



In 2011, Mehrnaz Bassiri made the riskiest and most rewarding decision of her professional life: she traded a career in Biotech for K-12 educational development.

The critical thinking skills and resilience she hones as part of her STEM background helped with the transition, and now she's a writer, speaker, learning and progress specialist, and the founder of MyGradeBooster. She is the recipient of the 2014 Futurepreneur Canada's 'The Sky's Your Limit Entrepreneur of the Year' award in the Youth category.

Her dedicated mentorship helps others learn the importance of perseverance, overcoming failures and learning from mistakes. Mehrnaz has a Master of Science from the University of British Columbia and has been featured at TEDxChilliwack, on Global News radio, in the Huffington Post, Addicted2Success, and the DailyZen. Mehrnaz has lived, worked, and studied in Japan, Iran, England, and Canada and currently lives in British Columbia, Canada.

PAST SPEAKING



YWIB



Soroptimist
International



TEDx



Biopharmaceutical
Research Inc.



ROUNDHOUSE



a place of mind
UBC

POPULAR SPEAKING TOPICS

Bare Naked

A motivational talk for girls and women.

Once they enter teenage years, many girls start hiding their uniqueness and give away their power to fit in. This behaviour can become so ingrained that even as adults many women struggle with self knowledge and confidence - the key ingredients that help you find purpose and create impact. It's only when you accept your true identity that you are able to get to know yourself, embrace your uniqueness, and make your mark. In this inspirational talk, Mehrnaz explores the self-deprecating behavior of trying to be like 'everyone else' and guides girls and women to embrace their true selves.

Inspire Grit

A motivational talk to reboot how you think about progress.

Obstacles, challenges, and failures are guaranteed to strike us at some point in our lives. Grit helps us face challenges successfully, but researchers have had difficulty pinpointing exactly how some individuals build grit and others don't. In this inspiring talk Mehrnaz uses her personal story of how she beat her own debilitating struggle with selective mutism and takes you through the path she followed to confidently land on the TEDx red circle.

Mehrnaz motivates her audiences to reach their highest potential by rethinking what reaching a goal means by:

- Focusing on progress, not results
- Building habits and learning strategies
- Walking the path of mastery

Success Has Nothing To Do With Grades

The motivational talk teenagers need to hear to achieve success in school (and after they graduate).

Education has shifted from teaching and learning to focusing on high marks. Students are told they need good grades to become successful. If they achieve a high standing, it's assumed that they have learned the skills and grasped the concepts they need for university and their careers. This is far from the truth.

As a thought provoking educator and a disruptive progress specialist, Mehrnaz's motivational talk inspires students to reach their highest potential by rethinking what really is important to realize success.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

"Mehrnaz is a warm and engaging speaker who is able to make complex theoretical subjects accessible and interesting for any learner. After observing her deliver a workshop on growth mindset and study skills, I was impressed by the way she distilled such complex information about neurobiology to a group of youth, who showed clear enjoyment of her talk and who asked many questions! She has such a broad range of knowledge that she was able to connect the topic of the day to the interests of the listener - she is a highly engaging and enjoyable speaker." **Amanda Pullishy, ACTING SUPERVISOR, YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT YWCA**

"Mehrnaz brings a passion and professionalism that stands out. I had the privilege to work with Mehrnaz in preparation for a TEDx talk; it was evident early in our work that she is prepared and interested in ensuring audiences will have the best chance to grasp the 'idea'. Unlike other professional speakers who are convinced their talk is 'complete', Mehrnaz asked questions to receive honest, constructive feedback to ensure it aligned with the intent of the TEDx event. When you combine her practical way of presenting with a priority to ensure audiences are the priority, don't miss out on an opportunity to have Mehrnaz speak for you." **Nathan O'Hara, TEDxCHILLIWACK SPEAKER COACH**

"In February 2018, our service club engaged Mehrnaz Bassiri to address sixty Grade 7 girls about how to prepare for the academic challenges of high school. We foolishly assumed that the girls would find it difficult to concentrate for any length of time on such a dry topic. We could not have been more wrong! From the minute she began, Mehrnaz captivated the girls' attention with her simple yet sage advice. The girls were feverishly taking notes, despite re-assurances that they would receive an electronic copy of her presentation. Mehrnaz's presentation is a must-see for students who are about to embark on further academic challenges." **Veronica Loat, DIRECTOR AT SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF NORTH SHORE**

INTERNATIONAL OF NORTH SHORE

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