

# Insight on Coaching – Guest Bio

*Laura McGann, The Clarion Group*

## Introduction

Laura McGann is a partner and leadership coach with The Clarion Group, an advisory firm focused on supporting senior leaders through organizational transformation and complex challenges in the areas of strategy, infrastructure, and behavior. With offices in West Hartford, CT and Seattle, WA, The Clarion Group works internationally across industries and with organizations ranging from non-profits to Fortune 50.

Laura is particularly excited to be included in the program Generational Coaching due to her age, 30, and her evolving focus on coaching leaders within her client organizations. Like many in her generation, Laura is driven to align her work with her 'whole self' and to help others also creating meaning at work. Her professional background complements her innate ability to work with senior leaders exploring and answering key questions on their leadership and business.

## Experience

Similar to her partners at Clarion, Laura paved a unique path to the advisory and coaching work she is doing today:

- Perpetually ping-ponging between her two passions of business and art, Laura transferred from a business management program to a fine art program, graduating at the dawn of the dot.com era in Boston, MA.
- Laura's first insight into the role of coach and trusted advisor was in her first job out of college as a personal and executive assistant to dot.com entrepreneur.
- As part of this entrepreneur's "first team," she gained expertise leading organizational project including a corporate re-branding campaign; due diligence and internal communications for an IPO; M&A deals; and real estate negotiations. Upon departing the original company with this entrepreneur, she joined the founding leadership team that co-launched over 22 technology-leveraged ventures by way of Boston's first venture-funded business Incubator.
- When the funding ran out, she attended business school with the intention of deepening her leanings from the dot.com era and launching a new career. Resulting from a summer internship with The Clarion Group, Laura actualized her desired to integrate her love of business, foundations in creativity, and fascination with human behavior into a role that is deeply connected to her sense of mission and purpose in life.

## Education & Certifications

- M.B.A., Strategy and Organizational Behavior, Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland
- B.F.A., The New England School of Art & Design at Suffolk University, Boston, MA
- Graduate, Co-Active Coaching, The Coaches Training Institute (*credentialing exam upcoming*)
- Graduate, Co-Active Leadership Program, The Coaches Training Institute
- Certified Practitioner, Herrmann Brain Dominance Instrument and Management Research Group, LEA 360°

## Professional Affiliations, Publications and Recognition

- Member, The International Coach Federation
- Board Member, YMCA Camp Woodstock
- *Values Based Networking*, The Inquiry, Coaches Training Institute, November 2005.
- *Business Incubators*, NPR Morning Edition, January 2000.