



Diversity, equity, and inclusion are at the heart of everything we do.

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A banner image featuring a dark blue background on the left with white text, and a photograph of a smiling woman with grey hair on the right. The background is decorated with large, overlapping geometric shapes in shades of yellow, orange, and light green.

Message from the President

Virginia González-Vélez

Dear Members and Friends of ACTO,

I hope you are doing well. Today, I want to share a reflection that fills me with enthusiasm and hope. As the Spiritual Master of a member of our Board says, we are in an important moment - a perfect time for our aspirations to manifest and for our efforts to begin yielding results.

The energy around us right now is vibrant and full of possibilities. The universe is aligned to support us in achieving our goals and dreams. Synchronicity and manifestation are accelerating, and our ability to achieve what we desire is at its peak.

Let's harness this energy to drive our actions and continue growing personally and professionally. Instead of viewing challenges as obstacles, let's see them as opportunities to showcase our resilience and creativity. Every step we take now can bring us closer to our objectives more swiftly and effectively.

Remember, we are at the perfect time to realize our visions. The energy is on our side, and together, as a community of coaching organizations and coaches, we have the power to transform our goals into tangible achievements.

Let's move forward with confidence and passion. The best time to act is now!

I encourage you to be more active in ACTO, the more we get involved, the more we win.

With enthusiasm and gratitude,

Virginia González-Vélez

ACTO President

ACTO NEWS

***NEW* Group Calls for Coach Training School Owners!**

We are excited to launch a series of calls to convene a mastermind of thought leaders in the coach training and organizational ownership sphere. Many thanks to Laurel Elders, MCC, CEC, for kindly offering to facilitate this series. Laurel is the CEO, Senior Faculty, and Mentor Coach at The Institute for Integrative Intelligence.

The objective of the series is to view one another as a cohesive community of collaborators dedicated to delivering exceptional service to our respective clienteles. The planned format will be quarterly 90 min calls. Participants may gain support around an opportunity or challenge they are facing.

Objectives:

- Create intimacy, connection and collaboration in attaining our unique coach training goals.
- Define excellence for ourselves and our companies.
- Spend 1 year together with a growth mindset.

Requirements:

- School/Program must be ICF accredited for at least 2 years.
- Minimum participants 6. Maximum 12.
- Live participation.

Launch Date: October 9, 2024

Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

Introducing the 2024 ACTO Scholarship Awardees

ACTO awards scholarships annually to deserving applicants who express a clear and specific intent to use their acquired coaching skills to positively impact society by working with underserved and/or historically excluded populations and have financial need. We are pleased to introduce you to this year's awardees!

Susan Nkwanzi



"I am grateful for the opportunity to pursue my coaching training on a scholarship offered by ACTO. I intend to use the skills acquired during the training to encourage women in Uganda to embrace their true selves, follow their dreams, and live authentically. I am grateful to ACTO for the great investment in my journey of transforming lives and making a difference. Thank you!"

Léna Walker



"As a Queer, Neuro-divergent (High-functioning Autistic), Woman of Colour and Single Mother, I am understanding, from one angle, what it means to have existed and to exist on intersections. I am committed to finding and creating spaces for myself and others where 'the BOTH & AND' can not only be tolerated but can also be celebrated, valid, validated, valued & valuable.

Already trained outside of the ICF programme, coaching with a Spiritually-inclusive, Mind-Body Somatic focussed lens, I plan on bridging understanding & much-needed holistic wisdoms with an ICF qualification, emphasising Social Justice & soulful liberation.

It remains an honour to identify and make opportunities to curiously and creatively explore alongside others, now also the EDI (equity, diversity, inclusion) championing organisation, ACTO. Determined are my aims of playfully, passionately and powerfully reclaiming attention, redirecting intention towards decolonising, resourcing and encouraging the recognition of our inherent connection and worth. Co-collaborating to give and receive acknowledgement, appreciation, enjoyment, fulfillment, insightful growth and community support feels joyous, important, timely and meaningful. I look forward to what is to come... With kindness, care & thanks!"

In celebration of being awarded an ACTO scholarship this year, Léna is pleased to offer four free one-hour sessions of Somatic-coaching. Anyone in the ACTO community who would like to receive one of the sessions can indicate their interest by sending a message to: ACTO@actoonline.org.

ACTO Monthly Community Conversations Calls!

We are two months into our monthly series of **ACTO Community Conversations** calls. The discussions have been engaging and thought-provoking as we think about diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and belonging through various cultural and regional lenses. The topic for discussion each month is decided by the group. These calls take place on the first Thursday of each month at noon ET. We welcome member facilitation of these calls which will allow us to offer the calls at other, possibly more convenient, times for some of our global members. Please join us on **August 1** for our next call. Feel free to invite a one-time guest to experience this ACTO member benefit. You can learn more and see the full schedule [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us! Monthly Forum

Embodying Our Authenticity: Enhancing Coaching Through Self-Mastery and Presence

Presented by:
Jennifer Herrera, MA

August 28, 2024
8:00 US PDT, 11:00 US EDT,
17:00 CEST, 20:30 IST
(90 minutes)

Free registration, CCE pending.

ACTO
Association of Coaches &
Coach Training Organizations

Register now at
actoonline.org

Embodying Our Authenticity: Enhancing Coaching Through Self-Mastery and Presence

In this engaging and experiential presentation, we will delve into the essence of authenticity in the coaching relationship, exploring how maintaining presence, active listening, and evoking awareness can transform both coaches and their clients. Through practical exercises, interactive discussions, and personal inquiry, participants will experience how they can expand and enhance their coaching effectiveness—a natural byproduct of deepening their own self-awareness and self-compassion.

We will begin by discussing the importance of authenticity and its alignment with the ICF Core Competencies. Participants will be introduced to a profound practice that fosters a deeper connection with themselves and their clients, encouraging a shift in perspective that enhances the entire coaching experience.

Next, we will explore a transformative framework for active listening that promotes deep reflection and allows clients to think for themselves. This segment will include a breakout exercise where participants will practice creating a space for genuine reflection without interruption or advice-giving, cultivating an environment where true insights can emerge.

Finally, we will focus on evoking awareness, emphasizing the significance of self-awareness in the coaching process. Coaches will be invited to engage in a practice of self-observation, designed to enhance their understanding of their own thoughts and behaviors. This practice supports ongoing personal growth and strengthens their ability to guide clients effectively.

Throughout the session, participants will engage in solo and group activities designed to apply these concepts in real-time. By the end of the presentation, they will leave with practical tools and a renewed commitment to foster authenticity in their coaching relationships.

August 28, 2024, 8:00 US PT, 11:00 US ET, 17:00 CET, 20:30 IST (90 minutes)

[Registration Link](#)



ACTO STAND

ACTO is a community of coaches and coach trainers dedicated to co-creating a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive coaching profession. Through dialogue, learning opportunities, and change initiatives, we seed coaching excellence that values diverse cultural

perspectives and eliminates bias and harm.

To read the full details of the ACTO Stand, please visit [our website](#).



VOLUNTEER WITH US

Join our committees! Volunteer with ACTO and help shape a more inclusive coaching profession. Visit our website to learn more and explore opportunities to get involved.

[Visit our Website](#)



August Multicultural Calendar

We invite you to acknowledge and explore a diversity of significant dates and cultural celebrations with us. These dates were sourced from [Diversity Resources](#). Please visit their website to learn more about each date's significance. If you have important dates from your culture that you'd like our community to learn about, please let us know!

August 9 – International Day of the World's Indigenous People

August 18 – Lord Krishna's Birthday

August 26 – Women's Equality Day

August 31 – International Day of People of African Descent

ACTO MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

We want to highlight and celebrate our members who embody the ACTO Stand for diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in their coaching practice and training. Would you or your coach training organization like to be featured in our Member Highlights section? We're looking for individuals and organizations whose stories inspire others in our community. [Reach out to us](#) to share your story!

Help Us Grow Our Community

Invite your coach friends and colleagues to join us! Share the benefits of [ACTO membership](#), including access to our informative monthly forums. They can also join our community calls as your one-time guests for a taste of what we offer. We appreciate your support in cultivating a vibrant community!



Share Your Feedback with Us!

We value your feedback. Please share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions with us at ACTO@ACTOonline.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

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