



# CAPITOL CITY SPEAKERS BUREAU

*We help you thrill your audience!*

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## Jonathan Edison, M.Ed.

*Travels from:* Michigan

*Fee Range:* \$7,501 - \$10,000

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Electricity. Creativity. Innovation. The same words synonymous with the famous Thomas Edison of Menlo Park are equally valid when describing one of the most compelling thought leaders and voices in motivational business speakers today: Jonathan Edison. Armed with vision, a mission to inspire and a powerful story, Jonathan has already taught more than 500,000 people the life-changing principles of how to Make Your Own Magic.

Growing up in an environment that was a prescription for failure, young John John-his grandmother's affectionate nickname for him-faced many hardships.

Although love generously bestowed by his parents and grandmother was a constant factor in his early years, Jonathan's childhood was extremely difficult. After exposing him to drugs and violence, his mother was removed from the household by the Department of Social Services when he was seven years old. Two years later Jonathan's father left to start a new family on another side of town. The grandmother that took over his upbringing died suddenly when he was 14.

Now homeless, Jonathan was forced to take up residence in his aunt's basement. To afford the \$50.00 a month in rent and his portion of the electric bill, he worked a full-time job as a dishwasher/bus boy at Chili's Grill and Bar in the evenings and on weekends. He became a father at 15, graduated from high school with a 1.63 grade point average and completed his first year of college with a 0.62 GPA before dropping out completely.

He made his own magic. Instead of becoming another statistic, Jonathan found the magic he needed within himself to rise above adversity. He enrolled in remedial classes at Wayne County Community College. In 1993, Jonathan graduated with an associate's degree as a part of the Urban Teacher Program. In 1995 Jonathan continued his education at Wayne State University, earning a bachelor's and a master's degree in only. During college, Jonathan worked as a bus attendant, waiter, gas station attendant and often slept in his car so that he could hold down his jobs and attend classes.

After teaching for four years, at age 27 Jonathan became the youngest assistant principal in the history of Detroit Public Schools. In 2002, he was named Wayne County Spokesman for Success. Then, along with hundreds of other dedicated educators, Jonathan was fired. Once again, he made his own magic. With no savings, clients or plan, in 2004 he launched Edison Speaks International, a motivational and training development company. Since then Jonathan has authored four books, spoken in 40 states and has inspired and motivated more than 500,000 people to make their own magic in life.

### *Most Requested Programs...*

- Make Your Own Magic
- Make Your Own Sales Magic
- It Takes Teamwork to Make the Dreamwork
- How To Stay Motivated in Challenging Times
- 360 Degree Magical Leadership
- Speaking Savvy