



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

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Message from the President

Virginia González-Vélez



Dear Members and Friends of ACTO,

It is an honor to address all of you as the president of ACTO, a community deeply rooted in the core values of diversity, inclusion, equity, and belonging.

With our unique paths and experiences, each of us brings an invaluable richness that strengthens and unites us in our common purpose: to elevate the art of coaching into a space where every voice is heard, respected, and valued.

We have faced challenging times that, in many cases, have tested our resilience. Yet, I want to remind you of the transformative power of the **Phoenix**, a symbol of rebirth and renewal. Just as this majestic being rises from its ashes, so too do we—individuals and as a community—emerge from challenges more vital, wiser, and united than ever. Every obstacle has allowed us to rediscover our capacity to create, learn, and grow.

May this last quarter see us continue building a space where every person feels seen, heard, and celebrated for their authentic presence. Let us continue to work so that our diversity of thought, background, and experiences remains our greatest strength and so that inclusion and equity guide each of our actions. We want to increase our membership to impact the world more.

Thank you for being part of this journey, for your commitment, and for continuing to

illuminate this space of mutual growth with your presence.

Like the Phoenix, we rise again and again, stronger and brighter, always focused on our purpose.

With appreciation and gratitude,

Virginia González-Vélez

ACTO President

ACTO NEWS

ACTO Monthly Community Conversations Calls!

Please join us on Thursday, October 3 at noon EDT for our next call The September call was another great gathering with new and returning colleagues. We look forward to another stimulating conversation in October.

Remember if you would like to facilitate an upcoming call, just let us know. With community facilitation support, we can offer these calls at times that are more convenient for some in our global community.

Again, feel free to invite a colleague to experience this ACTO member benefit. You can learn more and see the full schedule [here](#).

***NEW* ACTO Virtual Workshop on October 8th**

Please join us for this upcoming ACTO Workshop: **From Awareness to Action: Embracing Neurodiversity in Coaching**, facilitated by: Marianna Henry, MProf, ACC.

This workshop offers a basic understanding of neurodiversity, builds awareness of how neurodivergence can impact clients and coaching, and provides simple coaching adjustments and action steps to better support the success of neurodivergent clients.

As we strive for increased awareness about equity and inclusion in coaching and coach training, this workshop will provide important insight.

Date/Time:

October 8, 2024, 1:00 – 4:00 PM (EDT)

Space is limited to fifteen participants. You MUST be available to attend the workshop live. The session will be hosted through Zoom.

Cost: Members: free, Prospective Members: \$20 USD

[Register Now](#)

***REMINDER - COMING SOON* Just three spaces remaining: Group Calls for Coach Training School Owners**

On October 9th, we will be launching 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. **Please mark your calendar for this exciting new offering, and register early to save your spot.**

The objective of the series is to view one another as a cohesive community of collaborators dedicated to delivering exceptional service to our respective clientele. 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:

- Current ACTO Member (or invitation from the Board)*
- School/Program must be ICF accredited for at least 2 years.
- Minimum participants 6. Maximum 8.
- Live participation at all sessions.

Dates:

October 9th, launch, 11 am – 12:30 pm EDT

December 18th, year-end review / new year intention, 11 am – 1 pm EST

March 5th, touch point, 11 am – 12:30 pm EDT

June 18th, touch point, 11 am – 12:30 pm EDT

September 17th, wrap-up / next steps, 11 am – 12:30 pm EDT

For more information email laurel@integrativeintelligence.global.

**You can become an ACTO member and join the group.*

[Register Now](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

ACTO October Community Conversations Call

Date: October 3, 2024 Time: 12 noon EDT

[Registration Link](#)

ACTO Workshop: From Awareness to Action: Embracing Neurodiversity in Coaching

Date: October 8, 2024, 1:00 – 4:00 PM (EDT)

[Registration Link](#)

Group Calls for Coach Training School Owners

Date: October 9, 2024 Time: 11 am - 12:30 pm EDT

[Registration Link](#)

October Monthly Spanish Forum: ¿Sabemos implementar los principios de diversidad e inclusión en nuestro trabajo?

Date: 16 de octubre de 2024, 6:00 US PT, 9:00 US ET, 15:00 CET, 18:30 IST

[More information](#)

[Registration Link](#)

October Monthly English Forum: Being Intentional About Use of Self: Coaching Presence in Diverse Work Environments

Date: October 23, 2024, 8:00 US PT, 11:00 US ET, 17:00 CET, 20:30 IST (90 minutes)

[More Information](#)

[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](#)



October 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!

October 1 – Defenders of Ukraine Day

October 2-4 – Rosh Hashanah

October 3 – Latina Equal Pay Day

October 8 – World Dyslexia Day

October 10 – World Mental Health Day

October 14 – Indigenous People's Day

October 16 – International Pronouns Day

ACTO MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



Jagruti Gala, PCC

Serendipity brought me all the meaningful people, things and occurrences that have shaped and filled my life. Each time, it was an answer to a longing or a prayer that I wasn't even aware I had, till later. All I did was say an intuitive, openhearted 'yes' to whatever showed up, and then worked hard to manifest the potential.

Coaching too 'found' me, around one corner of life's lanes. I have not looked back. Today,

after a dozen years, I am many things coaching and leadership, but most of all, I am a person applying the core of coaching to her conversation with life itself. I believe that an authentic conversation is the most fundamental tool to enable transformation. For me, it is a spiritual path – for finding alignment, assuming ownership, and making choices that honour the wholeness of our existence. My internal conversation continues to evolve into greater emotional freedom. And, with that, my expression in the world also expands.

Playing several different roles of a coach, a trainer, a mentor, a coach supervisor and a non-profit leader, has given me the opportunity to work with a diverse spectrum of individuals and groups from greatly privileged to greatly marginalized, global to local. I could not be more grateful. You can imagine my joy that not only have I such a practice/path, but I can enable the same for others.

Coaching came to me a couple of years after I had started a non-profit, after school learning center for children (www.auraplace.org). I had few skills in my quiver – just the love of a young mother’s heart about what children need to thrive, and a desire to offer them a space where they could ‘transform fear into love’. When I found ‘the coaching approach’, I immediately trained all my team members with coaching skills and presence work.

Over time, that small garden with intuitively designed activities for small groups of children, has now expanded to build self-awareness and leadership capacity for children and youth from marginalized communities in and around my hometown in India. We have outreach and training programs for nearly 1500 participants each year, with an average input of 40 hours of training for everyone. We have now expanded our focus to influence systemic change by working with educators in schools and universities.

I presented at the online ACTO conference in 2021, and then served as Co-Chair for the conference the following year, and I recently joined the ACTO Board as Chair of the Education Committee. Coaching has given me so much, and ACTO is a step in my desire to give back to the field. We need a body that stands for authentic inclusion, not tokenism. I believe ACTO can move in that direction and become more!

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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