



Maria Drueco

*TEDx & Keynote Speaker | Trailblazer for Equity & Belonging
Founder, BelongInclusivity | The Inclusion Journey | Marianatha Tours
Inclusion & Diversity Champion, IWTTF 2025
Award-Winning Author | Award-Winning Travel Entrepreneur*

“Trailblazers lead the way with authenticity, sparking change that empowers others to follow.”

About the Speaker

Maria Drueco is a trailblazer in inclusive leadership, social innovation, and equitable systems transformation.

As a TEDx and international keynote speaker, she empowers leaders and organizations to build cultures of belonging where equity isn't an afterthought, but a strategic foundation for sustainable growth.

With over two decades of experience across HR, DEI, and entrepreneurship, Maria is also the founder of BelongInclusivity and Marianatha Tours, a travel company that curates culturally immersive, inclusive journeys around the world.

Her work bridges business, social impact, and community empowerment especially for women, immigrants, and racialized leaders navigating systems not designed with them in mind.

Maria doesn't just talk about change. She builds frameworks to create it combining research, lived experience, and bold storytelling that challenges, inspires, and equips people to lead with courage.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

1. Inclusive by Design: Why the Future of Growth is Human-Centered

- How equity, inclusive systems, and belonging are key drivers of innovation, retention, and transformation—especially in a rapidly evolving world.

2. The Inclusive Incentive: Designing Transformational Travel for Diverse, Global Teams

- A powerful session for incentive/ event/ corporate planners and tourism leaders ready to align travel experiences with identity, belonging, and business values.

3. Belonging at Work: The Growth Strategy You're Overlooking

- A practical framework for leaders and teams to build psychologically safe, equitable cultures that unlock potential and performance.

4. Breaking Bias in a Data-Driven World

- Using Maria's BelongInclusivity Mapping Framework, this talk explores how organizations can uncover invisible barriers, close gaps, and make more equitable decisions using data.

5. UnHide Yourself (based on her award-winning book)

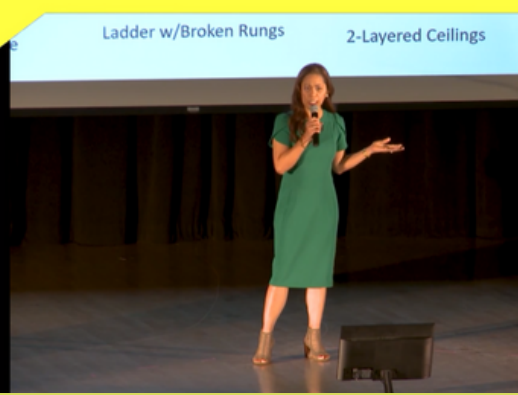
- A transformative keynote on breaking free from stigma and stereotypes, designed for organizations ready to move from performative to authentic and inclusive leadership.

What People Are Saying

“This was the most practical session of the conference... Maria's insights allowed me to express my challenges and helped me work through them with actionable steps.”

“Loved the concise tips and the introduction to higher-level concepts to run with. Maria truly knows how to connect and engage.”

Book Maria Drueco: maria@theinclusionjourney.com | maria.drueco@theinclusionjourney.ca
Website: www.theinclusionjourney.com



Maria Drueco

TEDx & Keynote Speaker | Inclusion & Equity Catalyst
Women Empowerment & Antiracism Advocate
Canada Global Ambassador for Women Empowerment

Why Hire Maria ?

- ✓ Global Perspective rooted in immigrant and women-of-color leadership
- ✓ Trusted by C-suite, frontline teams, and mission-driven sectors
- ✓ Actionable, engaging, and always audience-centered
- ✓ Integrates systemic analysis with heart and humor
- ✓ Builds cultural and business bridges through global travel expertise, equity work, and actionable strategy

Who Maria Works With

- Leadership & DEI Conferences
- Hospitality, Travel & Tourism Summits
- Women's Empowerment & Entrepreneurship Events
- HR, Tech, and Social Impact Forums
- Government, Public Sector, and Nonprofit Leadership Retreats

UnHide Yourself: Break Free from Bias, Stigma, and Stereotypes

Maria Drueco is the acclaimed author of "UnHide Yourself: Break Free from Bias, Stigma, and Stereotypes," a book that has been recognized for its profound impact on the fields of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

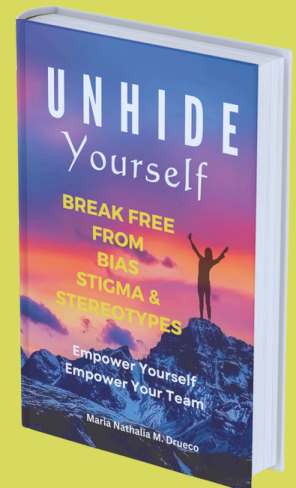
The book explores personal and systemic barriers that individuals face and provides actionable strategies to overcome them. It has received accolades for its contribution to empowering individuals and organizations to embrace authenticity and inclusivity.

Awards and Recognition:

International Impact Book Awards 2024

Winner for HR, Business and Workplace Culture Category

LINKEDIN



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