



## **New Orleans Entrepreneur Week 2018 Speaker Application FAQ**

Apply now to speak in a city like no other.

The Idea Village is compiling a roster of cultural beacons, idea generators, boundary breakers, and best-in-class speakers for our New Orleans Entrepreneur Week calendar line up which is sure to be packed with plenty of insight and inspiration.

Think you have something new to say about the way entrepreneurship is shaping the way we do things? We're looking for you! Previous speaking experience is excellent, but not required. We're most interested in sparking NEW and progressive dialogues and insightful debates that will leave attendees with real-time, current information and knowledge that matters in New Orleans and beyond. Forward thinking is key here — old presentations and dated business thinking need not apply.

We're curious to hear what gets your gears turning. If you want to share your passion, insight, and expertise at NOEW, learn more about our speaker application process below.

### **What *exactly* is NOEW?**

One part conference, one part festival, NOEW (pronounced no-EE) is an annual convening that gather entrepreneurs, professionals and investors from across the Southeast to celebrate innovation, entrepreneurship and technology.

While you may learn tips to launch your next venture by day or get caught in a second line celebration by night, NOEW's core purpose is provide a hub for the region's brightest minds to connect in a city like no other.

### **When is NOEW?**

Mark your calendar — the festival will be held on **March 20-24, 2018** at the Contemporary Arts Center in New Orleans. The full calendar and festival line up will be available for RSVP in mid-January.

## **I have an awesome, inspirational and NEW conversation I'd like to contribute to NOEW! How can I speak?**

Glad you asked! Our goal is to provide a balanced suite of programs for all NOEW attendees to enjoy. For most content hosted on our stages at NOEW, we turn to thought leaders and community members like you! You can apply here:

[bit.ly/speakatNOEW2018](http://bit.ly/speakatNOEW2018).

## **What kind of session formats am I able to present?**

The core programming at NOEW is presented in a variety of 30-minute and one-hour sessions that range in topic from tactical business skills to elevating entrepreneurship and innovation through broader community conversations.

Below are examples of session formats types that could be available on the NOEW 2018 calendar lineup:

- Workshops: Provide tactical, hands-on teaching and how-to's
- Presentations (Solo + Duo): Highlight specific learnings, best practices, case studies and new innovations
- Panels: Spark critical group dialogue and conversations
- Ask Me Anything: Encourage Q+A-based, topical dialogue between speakers and attendees

## **What's the NOEW team looking for in speaker submissions?**

Our goal is to bring impactful speakers to the stage to give talks that foster learning, inspiration, wonder – and provoke critical conversations that truly matter to New Orleans and beyond.

Ideal candidates will share messages that are clear, concise, original, and fresh. We look for talks that showcase fresh approaches to solving critical community problems, challenge notions of what's possible, and highlights new research and methodologies that speak to the entrepreneur in us all. Particular areas of focus include: diversity and inclusion, raising capital, the future of New Orleans, and the next era of tech.

## **How is the NOEW team selecting and judging submissions?**

All submissions enter a rigorous review and evaluation process by The Idea Village staff once the applications close on **October 13, 2017 at 11:59 PM CST**.

Our selection criteria is based on:

- Clear, concise, and original content that has not been previously presented

- Proven expertise in proposed material
- Relevance to local and national developments in entrepreneurship and innovation

### **Where can I see past examples of NOEW sessions?**

Head over to the [NOEW.org calendar](#) to take a look at past 2017 NOEW speakers and their awesome sessions!

### **What are some things I SHOULDN'T do when applying?**

- Don't give us a sales pitch or motivational talk – while meaningful, these types of talks differ from our core focus area.
- Don't propose topics that have been seen presented time and time again.
- Don't submit a session you presented at NOEW 2017.
- Don't think your idea is a bad one – we pull inspiration from many industries, focus areas and topics.
- Don't shy away from controversial topics.
- Don't promote your personal corporate, political, or religious agendas.

### **What happens after I apply?**

After submissions close on **October 13, 2017 at 11:59 PM CST**, The Idea Village Staff will immediately begin the review and evaluation process. All speakers that have been selected to present at NOEW will be notified during the last week in November. Keep in mind that space on the NOEW calendar is limited, so even some of the best submissions may not be selected based on space availability and thematic consistency.

### **Can I apply to be a keynote speaker?**

We typically secure our keynote speakers outside of the application process. However, we like to hear from you! At NOEW, we pride ourselves on being a community platform. If you know someone that has what it takes to rock the keynote stage, [nominate them here](#).

### **Public speaking just really isn't my thing, but I know someone who could be great! What do I do?**

Don't fret! Encourage them to [submit an application](#) themselves or you can [nominate a speaker](#) that you think would be a great fit.

### **I have more questions, where can I direct them?**

Give a shout to Ambur Fusilier at [ambur@ideavillage.org](mailto:ambur@ideavillage.org)! She'll be happy to help however she can.