



*Sylvie Légère*

CIVIC LEADER.  
SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR.  
ADVOCATE FOR WOMEN.

# A Spark who Ignites the Potential in Others



**Visionary and philanthropist** Sylvie Légère is laser-focused on developing innovative solutions that unite people for the common good and advance the next generation of change makers. An entrepreneur and nonprofit founder, Sylvie's passion for women's empowerment and inclusion was motivated by her own experiences stepping out of her comfort zone to seize opportunities.

Sylvie has more than 20 years of experience working in roles in technology, process, and change management at Fortune 500 companies in the United States and Canada including Accenture, JP Morgan Chase, and TD Ameritrade. An avid cyclist, she was the co-owner of the Higher Gear Bike Shops in Chicago's North Shore (which she later sold) and co-founded Foov Fitness, an app that uses immersive technology to help people with intellectual disabilities stay physically active.

Her firm commitment to civic engagement and desire to equip women from all backgrounds with the resources, tools, and information they need to stay active and engaged in public policy dialogue led to her co-founding The Policy Circle ([thepolicycircle.org](http://thepolicycircle.org)). A nonprofit, non-partisan organization that now includes 323 circles in 42 states, The Policy Circle educates women about public policy issues through round-table discussions and fact-based research, enabling them to confidently use their voices to engage in policy making. Through her work with The Policy Circle, which serves as a leadership incubator, Sylvie is helping inform, inspire, and develop female civic leaders across the nation.

Deeply committed to economic and leadership development, Sylvie is a member of the Economic Club of Chicago,

the Chicago Club, American Enterprise Institute National Council and a board member of Solve.is, an online platform that connects job seekers living in disenfranchised communities with the resources they need to overcome barriers to employment. Additionally, Sylvie has collaborated with the National Urban League (Quad County affiliate) and the Minority Business Development Agency, which promotes the growth and expansion of minority-owned businesses, to contribute toward the development of women leaders of color. Girls Inc. of Chicago has recognized Sylvie as a role model for the next generation of young female leaders.

A firm believer in education and providing accessible opportunities, Sylvie serves on advisory committees of Woodlands Academy and Opportunity Education, a nonprofit that has invested more than \$70 million to improve educational outcomes for children around the globe. Her other civic commitments include serving on the boards of the Bradley Impact Fund, which has given to more than 2,000 organizations nationwide and the Chicago Cubs Charities, which has provided more than \$20 million since its inception to support charitable organizations across the Chicagoland area.

Sylvie earned a bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems from the University of Ottawa and a master's in Computer Science from Northwestern University. A healthy living advocate, Sylvie enjoys running, camping, and traveling with her husband Todd Ricketts and their three children.



## A Commitment to Civic Engagement

As the co-founder of The Policy Circle, Sylvie helps to bring together women in the same community to learn from fact-based research and strengthen their voices in public policy dialogue. By coming together and deepening their understanding of the issues that women face in their communities, their states, and the nation, they feel heard, validated, and energized to come up with ways to influence policy.

While it is a non-profit, non-partisan group, it firmly believes that public policy should foster creativity in an open economy and the government should spend tax dollars responsibly. The Policy Circle calls a true on divisive social issues.

"I've met some amazing women and we've had some terrific bipartisan discussions on some weighty issues."  
Janet Burt, Circle Leader

MORE THAN  
**300**  
CIRCLES

**42**  
STATES



# Seen and Heard

## **"Big Problems Require Bigger Vision"**

Interview, Ditch Digger CEO with Gary Rabine

## **"Governor Pritzker: Hear Our Stories, Save Our Communities"**

Op-ed, "Make It Better" Magazine

## **Whitney's Women**

Interview, The Whitney Reynolds Show

## **Civil Discourse: The Policy Circle Model Presentation, Eisenhower Women Series**

## **"A Conversation with Sylvie Legere"**

Interview, *She Said She Said* with Laura Cox Kaplan

## **"How to Advocate Like a Woman"**

Interview, *Step Up* with Ellen Troxclair

## **International Circle Discussion**

*WE Lead Scholars*

George W. Bush Presidential Center

## **"Fire-Side Chat Interview with Sylvie"**

2019 Annual Women's Empowerment Summit  
Quad City Urban League

## **"Under the Spotlight: Enterprising Women of Color"**

Panel Moderator

Minority Business Development Agency  
National Stakeholder Summit

## **2020 Annual Luncheon Speaker and Awardee**

*Girls Inc. of Chicago*

## **"Using Your Voice To Ignite Creativity and Change"**

Interview, Next Level Brand Behavior  
with Lindrea Reynolds



## **"What is the Policy Circle"**

Women's Democracy Network  
International Republican Institute

## **Women Leading Series**

Guest Speaker, Teneo

## **"A Discussion on the Coronavirus"**

The Situation Room with Evan Baehr  
Podcast Interview

## **"A Policy Circle Discussion"**

Speaker

State Policy Network 28th Annual Meeting

## **THE CIVIC LEADER** *with Sylvie Legere*

Sylvie's new podcast (Fall 2020 launch) offers unbiased fact based information that acts as a starting point for listeners to get involved with and make a larger positive impact on their communities.

Each episode of The Civic Leader goes beyond the headlines to bring you facts and data points that will help you understand the role of business, government and its citizens in the quest to improve and solve society's greatest challenges.



# Speaking and Workshop Topics

**Sylvie's collaborative and empowering approach invites participants to take immediate action in their personal lives and their communities.**

## **Stepping Out of Your Comfort Zone** **60 minute Presentation | 15 minute Keynote**

Throughout her career, Sylvie has taken on a variety of positions that were traditionally held by men. According to a 2018 New York Times article, the number of women who worked in male-dominated industries (at least two-thirds male) increased by 5% between 2016 and 2018. As the number of women who move into male-dominated occupations increases, women may experience a variety of challenges as they navigate historically male-dominated workplace cultures.

### **Learning objectives:**

- > Identify ways to push past discomfort and get out of your proverbial comfort zones.
- > Maximize your present opportunities by moving past Impostor Syndrome and overcome self-sabotaging thoughts
- > Identify ways for Introverts to increase their visibility

## **Springboard To Influence** **60 minute Presentation | 15 minute Keynote**

Networking is one of the most valuable skills that a leader may possess. Creating and maintaining relationships is critically important to creating greater brand visibility, opening doors for new opportunities and partnerships, and firmly establishing oneself as a thought leader.

### **Learning objectives:**

- > Learn to communicate effectively to nurture relationships
- > Identify ways to share your value to new audiences

## **Civil Discourse: Conquering the Fear of Conflict** **60 minute Presentation | 15 minute Keynote |** **90 minute Roundtable Workshop**

A 2019 study by Weber Shandwick found that 93% of Americans said there was a civility problem in the United States. However, leaders should not avoid having difficult conversations in the hopes of avoiding or minimizing conflict. In fact, exchanges between people from diverse backgrounds and varying perspectives will help contribute toward the growth and development of all parties involved.

### **Learning objectives:**

- > Learn to create an inclusive, welcoming environment that invites diverse perspectives
- > Empower leaders to firmly establish rules of engagement that emphasize and require courteous and fair treatment
- > Learn to apply The Policy Circle's signature roundtable discussion model to your next team meetings. Learn to effectively develop solutions to some of your organization's most complex concerns.

**Sylvie is also a sought after panel moderator for initiatives empowering women and girls.**

# Testimonials

"I want to say thank you for creating a platform where we can learn, feel a little more empowered and confident to reach out to others who want to share their voice, discuss sensitive topics without fear while staying fact-based and spend purpose-filled time with friends (and people who will become friends)!!!!"

**Stacy S., Texas**

"Sylvie is so passionate. She is doing great things for society and for the future of our world."

**Gary Rabine**  
Ditch Ditchers Podcast

"Sylvie is empowering and giving women the tools they need to step up."

**Ellen Troxclair**  
Author, **STEP UP**

*Are you ready to activate your voice?*

**Book Sylvie for your next event.**

Contact: [sylvie@activechaos.com](mailto:sylvie@activechaos.com)



**Connect with Sylvie on Social Media**



To Learn more about  
The Policy Circle visit

[www.thepolicycircle.com](http://www.thepolicycircle.com)