

Penelope Tobin

Founder & Creative Director at Barrier Breakers

London, United Kingdom, , GB

Author, barrier-breaker, soft skills advocate, and jazz musician

Biography

I'm the founder and CEO of Barrier Breakers, the soft skills training and development consultancy. Drawing on my past experience as a professional jazz pianist and composer, as well as my academic research and business experience, I created BBM, the award-winning approach to soft skills development. BBM is used in all Barrier Breakers' training and consultancy, as well as in the work of Barrier Breakers Foundation with disadvantaged groups. I write books for personal and professional development, the latest being *The Jazz of Business: Leadership in a New Groove*.

Availability

Keynote, Moderator, Panelist, Workshop, Host/MC, Author Appearance, Corporate Training

Industry Expertise

Corporate Leadership, Professional Training and Coaching, Training and Development

Areas of Expertise

Leadership Development, Organizational Development, Personal Development

Affiliations

FRSA, Barrier Breakers Foundation

Sample Talks

The Jazz of Business: Leadership in a New Groove

Based on my book, this lively, provocative keynote talk is for business leaders at every level, and proposes that jazz-leadership is the model of the future. If the traditional leader looked like the conductor of an orchestra, the new one looks like the leader of a jazz group - a jazz-leader. The talk is made even more exciting if I am able to demonstrate points by playing the piano, accompanied by bass, drums, and saxophone.

Education

City University London
MA Leadership & Managing Change

Middlesex University
BA (Hons) Performing Arts

Accomplishments

Author

I've published 3 books [Barrier Breakers: Be Yourself Brilliantly; The Journal: and The Jazz of Business: Leadership in a New Groove] as well as numerous articles for training, educational, business, and academic magazines and journals.

Founder and CEO of charity

I'm the founder and CEO of Barrier Breakers Foundation, the foremost soft skills development charity in the UK. Using BBM (Barrier Breakers Methodology for Soft Skills Development & Evaluation) we help disadvantaged young people develop the essential skills for employability and wellbeing.

Jazz pianist, composer, vocalist

I've run groups in London and New York, including my own sextets and a 17-piece jazz orchestra, and have performed all over the world.

Testimonials

Brian Rowe

I had the pleasure of attending a seminar taught by Penelope. She was by far the most informative, concise, and beneficial presenter. Her work in Human Development is cutting edge. If you have a need for organization consultants or for human capital development, do not hesitate to contact her

Guy Grif-fiths

Every-one should attend the BBM Break-sThru day; it?s so worth-while and has so many applic-a-tions in work and per-sonal life. It really helped with my coach-ing tech-niques for oth-ers and my per-sonal busi-ness devel-op-ment as well. Thank you!

Danette O?Hara

I came away from the work-shop feel-ing inspired ? it gave mean-ing and struc-ture to my thoughts. I loved the day! BBM is such a fab thing and Penelope is so inspir-a-tional!!

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