

She flew solo through a lightning strike in the Snowy Mountains

EVERY INSTRUMENT FAILED. RADIOS WENT SILENT.
SHE NAVIGATED HOME BY MEMORY. THEN SHE LANDED THE PLANE.



Fewer than 500.

Female airline captains globally. Michelle is one of them.

MICHELLE HUNTINGTON

On stage, Michelle Huntington is the person who makes a room of thousands go quiet. The stories are real. Specific moments where the cost of the wrong call wasn't a missed quarter. That specificity is what makes a room lean forward and then stay there.

She spent decades in environments where decisions had real consequences - storms, system failures, a Captain who didn't want to hear what the synoptic chart was telling her at 10:30pm in Perth. One of fewer than 500 female airline captains in the world, she arrived there the long way. A school careers advisor told her women's anatomy disqualified her from flying. She studied art for years. Then she said yes to herself and built a career that took her from a windowless government office in Year 10 to the command seat of a commercial aircraft.

Audiences laugh out loud. The recognition is instant, and the room starts interacting before they realise they've let their guard down. The shift happens before anyone sees it coming. The challenges they walked in with don't change. Their relationship to them does. They leave thinking about pressure the way a pilot thinks about weather, not as something happening to them, but as conditions they can read and navigate.

WHAT EVENT ORGANISERS SAY

"You could have heard a pin drop as Michelle blew the audience away with her storytelling. She was the standout of the event, everyone loved her."

Monica Rosenfeld
Founder, Global Stories that Stir Movement

<500 Female airline captains globally	TEDx Speaker - audiences worldwide	30+ years Facilitator - framework built for lasting impact	Lady MacGyver Published author	ABC Radio Aviation media commentator
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Trusted by



A CAREER'S WORTH OF MATERIAL.

- A school careers advisor told her in Year 10 that women's anatomy disqualified her from flying. She studied art for years — exhibited, painted murals, built a career she hadn't planned on. Her dream went into hibernation. It wasn't until she was older that she learned to say yes to herself. Her former students now captain aircraft for Emirates, Qantas, Qatar and JAL.
- Six months into her probation as First Officer with Virgin Australia, she shook a Captain's hand and walked off his plane in Perth at 10:30pm. She'd read the synoptic chart. He hadn't wanted to hear it. She called Sydney not knowing if she still had a career. 200 nautical miles out came the message she'd predicted: Hazard Alert. Sydney. Fog. One landing attempt before Canberra. They made it. Not a word exchanged at shutdown.
- Every other pilot in the room said no. She said yes, then figured out the how. A Beechcraft Bonanza from Scottsdale, Arizona to Australia - solo, with a 750kg fuel bladder, a child's toy syringe to add oil mid-flight, fuel Tetris every 70 minutes. On the first attempt, Air Traffic Control threatened military jets. She turned back, slept badly, and went again the next morning.

WHAT THE AUDIENCE WALKS AWAY WITH.

"I've never laughed that hard and walked away with that much."

Audiences laugh out loud. The recognition is instant, and the room starts interacting before they realise they've let their guard down. The shift happens before anyone sees it coming. That combination is rare on a big stage and it's why she gets talked about long after the event ends.

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"She gave me permission to say the thing I already knew."

The stories are extraordinary. The truth they carry is not. Every person in that room has stood on an aerobridge wondering if saying the right thing will cost them everything. Michelle names it. The room recognises itself. That's when something shifts.

BUILT FOR STAGES.

- Large-scale association conferences — MDRT, YPO, EO and equivalent
- Professional summits of 500 to 5,000+ delegates
- Women in industry, STEM and pioneering leadership events
- Corporate leadership and executive conferences
- Healthcare, engineering, financial services and regulated industry events
- School groups

DELIVERY FORMATS.

Keynote 45 to 60 minutes - conference and event format

Extended session Up to 90 minutes - leadership summits

Workshops - Half or full day

In-person or virtual Tailored to audience and industry

"Michelle's session proved to be a pivotal and transformative experience for our team. We wholeheartedly recommend her to any organisation seeking a dynamic speaker capable of inspiring positive change and imparting invaluable resilience strategies."

Thank you, Michelle, for your outstanding contribution to our team's development."

Annie Bryce

CEO, Edge Early Learning