Thomson Dawson Keynote Speakers Brief

The Creative Life in a Changing World

We make the path as we walk the path.

Ideal for: Creative conferences, arts and music organizations, professional associations, and audiences navigating career transitions or a new chapter in life.

An open, thoughtful, and occasionally lighthearted conversation about creativity, uncertainty, and building a life that remains your own.



A 45-minute keynote for creative people navigating an uncertain world.

What does it mean to build a creative life – not simply to make a living from your creativity, but to build a life in which creativity can flourish.



About Thomson Dawson

Thomson Dawson has spent more than four decades working at the intersection of creativity and business. He built and led a corporate communications and design firm for 37 years and has continued to explore new forms of creative expression through songwriting, music production, writing, and speaking. His perspective comes not from having figured it all out, but from a lifelong willingness to keep learning, making, and asking what comes next.

For anyone pursuing a life in art, design, writing, music, or entrepreneurship, the questions are familiar. How do I make a good living? Will my work find an audience? And what happens when the path I imagined doesn't lead where I expected?

After four decades of making a living through creativity – as a designer, entrepreneur, strategist, writer, songwriter, and music producer –Thomson Dawson has learned that building a creative life requires more than achieving professional success. It's about discovering what matters to you, finding your own reasons to create, and continuing to make the path as you walk it.

Because your greatest creative achievement may not be a bestseller, a celebrated career, or a lucrative business. It may be simply the life you've built around the work you love to do.

Audiences will gain insight on:

Success on your own terms: What does a well-lived creative life look like beyond recognition and external validation?

The value of making: How can the joy and meaning of creating endure regardless of the outcome?

Finding your own path: How do you keep moving when there is no established roadmap?

The next chapter: How can experience, curiosity, and a willingness to begin again open new creative possibilities.

For Booking Information Email:

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“Thomson’s talks don’t just inform, they transform. He draws from deep experience to ignite new ideas and confidence in everyone he speaks to. Leaders walk away inspired, equipped, and ready to make meaningful change.”

Corey Hart
Startup Grind Global Chapter Director of the Year
Investor & Advisor

” When you combine great depth of experience, vision far ahead of most in our industry and disciplined thinking with a can do positive attitude, the result is always positive. Highly recommend Thomson if you want to get ahead and stay ahead”.

Marc Romano
Managing Partner, FirstPrinciple
Business Services

“Thomson built instant rapport and trust with our communications team and brilliantly guided our discussion in his strategic workshop on strategies for effective communication with our consumer segments”.

MJ Beckman
Senior Leader, Marketing Communications
ThedaCare Inc.
Healthcare System

“Thomson is a rare breed! He is a gifted and talented creative professional and inspiring speaker. I would highly recommend him to anyone who wants to take their business to the next level!”

Roger Gould
Founder and President
Gould Design Inc
Graphic Design Agency

