

# MINDFULNESS FOR OPTIMUM HEALTH & PEAK PERFORMANCE

Presented By: Debbie Lyn Toomey

**MASSBUYS EXPO 2024** 





#### **OVERVIEW**

- 1. Discuss the impact of stress on productivity and health
- 2. Define mindfulness
- 3. Explain how mindfulness can increase peak performance
- 4. Share a mini-mindfulness routine that enhances peace, boosts productivity, and increases positivity
- 5. Determine ways you can implement a routine that is practical and doable every day











Bui, T., Zackula, R., Dugan, K., & Ablah, E. (2021). Workplace Stress and Productivity: A Cross-Sectional Study. Kansas journal of medicine, 14, 42–45. https://doi.org/10.17161/kjm.vol1413424



"Unmanaged stress is detrimental to happiness, sleep and overall health." Andrew Huberman Ph.D



#### CHRONIC STRESS IMPACTS HEALTH











**American Psychological Association (2023)** 





# MINDFULNESS



"The awareness that arises through paying attention, on purpose, in the present moment, non-judgmentally."

Jon Kabat-Zinn



"The awareness that arises through paying attention, on purpose, in the present moment, non-judgmentally."

Jon Kabat-Zinn

"Actively noticing new things."

Ellen Langer

#### HOW DOES IT HELP PERFORMANCE?

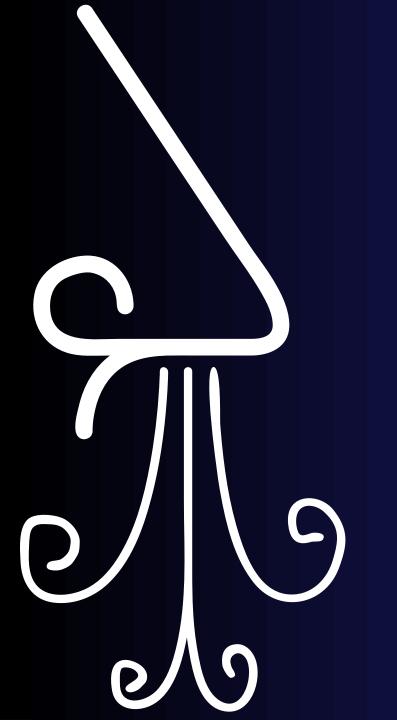
- Improves attention, concentration, and focus
- Helps with stress response
- Improves relationships by fostering empathy and compassion
- Reduces anxiety and relapses in depression



Chang, Y. K., Gill, D. L., Creswell, J. D., Chen, D. T., Lin, C. Y., Chu, C. H., & Nien, J. T. (2023). Effect of mindfulness-based intervention on endurance performance under pressure and performance-relevant mental attributes, an interdisciplinary perspective: Protocol for a Mindfulness-Based Peak Performance (MBPP) trial. Contemporary clinical trials, 129, 107175. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cct.2023.107175



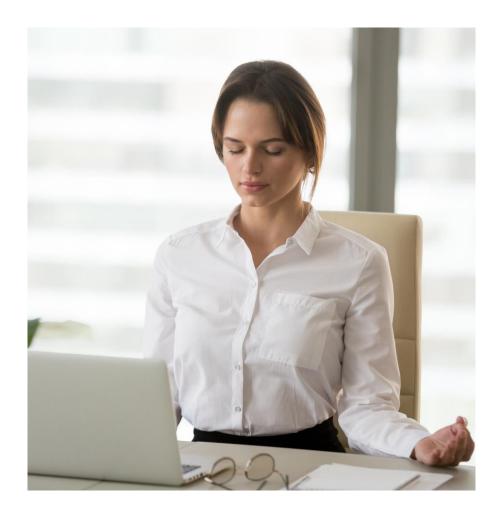




# PAUSE BREATHE THANK YOU



#### WHAT IS A PURPOSEFUL PAUSE?



"Taking purposeful pauses can allow you to be more fully present, and that presence is felt by those around you."

~ Janice Marturano

Janice Marturano, founder of Mindful Leadership Institute, author of Finding the Space to Lead



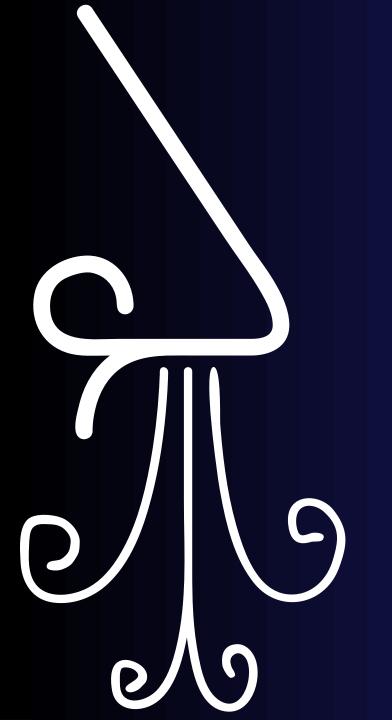
#### LET'S TRY IT!



- Stop & Check-in.
- How am I doing?
- Am I present in moment?
- What can I do to help me regroup?

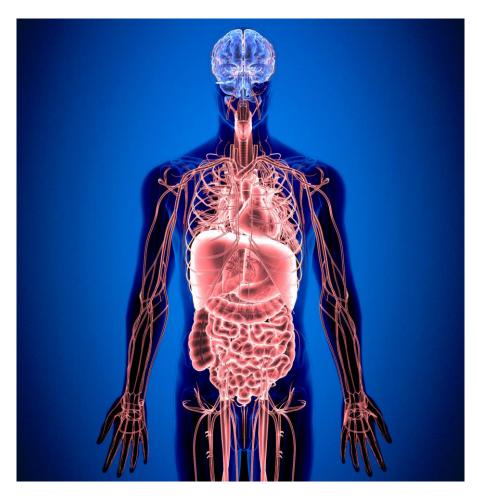
Janice Marturano, founder of Mindful Leadership Institute, author of Finding the Space to Lead





# BREATHE

### WE BREATHE 20,000 TIMES/DAY



But stress impacts our breathing!

- Are you breathing deeply enough?
- Who or what makes you hold your breath?
- Who or what takes your breath away?

**American Lungs Association (2020)** 



## 2:1 BREATHING EXERCISE



- Breathe in for a count of 3.
- Hold for a count of 3.
- Breathe out for a count of 6.
- Repeat.



# PHYSIOLOGICAL SIGH (CYCLIC)



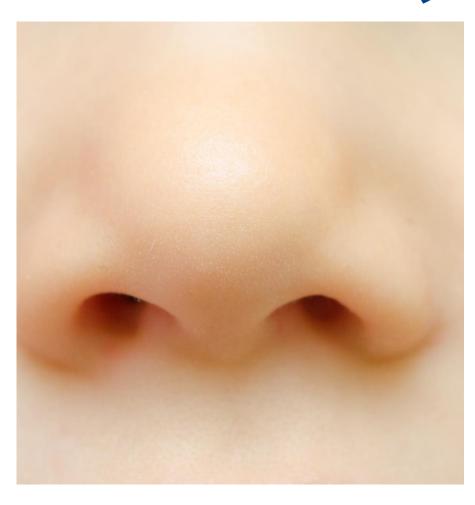
"Cyclic sighing is most effective at improving mood and reducing respiratory rate."

~ Cell Reports Medicine (2023)

Balban et al., 2023, Cell Reports Medicine 4, 100895 January 17, 2023 a 2022 The Authors. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xcrm.2022.100895



## CYCLIC SIGH - 24 HOUR BENEFIT



- Inhale deeply through the nose
- Take another deep breath
- Pause
- Exhale fully through the mouth

5-minute yields --> 24-hour benefit

Balban et al., 2023, Cell Reports Medicine 4, 100895 January 17, 2023 a 2022 The Authors. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xcrm.2022.100895





## WHAT IS GRATITUDE?

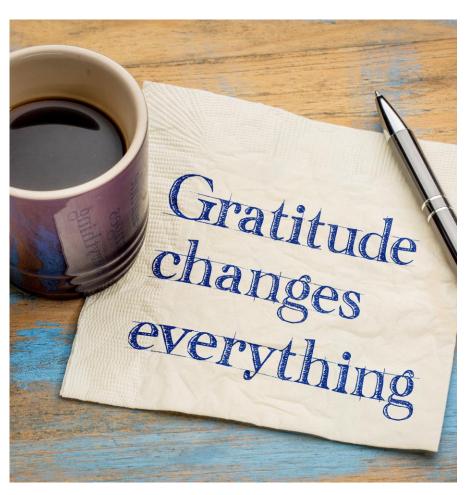


"Gratitude is an affirmation of goodness and a recognition that these sources of goodness exist outside of ourselves."

~ Robert Emmons



# 5 BENEFITS OF GRATITUDE

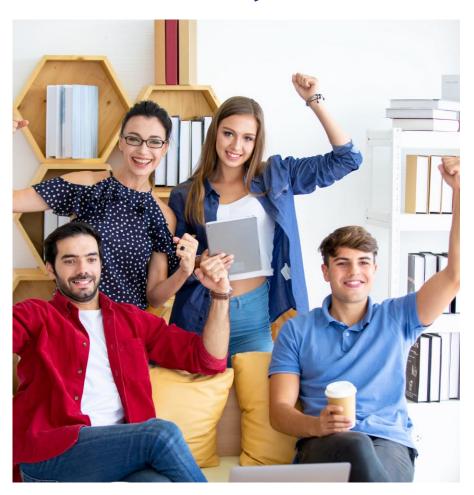


- 1. Enhances relationships
- 2. Improves physical and mental health
- 3. Increases empathy and reduces aggression
- 4. Boosts self-esteem
- 5. Increases resilience

Psychology Today (2015)



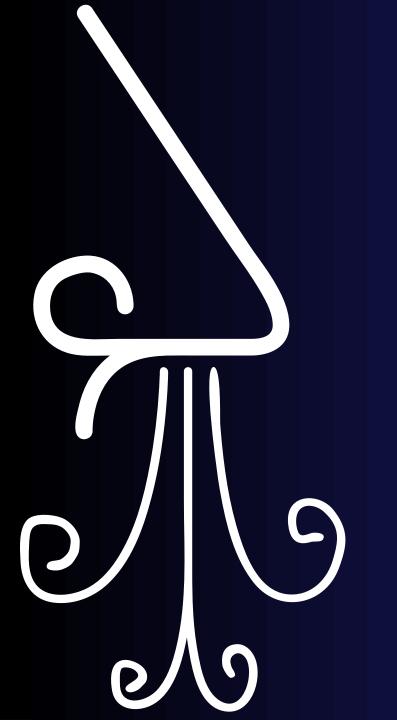
# 3 GOOD THINGS EXERCISE



- Think of 3 good things that have happened to you recently.
- Determine what made them "good."
- How did they make you feel?

Emmons, Robert A, Thanks!: How the New Science of Gratitude Can Make You Happier (2007)





# PAUSE BREATHE THANK YOU



1. Is this mini routine doable?

2. When would you use it?

3. Where would you use it?

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#### **BOOKS TO FURTHER YOUR PRACTICE**

- 1. Full Catastrophe Living by Jon Kabat-Zinn
- 2. Counterclockwise: Mindful Health and the Power of Possibility by Ellen Langer
- 3. Finding the Space to Lead by Janice Marturano
- 4. Breath The New Science of a Lost Art by James Nestor
- 5. Thanks How the New Science of Gratitude Can Make You Happier by Robert Emmons









Debbie Lyn Toomey
DebbieLyn@HealthandHappinessSpecialist.com

www.HealthandHappinessSpecialist.com