

# ANDY'S IMPACT PRESENTATIONS FOR AMERICAN SCHOOLS

## ANDY'S BACKGROUND

[WWW.ANDYPRESENTATIONS.COM](http://WWW.ANDYPRESENTATIONS.COM)

“School is about learning AND having fun” has been Andy’s message to students since his first school assembly in 1992. “Making Care Contagious” is the mission of his student leadership programs. Combining motivational comedy, powerful stories, pep rally energy, and insights for classroom & leadership success, Andy will make an IMPACT at your school! He is based in London, Ontario, Canada, a two hour drive east of Detroit.

Andy was an active student leader who also excelled at academics throughout his school career. In middle school, Andy was Student Council Vice President and the Top Academic Male Graduate. As Student Council President in high school, Andy led his school to win “Most Spirited in Canada” in MOGA (Most Outrageous Group Activity), an annual contest run by Much Music (Canada’s MTV). He was also valedictorian of his graduating class. At King’s College, Western University (London), Andy was Orientation Week coordinator, the “Most School-Spirited Graduate” of 1993 and on the Dean’s honour list for four years, while completing his degree in History & Geography.

Since graduating, Andy has been recognized by both his high school and university for his contributions. Laurier High School in London named him its “Inspiring Excellence” award winner as its most outstanding graduate since it was founded in 1966. King’s College chose Andy as its Alumni of Distinction in 2014, an annual award given to only 18 people as of 2016. Andy was also honoured by the Rotary Club of London as a “Paul Harris Fellow” in 2012 for his work as a community leader. Andy has keynoted Rotary’s youth leadership conference for the area of southwestern Ontario and eastern Michigan every year since 2003.

Andy still lives in London, Canada and loves to return to his alma maters. He speaks to the 10<sup>th</sup> graders and the graduating class of his high school every year. His college books him 10 times annually for events for their students. He has also returned several times to speak to his elementary school where his two daughters now attend.

## ANDY'S EXPERIENCE

Andy has been professionally speaking since 1992, appearing at over 2000 different schools and conferences in 10 provinces and 40 states. Andy has his E1 USA work visa and enjoys speaking across America.

- Over 100 schools every year book Andy’s IMPACT assemblies, including:
  - Ontario: over 600 of 880 high schools. More than 500 have had him speak 3 or more times!
  - Michigan: over 80 different middle & high schools.
  - New York: over 60 middle & high schools.
  - Ohio: over 40 middle & high schools.
- Over 35 conferences of all sizes every year across North America.
- Canadian National student leadership conference keynote 5 times
- Every provincial student leadership conference keynote at least three times
  - The Ontario Student Leadership Conference, workshops every year since 1992
  - Nova Scotia Provincial Student Leadership Conference, he has keynoted 12 times
  - New Brunswick Provincial Student Leadership Conference, he has keynoted 7 times
- USA National Student leadership conference, two appearances, in 1996 and 2006.
- 34 different US state student council conventions as keynote.
  - Michigan State Conference, 2016 was his 4<sup>th</sup> time keynoting since 1999.
  - Ohio State Conference, 2014 was his 3<sup>rd</sup> time keynoting since 2001.
  - New York State Conference, 3 times as the keynote.

Andy is adept in every school situation in the USA.

- Large high schools - Lancaster high school, near Buffalo, with 2000 students, had him return for a 13<sup>th</sup> time since 1999 to inspire their freshmen and train the student leaders.
- Small town schools – St. Clair high school, Michigan has booked Andy 12 times since 1999.
- Middle schools – Newfane Middle School, near Rochester, NY, in 2016 had Andy return for a 4<sup>th</sup> time.

References from your area are available by request. A picture from EVERY school visit and conference program since late 2009 can be found on Facebook at [Andy Thibodeau Impact Speaker](#).

# ANDY'S PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

## IMPACTING SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Andy offers schools three completely different assembly programs; the length of each is flexible from 45 to 90 minutes. All assemblies use high energy comedy, stories, and interactive cheers to keep your students laughing and listening.

**A Unique Feature of Andy's Assemblies:** Your activities and school character are incorporated into each program, promoting your events to increase participation. Andy will ask for a list of your activities before the speech and will include these examples throughout his presentations. Money invested in Andy's assembly is returned through better fundraising and event participation after he leaves!

### 1. **“Get Your Hand Up” - School Assembly for grades 6-12**

School is about Learning AND having fun. Do that by getting your hand UP! Answer Questions. Ask Questions. Volunteer. Get involved in the classroom and in the activities of your school!

This powerful assembly will entertain and inspire your students by encouraging them to bring back their grade two enthusiasm and "get their hand up". In the classroom, ask questions, answer the teacher, and try your best. In school and life, volunteer and get involved in all of the great activities.

Why don't students "Get Their Hand Up?" The fear of failure: the fear of being wrong in front of friends. You might give a wrong answer, ask a "stupid" question, learn that your best is not as good as others, or volunteer to get involved and yet get cut from a team or play. Andy challenges youth to bring back their grade 2 "recess attitude" which says that although I will make mistakes and get things wrong at times, I will put my hand back up and try again.

**ANDY'S "GET YOUR HAND UP SENIORS" ASSEMBLY:** Perfect for 12<sup>th</sup> grade assemblies or senior student retreats. With examples from students who were bound for university, community college, the trades or the workforce, Andy uses powerful stories, workplace insights and hilarious comedy to inspire, empower and entertain. When booking Andy after February 1<sup>st</sup>, please consider a separate assembly for your grads to help prepare them for the final months of high school and life after graduation. This seniors-only presentation can run from 45 to 90 minutes. It is also available as a two-hour retreat or a full day program.

### 2. **“Share Your Care” - School Assembly for grades 1 to 12**

Andy's Top 3 ways to care: #3 - Show Up! #2 - Participate! #1 – Listen! Create inclusion by asking your classmates and friends questions and truly listening to their answers!

Andy challenges your students to care about their friends, family, and school the same way they care for millionaires from their favourite bands and professional teams. His Top 3 examples of care: Show Up – to class, to practice, to work, to special events; Participate – cheer, dress up, put your hand up in class, dance, laugh, be part of the fundraiser; Listen – ask questions of your classmates and listen to the answers.

What are the rewards of care? It's fun! Fun fills your yearbook with great memories. Care changes the world! Your acts of care can brighten someone's day, add to a fundraising total, brings energy to a dance, or feed a person through a school food drive!

With his messages of kindness, caring and listening, this assembly is a popular choice for anti-bullying campaigns. Be an example of care for others to follow!

Andy also has a version of this assembly for 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> graders which runs 45 to 50 minutes.

## **ANDY'S INSPIRING LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS**

### **1. "Making Care Contagious" – Student Leadership Workshop**

School Spirit is caring, but how do leaders make this care contagious? This presentation draws from Andy's experiences as a student leader and as a speaker traveling North America. He has developed 5 Habits that form the core of all successful student leadership activities. This hilarious and high-energy workshop gives hands-on advice on handling negativity; dealing with rejection; having the courage to be an example of good decisions; effective appreciation; communicating care; and improving event promotion and attendance. Follow Andy's 5 Habits to "get your care, out there!"

The session includes games and activities that can be shared with your school at your next meeting or assembly. Schools that book Andy's workshop get a free copy of the handbook for this program.

This workshop for grades 6 to 12 can run from 45 minutes to 90 minutes. It is also frequently used as a leadership retreat for 2 to 3 hours. Andy can deliver this as the follow up to his school assembly or as a stand-alone leadership event for your school or a group of schools. The program will also empower student council advisors and leadership teachers who are encouraged to participate in this session.

### **2. "Can I Count on You?" – Improving the Reliability of your leadership team**

Execution of ideas is the number one challenge for young leaders organizing events. This session will immediately improve the ability of your team to work together and improve their organization skills.

This session addresses the concepts of time management from a unique perspective. Trust is the foundation for loving families, fun friendships, spirited students' councils, successful businesses, and effective leaders. Yet people earn the trust of another by being reliable. Andy offers useful and immediately applicable advice for improving reliability. Through his insights, Andy demonstrates how increased reliability improves one's time management, creates successful events, and inspires TRUST in leaders!

With all student leaders and teachers balancing their time between school, family and work commitments, this program can transform how your team organizes their priorities!

This program is flexible from 45 minutes to 2 hours.

### **3. "The Impact of Teachers" – A Keynote or Workshop for Teachers**

Andy is the teaching profession's #1 fan because of the difference teachers have made in his life. It also helps that he married a high school French teacher! This program is an empowering reminder to school staff about the difference they make with youth.

In October of grade 9, Andy received a letter from his high school's track and field coach "recruiting" him to be part of the team. That letter changed his life. Expect tears of laughter and powerful reflection as Andy shares the lessons he learned from Coach Young and his efforts to connect with students.

When booking Andy for your school, consider organizing an after school staff meeting so he can share this powerful program. Its length is flexible to your needs, from 20 minutes to 1 hour.

It is also frequently booked as a keynote or training session for Professional Development days or Teacher or Administrator conferences.

## **INSIGHTS ON BOOKING ANDY AT YOUR SCHOOL:**

Please consider the following questions with your team on how to plan Andy's visit:

- A half day OR full day option? See below for examples of how that would look.
- Which of the two assemblies listed above do you want?
- If you are choosing Share Your Care, do you want an anti-bullying focus?
- Will you need to split the group into 2 or more assemblies?
- Will you add his student leadership workshop? It runs from 45 minutes 90 minutes, flexible to your schedule. It can also be 2 to 3 hours as a half day leadership retreat.
- If he speaking in the afternoon, do you want to add his after school staff program?
- Would you like a separate assembly just for the 12<sup>th</sup> graders? Andy's special seniors only version of the "Get your Hand UP" assembly focuses on enjoying the final months of high school and preparing for life after high school.
- Is there another local school or two that you can contact about sharing the day or the trip to your area? Each school would receive a significant fee discount. Andy can assist with promoting this.

Please note that ALL presentations are flexible in timing to cater to your school's schedule.

### **HALF DAY OPTION**

A half day with Andy includes TWO presentations of 45-90 minutes each. You have the following choices:

- Two assemblies: Dividing the school in half OR speaking to two different grades.
- Two assemblies: Younger grades, followed by a seniors-only assembly
- One assembly followed by a student leadership workshop.
- Leadership Retreat: A two to three-hour student leadership program, catered to your needs, using his "Making Care Contagious" and "Can I Count on You?" workshops.

A third presentation may be possible with a morning booking by adding a workshop for the leaders over lunch, providing that Andy's afternoon schedule allows it.

The afternoon school always gets a free after school program: either a staff meeting or student workshop.

### **FULL DAY OPTION**

A full day program in your school district could include up to 4 assemblies at your high school and/or middle school(s), multiple short leadership workshops or a 2 to 3-hour leadership retreat, and an after school teacher's program. The day's schedule is completely adjustable to your needs.

American full-day school program examples from 2014-2015:

- Lancaster High School near Buffalo had a full day by having Andy deliver an assembly to the freshmen in the morning and three student leadership workshops to 3 different classes.
- Prescott High School, Arizona had Andy deliver two assemblies in the morning, a two hour leadership retreat in the afternoon, and an after school staff program for 45 minutes.
- Batavia HS & MS, east of Buffalo, had him speak to the high school in the morning for an assembly and leadership workshop. Andy then spoke to the middle school in the afternoon for an assembly and leadership workshop for the middle school leaders. Concluding with a school staff program.