# LAURIER



## Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor

"A dynamic speaker who helps make the subject of the human brain not only manageable, but interesting, exciting, and intellectually stimulation."

Time Magazine's 2008 list of 100 most influential people in the world

Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor is a trained and published neuroanatomist. Her specialty is in the postmortem investigation of the human brain as it relates to schizophrenia and severe mental illnesses. Because she has a brother who has been diagnosed with the brain disorder schizophrenia, Dr. Taylor served for three years on the Board of Directors of the National NAMI organization (National Alliance on Mental Illness) between 1994- 1997. Currently she serves as President of the Greater Bloomington Affiliate of NAMI in Bloomington, Indiana.

Because there is a long term shortage of brain tissue donated for postmortem research by individuals diagnosed with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder, Dr. Taylor travels as the National Spokesperson for the Mentally Ill for the Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Centre (Harvard Brain Bank) located at McLean Hospital. As the Singin' Scientist, Dr. Taylor delivers this very popular keynote address titled "How to Get Your Brain To Do What You Want It To Do".

But as irony would have it, on December 10, 1996, Dr. Taylor woke up to discover that she was experiencing a rare form of stroke, an arterio-venous malformation (AVM). Two and a half weeks later on December 27, 1996, she underwent major brain surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital to remove a gold ball size blood clot that was placing pressure on the language centers in the left hemisphere of her brain.

It took eight years for Dr. Taylor to successfully rebuild her brain – from the inside out. In response to the swelling and trauma of the stroke, which placed pressure on her dominant left hemisphere, the functions of her right hemisphere blossomed. Among other things, she now creates and sells unique stained glass brains when commissioned to do so. In addition, she published a book about her recovery from stroke and the insights she gained into the working of her brain. The New York Time bestselling memoir is titled *My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey*.

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She was a 37-year-old Harvardtrained brain scientist when a blood vessel exploded in her brain. Jill Bolte Taylor talks with Oprah about how she watched her own mind completely deteriorate, and about the spiritual metamorphosis she experienced after.

Watch, listen, or download the interview on Oprah.com.





#### **Audience:**

200 people including WLU and UW faculty, staff, students and alumni, the KW Community, faculty, staff and students from other area universities and the medical communities at hospitals in London, Hamilton and Toronto.

#### Date:

Tuesday October 18, 2011

#### Location:

Communitech Hub 151 Charles St. W. Kitchener, The Tannery

### Time:

7:30 - 8:30 pm "How to Get Your Brain To Do What You Want It To Do"

### **Sponsorship Opportunities:**

\$1,000 - \$10,000

## **Sponsorship Recognition Opportunities**

- Corporate logo listed as sponsor in printer program and promotional posters
- Complimentary tickets to the event
- Public acknowledgement by Emcee in opening words
- Acknowledgement in WLU Campus Updates