



Shannon
Huffman
Polson

Shannon Huffman Polson

The Grit Factor: Selected Speaking Testimonials



*“With her message of intersecting passion and purpose, and choosing mindset every day to take on challenges, **Shannon provided the ‘wow factor’** that we strive to deliver to our members — who lined up literally by the hundreds to meet her after the presentation.”*

– **William J. Mellin**, President/CEO, New York Credit Union Association (June 2022)

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*“We had the honor of hosting Shannon to be our Key Note speaker for our FY’23 company Kickoff. The **presentation has already had an impact** company wide in terms of getting people aligned with vernacular and mindset. **Shannon’s ability to tell a gripping story from real life experience and deliver practical skills for daily application is second to none.** One of the key requests from my side was to not only deliver a motivation speech, but to train and coach the organization on defining a path to purpose and establishing a growth mindset through consistent application and grit. **She nailed it.** The result was alignment and another step closer to a unified culture. Thank you Shannon for an incredible introduction into the institute and we look forward to continuing our journey.”*

– **Steven Hollins**, CRO, Netwrix (April 2022)

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“Dynamic, riveting, impactful and inspiring fall short in describing Shannon’s leadership sessions. She spoke at our Company Kick off and had me in the cockpit of an Apache right there with her. Heart racing to make a critical decision with conviction - trusting your training, your team, your helicopter’s performance and your weapon system. It’s that preparation in rehearsals that builds confidence to execute. There are similarities in business to learn from her experience, to launch your team to drive to mission critical outcomes. Very inspiring!!”

– **Dianne Del Rosso**, VP, Turbonomics/IBM (March 2022)



“Shannon was and absolute star, helping my team through the most challenging time in our business. She was inspiring, her words resonated, and she left everyone wanting more. Brilliant storytelling combined with fantastic ways to learn about True Grit. Ten out of ten is not high enough marks. “

– Simon Leslie, CEO, Ink

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“Shannon Polson scored 90% top two box! That is the highest score for all of our sessions over the two-day period. There were glowing verbatims as well.”

– Fortune 100 (Finance) Company

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“Everyone really enjoyed her talk/stories! As I type this, I am overhearing the clients talk about her and how they are planning to continue to pull her message through the rest of the meetings. She was a huge hit and very inspiring.”

– Biohaven Pharmaceuticals

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“Thank for your assistance is having Shannon Huffman Polson serve as our keynote speaker for our annual Chamber SWLA Banquet. We had a full house of 1,000 attendees. The morning of the banquet, Shannon conducted a workshop for our Leadership Class and she easily engaged them. She was very easy to work with and we are very pleased that we selected her for our keynote. Her intro with the Apache Helicopter Video was a real attention- getter. The audience remained silent as she told her story. We have received all positive comments about Shannon's presentation. I would strongly recommend her to any organization wishing a keynote about leadership.”

– Southwest Louisiana Economic Development Alliance

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“She was fantastic! The meeting was great, and Shannon was wonderful and stayed around during lunch to chat with people.”

– WestPoint Financial Group



“Shannon was an amazing speaker, very professional, and a joy to be around. She is someone you walk away from feeling good and wanting to spend more time with.”

– Dermavant Sciences, Inc.

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“Shannon was amazing! She did a great job summarizing the day and leaving our company energized to face the wind and fly through it! Really we couldn’t be happier.”

– Ball Ventures

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“Shannon was AMAZING!!!! Our team absolutely loved her and her message. Her story was spot on with our mission and our goals for the meeting. She was personable and candid with the Q and A which everyone also raved about. We would still be there if we didn’t cut off the questions, she was that good. I also had several people come up afterwards and ask about her book and her GRIT class. She was outstanding!”

– Nestle Health Science

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“Shannon was great! Very good feedback from the team on her energy, messaging and overall presentation.”

– Midco

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“Shannon was great! Very good feedback from the team on her energy, messaging and overall presentation.”

– New York Bankers Association



"It was fantastic! Shannon did a great job. We received lots of compliments about Shannon and the event."

– Indiana Fever



CardinalHealth™

"Shannon COULD NOT HAVE BEEN BETTER. Obviously, her story and insights were great, but, on top of that, she was personable and connected with so many of the attendees. I heard, time and time again, that she was just the right speaker for this event, and personified the mission of Women in Pharmacy."

– Cardinal Health



"Shannon was fabulous! Reviews from attendees are excellent."

– The Maryland Municipal League

BAUSCH + LOMB

"Shannon was a treat to work with and we appreciated her being a part of the program. Pre-show, she was very accessible and available to us for planning. Onsite, she was engaging, inspiring and conveyed a strong message of determination and grit.

She received a standing ovation and we held a 15m Q&A afterward. Then, Shannon stuck around and mingled w/ the audience for about an hour afterward during a cocktail hour. Client was inspired and moved."

– Bausch & Lomb



SUBARU

"They (Shannon Huffman Polson and Mark Kelly & Gabby Giffords) were absolutely amazing, and they brought the house down."

– Subaru



"We appreciate you taking the time to share your stories and experiences in the United States Army as an Apache Helicopter Captain. The Service you have provided to our country is admirable. Your presentation was extremely informative and well received by Kickoff Breakfast attendees. We have heard nothing but positive comments about your presentation and the information that you shared."

– National Agricultural Aviation Association

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"Everything went very well. Our event exceeded our expectations and Shannon was great."

– Bristol-Myers Squibb

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"OMG, she was amazing!! Everyone had so many questions for her afterwards. She was bombarded!"

– Plastics Industry

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"It went very well; she got a standing ovation."

– Ameriprise Financial

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"Shannon was fantastic – we couldn't have asked for anything more – other than a few more hours with her. The presentation was captivating and delivered everything that we could have wanted. A lot of buzz has been created around the presentation and I will share more of that as it is posted on our yammer site. She hit on all the topics we discussed in our initial discussion, leadership, adversity, innovation, change, living up to high standards, doing you best work under pressure, etc. It was perfect."

– Northwestern Mutual