



AARON

BEVERLY

A brief conversation with the 2019
winner of the World Championship of
Public Speaking

November 2019

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What's your sign?



Virgo



Dragon (Chinese Zodiac)

If you could go back in time and tell something to your 16-year old self, what would you say?

I honestly would tell my 16-year-old self that you need to get better at speaking and storytelling as soon as possible because learning how to speak effectively will take you around the world into places you've never thought you'd go.

What has changed in your life since winning the World Championship of Public Speaking?

New Normal

Since winning the world championship of public speaking I have gained a level of popularity that I've never known before in my life. People all over the world know who I am and it's awkward sometimes when people know me by name but I don't know who they are. It's a feeling that has taken some getting used to.

I'm happy to say that I have remained the same. Some people do allow success and wins to go to their head. I am not that type of person. I was not raised that way. I view the world championship as a responsibility to provide value to those who seek public speaking education and knowledge. There is no room for an overblown ego in that equation.

What has remained the same since winning?

Where is the most exciting place you have traveled?



The most exciting place that I've ever traveled is to the country of Australia. I went there long ago when I was in college. I spent a semester there exploring several parts of the country. It was my first trip outside of the Continental United States. It started my love of international travel and my openness to other cultures.

Since joining Toastmasters, how many friends have you gained?

**Easily thousands if you're talking about social media.
However, over the years I've met dozens of people
who I would call lifelong friends.**



Where do some of these friends live?



Some live here in the United States. Some live in India. Some live in Taiwan. Some live in South America. Some live in Europe. Some live in Africa. My friends live all over. There are a few places anymore where I do not have a contact or friend.

What are some of your other talents?

Eating

Eating

Writing

Karaoke

Storytelling

Cooking sometimes

Most people fear public speaking. Since you have overcome that fear, do you have any other phobias?

I wouldn't say that I've overcome the fear of public speaking; but I would say that I've learned how to tame the fear of public speaking. There are times when I will *still* get nervous. However, my experience speaking over the years has led me to become more confident speaking in front of others.

Like most people, I have many other fears that are intangible. For instance, I have a fear of failure. I have a fear of rejection and I have a fear of embarrassment. However, like with public speaking, you have to face these as well. You need to learn how to tame them. It's actually through public speaking that I've learned how to deal with fears of failure, rejection, and embarrassment.