**Long Bio**

A native New Yorker raised in old Harlem, Gisele is a TEDx speaker on networking and relationship building. Gisele takes the fear out of networking and offers practical, easy to implement ideas to network your way to your 'next.' Her speaking engagements have focused in the areas of networking, leadership, and women in the workplace.

Professionally, she is an operations executive who makes organizations hum.   Her career focused on turning around departments, divisions, and entire organizations where improving financial performance, enhancing operational efficiency, and reversing failed relationships were the goalposts in various industries, including healthcare, commercial real estate, telecom, and non-profit.

Gisele currently serves as the COO of NPWR (pronounced N-Power), a networking app in the development phase.   Recently she was the General Manager of the $120M Asset Management Services business at Thermo Fisher Scientific.  Prior, Gisele assumed her first non-profit role as Chief Operating Officer of the St. Louis Regional Chamber, one of the top 10 revenue generating Chambers in the country.  She spent 13 years in commercial real estate/facility management outsourcing business between Johnson Controls (a Fortune 250 company) and Cushman & Wakefield in several roles, including operationally leading an $800M Financial Services segment globally and an expatriate assignment in South Africa.  Gisele boldly welcomed and actively sought new challenges to blaze her trail.  Early in her career at Ameritech (currently AT&T), she was part of a $1B strategic growth initiative to expand market presence into urban communities.

Her speaking audience consists of national organizations such as the Association of Chamber Executives, National Sales Network, and Syracuse University.   Globally she has been a keynote speaker for Autodesk, the software company, and Amalgamated Banks of South Africa ($100B in assets).  Gisele's features were in the Huffington Post, Black Enterprise, the Milwaukee Business Journal, and the St. Louis Business Journal.  Local organizations that have experienced her speaking power include RISE Collaborative, UCAN, and the Washington DC/Baltimore and Los Angeles Chapters of the National Sales Network.

A lover of international travel, her favorite continent is Africa, where she has explored 11 countries.     She is passionate about the plight of parentless children, those who are wards of the State, where she has spent two decades volunteering her time.

Gisele is known to deliver knowledge, inspiration, and customization to her talks while sharing essential insights on industry trends and practical tips for her audiences.

Along with her professional accolades, Gisele demonstrates a commitment to civic leadership and received local and national recognition.  They include:

* Radio One - “Phenomenal Woman” Award, March 2019
* St. Louis Small Business Monthly – “Wonder Woman Award”, June 2019
* Appointment by the Governor of the State of Missouri to the “Complete Count Committee” a census initiative ensuring inclusion of those traditionally underrepresented, Spring 2019
* Child & Family Institute (adoption agency) – Board Member & Treasurer, 2015- present
* Black Repertory Theatre – Board Chair, 2019
* Chancellor’s Citation Award, Syracuse University – Excellence in Global Business Management, September 2014
* Huffington Post – featured in article “From Harlem to Harvard, Meet Gisele Marcus”, January 25, 2011
* Black Enterprise Magazine – featured in cover story article “Your Career is in Your Hands’, July 2010

Last, but not least, Gisele is an advocate for voiceless children who are within foster care/adoption programs.   A lover of international travel, her favorite continent is Africa where she has explored 11 countries.