

Madonna King

Journalist, Author, Commentator, Speaker & MC

Madonna King is an award-winning journalist and the voice of current affairs in Queensland. She is also a respected commentator and the author of biographies on community leaders that include Joe Hockey and Ian Frazer.

Madonna is in demand as an MC and compere for an enormously diverse range of events, from medical conferences and legal hypotheticals to community summits and charity events. A gifted speaker, she is regularly asked to address audiences on issues that range from the future of the media, and the current political climate to the state of popular opinion in Australia and life as a busy working mum.



Madonna writes for the Sydney Morning Herald Good Weekend magazine, and her weekly column, *That Thinking Feeling*, appears on Brisbane Times each Thursday. Previously, she wrote a popular Saturday column for Brisbane's The Courier-Mail, *madonna and girl*.

She has regularly appeared on breakfast television, as well as having spent many years in the Canberra press gallery reporting and interpreting politics.

A fellow of the prestigious World Press Institute, Madonna has served as a visiting fellow at the Queensland University of Technology, and on the Walkley Advisory Board for Journalism. She has completed a Diploma in Company Directorships, through the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is on three not-for-profit boards.

With over 20 years' experience across newspapers, radio and television, Madonna is a sought-after facilitator, Master of Ceremonies and speaker. Thinking on her feet in an interview with the prime minister, calming the anger of a talkback caller or interviewing leading CEOs are skills she has used to advantage in traveling around Australia moderating hypotheticals or facilitating conferences on topics as varied as leadership, education, politics, business, resources, the law, tourism and the environment.

Long experience in the media and politics allows Madonna to provide a fascinating yet entertaining keynote about what goes on behind-the-scenes in politics and the decision-making process.

Client testimonials

“ Madonna conducted two hypotheticals for our local government managers’ conference in Yeppoon. They were excellent - providing serious content in an entertaining, engaging and fun way. Madonna flawlessly researched the issues, contacting all speakers beforehand, and her journalistic rigour, ability to think on the spot and dose of good humour meant the session was also full of valuable lessons. We’d certainly recommend her.

- **LGMA**

“ In her role as Master of Ceremonies, for the largest event on the API calendar, Madonna brings an exceptional level of professionalism and enthusiasm... I would not hesitate in referring someone to Madonna King when looking for a Master of Ceremonies.

- **Australian Property Institute**

“ ... Madonna kept the guests entertained with stories of journalism, lightly poking fun at the powers that be, and taking us inside what happens when a big story breaks. We laughed and were spellbound. I found Madonna an absolute delight when organising the event. Thanks to Madonna the Medical Equipment required was purchased. What a wonderful person. I only wish we had a few more people like Madonna King.

- **Betty McGrath OAM**

“ The St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland has been delighted to work with Madonna King for our annual Vinnies CEO sleepout event over the past two years. She worked closely with our event team to deliver a professional, successful and enjoyable event. Her natural ability to engage with an audience of high level business, community and government leaders kept the night flowing, and her facilitation skills brought out the best of all the speakers. Madonna was an absolute pleasure to work with, and we look forward to working with her again.

- **St Vincent de Paul**

“ Madonna is a true professional. She understood our panel topic with minimal explanation, conducted thorough research and proposed an interview format which matched our brief perfectly. Her presence was well received by panel and audience members and was a key factor in the success of our event. High Distinction.

- **QUT Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering**

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