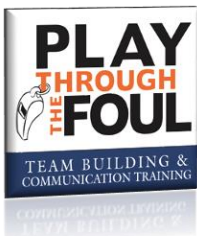




## Vera Jones

is a Motivational Speaker, Author, Communication Coach, 30-year veteran Television and Radio Broadcaster, and Syracuse University Hall-of-Fame Scholar-Athlete. She is most widely known for her veteran women's basketball analysis and reporting for various networks over the past two decades including ESPN, Fox Sports, Madison Square Garden Network, NBA-TV, and the Big Ten Network. She is also often recognized by her appearance in a Goalcast video with over 47-million views.

Vera is a **Certified Trainer in Workplace Conflict Resolution**. She earned her master's degree from S.U.'s prestigious Newhouse School of Communications where she first developed her interest in the psychology of interpersonal communication. As President of Vera's VoiceWorks, LLC, and Founder of the **Perseverance Speaker's Academy**, she passionately pursues her purpose by inspiring and coaching others in various motivational and leadership training forums.



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## **GIRLS DON'T WHISTLE?**

A DIVERSITY KEYNOTE TO HARD TO FORGET

### OVERVIEW:

**Girls Don't Whistle?** – With the help of the Andy Griffith Show theme song, this **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion** presentation invites audiences to change their relational tunes for the better. Vera believes stimulating greater empathy and building trust are major keys for opening doors bolted by biases, fear, and ignorance. She examines the stages of distrust, and how to communicate truth to dismantle it. Tempering the need for honest self- introspection, Vera sheds light on why we react blindly to differentness and therefore perpetuate stigmas and negative stereotypes. Always geared towards conflict resolution, Vera brings simple solutions to an otherwise tense or difficult subject. Powerful, relatable, enlightening, and entertaining personal narratives, including her unforgettable experience as a country radio DJ named "Bobbi Jones," are a breath of fresh air in the midst of our current, challenging social realities. **This presentation is also available as an interactive breakout.**

### KEY TAKEAWAYS:

**After hearing Vera's keynote, audiences can expect to:**

- learn how to become a positive voice for reconciliation and acceptance simply by valuing differences.
- identify personal blind spots and biases without all the drama and guilt that binds progress towards unity.
- learn the empathic, little, three letter word that is a proven strategy to cut through communication roadblocks as it pertains to diversity, equity, and inclusion challenges.
- determine if a simple theme song stuck in your head can help you open your heart.

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