

Beat: Business

## Engaging Speakers Holiday Party & WGN Anchor Lourdes Duarte Helps St. Pius V

### Engaging Speakers Holiday Party Helpers

Elk Grove Village, 22.12.2015, 16:50 Time

**USPA NEWS** - Engaging Speakers (ES) Annual Holiday Celebration featuring WGN Anchor Lourdes Duarte gathered at Belvedere Banquets in Elk Grove Village, IL. Together ES & Duarte collaborated to gift door prizes & raffle benefit proceeds to benefit Saint Pius V School children in Chicago, IL's Pilsen neighborhood.

Engaging Speakers Hosts Annual Holiday Celebration Featuring WGN Anchor Lourdes Duarte Dec. 11th, 2015 at Belvedere Banquets in Elk Grove Village, IL.

Eleven days ago the applause from Engaging Speakers organization members and guests opened up one of their biggest meetings of the year. Their gathering this year was purposed in sharing their business resources, successful member experiences and testimonials with other members in a carousel fashion. Their charitable raffle giveaway activity went to benefit the children of Saint Pius School in the Pilsen neighborhood community of Chicago, IL. St. Pius V School, located in the Pilsen community in Chicago, serves students from Early Education through 8th grade. SPV offers full-day Pre-K programming and a wide array of before and after school programs for their students. Graduates go on to attend the best high schools in the Chicago area. SPV students thrive in a nurturing environment while being challenged daily by rigorous academic programming. Students learn values that complement their family's faith formation and help them become peacemakers in their community.

As their celebration got underway Engaging Speakers Tom Goesche as one of the first to share her Engaging Speakers member testimonial...

Member Testimonial: "Morning everyone: I believe I am either the newest member of Engaging Speakers or certainly one of the newest members of Engaging Speakers" and I set out to intentionally build my speaking business earlier this year, and I must tell you" joining this org - is one of the best decisions that I've made this year in ALL THE INVESTMENTS I'VE MAD THIS YEAR in MY BUSINESS. So if you are a speaker & you would like to build your speaking business and actually have fun doing - become a member of Engaging Speakers" I highly highly recommend it. Its only been about a month or 2 for me and it has been fantastic. The people are awesome, the resources are awesome -- the feedback you receive from your other members is fantastic. I'm Tajuana Ross: the name of my business is Get Over Yourself & please join Engaging Speakers, if you are not already a member."

The celebration included a platform for sponsor members to share a quick bit about themselves and their businesses that generally offer a product or service that a speaker could use"

Sponsor Member "" Kelly Epperson shared with: "Hi there, I'm Kelly Epperson from "Birth That Book"" And at that this point: I have written 30 books or more, some for America's Has Bestselling Authors, some have sold A Million copies, but at my core I am a writer, speaker, and a listener" and those are the skills that I use to help you birth your book "" so if u need help with editing or if you need book coaching to get it out of you, or if u don't want to write it and want me to ghost write it "" so lets have 2016 be the year that you become an author. Kelly Epperson, "Birth That Book!"

As the keynote speaker for Engaging Speakers Annual Holiday Celebration, WGN Anchor Lourdes Duarte identified Saint Pius School as her benefactor of choice to receive her speaking honorarium. ES members gifted \$500 to Saint Pius School on Duarte's behalf from the fundraising raffle they held at the party. The raffle prizes valued at well over 10k\$, and one raffle winner member carried away a wine bottle nearly 2.5 feet tall!

Lourdes Duarte on her charity of choice at the ES event: "Hi everybody how are ya? You all look so beautiful" I'm starting to think that you guys should train me b/c I'm not the expert on public speaking, but I'm gonna try today. So this charity is called Saint Pius. Q: Have you guys ever heard of Saint Pius Church over in the Pilsen neighborhood? Some of you have, some of you haven't well if you're ever running through Pilsen" St Pius is one of the biggest churches in that area" it is really the central landmark of the community and it really helps the people living there not just little kids that go to school there but a community that goes to church there and they go to their facility for a number of different things. They've got a food pantry, they've got educational opportunities" so a lot of great things. I

met the principal at Saint Pius school not long ago; and one of the things she said to me that really struck me, was the fact that a lot of times she's got parents that come in there, living in low income communities who say to her "I really want my child to have a better education, and I want them to come to this school but I can't afford it" so if I need to wash the floors, do dishes I will do that so that my kid can go to school here. So that touched me so much that parents are willing to go to that level to make sure their kids have a good solid education, that I thought okay if I do another event and they offer to donate the money to charity "" that's the place I want it to go to. I hope that convinced you guys maybe" buy some tickets!

Lourdes Duarte's Engaging Speaker Holiday Keynote Takeaways:

Sharing from her journal the things she has learned in her years:

1. Be generous with your time, be gen w/your resources and be generous with the words that you say. It is so much better to celebrate people, than to criticize them.
2. Volunteering is the rent you pay for the space you occupy on earth "" I think it is such a beautiful statement to me if you get a chance to give back and volunteer "" do so.
3. Do nothing for prestige or status or money or approval alone because it will never get you anywhere. Do things because you enjoy them and you like them, and you want to make a difference" use your time wisely "" we don't have a lot of it.
4. Oprah-ism "" When people show you or tell you who they are believe them "" we have to be better at paying attention "" the other side of that is when people try to tell you who you are don't believe them "" you create your own destiny "" and you know your own integrity and value more than anyone else. So don't let other people affect how you see yourself. So again people show you who they are believe them - don't believe them "" when they try to show you who you are don't believe them.

Gail Brown, Co-founder and President of Engaging Speakers announced before the speaker audience how wonderful Duarte's keynote was, and gifted her with a very a small token of Engaging Speakers appreciation for coming out and sharing her wisdom with the organization.

# # #

Engaging Speakers is a powerful networking organization that offers an opportunity for experts to transform their love and passion into a message that best serves the needs of the world. We provide members with a unique opportunity to build strong relationships, in a safe and supportive environment, that assists them in growing a successful business through meetings, mentoring, website and marketing. Engaging Speakers serves as a resource for meeting planners to find gifted speakers to educate and entertain their audiences.

Engaging Speakers provides members with a unique opportunity to build strong networking relationships and assists them in growing a successful speaking business through the Engaging Speakers website and marketing.

To become a member of Engaging Speakers and learn how to build your business through speaking you may visit: <http://www.engagingspeakers.com/memberships>.

For Engaging Speakers Calendar of Events visit: <http://www.engagingspeakers.com/events>

To be placed on the email list for upcoming meetings in the New Year 2016, inquire about Engaging Speakers organizational sponsorship, professional or standard membership contact: Gail Brown, President & Co-Founder, Engaging Speakers "Speak Your Way to More Business" via email at: [gail@engagingspeakers.com](mailto:gail@engagingspeakers.com) or via web at [EngagingSpeakers.com](http://EngagingSpeakers.com) or call: 888-417-7325

Gail Brown is a speaker, a wellness coach, a mentor in addition to her function as Co-Founder and President of Engaging Speakers (one of Chicago's Best kept secrets) and renown for being a powerful networking organization that connects speakers with other speakers, meeting planners and resource partners to help its Members speak their way to more business.

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**Article online:**

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-6840/engaging-speakers-holiday-party-und-wgn-anchor-lourdes-duarte-helps-st-pius-v.html>

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V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDSStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Tracey Bond

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