

GIRLVOICE™
MEETS



Thought Partnership Program

An integrated coaching program to help you further develop your platform, purpose, presence, and impact—in writing as in life.

Hello and Welcome!

Warm congrats on your commitment to grow your writing, thought leadership, and public voice.

General information about how I work as a coach is posted here on my website, www.girlmeetsvoice.com.

And here's a little bit more:

Writing and thought leadership coaching is about your voice, but it's also about you as a whole person: your values, goals, work, balance, fulfillment, dreams, and sense of purpose. I work with highly motivated people to develop their own definition of success. Together, we design a plan that is specific to your needs, aspirations, and niche.

Once an engagement begins, our initial appointment, the "Discovery Session," jumpstarts our coaching partnership and the current engagement. During this first session, scheduled for an hour and a half, we'll design our working alliance and determine how we'll work together, both virtually and in-person. You'll let me know how you wish to be coached and I'll tell you about the tools and structures I bring to our work. In addition, you'll educate me about who you are, what I'm to understand about your vision, and what you wish for in the realm of public voice. As part of this process, I'll send you "homework" questions to mull before we meet.

During the subsequent hour-long coaching sessions, we'll focus each time on a topic of your choosing, creating actions and accountability as we go. I often co-create and brainstorm alongside my clients during our sessions, and I bring an editorial eye to anything you'd like eyes on in between our sessions as well.

My general approach as a coach is threefold:

- to be intentionally focused on providing access to possibility in achieving your goals
- to guide you to your own insights and help you achieve clarity about your ideas
- to show you how to bring ideas into public discourse through channels we will mutually identify

I'm passionate about helping my clients further develop their writing, platform, presence, and impact.

Rates and policies are below.

If I can support you in your choice to focus time and energy on your public voice, let's set up a call to explore our fit.

To your voice,

Deborah

About Your Coach-in-Chief

Deborah Siegel-Acevedo, PhD ACC established GIRL MEETS VOICE, INC. to help lift the voices of those with needed messages and the desire to be heard. She brings to this work a background in narrative studies and a special interest in amplifying under-represented voices in public spaces. After more than a decade as a content consultant for social enterprise and nonprofit organizations in New York City, Deborah trained and became a certified coach through the International Coach Federation. She currently works with leaders, experts, writers, and some of the nation's most innovative thinkers, helping those with powerful insights put their best public selves forward in the service of their brightest ideas. Mentor, champion, writing coach, and guide, Deborah herself is a TEDx speaker and the author of two books (*Sisterhood, Interrupted*, with Palgrave Macmillan, and *Only Child*, with Random House). Her work has been featured in venues including The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Guardian, Harvard Business Review, CNN.com, Slate, The Huffington Post, Ms., More, and Psychology Today. She is currently an Adjunct Professor at DePaul University and a Visiting Scholar at Northwestern University.

Learn more at www.girlmeetsvoice.com (private coaching site) and www.deborahsiegelphd.com (author site), and at her new online course site, www.boldvoicecollaborative.com.

Nice Things People Say

I have never worked with anyone so gifted at bringing out the best in the people she works with. Whether it's coaching a journalist through her first public-speaking engagement, guiding a CEO through a transition in his career, or articulating 'the vision thing' for a thought-leader in a way that is both personally transformative and intellectually compelling, Deborah Siegel does nothing short of changing people's lives. I should know; she changed mine. –**Kamy Wicoff, LA Times Bestselling Author/Founder of She Writes**

A number of years ago when I decided it was time to get my voice out there I called Deborah. On our very first day she helped me craft an oped which was accepted on the Huffington Post. Since then I have written over 600+ personal blog entries and dozens of published articles. **She is exceptionally talented in helping her clients tap in to their authentic voice and expertise.** In addition Deborah is so wonderful to work with. Every moment with her is a pleasure. –**Jacki Zehner, President/CEO of Women Moving Millions**

I was at a turning point in life, having just retired from a long career as an educator and administrator. I was toying with the idea of returning to my love of writing, but I had no idea how to do it. Luckily for me, I met Deborah Siegel. She is a talented and inspiring writer and the most patient and empathic coach I could have found. Her enthusiasm and good humor are infectious. **Working with Deborah has been pure joy.** –**Laurie Levy, Advocate/Educator/Blogger**

Deborah Siegel is, quite simply, the best writing coach I've ever had. In addition to being open, compassionate, incisive, and smart, she is one of the most inspiring people I know. If you work with Deborah, be prepared to change not only your writing, but your life. She's that good. –**Christina Baker Kline, New York Times Bestselling Author**

It felt like I'd been leaning on that door for months and it finally opened. *Thank you* for being the woman behind the scenes – mirroring, supporting, inspiring. **How amazing are you?? I thank my lucky stars I found you...** –**Tucker Malarkey, Author**

I left our coaching session this morning feeling like I had good clarity of vision about what to do next. So, thank you also for bringing your whole levels 1, 2 and 3 to the coaching, for fully showing up and holding the coaching space, and for doing such a beautiful job letting me lead the way but also weighing in brilliantly. –**Dana Shavin, Author/Coach**

Coaching Rates, Policies, and Practices

Thought Partnership Package

My basic program, the Thought Partnership Package, includes 12 coaching sessions as detailed below, plus additional features:

- **1 Discovery Session** arranged at your convenience (**90 minutes**)
- **11 Regular Coaching Sessions** arranged at your convenience, ideally scheduled every other week (**1 hour each**)
- **Optional Editorial Review (up to 2 hours between sessions)**, in which either I or a Girl Meets Voice editor read your work in between our live coaching sessions and then I share and process big-picture thoughts with you at our next live session. I send written edits over email ahead of time only on time-sensitive material.
- **Spot Coaching and Emails** on submission protocols, process, and other brief questions. I make every effort to respond to all such communications within 24 hours after I receive your query.

Fee:

\$9,300 (corporate rate) | \$7,440 (individuals and nonprofits)

I accept payment in two installments. The first installment is due upon signing and the second is due at the midway point.

You can always add a coaching session (\$275/hour) or extra hours of editorial review (\$175/hour), which will be billed monthly.

At the end of your Thought Partnership Package, you may decide to renew for another, or pursue coaching with me through my Thought Booster Package.

Thought Booster Monthly Package

My Booster Monthly Package is only available to those who have completed a Thought Partnership Package and is renewable as many times as you wish. It includes:

- **2 Regular Coaching Sessions**
- **Optional Editorial Review (up to 2 hours)** between sessions
- **Spot Coaching and Emails** (as above)

Fee: \$1,500 (due in full at the start)

Please note: I accept a limited number of clients on the Thought Partnership and Thought Booster Packages in any given month, in order to give each my all.

The sooner you know that you'd like to renew or continue, please let me know so I can save you the spot.

Answers to FAQs

I know you've got questions. I've got answers.

Length of commitment and frequency of sessions: Ideally, a six-month commitment with sessions scheduled every other week allows for creative intensity and momentum. It also allows time for our relationship to develop and space for real work to unfold. After completing the initial Thought Partnership Package, we will both have a sense of your flow and can tailor how we work together to best meet your needs.

Format for sessions: Each coaching "session" (after the Discovery Session) is one hour (Zoom or phone). With advance notice, a double session can be booked on a single day, for a deeper dive. During each session, we'll establish a specific topic/agenda for that day's coaching, work toward a desired outcome for the session, articulate your very next step(s), design tailored "homework," and help keep you accountable.

Locale for live sessions: Virtual, via Zoom or phone. I'm based in the Chicago area and have an office in The Garland Building in the Loop (111 N. Wabash, Suite 1734), where, pre-pandemic, I coached face-to-face, and hope to return to once again for those who work with me locally.

Billing: An invoice for the first installment of the Thought Partnership Package will be sent after the contract is signed and the first appointment is scheduled. An invoice for the second installment will be sent at the midway point. Payment for the Thought Booster Monthly Package is due in full upon scheduling the first of the two sessions. Girl Meets Voice, Inc. accepts checks and credit cards. We can keep credit card or bank information on file. When paying by check, please make out to Girl Meets Voice, Inc.

Cancellation policy: With 24 hours notice, we can reschedule the session for another time that same calendar month. With less than 24 hours notice, or if we are not able to reschedule during that calendar month, I do charge, as a late cancellation means someone else was not able to book the slot.

Fulfillment of sessions: I work a limited number of clients on these packages at any one time, in order to give everyone my all. To assist with planning, and to keep in momentum and creative flow, I ask that you keep to the meeting rhythm and frequency that we together agree upon, and that you book your sessions in advance. If you need to postpone a session or sessions, you may reschedule them *within the same calendar year*. If postponed sessions aren't rebooked by the end of the calendar year, however, clients forfeit those sessions. (Note: It is always possible to book a double session, to catch up, and to allow for a deeper dive. Or to bundle sessions for an individual retreat!)

Spot coaching on submission questions: Spot coaching via email on quick questions is included in all monthly packages. While some questions related to the protocol for submitting pieces for publication may seem simple, there are not always simple yes or no answers. As a policy, we prefer to answer more complex questions during our coaching sessions, to allow for greater learning and exchange.

Editorial review: You can always send us a larger chunk of pages and say, "just hone in on pages x-y." We can offer you developmental edits, line edits, or both. A page is 250 words. Any manuscript you send us should be double-spaced, using 12-point type, with page numbers and your name in the header or footer. To give you a sense, during a one-hour editorial review, we can provide:

- Developmental edits (ie "big picture" comments on issues such as structure, idea, voice, pacing, genre) on 15-30 pages, depending on the level at which you'd like me to read, OR:
- Line edits (ie everything from spelling, punctuation, and grammar to word choice, continued idea development, and flow) on 10 pages

You may request a developmental edit, revise accordingly, and then send back to us for line edits when the work feels ready for polish.

Turnaround time for short, time-sensitive pieces: When working with you on a short time-sensitive piece (up to 4 double-spaced pages -- 1,000 words or less), we will respond with edits via email quickly (within 24-48 hours). Please plan ahead. We need 48 hours notice from you that you will be sending me a time-sensitive piece.

A note on venue and placement: We will work with you on process, meaning, we will help guide you to venues to consider for publication and teach you how to propose and pitch. But the ultimate decision about where to submit is yours. We do this because this gives you the opportunity to engage in the full decision-making process as we go.

Please don't hesitate to email me at deborah@girlmeetsvoice.com with additional questions.

I LOOK FORWARD TO COLLABORATING WITH YOU.