

Penelope Tobin

Author...speaker...barrier-breaker



Penelope Tobin FRSA has a BA Hons in Performing Arts and an MA in Leadership & Managing Organisational Change, reflecting her twin passions – human development...and jazz.

In 2000 she founded Barrier Breakers™, the soft skills training and development consultancy based in London, England. Known as 'the barrier-breaker', Penelope helps organisations and individuals to identify and break through barriers that block their potential. She achieves powerful, long-lasting results through the approach she created, BBM™ (Barrier Breakers Methodology for Soft Skills Development & Evaluation), which won the National Performance Hub prize in 2007.

Penelope has used BBM in hundreds of personal and professional change programmes, supporting human development with a vast array of organisations and individuals, from ex-offenders and disadvantaged young people – through the charity she founded, Barrier Breakers Foundation – to graduates, entrepreneurs, executives, and CEOs.

As well as contributing articles to leading publications such as Training Journal and Change This, Penelope has published 3 books, the latest of which – *The Jazz of Business: Leadership in a New Groove* – draws on her jazz roots. Before founding Barrier Breakers, Penelope was a professional jazz pianist, composer, and vocalist, touring the globe as leader of a sextet.

The Jazz of Business is for anyone in a leadership role, and combines Penelope's jazz experience with her business development acumen, providing a new slant on the kind of skills needed for wellbeing and success in the 21st century.

Since 2006 Penelope has spoken publically at over 30 international business, educational, and creativity conferences, in Canada, France, Germany, the USA, as well as in the UK. Over the last two years she has included an increasing number of corporate events into her speaking calendar, bringing "The Jazz of Business" presentation to the stage either as a 'solo act', or accompanied by a jazz band, such as recently in New Orleans, when her 1-hour presentation rounded off the 2-day Serious Business conference.

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