

Upcoming Community Breakfast Meetings

As part of the Danville Regional Foundation's efforts to bring some of America's top thinkers to the region, DRF will be sponsoring a series of speakers over the next few months.

January 21, 2010

Dr. Ian Smith medical/diet expert on VHI's highly-rated *Celebrity Fit Club* and the creator and founder of The 50 Million Pound Challenge, will be speaking on January 21, 2010 on Obesity and Health.

March 16, 2010

Sir Ken Robinson, PhD, an internationally recognized leader in the development of creativity, innovation, and human resources, will be speaking on March 16, 2010 on Creativity and Education.



Dr. Ian Smith

Dr. Ian Smith is currently the medical/diet expert on VHI's highly-rated "Celebrity Fit Club," and the creator and founder of The 50 Million Pound Challenge. Dr. Smith is also the host of his own nationally syndicated radio show *HealthWatch* on American Urban Radio Networks. He is the former medical correspondent for NBC News network and for NewsChannel 4 where he filed reports for NBC's "Nightly News" and the "Today" show as well as WNBC's various news broadcasts. He has appeared extensively on various broadcasts including "The View," "The Tyra Banks Show," "Larry King Live," "Anderson Cooper 360°," "Showbiz Tonight," and "The Verdict with Dan Abrams." He has written for various publications including *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Men's Health*, and the *New York Daily News*, and has been featured in several other publications including, *People*, *Essence*, *Ebony*, *Cosmopolitan*, and *University of Chicago Medicine on the Midway*.



A highly-sought after speaker, Dr. Smith's work has been honored by several organizations, including the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for his coverage on the momentous events beginning on Sept. 11, 2001. Dr. Smith is very active in charitable causes, serving on several boards including the New York City Mission Society, American Council on Exercise, and the New York Council for the Humanities.

Dr. Smith graduated from Harvard College with an AB and received a master's in science education from Teachers College of Columbia University. He attended Dartmouth Medical School and completed the last two years of his medical education and graduated from the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.

Smith is also the author of six books, the #1 *New York Times* Bestseller ***Extreme Fat Smash Diet***, the #1 *New York Times* Bestseller ***The Fat Smash Diet***, the *New York Times* Bestseller ***The 4 Day Diet***, the critically acclaimed ***The Blackbird Papers*** (2005 BCALA fiction Honor Book Award winner), ***Dr. Ian Smith's Guide to Medical Websites***, and ***The Take-Control Diet***.

A native of Danbury, CT, Dr. Smith resides in Manhattan.

Sir Ken Robinson, PhD



Sir Ken Robinson, PhD is an internationally recognized leader in the development of creativity, innovation and human resources. He works with governments in Europe, Asia and the USA, with international agencies, Fortune 500 companies, and some of the world's leading cultural organizations. In 1998, he led a national commission on creativity, education and the economy for the UK Government. *All Our Futures: Creativity, Culture and Education* (The Robinson Report) was published to wide acclaim in 1999. He was the central figure in developing a strategy for creative and economic development as part of the Peace Process in Northern Ireland, working with the ministers for training, education enterprise and culture. The resulting blueprint for change, *Unlocking Creativity*, was adopted by politicians of all parties and by business, education and cultural leaders across the Province. He was one of four international advisors to the Singapore Government for its strategy to become the creative hub of South East Asia.

For twelve years, he was professor of education at the University of Warwick in the UK and is now professor emeritus. He has received honorary degrees from the Open University and the Central School of Speech and Drama; Birmingham City University and the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts. He was been honored with the Athena Award of the Rhode Island School of Design for services to the arts and education; the Peabody Medal for contributions to the arts and culture in the United States, and the Benjamin Franklin Medal of the Royal Society of Arts for outstanding contributions to cultural relations between the United Kingdom and the United States. In 2005, he was named as one of Time/Fortune/CNN's 'Principal Voices'. In 2003, he received a knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II for his services to the arts. He speaks to audiences throughout the world on the creative challenges facing business and education in the new global economies.

His new book, currently a *New York Times* Best Seller, *The Element: How Finding Your Passion Changes Everything* (Penguin/Viking 2009) is being translated into eight different languages.