

DISTRICT 103 TOASTMASTERS



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

2023-2024 BROCHURE OF SLATED CANDIDATES

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District Leadership Committee (DLC) Report

February 14, 2023

Greetings District Council Members of District 103 Toastmasters!

This is the official report of the 2023 District Leadership Committee (DLC).

We want to inform you that the following candidates have been slated for consideration of district leadership at the Annual Business Meeting on **Saturday, April 15, 2023**:

For District Director

Sam Sukumar, DTM

For Program Quality Director

Sandra Lane, DL4

For Club Growth Director

Marc Maschino, DTM and
Shanita Akintonde, DTM

For Central South (B) Division Director

Sai Siva Kare, PM4

For Central North (C) Division Director

AlyceAnn Crump, DTM

For Central East (F) Division Director

Open

For Central West (G) Division Director

Donald Hockenhull, IP1

For South (S) Division Director

Robert McKenzie, EC3

See the pages of this "Slated Candidates Brochure" for biography information on each candidate.

In addition to the announcement of the slate, the 2023 DLC wishes to inform all [qualified](#) and [eligible](#) candidates they can run from the floor.

Floor candidates for District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, and Division Director must submit – by 11:59 p.m. CST on April 8 – a completed:

- [Candidate Application](#);
- [District Leader Agreement and Release Statement](#);
- [District Leader Biographical Information form](#); and
- .JPG photograph (headshot preferred).

Submit your floor candidate paperwork to 2023 District Leadership Committee (DLC) Chair Gregg Thompson at gregg.thompson@sbcglobal.net and 2022-2023 District Director Dionne Leggin at dionneleggin@gmail.com .

Again, the 2023 District Leadership Committee is pleased to present you with this official report announcing slated candidates for 2023-2024 District 103 leadership positions.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Best regards,

2023 District Leadership Committee (DLC)
Gregg Thompson, DTM, IPDD, Chair
Anniece Anderson, ACB/CL
Wanda Williams Griffin, DTM
Ivory Gwin, DTM
Gina Sumpter, PM2
James Willis, DTM

Sam Sukumar, DTM

SLATED CANDIDATE FOR: District Director

A Toastmaster Since: March 2016



Toastmasters officer role(s) held and length of service:

2020 - 2021 - Area Director, Area 91, Div G, District 103

2021 - 2022 - Combination of Club Growth Director & Division Director, D103

2022 – 2023 - Program Quality Director, D103

Toastmasters' honors and designations:

CC - Competent Communicator

CL - Competent Leader

ALB - Advance Leadership Bronze

DTM – Distinguished Toastmaster

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and my role as a District officer:

Maintenance Administration Manager, Housing New Zealand Corporation (managed multiple contractor firms and staff in different locations) - Asst. Team Leader, Inland Revenue

Department, NZ's IRS (managed and monitored delivery of different outreach products and the teams) - Business Development Coordinator, Manukau Institute of Technology - Senior Sanctions Analyst – critical thinking, Strategic planning

Lessons I learned from previous leadership positions: I have found it to be true that at work and in Toastmasters, that even though I was the manager/leader, those that I lead, their input was not only needed but necessary to make the team successful. I did not run a team where what I said goes all the time. I also learned that it is important to work alongside those you manage and not just work from an "ivory tower." This past year I have learned that when expectation levels are not met, I need to question why and not make negative assumptions; and understand what tools/training I can provide to make them successful.

What experience do you have in strategic planning? Board Member of Wiri Business Association, New Zealand - Board Member of Auckland Regional Migrants Association - As Business owner, grew business exponentially through strategic planning

What experience do you have in the area of finance? - Currently employed in a financial institution - Owned and operated a tax agency for 4 years - Previously worked for a bank in Chicago

Why do you want to serve as a District leader Having held both the roles of Club Growth Director and Program Quality Director, I have a very good insight and understanding of D103 administration. With both my roles, I have initiated new incentives, followed through and ensured a better performance of the district. I have also brought fresh perspectives to the roles. I will be able to continue the same in the District Director role as well.

Additional information about yourself:

I am dedicated, very strategic and committed in ensuring the success of Dist. 103. As Club Growth Director, I was instrumental in chartering 4 new clubs during my term and 2 more this year. Being financially savvy has been my biggest asset. Assimilating big data and translating them into actionable steps are my forte. Being a people's person, I focus on relationship building and positive engagement which lay a very good foundation in achieving collaborative focus and I shall use it to better district performance

Sandra Lane, DL4

SLATED CANDIDATE FOR: Program Quality Director

A Toastmaster Since: March 2010



Toastmasters officer role(s) held and length of service: 2021-2022 – Division Director; 2020-2021- Area Director – Vice President Education; 2019 - 2020 – Club VP of Public Relations – 2018-2019, Education – 2019-2020, Club Secretary – 2017-2018, Club President; 2014-2015, Club Treasurer – 2013-2014, Club Secretary – 2011-2013 (2 terms).

Toastmasters' honors and designations: Broadview Toastmasters was a Distinguished Club with 10 points under my tenure as President.

I won the International Speech Contest and the Area in 2019

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and my role as a District officer:
Global Program Manager – working with people around the world to expand the company's airport lounge Network.

Client Account Manager – servicing customers and delivering the products and service they need.

Accountant – Managing the financial records of the church. These skills are all transferable and applicable in the role of Program Quality Director

What lessons did you learned from previous leadership positions?

That you cannot use a single management and apply it to all you manage.

You have to adjust your style to the individual as some people need more attention and follow-up than others.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

- 1) This role will allow me to serve the district in a higher capacity and contribute directly to D103's growth and success
- 2) Serving as PQD, I will further strengthen my leadership and planning skill.

In your opinion, here are the district mission's major objectives and how I would work to achieve them? I believe that growth of the District and being Distinguished are the main two objectives. I will work with the District Director and Club Growth Director to outline creative ways to grow club membership and to get existing members more engaged.

Additional information about yourself: I am a wife, a mother of two and grandmother of identical twin boys.

Marc Maschino, DTM

SLATED CANDIDATE FOR: Club Growth Director



A Toastmaster Since: March 2012

Toastmasters officer role(s) held and length of service: Francophone Bilingual TM Vice President of Education - March 2012 (Founding of club) to June 2015 FBTM President (7/2013 to 6/2014 & 7/2018 to 6/2019) FBTM Treasurer (7/2016 to 6/2017) Area Governor (7/2014 to 6/2015) Division Director Assistant (7/2015 to 6/2016) Program Quality Director Assistant (7/2016 to 6/2017) Division Director (7/2017 to 6/2018) Club Extension Chair (7/2018 to 6/2019) Club Retention Chair (7/2019 to 6/2020) Administration Manager (7/2020 to 6/2021) Club Alignment Chair (7/2020 to 6/2021)

Toastmasters honors and designations: Led FBTM to 10 goals President's Distinguished during both terms as Club President.

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and my role as a District officer: The relevant leadership experience I have comes from the positions described above.

Lessons I learned from previous leadership positions: As Area Governor and Division Director, I learned some people don't want to change their status quo. They refuse to be told what to do. The challenge with them is to "learn their language" and find ways to make your suggestions enticing to them.

The reason I want to serve as a District officer is because: I see the Club Growth Director as the next step in my personal growth and also an opportunity to pay it forward after having been the recipient of the wisdom of numerous Toastmasters before me.

In my opinion, here are the district mission's major objectives and how I would work to achieve them: The District's mission, in my view, is to foster an environment in which clubs will voluntarily take the actions necessary to have quality meetings and in which members are begging to participate in the development of the district. A resource that has yet to be tapped, as far as I know, is the District's Club Ambassadors participants and winners. They already have a penchant for looking for new ideas for personal and club growth.

First, I would hold a session learning their reasons for going to see the clubs as well as any follow up they have had (maybe they became members or mentors).

A second session would be spent brainstorming for ideas on how to spread their enthusiasm.

Finally, the practical ideas would be implemented.

Shanita Baraka Akintonde, DTM

SLATED CANDIDATE FOR: Club Growth Director

Toastmaster Since: June 2001



Toastmasters officer role(s) held and length of service

President, Leading Ladies Charter Club, 2022-present, Public Relations Manager, 2022-present
F81 Area Director, 2021-22 (President's Distinguished), President, View Masters Club, 2019-2020
C5 Area Governor, Club Mentor

Toastmasters' honors and designations: Distinguished Toastmaster, 2017, 1st Place, District Evaluation Contest Winner, 2016, 2nd place, District Humorous Speech Contest Finalist, 2016
1st Place, Area Humorous Contest Winner, 2016, 1st place, Area Evaluation Speech Contest Winner
Winter TLI Facilitator/Presenter, 2002-2007

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and my role as a District officer:

am an award-winning educator who served as a tenured professor for 23 years. I have over 30 years of professional experience in the fields of business, media, diversity, and leadership as an advertising account executive for clients like McDonald's, Coca Cola and Sprite. I channel those experiences into my company, ShanitaSpeaks,LLC, where I have helped thousands of professionals achieve success in their work lives as well.

Lessons I learned from previous leadership positions Leadership is in my DNA. I have co-authored three books on the topic. I taught leadership courses for over two decades. I am a national leader and serve as vice Chair of the Board of Governors, The Metropolitan, the largest private club for business leaders in Chicago. I also study leaders and seek to adapt their teachings into my own methodologies. I begin with my Great Grandmother, whose leadership lessons taught me from her 3rd grade education have carried me the furthest: 1) Stand tall, walk taller 2) Treat people with respect, starting with yourself 3) Dress Cleaner than the Board of Health 4) Lead from the heart. These principles continue to keep me grounded, focused and SHARP.

The reason I want to serve as a District officer is because: This is my time. I didn't seek leadership in the District, but upon hearing Gregg Thompson give a speech at a DEC meeting something inside of me said—reach out to him. So, I did. Then another hand tapped me when Dionne Leggin took the helm and said—you can serve in a different capacity. So, I did. Now, another voice is telling me to lend my talents in yet another capacity. It is clear to me that each of my Toastmaster's experiences are preparing me to take the next step. I'm ready.

In my opinion, here are the district mission's major objectives and how I would work to achieve them: District 103 is a hidden gem. Given the combined talents, energies, and skills of District members, we are indeed Distinguished, whether proven on paper or not. However, I know obtaining that official 'stamp' is at the top of our goals list. I also see opportunities for the District to improve Pathways participation and continue to attract more members.

Sai Siva Kare, PM4

SLATED CANDIDATE FOR: Central South (B) Division Director

A Toastmaster Since: May 2018



Toastmasters officer role(s) held and length of service: UIC COE Toastmasters Club, President 2018-20, UIC COE VPPR, 2021, D103 Club Quality Chair, 2021, UIC COE VPPR, Secretary 2022, Area B11 Director, 2022

Toastmasters' honors and designations: CC, Pathways PM, International Speech contest winner 2019, Club Level, International Speech runner-up 2019, Area Level

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and my role as a District officer:

Since joining toastmasters in 2018, I have gained experience in communicating with a variety of personalities, whether it is a member or a TM Official. I am good at encouraging members to take up leadership role. I am good at navigating through difficult situation such as solving membership shortage, struggling clubs and developing new leaders for upcoming toastmasters' term.

Lessons I learned from previous leadership positions: There is a lot of resistance among members to show up in the club meetings that results in gradual decline in the membership.

The REASON behind it is - lack of purpose. The only guest showed up in the next meeting who had a job to do during the meeting, such as a timer, grammarian, etc. These were trivial job but that gave new members a purpose and sense of achievement and boost in confidence.

The reason I want to serve as a District officer is because: After 6 months of being an Area Director from B11, I loved interacting with clubs other than my home club and assisting them to overcome their difficulties and learn from them. I am happy that I was able to help and get things done. I am learning more from becoming the Area Director than I could teach.

Now, I want to take it one step further.

In my opinion, here are the district mission's major objectives and how I would work to achieve them:

I learned about INTEGRITY when I refused to cheat forever during exams when I was 12 and how much confidence it gave me. I learned how happy you can make a janitor when you speak to them with RESPECT. I learned that SERVING others in silence and without pomp completes that service. I learned that EXCELLENCE in work can be achieved when you love the process and not the outcome. Since D103 and I are aware of these qualities, I would like to apply that in my new position and see how it evolves.

AlyceAnn Crump, DTM

SLATED CANDIDATE FOR: Central North (C) Division Director

A Toastmaster Since: April 2018



Toastmasters officer role(s) held and length of service:

VPE 2021- present
VPM 2021- present
SEC 2022- present
VPPR 2020-Present

Toastmasters' honors and designations:

Area Director of the Year
Club Ambassador of the year
Visiting Victor Award

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and my role as a District officer:

I have served as area director for three years twice in district 103 and once in district 1

Lessons I learned from previous leadership positions:

I learned integrity is very important and I am driven to complete what I began.

The reason I want to serve as a District officer is because:

I did not do my best while i was in the thick of grief I dropped the ball, but I want to finish what i began

In my opinion, here are the district mission's major objectives and how I would work to achieve

them: I believe the mission of the district is to help make leaders by giving them the opportunity to lead I will devise opportunities for leadership and speaking I firmly believe there is no such thing as a free speech or opportunity to grow.

Additional information about yourself:

I Am A woman of Truth & Grace

Central East (F) Division Director – OPEN

Donald Hockenull, IP2

SLATED CANDIDATE FOR: Central West (G) Division Director

A Toastmaster Since: November 2018



Toastmasters officer role(s) held and length of service:

Treasurer 2021/2022

President 2022 / 2023

Area G93 Director 2022 / 2023

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and my role as a District officer: I have 15 plus years of leadership experience and during that time I have been a part of various projects whose focus has been in performance management, process improvement, work force planning, and employee engagement.

Lessons I learned from previous leadership positions:

People need 3 things to be and feel successful, they need an opportunity to contribute, they need to be supported, and they need to have a sense of fulfillment.

The reason I want to serve as a District officer is because:

When I joined Toastmasters, I spent the first few years consuming the experience of belonging to a club to help me be a better communicator. As time went on, I realized (for me) that paying it forward and contributing to the health of the organization was where the true fulfillment was.

In my opinion, here are the district mission's major objectives and how I would work to achieve them: The Districts major objectives would be to 1) provide and promote effective development opportunities for members. 2) focus on the success of pathways. 3) market toastmasters in a way that sets up apart from our competition. The foundation of speaking and leadership is well established. In addition to these here are other benefits that also speak to what people are looking to experience (project management, influence, writing copy, gig assignments, etc.)

Robert McKenzie, EC3

SLATED CANDIDATE FOR: South (S) Division Director

A Toastmaster Since: July 2007



Toastmasters officer role(s) held and length of service: Area Governor – 2008-2009, Area Director – 2020-2021, Area Director – 2022-2023

Toastmasters' honors and designations:
Club Coach 2022

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and my role as a District officer: I've been a district leader in Toastmasters for the past 2 years consecutively. I have been in business for 34 years.

Lessons I learned from previous leadership positions: I learned many instances of what doesn't work with various personality types and what does work.

The reason I want to serve as a District officer is because: Because I love Toastmasters, understand its value and position. I understand that none of this exists without the willingness of those who can choose to serve in District and Club leadership.

In my opinion, here are the district mission's major objectives and how I would work to achieve them: (IMHO) In my humble opinion, the mission of D103 is to stabilize member decline, standardize a more sustainable service offering, that produces the right leaders for growth and fulfillment of the toastmaster's mission.

Additional information about yourself: Toastmasters is a powerful educational platform, but I believe its also a platform for humanity to solve its toughest problems. That's my intention. I'm also pro musician and singer.



Who do you know that could Serve as an **Area Director** for D103?

Serving as an **Area Director** (AD) is a great next step for any current club officer, especially the Club President (PRES), Vice President Education (VPE), Vice President Membership (VPM) and/or Vice President Public Relations (VPPR).

When you serve as an **Area Director**, you will hold one of the District Executive Committee (DEC) roles. As an **Area Director**, you will:

- Serve as the direct liaison between the district and the clubs in your area,
- Conduct club visits with the clubs in your area – twice a year – to understand and support the clubs' needs; assess club membership growth; determine educational achievements of club members; and submit area visit reports online to Toastmasters International,
- Communicate regularly with your Club Presidents their club's status in the Distinguished Club Program,
- Motivate and assist each club in your area to become a Distinguished club or better,
- Hold at least two (2) Area Council meetings to address the needs of the clubs in your area; discuss the plans and goals of each club in the Distinguished Club Program; review attendance at club officer training; and provide club awards and recognition,
- Coordinate area speech contests,
- Discuss district training and other district events with the clubs in your area,
- Participate in Area Director training provided by the district,
- Attend District Executive Committee (DEC) meetings once per month; and
- Participate in division and district sponsored events throughout the club year.

Area Directors are eligible for re-appointment for one succeeding term only. Those who successfully complete a one-year term as **Area Director** will receive credit toward their Pathways Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award.

For more information about the Area Director role, refer to the [District Leadership Handbook](#) and the [District Administrative Bylaws, Article VII: Officers](#) in the Governing Documents of Toastmasters International. Visit <https://www.toastmasters.org> to access these documents.

Know a club leader or club member who would make a great Area Director? Encourage them to serve your division as an Area Director for the 2023-2024 club year. Share this flyer and the competencies below with them.

Want to nominate yourself for an Area Director leadership role? Reach out to 2023 District Leadership Committee (DLC) Chair Gregg Thompson at gregg.thompson@sbcglobal.net and 2022-2023 District Director Dionne Leggin at dionneleggin@gmail.com Include a completed [Candidate Application](#); [District Leader Agreement and Release Statement](#); [District Leader Biographical Information form](#); along with a .JPG photograph (headshot preferred).



Area Director Competencies

COMPETENCY CATEGORY	COMPETENCY	EVIDENCE OF COMPETENCY
Skills	Motivating people	Motivates members to set and achieve personal education and leadership goals
	Coaching and mentoring	Assists club officers to understand what is needed for the club to be at least Distinguished and to help club members achieve their goals
	Analytical skills	Provide feedback to clubs on club performance and progress in meeting needs of club members
Knowledge	Working knowledge of <i>District Leadership Handbook</i> (Item 222) and <i>Club Leadership Handbook</i> (Item 1310)	Fulfills Area Director reporting requirements to World Headquarters
Characteristics	Integrity	Observable in leader behavior
	Sincerity	
	Empathy	
	Honesty	
	Consideration for others	
	Service orientation	Supports club officers and members to achieve their goals
	Passion for mission and envisioned future of Toastmasters International	Clubs in the area successful in Distinguished Club Program
	Creativity	
Enthusiasm		
Energetic		
Attributes	Respect	Observable in leader behavior
	Punctuality	
	Patience	
	Tact	
	Approachable	
	Commitment to success and mission of Toastmasters International	Success of clubs in Distinguished Club Program
	Goal oriented	
	Adaptive and willing to change when needed	High levels of club officer satisfaction with area services
	Proactive, anticipating issues before they arise	Minimum of unresolved contentious issues in the District
	Resourceful and knowing where to obtain resources	Club officers provided with ideas from Area Director to meet members' needs
	Diligent	Meets World Headquarters reporting requirements

RESOURCES FOR DISTRICT 103 LEADERS

Club Leadership Handbook

<https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/club-leadership-handbook>

Club Membership-Building Programs of Toastmasters International

https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/club-officer-tools/membership-building/membership-building-programs-for-clubs?utm_source=february_leader_letter&utm_medium=club_news&utm_campaign=grow_club

Club Officer Role Summary

https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/club-officer-tools/club-officer-roles?utm_source=february_leader_letter&utm_medium=club_news&utm_campaign=club_officer_roles

Club Officer Role Tutorial

https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/club-officer-tools/club-officer-roles?utm_source=february_leader_letter&utm_medium=club_news&utm_campaign=club_officer_roles

Club Officer Self-Evaluation

https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/club-officer-tools/club-officer-roles?utm_source=february_leader_letter&utm_medium=club_news&utm_campaign=club_officer_roles

Distinguished Club Program and Club Success Plan

<https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/distinguished-club-program-and-club-success-plan-english>

Distinguished Performance Reports

<http://dashboards.toastmasters.org/>

District Administrative Bylaws

<https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/governing-documents>

District Executive Committee Roles

<https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/district-leader-tools/leadership-roles/district-executive-committee-roles>

District Leadership Handbook

<https://www.toastmasters.org/Resources/District-Leadership-Handbook>

District 103 Toastmasters – <https://www.d103toastmasters.org>

