

Magical Journeys

A PERFORMER'S PATH TO SUCCESS

BY JOE M. TURNER



I grew up in Mississippi and attended Mississippi State, majoring in physics/chemistry education and theatre. After college, my first job took me to Atlanta, where I lived and worked for 31 years. My

amazing wife Rosemary and I moved back to West Tennessee this spring to be closer to our families. Our daughter lives with her husband near Atlanta, and our son is a senior at UT. In addition to my corporate and magic work, I have some professional musical theatre experience as a performer, director, and composer. I play the piano, sing, and compose music for various events (see memphisianist.com). I'm also an occasional backyard astronomer and a Lewis/Tolkien nerd.

I help my clients produce memorable and productive events, building connections between people, ideas, and brands. I use my management consulting and performing arts skills to help organizations deliver amazing experiences to their audiences. This takes many forms: keynoting on customer experience, hosting/emceeing conferences, and entertaining at various events. The performing arts contain valuable lessons for business leaders, educators, and other decision-makers.

My work is my best attempt to use my skills and experiences in a way that honors my gifts and God. I didn't "settle," though; I have been unbelievably fortunate!



I came to performing and speaking after legitimate theater experience and a corporate career. I've led teams and organizations and



produced events where successful outcomes were critical. Seeing, understanding, and supporting the strategic purpose of events as a team member/partner and not just as “the talent” has helped to differentiate me from many, whether I’m working for global brands or small non-profits. The success of the event is more important than my ego.

I love the challenge of finding ways to use what I do to entertain AND communicate ideas in fun and memorable ways. I enjoy seeing people break out of preconceived ideas about my art and see it in a new light. I definitely enjoy the opportunity to travel extensively and interact with a wide variety of people. Magic has taken me and my family around the world. I never expected that when I was growing up in Brandon, Mississippi.



One especially meaningful experience I had was in the summer of 2022. I was invited by a group called “Magicians on Mission” to join an Armed Forces Entertainment tour to entertain at our military bases in the Middle East. That summer, I toured multiple bases and installations in Qatar and Jordan, and it was one of the best experiences I’ve ever had as a performer. Those young service members are the most enthusiastic and appreciative audience. I continue to support MoM (magician-sonmission.org) and encourage others to contribute to them (501c3) to support future tours.

I am excited to meet and work with people and groups in Collierville and throughout greater Memphis. Beyond that, I’d love to have folks connect on my socials. All my links are here: dot.cards/turnermagic. I can be reached at (404) 644-6791.

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