

## **Dave Sanfacon**

"2003 Toastmasters World Championship of Public Speaking Finalist"

On December 5th, 1999 Dave Sanfacon attended his first Toastmasters public speaking meeting with the intention of ending a lifelong fear of public speaking. He lasted only 5 minutes. Finding the nearest exit, he loosened his tie and breathlessly vowed, Next week...ten minutes.

Dave did go back the following week. A month later he gave his first speech. Six months later he was speaking three times a week as a member of three different Toastmaster clubs.

Successful speakers are willing to fail, said Dave. By joining three clubs I ensured a lot of failure, but my growth rate tripled.

Over the next three years Dave delivered more than 150 speeches and competed in 29 speech contests throughout New England and the Atlantic Coast. He further honed his presentation skills by participating in 26 weeks of acting workshops and 18 weeks of improvisation workshops.

This fast-track speaking education culminated with Dave competing against 8 other finalists at the 2003 Toastmasters World Championship of Public Speaking. Before an international audience of 1,500 and a BRAVO television film crew, Dave placed second in a competition that began with 25,000 speakers worldwide.

Dave has since had the privilege of coaching other World Championship competitors, as well as presenting to high school students, college students, business professionals, performers, and the prison population.

Dave recently produced his first public speaking DVD, How to Turn a Speech into a Performance. And in January of 2006 Dave completed his first film role as an actor in the Boston based independent film The Dropout.