



## **Selection Criteria for Camp Widow© Presenters**

Camp Widow© is Soaring Spirits International's (SSI) signature event that provides innovative practical tools, research-informed resources, and community connections for widowed people rebuilding their lives in the aftermath of the death of a spouse or partner. To continue our legacy of excellence, we seek to develop a diverse, relevant, and engaging selection of workshops that reflect our core values of hope, inclusion, and compassion.

We're grateful to receive more speaker applications than we can accommodate, so we use a competitive process to select the best offerings for our community. Presenters are selected on a variety of criteria outlined below as well as programmatic and organizational needs. These needs change from event to event, so speakers are encouraged to apply more than once.

Priority will be given to workshop proposals that:

- Encourage campers to approach fundamental topics related to grief and resilience from a new direction or perspective. Fundamental topics include, but are not limited to:
  - Managing strong emotions
  - Finances
  - Integration of your past, present, and future
  - Coping strategies
  - Relationships
  - Self-care
  - Community connections
  - Complicated grief
  - Parenting grieving children
  - Experiential grief processing through creativity
- Contain practical "how-to" information
- Have interactive content or demonstrations
- Have clear objectives and desired goals
- Relevance to the widowed community
- Well developed outline and identification of potential challenges

Priority will be given to presenters who are widowed themselves and who demonstrate:

- Diversity (including but not limited to Age, Gender, Sexuality, Time since loss, Loss type, Race / Ethnic Background)
- Previous speaking experience
- Previous attendance at a Camp Widow© event
- Proper credentials/background to present each submitted topic

- Positive reputation and/or have received previous positive feedback from other SSI/Camp Widow© events
- Ability to speak to multiple topics and fulfill additional track/panel needs
- Leadership Team Involvement / Volunteer experience with SSI
- Flexibility with presenters' preferred camp location/event

#### Details about Presentations:

- Workshops are 75-90 minutes. It is highly encouraged that you allow time for questions, discussion and dialogue with participants attending your session.
- Presenter is responsible for bringing a laptop computer with all materials needed for the presentation. We provide a podium mic and/or LCD screen and projector. We do not provide slide advancers or adaptors for connectivity.
- Selected presenter benefits include:
  - Free event registration
  - Two nights hotel for presenters who live 60 miles or more from event location
  - Ad space in our program brochure
  - Marketing of workshop on our Camp Widow website
  - Selling of your book (if an author) in our onsite camp bookstore
- Please note: SSI does not provide an honorarium, meals outside of the event, or transportation costs.

#### Notification of Selection/Non-Selection:

Individuals who are selected for the program will be notified by email as soon as the programming is completed. This generally happens 2-3 months prior to the event.

Individuals who are not selected for the program will be notified via email approximately 2-3 weeks after the final program has been set.

We appreciate your patience as we carefully consider each application. Please let us know ASAP if your plans or availability has changed.

We are honored by your interest in sharing your expertise at Camp Widow, and grateful for your willingness to join us as a volunteer presenter. At Soaring Spirits we believe that changing the world is a team sport, and we are incredibly proud of the team we continue to build together.