

Katie HILBORN

 @Purpose_Pipeline

 @KatieHilborn

HUMANITARIAN | CEO | SPEAKER

As a 7x award-winning humanitarian, Katie has **raised millions** to transform lives through her children's charities. Abandoned at birth and adopted into a loving home, her journey is a testament to **resilience, purpose, and heart-centered leadership**—aligning actions with impact and **turning challenges into growth. Weaving powerful stories—walking pumas in Bolivia, leading disaster relief in Nepal, and dismantling trafficking rings**—Katie shares parallel lessons on adaptability, perseverance, and purpose-driven action.

AWARDS

- Shares recognition with luminaries such as the Dalai Lama, Pulitzer, NASA, Charity:Water, & Jane Goodall
- Silver Nonprofit Leader of the Year (Anthem Awards '23)
- Gold Social Documentary (Telly Awards '23)
- Silver Awareness Campaign (Anthem Awards '22)
- Silver Social Impact - Service (Telly Awards '22)
- Millennial Changemaker of the Year ('16)

IN THE PRESS

THE DENVER POST



NEW YORK



SPEAKING TOPICS

Impact Architect

Weaving Purpose into the Heart of a Future-Ready Workplace

- Purpose isn't just a feel-good idea—it's the foundation for building happiness, fulfillment, and growth. With **AI advancements expected to save employees up to 12 hours per week** within five years, organizations and students can harness this shift to place purpose at the heart of their culture.

The Change Compass

Heart-Centric Leadership in Times of Change

- Resiliency is only the beginning.

TESTIMONIALS

"Katie is a master storyteller—her keynote was truly inspiring. We laughed, we cried, we learned, and we left with a clear plan for our futures."

—Beth McDonald
Real Estate Investor Success Summit

"Katie was very inspiring. I really feel like we're leaving better people with a plan of how to get started in making our dreams come true"

—Ami Orchard, Colorado PTA President
100th Annual PTA Convention

CONTACT US

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 www.KatieHilborn.com

Katie HILBORN

LONG BIOGRAPHY



Katie Hilborn is a 7x award-winning humanitarian, social entrepreneur, and captivating keynote speaker whose transformative work has earned her **recognition alongside global icons like the Dalai Lama** and Jane Goodall. Renowned for turning adversity into purpose, she has raised millions for her charitable projects and **inspired over 100,000 volunteer hours** to bring her vision to life.

Born into adversity, Katie was **abandoned at birth** by a mother battling severe mental illness and adopted into a Chicago family whose legacy shaped her future. At 20, witnessing her birth mother's passing from multiple sclerosis forced her to confront mortality, privilege, and purpose, igniting a lifelong drive to explore, learn, and create change.

Katie's remarkable journey—from **funding her first project with coffeehouse tips** to paint Ugandan school murals to **walking pumas** in the Bolivian jungle, **living among the African Maasai**, and **going undercover during the Nepal earthquakes** to dismantle a child-trafficking ring—transforms her keynotes into captivating stories that inspire and energize audiences.

As the founder and **CEO of Compass Rose International**, an **award-winning nonprofit** advancing mental wellness and education for children, she shares actionable insights, introducing concepts like following the breadcrumbs of intuition to make heart-led decisions that reshape careers, organizations, and lives.

Katie inspires leaders and teams to place purpose at the core of workplace culture, boosting engagement, enhancing productivity, and building resilience. Audiences leave equipped to drive purposeful growth and lasting impact. She has delivered keynotes at 15+ major events, including the *Real Estate Investor Summit*, *Equity Capital Groupe*, *Northern Illinois University*, and the *PTA Convention*. Her accolades include Silver for Nonprofit Leader of the Year at the Anthem Awards and multiple Telly Awards.

With powerful storytelling and proven strategies, Katie inspires audiences to navigate uncertainty with clarity, courage, and purpose. Her keynotes **weave humor, humanity, and hope**, making her an exceptional choice for conferences, corporate events, and more.

20% of Katie's fee is donated to Compass Rose International and eligible for a tax deduction.

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SHORT BIOGRAPHY



Katie Hilborn is a 7x award-winning humanitarian, social entrepreneur, and captivating keynote speaker whose transformative work has earned her recognition alongside global icons like the Dalai Lama and Jane Goodall. Renowned for turning adversity into purpose, she has raised millions for charitable projects and inspired over 100,000 volunteer hours.

Abandoned at birth by a mother battling severe mental illness and adopted into a Chicago family, Katie's early life of adversity shaped her resilience. Witnessing her birth mother's passing at 20 ignited her drive to explore, learn, and create change.

Her extraordinary experiences—funding her first project with coffeehouse tips, walking pumas in Bolivia, and going undercover during the Nepal earthquakes—captivate audiences and bring her keynotes to life. As the founder and CEO of Compass Rose International, Katie weaves powerful stories and actionable insights that inspire leaders to align purpose with workplace culture for meaningful impact.

20% of Katie's fee is donated to Compass Rose International and eligible for a tax deduction.

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Testimonials

WHAT MY CLIENTS HAVE BEEN SAYING...

"Katie is a master storyteller—her keynote was truly inspiring. We laughed, we cried, we learned, and we left with a clear plan for our futures."

BETH MCDONALD

Real Estate Investor Success Summit

"Really enjoyed the presentation that Katie provided today to offer inspirations to Real Estate Investors and how they can change the world and her world travels have really painted a picture of how people need help in the world."

TRAVIS SPENCER

Organizer, Real Estate Investor Success Summit

"Katie was very inspiring. I really feel like we're leaving better people with a plan of how to get started in making our dreams come true"

AMI ORCHARD


Colorado PTA President, 100th Annual PTA Convention

"It's exhausting just to think about how Katie thinks, let alone try to imagine the fortitude it requires to take all of this on."

DAILY HERALD EDITORIAL STAFF

KATIE HILBORN

Inspirational Keynote Speaker

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THE CHANGE COMPASS™

Heart-Centric Leading Through Life's Transitions



| The Big Idea

True leadership begins with self-leadership. By combining resilience with purpose and embracing heart-centric principles, students can transform life's inevitable changes into opportunities for growth, impact, and meaningful action.

| Keynote Description

Students today face challenges that demand adaptability, creativity, and self-leadership. Research shows many experience declines in performance and well-being during transitions, such as starting university or preparing for careers, often due to disrupted support systems and lack of guidance. This keynote provides a **framework** for embracing change with **authenticity, empathy, and heart-centric principles**, equipping students to thrive in uncertainty and turn challenges into opportunities.

Katie Hilborn's extraordinary journey demonstrates the transformative power of **self-leadership** and leading with **heart**. Born into adversity and adopted after being abandoned at birth, Katie overcame significant challenges to find her path of **resilience** and growth. From living with the **Maasai Tribe** to delivering disaster relief during the Nepal earthquakes, and founding initiatives that reduced **child trafficking** cases in Nepal to zero, her story shows how challenges can become opportunities for lasting impact.

Through relatable metaphors and personal anecdotes, Katie inspires students to **rethink self-leadership as a balance of archetypes**: embracing the feminine archetypes of **empathy, intuition, and collaboration** alongside the masculine archetypes of **decisive action, strategic thinking, and bold problem-solving**. By understanding how and when to draw on these complementary qualities. She shares **how self-leadership** and intuitive decision-making—following the "breadcrumbs" of purpose—can transform setbacks into opportunities, helping students create meaningful and impactful futures.

Katie's approach blends resilience with intentional action to create lasting change. With over 100,000 hours dedicated to her mission and recognition as an **Anthem Awards Leader of the Year**, she shares how **heart-centric self-leadership** helped her navigate challenges, guide teams, and achieve extraordinary results. Her insights empower students to approach challenges with authenticity, empathy, and the courage to take **meaningful risks**.

AUDIENCE

This Keynote is for Students Who Are:

- Overwhelmed by the pressure of academic transitions and future career uncertainty.
- Struggling to develop self-leadership and direction during significant life changes.
- Searching for ways to build resilience and adapt to new environments.
- Eager to balance personal growth with meaningful contributions to their communities.

OUTCOMES

The Audience Will Leave With:

- A clear framework for self-leadership to navigate life transitions with resilience and purpose.
- Practical techniques to align personal goals with impactful action.
- Insights on turning setbacks into opportunities for growth and success.
- Inspiring strategies to lead themselves and others with authenticity, empathy, and courage in all aspects of life.

SUGGESTED EVENT FORMATS

This keynote is ideal for the following student events:

- Leadership Conferences & Workshops
- Orientation Programs
- Career Development Seminars
- Student Government Conferences
- Campus Life Events

THE CHANGE COMPASS™

Heart-centric leading during times of change



| The Big Idea

Leadership thrives at the intersection of resilience, intuition, and purpose. By balancing heart-centered principles like empathy and collaboration with complementing principals like decisive action and problem-solving, leaders can transform challenges into opportunities, guiding their teams to adapt, innovate, and create lasting impact during times of change.

| Keynote Description

From digital transformation to market shifts, today's leaders face challenges that require adaptability and innovation. Yet, **70% of change management initiatives fail**, often due to employee resistance and lack of leadership support (McKinsey & Company).

Katie Hilborn's extraordinary journey illustrates the transformative power of leading from the heart. Born into adversity and adopted after being abandoned at birth, **Katie forged a path of resilience and purpose**, turning life's setbacks into profound opportunities for growth and impact. Her experiences—from **living with the Maasai Tribe** and delivering disaster relief during the **Nepal earthquakes** to founding **children's charities** that eradicated child trafficking cases in Nepal—reveal the essence of heart-centered leadership: aligning actions with impact and leading with courage through uncertainty.

Through relatable metaphors and personal anecdotes, Katie inspires audiences to **rethink leadership as a balance of archetypes**: embracing the feminine archetypes of **empathy, intuition, and collaboration** alongside the masculine archetypes of **decisive action, strategic thinking, and bold problem-solving**. By understanding how and **when to draw on these complementary qualities**, leaders can adapt to challenges, inspire their teams, and create sustainable, meaningful change.

Katie's approach transcends traditional leadership paradigms, blending resilience with purposeful action. With over 100,000 hours dedicated to her mission and recognition as an Anthem Awards **Leader of the Year**, she brings unmatched insight into how heart-centric leadership can achieve remarkable results—whether leading teams through conflict zones, **inspiring volunteers to fundraise over \$1M for her causes**, or guiding board meetings with clarity, collaboration, and purpose to drive meaningful decisions and alignment.

This keynote equips leaders with actionable strategies to build adaptability, spark innovation, and foster meaningful growth in their teams. **Katie's message is a reminder that true leadership begins where resilience meets purpose—and that every change is an opportunity to create lasting impact.**

AUDIENCE

- Leaders and teams overwhelmed by rapid change.
- Managers struggling to gain buy-in for new initiatives.
- Professionals seeking to turn obstacles into opportunities.
- Organizations aiming to align decisions with core values for greater impact.

OUTCOMES

- A roadmap for transforming setbacks into stepping stones for growth.
- Tools to navigate uncertainty with clarity, confidence, and purpose.
- Strategies to enhance team performance through emotional intelligence.
- Insights for aligning leadership actions with values to achieve lasting results.

SUGGESTED EVENT FORMATS

While Katie carefully customizes this keynote for every event type, it has proven to be highly effective in the following formats:

- Leadership Conferences and Meetings
- Strategy Kick-Offs
- R&D Meetings
- Change Management
- Transition and Growth Programs

IMPACT ARCHITECT™

Weaving Purpose into the Heart of a Future-Ready Workplace



| The Big Idea

Purpose isn't just a feel-good idea—it's the foundation for building happiness, fulfillment, and growth. In a rapidly evolving workplace, where **AI advancements are expected to save employees up to 12 hours per week within five years—and four hours** as early as next year (Thomson Reuters) —organizations can harness this shift to place purpose at the heart of their culture and use this time to align individual purpose with organizational goals through heart-centric leadership enhances engagement, boosts productivity, and builds a resilient, future-ready workforce.

| Keynote Description

In a world reshaped by The Great Resignation and quiet quitting, the workplace is in need of a blueprint for meaning and connection. Nearly **40% of employees are considering leaving their jobs** because they no longer find fulfillment in their work (Gallup).

Katie Hilborn's **Impact Architect™** keynote provides a transformative approach to building workplaces where the purpose is at the cornerstone. This framework aligns individual and organizational purpose, creating a foundation for well-being, productivity, retention, and ultimately company success.

Grounded in data—such as a **30% boost in productivity** (McKinsey) and a **40% increase in retention** (Global Talent Trends)—and enriched by Katie's extraordinary experiences, this keynote inspires and equips leaders to craft purpose-first cultures. Katie also introduces the concept of **following the breadcrumbs** of intuition, demonstrating how small, seemingly insignificant moments can guide heart-led decisions that reshape not only careers but entire organizations.

As a 7x award-winning humanitarian recognized alongside the Dalai Lama, Katie shares profound lessons from walking pumas in Bolivian jungles, to leading earthquake disaster relief in Nepal, and founding children's charities. Through these vivid stories, she illustrates how embracing purpose and intuition can transform challenges into opportunities, cultivate meaningful connections, and ignite a ripple effect of positive change in individuals and organizations alike.

AUDIENCE

This keynote is designed for leaders, teams, and employees who are:

- Struggling to find meaning and fulfillment in their work amidst the pressures of constant change and uncertainty.
- Experiencing decreased engagement, productivity, or motivation due to misaligned personal and organizational goals.
- Seeking innovative strategies to adapt to the evolving workplace, including the rise of AI and shifting cultural dynamics.
- Facing challenges in retaining top talent and building resilient, purpose-driven teams.

OUTCOMES

The Audience Will Leave With:

- A proven framework to align personal purpose with organizational goals, driving engagement and fulfillment.
- Practical strategies to integrate heart-led decision-making and intuition into workplace culture for long-term success.
- Insights on creating a purpose-first environment that enhances retention, productivity, and employee well-being.
- Inspiration and actionable steps to transform challenges into opportunities, leveraging purpose as the foundation for resilience and growth.

SUGGESTED EVENT FORMATS

While Katie carefully customizes this keynote for every event type, this keynote has proven to be highly effective in the following formats:

- Leadership Conferences and Meetings
- Human Resources Conferences
- All-Team Meetings
- Strategy kick-offs
- R&D meetings

IMPACT ARCHITECT™

Designing Your Future with Intuition, Resilience, and Heart



| The Big Idea

Purpose isn't just a feel-good idea—it's the foundation for building happiness, fulfillment, and growth. In a rapidly evolving world, where **AI advancements are expected to save students up to 12 hours per week within five years—and four hours** as early as next year (Thomson Reuters)—students can harness this shift to place purpose at the heart of their learning. By using this extra time to align their personal values and aspirations with their academic and life goals, students can increase happiness, enhance their focus, boost their performance, and build a resilient, future-ready mindset.

| Keynote Description

Today's students are navigating an increasingly complex world where stress and uncertainty are at an all-time high. Research shows that **74% of young people are actively searching for purpose** and meaning in their lives, yet **40% report feeling disconnected from a clear sense of direction** or fulfillment (Pew Research Center). The pressures of academic performance, social media, and future planning leave many students feeling overwhelmed and lost, craving deeper connections between their daily actions and a greater purpose.

Katie Hilborn's Purpose Architect™ keynote provides a transformative approach to building a life where purpose is at the cornerstone. This framework aligns students' values, passions, and goals, creating a foundation for well-being, academic success, resilience, and ultimately fulfillment.

Grounded in data—such as a **30% boost in academic performance** (Stanford) and a **40% increase in happiness** for purpose-driven individuals (Greater Good Science Center)—and enriched by Katie's extraordinary experiences, this keynote inspires and equips students to embrace purpose as their guiding force. Katie also introduces the concept of following the breadcrumbs of intuition, demonstrating how small, seemingly insignificant moments can guide heart-led decisions that reshape not only their education but their entire lives.

As a 7x award-winning humanitarian recognized alongside the Dalai Lama, Katie shares profound lessons from walking pumas in Bolivian jungles, to leading earthquake disaster relief in Nepal, and founding children's charities. Through these vivid stories, she illustrates how embracing purpose and intuition can transform challenges into opportunities, cultivate meaningful connections, and ignite a ripple effect of positive change.

AUDIENCE

This keynote is designed for students who are:

- Struggling to find direction or meaning in their academic and personal lives.
- Feeling overwhelmed by the pressures of school, social expectations, and future planning.
- Experiencing a lack of motivation or clarity about their goals and aspirations.
- Searching for tools and inspiration to connect their daily actions with a greater sense of purpose.

OUTCOMES

The audience will leave with:

- A clear framework for discovering their inner compass and aligning their values, passions, and goals.
- Practical strategies to build resilience and navigate challenges with confidence.
- Insights on how to turn small, intuitive decisions into meaningful actions that shape their future.
- Inspiration from real-life stories to embrace purpose as a driving force for fulfillment and success.

SUGGESTED EVENT FORMATS

For Colleges and Universities.

- University & College Conferences
- Commencement Ceremonies
- Orientation Weeks
- Guest Lectures and Speaker Series
- Workshops and Seminars