinton, Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Frank Gehry, Paul Simon, Sir Richard Branson, Philippe Starck and Bono. Today, more than 500 talks from past TED conferences can be viewed online at TED.com.

As opposed to the annual TED conferences, TEDx events happen frequently all over the world and are independently organized.

These local, self-started events are branded TEDx, where x=independently organized TED event. The TED conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program.
On May 16th, 2012, the first ever TEDxDrexelU took place in the Edmund D. Bossone Research Center’s Mitchell Auditorium. The theme of the event was “Why Not?”. An audience of 100 witnessed 14 talks given by 18 speakers. Some of the speakers included a research scientist from Drexel University, cartoonist from LA, an unreasonable entrepreneur from Colorado, design thinkers from Manhattan, and a craft brewer from Philadelphia.

The 8-hour-long global webcast received hits from 34 countries around the world.

Click here to watch the talks from last year on YouTube in HD.
EVENT INFORMATION

WHAT: Second Annual TEDxDrexelU Conference

WHERE: Main Building Grand Hall
       Drexel University
       3141 Chestnut Street
       Philadelphia, PA 19104

WHEN: Saturday, October 5, 2013
       Talks from our invited speakers, with intermissions and performances
       Reception for speakers and attendees

WHO: 100-150 attendees, and participants consisting of a diverse group from
       Drexel students, alumni, faculty members, and distinguished speakers
       from the Philadelphia region and beyond

Drexel University’s Main Building Grand Hall
GOALS AND VISION

We are committed to creating an event where participants are challenged to communicate their passions in an exciting and engaging dialogue. The format of TEDxDrexelU will allow speakers and attendees to digest and debate the talks and encourage the exchange of ideas and information amongst all participants.

Drexel is home to groundbreaking research, extraordinary ideas, and remarkable people. We look forward to showcasing this brilliance and enabling great ideas to be put into action. TEDxDrexelU, therefore, is a unique opportunity for members of the Drexel community to share their ambitions for our collective future.

THIS YEAR’S THEME - “The Next X”

You can analyze the past, live in the present and plan for the future, but there is always an element of surprise for what’s coming next.

We have moved into an important phase in the history of human evolution where new technology radically transforms our lives every day. The global conversation is growing at an exponential rate, and the playing field is leveling. Where are we going and what will be the next revolution?

It’s all about the next unknown – “The Next X.”
SPEAKER INFORMATION

Your presentation, or “TEDTalk”, should last no longer than 18 minutes: long enough to say something of significance, but short enough to hold everyone’s attention and to be easily watched as a recorded video. The TED format has proven a carefully prepared talk of this length can have astonishing impact. Conversely, not all of the presentations at TEDxDrexelU will be 18 minutes long, due to the considerations of individual speakers and the overall time limit of the event.

TEDxDrexelU will be following many of the TED speaker rules. For example, speakers are banned from “selling from the stage,” and there is strict enforcement of the clock. An additional benefit of speaking at TEDxDrexelU is that your presentation will be made available online following the conference at the TEDxDrexelU website, and possibly on TED.com, where some talks have been attracting online audiences upwards of a million viewers. TED Talks have been viewed more than 100 million times worldwide and this exposure has transformed the careers of many TED presenters and performers.

TED has never paid speakers to appear, but has always committed to creating an experience that’s tremendously fulfilling and beneficial on all sides, and as a TEDx licensee we plan to do the same.

If you are unfamiliar with TED or the format of a “TEDTalk”, we invite you to view some of our favorite TEDTalks on TED.com.

Sir Ken Robinson  
*Why School Kills Creativity*

Phillippe Starck  
*Design and Destiny*

Charlie Todd  
*The Shared Experience of Absurdity*
IN CLOSING...

Thank you once again for your interest in speaking at TEDxDrexelU! We are very excited to hear about what you are most passionate about and why you would like to present at TEDxDrexelU.

This summer the TEDxDrexelU team of volunteers will be working closely with our group of invited speakers to ensure the success of each presentation.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact us by e-mail at TEDxDrexelU@gmail.com if you have any questions. In your subject line, please put "Re: Speaking at TEDxDrexelU." You can also find us on:

http://www.facebook.com/TEDxDrexelU

http://twitter.com/TEDxDrexelU