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Allan Karl—Keynote Speaker

World traveler, adventurer, photographer, philosopher, author, entrepreneur and inspirational keynote speaker, Allan Karl inspires people to pursue dreams, overcome challenges, tackle obstacles, embrace change and smile—especially in the face of adversity. And he knows how. Allan spent nearly three years riding around the world alone on a motorcycle.

Along the way, on a muddy dirt road miles from anywhere and 14,000 feet high in the Andes of Bolivia, Allan crashed and crushed his leg. But this didn't stop him. After a painful recovery, Allan, continued his journey, logging more than 62,000 miles over 5 continents and through 35 countries traveling alone on his motorcycle.

Why does someone sell nearly everything he owns, pack up a motorcycle and travel for three years alone on a motorcycle?

Many people dream about taking such a journey. Few pursue it. Fear, uncertainty and doubt usually stand in the way. During his three-year journey and through his inspirational keynote speeches and small group workshops, people are inspired by Allan's energy and infectious enthusiasm. Stories of his tenacious drive and positive outlook are relayed through his writings about the high and low points of his around-the-world odyssey at worldrider.com, an ongoing collection of his narratives, videos, podcasts and stunning photography.

In a forthcoming book, *The Beginning At The End of The Road*, chronicling his three-year odyssey, Allan shares the places and faces he encountered during his journey, including visiting some 43 UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The tales are fun, surprising and always entertaining while serving

to remind us to take a chance, pursue dreams and to connect with people—build strong relationships. And when we do, how easy it is to succeed and achieve goals.

Karl is principal of clearcloud, a digital marketing consultancy located in Southern California. clearcloud provides clients with brand reengineering, brand communications and digital marketing communications strategies and creative services.

Prior to starting clearcloud, Karl founded Wirestone, one of the country's top 50 interactive ad agencies according to Advertising Age. At Wirestone, Karl served as director and chief marketing officer. Karl's client experience includes Apple, AT&T, Hewlett-Packard and Quest Software.

An industry veteran, Karl has won several advertising and creative awards, and is past president and board member of the American Advertising Federation in Orange County. Additionally, Karl has served a number of nonprofit organizations including acting as a director of the South Coast Fine Arts Festival to benefit the South Coast Children Society and the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Through his message, Karl reminds us to take chances and to trust ourselves, others and our instincts. Only then can we realize what's possible.

His stories of ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances open minds and pose big questions. Just what happens when we take a step or two outside our comfort zone? His experiences are a reminder of the what's good in our world.

A dynamic and inspiring professional speaker, Allan shares his message with captivating storytelling and award-winning photography that touch themes of adventure, travel as education, personal growth, creativity, innovation, tolerance, environment, effective communication and the importance of pursuing dreams.

A graduate of Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications, Karl also lectures, speaks and leads business-focused workshops on branding, digital marketing and strategic planning.