

Christopher O'Shaughnessy

Christopher O'Shaughnessy is a passionate and versatile speaker, comedian, and author who uses a unique blend of story-telling, humor, and provocative insight to engage in the transient world of the international community. Chris specializes in working with Third Culture Kids (TCKs) who are broadly defined as young people who have spent all or a portion of their developmental years in a culture other than their parents' culture.



Chris' book, *Arrivals, Departures and the Adventures In-Between*, has received high praise from students, teachers, and other experts in the TCK and international community as a resource that is both enjoyable to read at a student level, and able to instill truths, insights and skills essential to navigating life successfully as a TCK.

"Once, down a dark alleyway, a struggling TCK bumped into a mysterious Zen master, a grinning comedian, and an author of thrillers. That alleyway and those personas reside at O'Shaughnessy's center... His tales make the theory live. Get ready to grab your seat to steady your heart, and to avoid falling over with laughter." – Douglas W Ota Author of Safe Passage: What Mobility Does to People & What International Schools Should Do About It

"I wish this book had been written when I was younger." – Ruth E. Van Reken Co-author, Third Culture Kids: Growing Up Among Worlds

A variety of audiences respond to Chris' engaging presentations ranging from pre-teens to adults across the globe – crowds large and small are drawn to Chris' disarming humor and challenging insight into a global people group he is proud to be a part of and committed to see excel.

"Chris O'Shaughnessy spoke to our students and parents this fall and I would highly recommend him for all audiences... He was very well informed on all aspects of the subject of 'third culture kids,' was a superb speaker, humorous at the right times and in appropriate ways, and always able to get the key points across. Chris also did a very nice job of tailoring his presentations for younger students (middle school), older students (high school) and parents. The information he presented was very relevant to each audience. I received rave reviews from all groups he presented to – students, faculty, and parents." – Gary Melton, Mont Kiara International School (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

Often possessing astute and adaptable skills, many TCKs also face unique challenges. As the world continues to change rapidly, the TCK experience gains validity as more than an interesting way of life – but a culture already wrestling with issues growing in relevance to society as a whole. TCKs are distinctly positioned to interact in and shape a global platform in which they are especially at home.

Born in England as a military brat to American parents, Chris has lived and worked across the globe and to date has ventured to more than 100 countries. Tales from these experiences form part of the fabric of Chris' engaging presentation and have helped shape Chris' passion for helping the youth of the international community grasp their distinctive cultural heritage, navigate the challenges presented by a multifaceted and uniquely transient lifestyle and realize the benefits they bring to an ever-globalizing world. Chris studied at Ridley Hall, Cambridge in the UK for a degree in partnership through Oxford Brookes University in Youth & Community Work & Applied Theology.

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Speaker's Bio