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NEBRASKA CHAPTER
Association for
Talent Development



February 2017 Newsletter

In addition to February being the shortest month of the year, it also happens to be the last full month of winter! This is reason enough to celebrate, in my opinion. But if you need more, there are many other fun things to celebrate in February, including National Freedom Day, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Groundhog Day, Mardi Gras, Black History Month, American Heart Month, Ash Wednesday, Chocolate Lover's month, and the most-watched televised event of all: Super Bowl Sunday! As you can see, February is full of exciting days. It's a month to try new things and enjoy the people around you. Why not make the most of that time with the help of the February ATD program and workshop, discussing culture and conversation among many other things?

What's New in this Edition:

Introducing the new ATD member review article, featuring a different member of ATD Nebraska each month.

What's Happening in February:

February Program: "Being Human in the Workplace and the World: Enabling Flourishing Through Authentic Conversations"

Wednesday, February 8 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Workshop: "The Art of Conversation" from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(Register for both on the www.atdnebraska.org website)

February Quick Links

February Program Summary

Tips From Scholarship Recipients

Let ATD Help You

Member Review - Krishna Clay

February Program

Submitted by: Kristi Stewart, VP of Marketing & Communication

The February program will explore factors related to a landscape of disengagement in the workplace, the challenges inherent in advancing technology, and a growing cultural sense of disconnection and how those features impact our workplaces, especially regarding recruitment, onboarding, performance assessment, and professional growth. The afternoon workshop will use the art of conversation for a contemporary personal and professional world. Participants will learn how conversation can enable them to live better and work well. By examining and exploring our personal attitudes to the art of conversation, we may enhance our ability to build relationships with clients, peers and friends, that are engaging, creative, and meaningful.

[Register or Read more here...](#)

Tips From Scholarship Recipients!

Submitted by: Krishna Clay, President

As a member of ATD Nebraska, you can apply for the ATD Nebraska Julie Durmaskin Professional

Education Scholarship. The Nebraska Chapter offers scholarships to encourage the professional development of its members. We spend so much time training and developing others that it's nice to take time to do the same for ourselves! Thanks to ATD Nebraska, three employees from First National Bank were able to attend a Photoshop Conference. Check out some tips they learned during the conference!

Kristi Stewart, Associate II, L & D Instructional Design:

Have you ever taken or scanned a photo and the horizon or image is crooked? Well, if your camera or scanning skills are like mine, then you will appreciate this quick tip to fix those crooked pictures. Once your photo is open, go to the tool bar and select crop . If you look at the options bar at the top you will see Straighten. You will see the ruler appear on your image. You will then click and drag a line across the "crooked" part of your image and then click the Commit button on the options bar. Voilà, you now have a straight picture!

Krishna Clay, Sr. Associate, Learning & Development:

I'm new to using Photoshop, so here are a few "Beginner's" tips for you all:

- A background layer is locked, but you can easily "unlock" it. All you have to do is double click on "background" and give it a custom name. Now it's no longer a background and you can edit the image!
- There are so many shortcuts in Photoshop! To see what they are go to Edit – Keyboard Shortcuts. On the Keyboard Shortcuts tab, use the dropdown menu to view shortcuts for Tools. There they are!
- Easily fix an image using the Spot Healing Brush Tool.

Joel Damon, Associate II, L & D Instructional Design:

One thing that can be completely frustrating when using a program that you are experienced in (in my case, Adobe Photoshop) is when the aforementioned program seems to be malfunctioning. The best part? I can guarantee that 99.9% of the time the program is working as it should and you, the user, are the one who has created the issue. Case in point: Once or twice per week while using Photoshop, my brush tip display on the canvas would disappear and I would find myself having to guess where my brush was while editing work. Think of playing Super Mario Bros without being able to see Mario. Yeah... It happened so often that I just got used to it and never looked up the reason for it. At the end of the Photoshop class last month, after a day full of adjustment layers, refined edges and mathematical color correction, I asked the facilitator why my brush tip display would periodically disappear. After a little giggle he said, "Your caps lock is on."

Let ATD Nebraska Help You

Submitted by: Avil Jackson, Secretary

ATD Nebraska is here for you.

What are you doing to build your brand?

What are you doing to prove your worth at work?

Are your talent development efforts appreciated at your company?

Do your initiatives stall or never get off the ground?

Can you have too many knowledgeable associates in the same profession?

Unlike many organizations, the sole purpose of ATD Nebraska is to provide professional development opportunities so that we may help others perform at their best and so that we may achieve individual growth within our chosen profession. For those of you who think this profession chose you, if you are still doing this type of work week after week, you love it and you chose it. Now it is time to choose ATD Nebraska.

Your brand and the ATD Nebraska brand are inextricably linked. Strength in numbers is not just a notion. Every day ATD Nebraska members help each other by just participating. Some of you work in environments where you are the only person, or your ranks are small of those who do what we do. By choosing active involvement in this organization, you are reminded that you are not alone. The comradery I experience through my active involvement in ATD Nebraska sometimes gives me that professional boost of energy when I most need it. We like each other, we respect each other, we share ideas, and we help each other.

Are you a member of ATD Nebraska?

Do you attend ATD Nebraska programs and events?

If you are a member, do you shout it from the rooftops; tell everyone?

Do you volunteer for ATD Nebraska?

If you answered no to any of these questions, it is never too late to turn that no into a yes. Make this the year you not only check the boxes, but make it matter. What have you done lately to help ATD Nebraska help you? Sometimes it is as simple as just showing up.

I hope to see and speak with you at all the ATD Nebraska activities this year. Will you be there?

Member Review - Krishna Clay

Submitted by: Melodi Szymczak, Director of Special Events

Meet ATD Nebraska Member and 2017 ATD Nebraska Chapter President: KRISHNA CLAY

Krishna Clay became a member of ATD Nebraska 13 years ago and this year she is serving as our ATD Nebraska Chapter President. For the past 23 years, Krishna has been working at First National Bank of Omaha, and her current role is the Senior Associate for Learning and Development.

Krishna grew up in Omaha and is a distinguished Loper Alumni from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, where she received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. She is an amazing mom to two boys, ages eight and ten. They keep her very busy with homework, football, playing

games, and whatever else they can twist her arm to go do to have fun. Krishna took up cake decorating as a necessity to provide birthday cakes for her oldest son due to his food allergies and has developed this skill into a hobby and an occasional gig.

At First National Bank, she consults with various business units to understand problems occurring in their departments and determines if training can assist in solving the problem. Her primary focus has been providing compliance and regulatory training programs across the bank's many divisions. Krishna is responsible for creating and designing training programs, and she enjoys seeing how the content enhances the staff performance and improvement.

When asked about her most memorable workplace accomplishment, she had this to share...She was tasked with understanding all of the required training that was happening across all divisions. Through her research and analysis, she discovered that multiple groups were requiring training on similar topics or training initiatives that were not truly a training need. After careful review and several meetings and discussions, she was able to reduce the amount of training being required by employees by 30%. (Cha Ching!)

ATD Nebraska has played an integral part in shaping her career at First National Bank of Omaha. From attending monthly program events, she grew enthusiastic about e-learning and began suggesting these solutions be incorporated into the offerings in her department. Because of the interest in e-learning, she became the first Instructional Designer at the bank and watched that department grow. Through the ATD Nebraska mentoring program, she began working with an e-learning mentor that helped shaped her knowledge and experience. She attributes ATD Nebraska for creating a lasting impact on her career from the networking, connections, and knowledge she gained along the way.

At an early age, she realized that she enjoyed teaching and had a passion for learning. For many years she was a dance teacher. She transitioned that passion from teaching children to teaching adults to do their jobs and promote lifelong learning. This passion continues today as she keeps the entire ATD Board focused on the "Big Picture" in helping all members understand the significance of what being a member of ATD Nebraska can do for you. Each Board member that she works with plays an individual role, but when we come together, it all makes an incredible experience for our members. She invites us all to take the time to truly understand how you play a role in being a part of the ATD Nebraska "Big Picture."



This was the "Big Picture" that the ATD Board worked on at our December Retreat. For details on how your group can do the same, contact our Chapter President, Krishna Clay.

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