



## Laura Gassner Otting

**AUTHOR · BUSINESS LEADER**

Laura Gassner Otting is an author, keynote speaker and executive coach who helps individuals and organisations rethink success, leadership and career decision-making.

- Author of *Limitless*, *Wonderhell*, and *Mission-Driven*.
- Founder and former CEO of Nonprofit Professionals Advisory Group, an advisory and executive search firm serving mission-driven organisations.
- Served as a presidential appointee in Bill Clinton's White House with responsibilities connected to AmeriCorps.
- Has written for Harvard Business Review and Forbes.
- Her TEDx talk is available on TED.com.
- Based in the Boston, Massachusetts area.

### Laura Gassner Otting's 2026 Biography

#### Key speaking topics

- Career decision-making
- Leadership development
- Redefining success
- Purpose-driven work
- Organisational mission and impact
- Personal and professional growth
- Executive transition and change

#### Ideal for

- Senior leaders and executives
- High-potential and emerging leaders
- Mission-driven and nonprofit organisations
- Organisations navigating career development and leadership transitions

#### Audience outcomes

- Clearer frameworks for defining and measuring success.
- Insight into aligning professional choices with personal values.
- Practical perspectives on leadership and career inflection points.
- Greater awareness of how purpose and performance intersect.

#### Why organisations work with Laura Gassner Otting

- Combines White House, nonprofit and entrepreneurial experience with authorship and executive coaching.
- Brings research-informed perspectives from her books and published

#### AVAILABLE FOR

- After Dinner Engagement
- Coaching
- Organisational Development Programme
- Speaking

#### LAURA'S SPEAKING THEMES

- Employee Engagement
- Entrepreneurship
- Purpose-Driven Leadership
- Sales & Customer Acquisition
- Talent Retention Strategies

#### LANGUAGES: English

writing.

- Connects leadership and career themes to organisational mission and impact.
- Offers commercially relevant insights for leadership, retention and talent development conversations.

## Biography

Laura Gassner Otting works at the intersection of leadership, career decision-making and organisational mission. As an author, keynote speaker and executive coach, she brings a cross-sector perspective shaped by experience in the White House, nonprofit executive search and entrepreneurial leadership.

She served as a presidential appointee in Bill Clinton's White House with responsibilities connected to AmeriCorps, giving her direct insight into public service, national initiatives and mission-led leadership. She later founded and led the Nonprofit Professionals Advisory Group, an advisory and executive search firm supporting mission-driven organisations, before selling the business to the team that helped build it.

Laura is the author of *Limitless*, *Wonderhell*, and *Mission-Driven*, books that explore how individuals and organisations define success, align purpose with performance, and navigate inflection points in leadership and career. Her thinking has been featured in Harvard Business Review and Forbes, and her TEDx talk is available on TED.com.

Based in the Boston area, she speaks to senior leaders, boards and growth-focused organisations seeking practical perspectives on success, purpose and leadership in complex professional environments.

## Laura Gassner Otting's 2026 talks & topics

### Invitations, Not Limitations: Embracing Your Wonderhell

This keynote explores the emotional complexity of achieving success and asks why accomplishment does not always feel the way people expect it to. Drawing on her experience guiding leaders through career shifts and organisational disruption, Laura reframes success as a waypoint rather than an endpoint, challenging audiences to embrace ambition, confront fear and engage fully with the journey.

#### Key takeaways:

- A new perspective on success as an ongoing process rather than a final destination.
- Greater clarity on how ambition and fear shape career progression.
- Encouragement to pursue bigger goals while learning to navigate uncertainty.

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**Live Limitlessly**

Based on her book *Limitless: How to Ignore Everybody, Carve Your Own Path, and Live Your Best Life*, this keynote focuses on aligning career decisions with personal purpose. Designed for entrepreneurs, business owners, direct sales professionals and leaders at all stages, it challenges audiences to set aside external expectations and define success on their own terms.

**Key takeaways:**

- A clearer understanding of how to align career choices with personal calling and purpose.
  - Practical reflection on the expectations shaping professional decisions.
  - Renewed commitment to pursuing an individual definition of success.
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**Limitless Leadership**

This keynote examines workforce shifts and the growing demand for purpose and meaning at work. Drawing on executive search experience and a global research project, Laura explores how leaders can move beyond outdated measures of success to unlock employee engagement and organisational performance.

**Key takeaways:**

- Insight into the link between engagement, productivity and profitability.
  - A broader framework for evaluating what makes work meaningful.
  - Practical approaches to increasing engagement across generations.
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**Contagious Confidence: Mastering Your Voice of Leadership**

This interactive keynote focuses on building the confidence required to lead effectively. Designed for aspiring and established leaders across corporate, entrepreneurial and sales environments, it encourages participants to embody their leadership voice and step fully into aspirational roles.

**Key takeaways:**

- Greater clarity on what confident leadership looks like in practice.
  - Tools to activate and embody a stronger leadership presence.
  - Increased awareness of how personal conviction influences team impact.
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**Limitless Sales**

This talk reframes sales around connection and meaning. Emphasising that clients invest in solutions to their problems, not products or brands alone, Laura draws on her experience as an entrepreneur and chief rainmaker to break down the process of connecting to self, product and client.

**Key takeaways:**

- A clearer understanding of solution-focused selling.
  - Insight into building mutually beneficial client relationships.
  - A structured approach to connecting purpose with sales performance.
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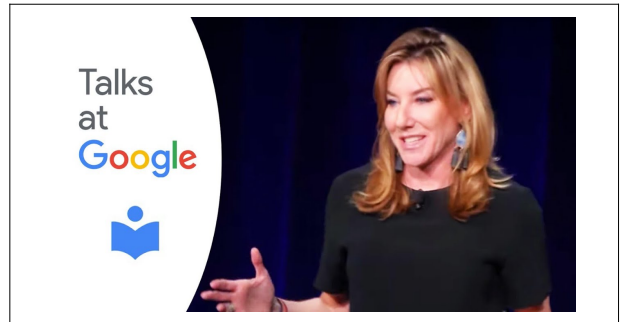
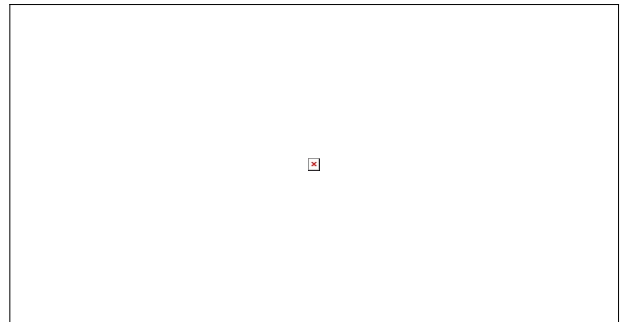
## Solve Big Problems: Stop Asking "How Can I Help?"

This keynote challenges the common question "How can I help?" and examines how it can unintentionally limit innovation and contribute to burnout. Addressed to nonprofit organisations, volunteers, donors, investors, business leaders and entrepreneurs, it encourages audiences to rethink their approach to solving complex, stagnating problems.

### Key takeaways:

- A reframed approach to problem-solving in mission-driven environments.
- Greater awareness of how well-intended actions can limit innovation.
- Tools to move beyond doubt and narrow thinking when tackling complex challenges.

## Laura Gassner Otting's Videos



## What Laura Gassner Otting's clients say

Laura is an energetic and inspirational speaker on the topic of defying limitations and creating your own narrative. Her webinar with Ellevest network offered powerful advice on shaping our definitions of success, investing in our passions, and redefining our personal and professional values. In her words, 'We can't be insatiably hungry for someone else's goals.' Laura is a talented speaker and author, and we were fortunate to have her share her wisdom with our network.

**Sallie Krawcheck**

*CEO, Ellevest*

My experience with Laura from start to finish was superb! With this being the first virtual conference we hosted, Laura was able to provide her expertise on what she felt would work best and keep our attendees engaged! Her presentation was top notch and our attendees left ready to be limitless leaders!

**Jeanele Davis**

*Service Corporation International*

Working with Laura and her team was awesome. I don't think I've ever worked with a speaker as organized and flexible as Laura. As far as her presentation, Laura spent the extra time to understand our audience and she incorporated those learnings into her presentation, which made a huge difference. She had our people on their feet with a standing ovation before she could even get her last words out! After her presentation, she spoke to attendees and took the time to make real connections with them. I would absolutely recommend Laura to anyone who is looking for a dynamic speaker who will invest in their audience and go beyond a "rinse and repeat" presentation.

She is a class act.

**Liz Reuth**

*Le-Vel Brands*

Laura is a dynamic and powerful presence on and off the stage. She is a consummate REAL professional (on time, embodies her work, delivers, inspires, transforms). Laura has 'staying power - stickiness'. I just read, yet another, testimonial from an attendee at our event which included approximately 2,000 women, and how it is changing her life. She had Robin Roberts commenting on air about her thought leadership without solicitation after she read her book on the flight home from our event. If you want to give your attendees the opportunity to experience someone who will get them to think about why they've been allowing other people to let them hold themselves back... HIRE LAURA NOW!!

**Bill Williams**

*The Art of Leadership for Women*

Laura energized, inspired and empowered our community of women leaders in sports! Laura was dynamic and engaging – she connected with the audience through her humor, content and magnetic presence. Laura was the perfect combination of motivation and application – giving attendees a dose of inspiration along with action items to make immediate changes in their life. Attendees walked away feeling energized, inspired, and ready to kick glass and pursue their limitless potential in work and life.

**Christina Turner**

*Women Leaders in College Sports*

Laura lit up the room at my annual leadership retreat in Philadelphia. She made us think, write, learn, reflect and laugh. Laura is a powerful speaker who knows how to deliver a message with a punch but also connect to the room. Her words felt personal and chosen for us. She did not sound robotic or programmed. She sounded real. She sounded honest. She sounded convicted. Laura went above and beyond to get to know my leaders, even showing up early at our brunch to sign books and talk. Laura is an all-star, rockstar, one-of-kind author, speaker and motivator. She has walked the walk of business, life and the pursuit of happiness. She has failed, won, fallen and gotten back up. Her lessons will live with us for years to come.

**Trina Gray**

*Fitness Coach, Beachbody*

We had the pleasure of having Laura speak at our Nonprofit Symposium in Los Angeles and San Francisco. Leading up to the event, she and her team were easy to work with. This eliminated a lot of stress that goes into planning a conference. Laura brings years of experience, insight, and enthusiasm to her presentations. I would definitely recommend booking Laura if you're looking for someone who is intelligent, fun to work with, dependable, and an all-around great presenter.

**Maggie Ortlieb**

*Armanino LLP*

Laura spoke for American Dream U at our event in Camp Zama, Japan. She shared the opportunities that the transitioning men and women of our Nation's military have in the nonprofit world, therefore, helping the audience think outside the box when regarding transitioning back into the civilian workforce. We can't wait to have her speak at another military installation in the future!

**Jess Holland**

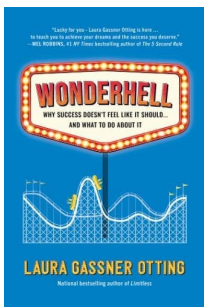
*American Dream U*

Laura is a dynamic, authoritative, expert in leadership and discipline. Best of all, as a speaker, she delivers pithy, memorable, funny, insightful, and USEFUL guidance and inspiration to impact the journey of those with whom she connects. She is generous with her time, and a collaborative partner in making an event all it can be. For Girl Starter LIVE, Laura delivered powerful advice to female entrepreneurs and leaders of all ages and followed up one on one with members of our audience. We were so fortunate to have her with us.

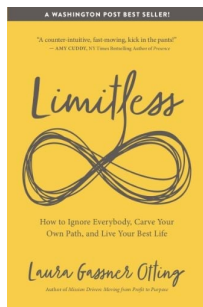
**Dani Davis**

*Girl Starter*

## LAURA'S LATEST BOOKS



**Wonderhell: Why Success Doesn't Feel Like It Should . . . and What to Do About It**



**Limitless: How to Ignore Everybody, Carve your Own Path, and Live Your Best Life**