

# BIU AFFILIATED SPEAKERS AND EVENTS



## EDDIE SLOWIKOWSKI

3 minutes and 58 seconds. That is the amount of time it took Eddie Slowikowski to run the mile. Whether it's as a Gold Medal winner for the USA Track & Field Team, a 3-time NCAA All-American, or one of the world's most dynamic professional speakers, Eddie knows a thing or two about peak performance. Through years of training as an athlete and running his own speaking business, he knows what it takes to be elite. Eddie has always had the can-do spirit of an entrepreneur, in all walks of life. Best of all, Eddie can channel that sense of accomplishment through interactive storytelling to audiences everywhere. He can make you laugh, cry, dance and learn...all in one presentation. It's a rollercoaster journey like no other, and Eddie's been doing it for over 24 years.



## HARRIET TURK

For more than 25 years, Harriet has challenged teens & adults to make positive, empowered life choices. Her presentations are punctuated by down-to-earth Southern-speak, contagious energy & a calm confidence. Harriet believes affirmation & enthusiasm are fuel for living. While we can make positive choices, we'll sometimes encounter consequences that we have no control over. Harriet's interactive & energetic presentations identify these times as our opportunities to "deal with it" -- live to our full potential with purpose, integrity & character.



## SCOTT BACKOVICH

Witty by nature, caring at heart: for youth speaker Scott Backovich, this is merely the tip of the iceberg. Scott's quirky yet powerful style and message speak to students at their own level, helping them to understand the true potential they hold.

As someone still in his 20's, Scott realizes that students today need to be reached in new and innovative ways. He has dedicated his life to connecting with and empowering students everywhere. On any given day, he can be found not only speaking on stages around North America, but also reaching out to teens on various student-based sites. For Scott, it's not about talking at students; it's about connecting with them where they are.

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## KEVIN LAUE

At nearly seven-feet-tall, Kevin Laue commands attention simply by walking on stage. When he was 10 years old his father died of cancer and Kevin became determined to make his father proud by proving that he could be a success—not only in Basketball, but in life. And he did, playing Division-I basketball and graduating as an honor student from Manhattan College. And he did it all with one hand.

Kevin uses his own inspirational journey is used as a jumping off point to examine the challenges faced by others every day and his triumphs help audiences see their own problems in a new light. He shares his story to help change attitudes and perspectives of corporate, faith based, and youth audiences.



## EMILY WILSON

Emily was encouraged by her third grade teacher to get up and sing in front of the whole church at the age of 7. With continued support from her high school choir teacher, she started leading music regularly. Since 2013 she has spoken and played music at dozens of national and international youth and young adult events in two dozen states and numerous countries, including diocesan, parish, and school events. Energetic and charismatic, Emily is not only a gifted speaker and musician, but she is a renowned blogger and author of the book *I Choose the Sky*.



## “THE ORIGINAL” MIKE SMITH

For over 25 years, Mike Smith has taken his involving presentations to almost 4 million students, teachers, administrators and business people in the United States and Canada. He has been a consultant and presented at many local, state, regional and national conferences. His audiences have ranged from CEOs to second graders!

Today Mike is the president of DifferenceMakers, Ltd., his speaking, seminar and product marketing company. He helped found the National Association of Student Activity Advisors—an organization devoted to training teachers to sponsor student organizations, and was a leading force behind the Alliance for Student Activities—organized to promote the value of Student Activities as one of the most important components in the reorganization of education.