

# GINA BARRECA:

speaker, humorist, best-selling author, professor

## Clients include a diverse array of businesses and organizations:

Aetna, AFL-CIO Women's Caucus, American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences, American Board of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, American Payroll Association, Annual Institute on Mental Health and Religion, Association for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis, The Avalon Lecture at Dartmouth College, Barnard College, Best-Selling Author Series (Marymount Manhattan College, New York), Braithwaite Lecturer at the College of William and Mary, Broward County Sheriff's Department, Chataqua Institution Lecture Series, Chicago Humanities Festival, CIGNA, Colorado Association of Legal Administrators, Colorado Bar Association, Connecticut Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development, Fleet Capital Corporation, Ford Foundation Transformation Lecturer, Fort Worth Lecture Foundation, The Hartford, Harvard College Women's Initiative, Independent Schools Association of the Central States, International Society for Humor Studies Conference, International Women in Leadership Conference (Australia), The Middle Atlantic Career Counseling Association, National Association of Independent Schools, National Association of Independent Insurers, National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association, New England Library Association, New England Society of Newspaper Editors, New York State Governor's Tourism Conference, Oregon Women in Higher Education Conference, Pratt & Whitney, Princeton 50th Reunion, The Smithsonian Associates, United Technologies, University of Cincinnati Women's Leadership Conference, Virginia Women Attorney's Association, Women's Dermatological Association, Women in Federal Law Enforcement, Women in Science, Dentistry, Osteopathy & Medicine Leadership Conference, Yale Conference on Health and Fitness, Yale Campaign School for Women



"Dr. Barreca is a brilliant and provocative whirlwind who left our attendees exhausted from laughter."

-- Martha Sterling-Golden, President  
Women's Campaign School at Yale University

"Gina's talk was the highlight of the entire fall lineup and certainly the most attended. Her huge audience was immensely entertained. People left raving that it had been a fabulous, wonderful evening."

-- Mary McLaughlin, The Smithsonian Associates  
Washington, D.C.

"There isn't a tougher audience anywhere than a ballroom full of 1,700 professional speakers, many of whom are humorists. Gina Barreca provoked, entertained and stretched our thinking...and made us all raving fans."

-- Ian Percy, 2007 Convention Chair,  
National Speakers Association and member of the Speakers Hall of Fame.

"Gina Barreca hosted our annual Authors' Festival program for over five years, and the audience adored her. She's brilliant, witty, irreverent and downright funny."

-- Chris Painter  
Literary Sojourn; Steamboat Springs, CO

"She was so skillful, she even had the anti-feminists eating out of her hand."

--Rebecca Morgan, CSP, CMC  
Best-selling author and professional speaker

"People are still talking about Dr. Barreca. She was a huge hit because of her interesting stories, willingness to share personal experiences and insights, and her outrageous sense of humor. She was the centerpiece of the conference and set the tone which was fun, relaxing and energizing. I recall one member telling me: 'Gina Barreca was worth the trip.' That about sums it up."

--Kerry G. Parker, CAE, Executive Director  
Women's Dermatologic Society (WDS)



**TALKS:** Gina speaks on a variety of subjects. Topics include:

**TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING IS WONDERFUL: Laughter and Survival**

Laughter is essential when coping with the stresses of short-term and long-term pressure, when striving for personal achievement and for a shared sense of community, when enhancing self-respect within a new or established community, when dealing effectively with change. Being able to joke and being able to understand how others' humor operate is a key to being regarded as an insightful and intelligent risk-taker. It indicates the ability to envision a situation from a number of perspectives as well as suggesting an attractively creative, inventive, and flexible approach to complex decisions and tasks.

**WHO'S LAUGHING NOW? Humor and A Sense of Community**

Humor allows for and even permits a kind of informal interaction between groups of people not otherwise part of a shared circle; humor allows for an important and perhaps unparalleled mobility between groups divided by status, age, hierarchy, gender, ethnicity, or class. How can these interactions be encouraged? What contexts need to be established and understood?

**HARASS IS ONE WORD: Laughter, Power, and the Importance of Making Yourself Heard**

How can we enrich our abilities to create and deal with humor created by others--especially on those occasions when the humor initiated by others in more powerful positions seems to be mean-spirited or inappropriate? If we cannot imagine giving up laughter in the workplace (and we should never consider such a thing), then how can we promote and encourage a healthy, de-stressing (as opposed to distressing) use of humor?

**THE TRUTH ABOUT MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS**

Why is nothing more important, more complicated and more fun than a relationship between mother and daughter? You will hear an honest and humorous journey about the complexities of this unique relationship that will lead to a better understanding of mothers and daughters.



**BIO:**

~~Hailed as "smart and funny" by People magazine, Gina Barreca has spoken to clients all over the world. She is the author of the best selling They Used to Call Me Snow White, But I Drifted, Perfect Husbands (and Other Fairy Tales), Sweet Revenge: The Wicked Delights of Getting Even, Too much of a Good Thing is Wonderful, and, most recently, Babes in Boyland: A Personal History of Coeducation in the Ivy League. Collaborating with Gene Weingarten of the Washington Post, Barreca also co-authored I'm With Stupid. One Man. One Woman. 10,000 Years of Misunderstanding Between the Sexes Cleared Right Up. Dr. Barreca has been a tenured professor for twenty years and has written influential work for major publications including The New York Times, Philadelphia Inquirer, Chicago Tribune, Atlantic Journal Constitution, and dozens of magazines. She has appeared on scores of radio and television programs including 20/20, 48 Hours, The Today Show, and Oprah.~~