

## REPEATING EDUCATION AWARDS

Many Toastmasters achieve multiples of the same Education Awards, and members often question why. There are a number of benefits to you and your club for doing this.

Every speech you give should be a manual speech because working towards specific objectives is what helps you improve your presentation skills. If you always have a Competent Communication (CC) manual on the go, it is easier for you to fill in as a speaker with little notice while still ensuring your speech is a manual speech.

Repeating the CC manual forces you to focus on the fundamentals of speaking. It also encourages your evaluator to focus on those fundamentals. Far too often, basic errors such as poor eye contact or ineffective body language are overlooked when someone is speaking from an advanced manual because these fundamentals are not one of the project objectives. There is also a tendency for an evaluator of an experienced speaker to think "I know she knows she should have vocal variety – I don't really need to mention it."

A benefit to the club is that having experienced members present speech from the CC manual gives newer members the opportunity to see different approaches to the various projects in the that manual. As well, you act as a role model. Demonstrating your willingness to speak and to ensure that all your speeches are manual speeches makes it easier for you to encourage others to complete their manuals. Another benefit to the club is that it makes it easier to fill speaking roles at the last minute, if needed. If you've completed your CC and are working on an advanced manual, consider working on another CC at the same time.

Lance Miller, 2005 World Champion of Public Speaking, strongly believes in the value of repeating Education Awards to strengthen your speaking skills. Lance has completed almost 20 CCs, 5 on an impromptu basis. You might want to consider this challenge. Have another Toastmaster give you the topic just before the meeting starts which will give you some time to organize your thoughts. Or, if you're feeling really adventurous, have the Toastmaster give you your topic as you're being introduced. Treat it as a longer table topic. It will give you additional practice in quickly organizing your thoughts into an opening, a body and conclusion and it will have the added benefit of making you more proficient in regular table topics.

Take the challenge of repeating Education Awards and you and your club will ***Transform for Tomorrow.***



*Transform for Tomorrow*

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Member Success