

## **Julie Flygare, JD**

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### **SPEAKER'S BIO:**

Julie Flygare, JD is the founder of [Project Sleep](http://www.project-sleep.com), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to raise awareness about sleep health and sleep disorders. She is a leading narcolepsy spokesperson, award-winning author, runner and blogger diagnosed with narcolepsy with cataplexy in 2007.

Julie received her B.A. from Brown University in 2005 and her J.D. from Boston College Law School in 2009. In 2013, her book, "[Wide Awake and Dreaming: A Memoir of Narcolepsy](#)," won the First Prize Biography/Autobiography Award at the San Francisco Book Festival.

Julie has given presentations to scientific researchers, doctors, nurses, college and medical school students, NIH, FDA and CDC representatives. Her story has been featured by NPR, the Doctors Show, Marie Claire, Women's Health Magazine, ABC, NBC, Psychology Today, Huffington Post, and the Discovery Channel.

Considered a leading e-patient voice, Julie successfully led efforts to secure narcolepsy's place in FDA's Patient Focused Drug Development Initiative (PFDDI) in 2012-2013, and then co-led efforts to prepare patients for the FDA PFDDI meeting. According to FDA, narcolepsy has had the highest level of patient participation in PFDDI to date, despite the disease's relatively "rare" status. Julie also served on NIH's Sleep Disorder Research Advisory Board from 2012-2015.

Julie is the creator of the Sleep Walk series across the country, co-founder of the first-ever scholarship program for students with narcolepsy and creator of the largest international social media-driven narcolepsy awareness campaign, NARCOLEPSY: NOT ALONE® to prove that narcolepsy is real and effects people everywhere.

Staying up-to-date on health technology trends, Julie created the first-ever narcolepsy infographic and narcolepsy mobile app for patients.

Julie currently works full-time as a writer in the philanthropy department at City of Hope in Los Angeles, CA. In her free time, she runs, speaking across the country and managing Project Sleep's programs "to make sleep cool", her dream job.



***"I found Julie's talk to be spectacular."***

–Dr. Ron Harper, UCLA Professor

**PAST SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:**

- Harvard Medical School, The Neurobiology of Disease Course (April 2008, April 2012)
- Seminars in Brain and Behavior, Boston area neuroscientists (December 2008)
- Narcolepsy Network Conference (October 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014)
- Southern Sleep Society Conference (March 2012, March 2013)
- Nurses & Pharmacists Training, Express Scripts (April 2012)
- Narcolepsy Care Line Training, Patient Advocate Foundation (July 2012)
- InnovationPharm Rare Disease Roundtable (July 2012)
- Drug Safety Team Training, Jazz Pharmaceuticals (August 2012)
- Caring Voice Coalition's Weekend Wellness Retreat (September 2012)
- Social Media for Pharma Conference (April 2013)
- APSS SLEEP Meeting (June 2013)
- BRPT Symposium (September 2013)
- Kentucky Sleep Society Conference (October 2013)
- Florida International University Medical School & Keynote Speaker of Undergraduate Diversity Day (October 2013)
- CROWN Summit Conference (January 2014)
- UCLA Medical School (January 2014, September 2015)
- USC Neuroscience Interaxon Group (April 2014)
- Public Relations & Communications Summit (July 2014)
- Current Concepts in Sleep Conference (August 2014)
- Disruptive Innovations Conference (September 2014)
- Patients As Partners Conference (March 2015)
- Narcolepsy Australia Conference – Keynote & Physicians' Workshop (May 2015)
- Nova Southeastern University – Grand Rounds & CE Event Keynote (May 2015)
- Hypersomnia Conference at Emory University (July 2015)

## **PRAISE FOR JULIE'S PRESENTATIONS:**

*"Julie is gifted with delivery style. She is especially gifted in emphasizing aspects of the condition which convey the sense of 'with just a very few neuronal changes, there go I,' and the terrific emotional aspects of the syndrome. The more Julie can be out there, the better recognition of a serious medical problem will be."*

- Ron Harper, M.D.  
Professor, UCLA Medical School

*"Julie's presentation was inspiring and an important contribution to an industry event, which far too often has not included the voice of the patient - a critical partner in the research process. She was poised, articulate and polished in front of a straight-faced and buttoned-up crowd. Impressive."*

-Dan McDonald, Biopharmaceutical  
Strategist

*"I attended two of Julie's sessions at the conference. It was almost like hearing a motivational speaker, I imagine. She was so inspirational."*

- Julie Ann Fain, College Student  
Narcolepsy Network Conference

*"Julie was the keynote at our 12th Annual Diversity Day. Over 150 students were captivated by her moving story, listening intently because Julie relates to the audience with a down-to-earth speaking style, humor, and poise. She is an excellent choice to help students understand the importance of standing up for oneself and being a catalyst for change!"*

- Diann Newman, Ed.D. Assistant Dean  
Florida International University

*"Julie Flygare brings a face to a condition students think of as either esoteric or comical. The students were visibly moved by her story, and actively engaged in questions to better understand her experience."*

- Margaret Stuber, M.D.  
Assistant Dean and Professor, UCLA Medical School

*"Julie Flygare's presentation was engaging and contained genuine emotion that gave a face to a medical issue that many are unaware of or know little about. I would love for her to come speak to USC Keck School of Medicine in the near future as her story is relevant and relatable."*

-Alakea, USC Neuroscience Undergraduate Student



*Available for book signing receptions, cocktail hours & events!*

**Please contact Julie  
to discuss scheduling &  
speaker's fee arrangements.**