



Dr. Mary Ann Horton

Keynote Speaker • Award-Winning Author • Internet Pioneer • Transgender Workplace Advocate

"Can one person change the world? Yes. And you can too."

Education PhD Computer Science, UC Berkeley	Career Bell Labs Lucent JPMorgan Chase VP SDG&E	2001 Award Out & Equal Trailblazer Outie Award	2025 Award Clarence E. Anderson Peace & Justice Award
Policy Impact Architect of the inclusion standards used by 95% of the Fortune 500	Tech Legacy Internet Pioneer: Created first binary email attachment (1980) Led Usenet growth	Research Proved gender affirming care costs less than 18 cents per insured per year	Recognition Oxford University VICE The Daily Beast SHRM Nokia Apple

Keynote Presentations

Can One Person Change the World?

Corporate ERG events • Pride Month programs • LGBTQ+ professional conferences • University lectures

In 1997, Dr. Horton pioneered the corporate standard for transgender inclusion now found in 95% of the Fortune 500 — proposing the language that Lucent adopted and that Apple, IBM, Chase, and hundreds of others followed. This keynote tells that story from the inside, weaving institutional history with personal courage. It opens with a question and closes with a challenge. Available 20 to 60 minutes with optional 15-minute Transgender 101 segment.

Speaker reel: youtu.be/dpNp0MLz-5Q

From Bytes to Rights

Technology conferences • Engineering leadership events • Technology ethics courses • Innovation audiences

Dr. Horton created the first binary email attachment in 1980, led Usenet from 10 sites to over 5,000 worldwide, and helped establish the user@domain.com standard the world uses today. Her legacy language from 1997 remains in Nokia's policies and appeared in Apple's legal filings. Through a career shaping the architecture of the modern internet, she was also navigating what it meant to be a transgender woman in that world. This 60-minute keynote tells both stories simultaneously.

Speaker reel: youtu.be/UPBdiex7sWU

What Audiences Say

"One of the best presentations I have ever seen."

Hudson River Trading LLC — ERG membership feedback

"An amazing journey of a woman who went through hell to become the person she is today."

Monica Helms, creator of the transgender flag

"My invaluable and treasured mentor on transgender issues in the workplace for nearly 40 years."

Brian McNaught, corporate diversity consultant

Book Dr. Horton

Booking inquiries: booking@redace.com

More information: maryannhorton.com

Trailblazer: Lighting the Path for Transgender Equality in Corporate America

Three-time BookFest Award winner. Available on Amazon in paperback, ebook, and audiobook. Personally signed copies at maryannhorton.com