

Nicholas Whitaker

KEYNOTE SPEAKER · COACH · FOUNDER, REBELLION COLLECTIVE

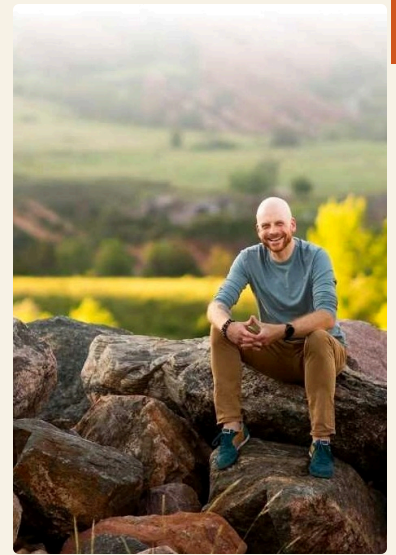
NOW BOOKING 2026

Based in Colorado · Available to travel anywhere

THE TALK

In a system changing faster than people can metabolize, reclaiming your **Clarity, Capacity, and Sovereignty** is an act of Rebellion.

Nicholas Whitaker spent 25 years teaching, leading, and building: a decade running his own production company while teaching at Marymount Manhattan College and The New School, then 13 years at Google. When a 3am layoff email ended the corporate chapter, the coaching practice he'd spent a decade building alongside it became the work. Through the Rebellion Collective, he guides mid-career high performers and rebellious leaders through the post-job identity crisis: the moment the thing you built your life around stops holding.



SIGNATURE TALKS

Running on Empty: **Beating Burnout at Its Foundation**

Burnout treated at its root instead of its symptoms. This keynote names the V.O.I.D. (Volatility, Overwhelm, Isolation, and Distraction) as the condition underneath the exhaustion, then hands the room the C.H.E.A.T. Code for rebuilding capacity. Delivered to newsrooms at IRE and SABEW, and to corporate teams.

After the 3am Email: **Identity and Reinvention After Job Loss**

The talk built from the layoff email that started all of this. Part lived story, part practical map through Recognition, Reflection, and Reconstruction: who you are when the role ends, and how to rebuild what comes next. For organizations navigating layoffs, transitions, or the slow erosion of meaning at work.

The C.H.E.A.T. Code: **Reclaiming Capacity in the Age of AI**

Capacity is a function of Habits, expressed through Energy, Attention, and Time. A framework-driven keynote that gives teams a usable model for protecting the resource everything else depends on.

ALSO OFFERS **Leading Yourself First** (leadership workshop) · **Ground Before the Grind & Reclaim the Afternoon** (nervous-system resets) · **You Have Arrived** (nature meditation) · **The 30-Minute Unlock** (lightning coaching) · **Live AMA**

AUDIENCES

Journalists at SABEW, RTDNA, and IRE. **Founders** at Boulder Startup Week. **Overlanders** at Overland Expo. **Corporate leaders** from Coca-Cola, LinkedIn, and Google. **Nonprofits** like United Way. **Higher education institutions** like Santa Fe College, UCLA, and Arizona State. Different rooms, same throughline: people doing demanding work who were never taught how to steward the one resource it all runs on.

Every talk is grounded in Buddhist psychology, somatic practice, and a decade spent inside big tech. Audiences leave with language for what they are carrying and a framework for what to do next.

FRAMEWORKS

C.H.E.A.T. Code · The 5 C's
V.O.I.D. · Field Manuals

FORMATS

- Keynotes & mainstage talks
- Interactive workshops
- Half-day nature-based retreats
- Fireside conversations & team facilitation

FROM THE ROOM

"Nick's plenary sessions on resilience, mental wellbeing and mindfulness are transformative."

ODETTE A., FOUNDED PARTNER, GLOBAL MEDIAX

"He established norms that let us work together with trust and psychological safety."

LORI S., CONSULTANT

Book Nicholas for your stage.

Complimentary fit call for organizers · custom keynotes & workshops

Book nicholaswhitaker.com/connect

Email hello@nicholaswhitaker.com

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