



Dr. Amber Kinser

Speaker, Trainer, & Coach

The Hard Skills of Human Interaction

For years, conflict management, challenging conversations, self-awareness, and emotional intelligence got filed under “soft skills.” Amber Kinser doesn’t see them that way. With a Ph.D. in interpersonal communication and over 20 years leading, teaching, training, and coaching professionals, she helps leaders and teams treat these as the load-bearing, trainable, and mission-critical skills they actually are.

Dr. Kinser delivers a dynamic, interactive event experience, and leaves audiences with concrete skills that result in real change—through keynotes, workshops, half-day trainings and retreats tailored to the room.

Signature Talks

✓ Stop Calling Them “Soft” Skills!

Content knowledge and technical skill only get a leader so far. Earning trust and confidence takes something else. This talk motivates leaders to build trust by mastering self-awareness, conflict, emotional intelligence, and hard conversations.

✓ Emotional Intelligence is the New Leadership Advantage

A practical framework for recognizing the emotions of self and others, pausing reactions, and leading with intention—to build trust, navigate conflict, and drive performance.

✓ Difficult Conversations, Difficult People, and the Skills You Need to Navigate Them

Focusing on the verbal skills and body language of healthy assertion, Dr. Kinser teaches concrete communication strategies for navigating complicated conversations—and the moments when some people make them more difficult.

✓ Managing Impostor Syndrome: From Self-Doubt to Earned Confidence

When perfectly capable people don’t believe they deserve the leader’s seat, both they and their organizations lose. This talk helps leaders upend troubling work habits, stop questioning whether they belong, and start leading like they do.

Partial Client/Audience List

TEDx Johnson City; National Communication Association; Quillen College of Medicine; Society for Human Resource Management; Association for Talent Development; Virginia Tech University; Johnson City Medical Center Grand Rounds; STRONG Accountable Care Community; Professional Women’s Network; First TN Area Agency on Aging and Disability; Watauga Counseling Association; Nuclear Fuel Services; Organization for Women in Medicine; Quillen Cardiology Fellows Program; Purdue Women’s Conference

Keynote/Workshop Outcomes

With a skillful blend of magnetic energy, expert knowledge, and sharp wit, Dr. Kinser:

- builds communication range for leaders and teams—the ability to come across, adapt, and connect in ways that land the message they intend
- shows leaders that self-awareness and emotional intelligence—not just content knowledge or technical skill—are what make managing other people possible
- demonstrates for would-be “impostors” and other low confidence leaders how to change their relationship with competence and move toward innovation and engaged productivity
- teaches leaders concrete strategies for the conversations they’d normally avoid: the disagreement nobody names, the overdue feedback, the person who’s hard to work with

Free breakout session with each keynote

Option to book a pre/post event training

Audiences are saying . . .

Dr. Kinser uses her expertise in communication science to weave a story that engages her audience . . . genuine and familiar, like having a conversation with a good friend.

— Dr. Joe Bidwell, College Dean

Really great! Amber knows her stuff and presents well.

— Kattie Kincaid, Purdue Women’s Conference

Dr. Kinser’s talk was powerful, vulnerable, and oh so relatable . . . I felt seen. It was a truly inspiring experience!

— Cara Harker, Dancer

Amber’s presentation was engaging, insightful, and deeply resonant with attendees across sectors.

— Rachel Stiltner, Associate Manager of Operations

Very Informative and a great speaker. I would definitely attend more sessions with her.

— FTAAAD conference attendee



Please feel free to reach out with any questions

Get in Touch!

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