

JESSICA COX BIOGRAPHY



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About JCMS

www.rightfooted.com

Based out of Tucson, AZ, Jessica Cox Motivational Services was founded by Jessica Cox in November of 2005 when she began her speaking career. Companies from around the world have contacted JCMS to inquire about Jessica services. Her keynote speech focuses on turning “impossible” into “accomplishment.” As a person who has never viewed herself as a victim of her condition, Jessica shares humorous stories of struggles and success living in a “two-handed” world. She provides critical insight on how best to approach a challenge, redefining the concept of innovative thinking. She helps people reconnect with their own inner strength and aptitude.

Jessica Cox

Motivational Speaker, Guinness World Record Holder, CEO & Founder of JCMS



Introduction / Brief Bio:

Born without arms, Jessica Cox could have lived down to the low expectations that ushered her into this world. In spite of them all, she learned to swim, drive a car, fly an airplane, earn two black belts in Taekwondo, graduate from college, surf, scuba dive, and live independently using her feet in ways others who take their hands for granted can only imagine. She holds the title of the first person without arms to get a black belt in the American Taekwondo Association and the Guinness World Record for the first pilot to fly with her feet. Yet, her greatest triumph in life stands far above any physical feat. It is her unrepentant regard for herself as a whole person, her high degree of self-acceptance that gives her the freedom and power to insist that society accept her, too, just as she is.

Extended Bio:

Jessica is recognized internationally as an inspirational keynote speaker.

Born without arms, Jessica now flies airplanes, drives cars and otherwise lives a normal life using her feet as others use their hands. She holds the title of the first person without arms in the American Taekwondo Association to get a black belt and the Guinness World Record for being the first armless person in aviation history to earn a pilot's certificate. Convinced that the way we think has a greater impact on our lives than our physical constraints, she chose to pursue a degree in psychology at the University of Arizona. Since then she has traveled to 17 countries and 6 continents sharing her inspirational message.

Born in 1983 in Sierra Vista, Arizona, Jessica has learned to live her life with her feet. There were many questions at the time about whether Jessica would be able to live a “normal” life. However, Jessica's father has said he never shed a tear about her birth condition. He had full confidence in her potential. With the support of her parents and family, Jessica became confident in herself as an adult and continued to explore the world with her feet.

Jessica's parents eventually met a Taekwondo instructor named Jim Cunningham. His response when told of her birth condition was that she would be more than physically able and that only her attitude could hold her back. At the age of 14, Jessica earned her first Black Belt in the International Taekwondo Federation.

After graduating from high school, Jessica attended the University of Arizona where she earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology. When talking about her degree, she frequently explains that psychology credits the way people think has a greater impact on their lives than a physical limitation.

During college, Jessica found a club of the American Taekwondo Association and resumed training in the sport. Even though Jessica already had one black belt in a different style, she had to relearn all of the color belt material. The instructors created a curriculum that would be accessible to any future armless students. Jessica then became the first armless person to earn a black belt in the ATA.

Jessica's most famous accomplishment was learning how to fly. It took three states, four airplanes, three flight instructors and three years to find the right aircraft: a 1946 415C Ercoupe Airplane. In 2008 Jessica earned her Light Sport Pilot Certificate. She received the Guinness World Record for being the first person certified to fly an airplane with only their feet.

In May 2012, Jessica married in the beautiful city of South Pasadena, CA.

Presentation Summary

Thinking Outside the Shoe

As a person who has never viewed herself as a victim of her condition, Jessica shares in her speeches humorous stories of struggle and success living in a "two-handed" world. She provides critical insight on how best to approach a challenge, redefining the concept of innovative thinking. She helps people reconnect with their own inner strength and aptitude. Jessica believes in combining creativity, desire, persistence and fearlessness; with them, nothing is impossible. In her presentation, she will dig deep into her experiences living armless in a two-handed world and how these four elements helped her achieve the seemingly impossible.

Awards / Accolades

- Guinness World Record: The First Armless Person in the World Ever to Have Obtained Pilot's License (2011)*
- AOPA LIVE Pilots Choice Award 2010: Most Watched Female Aviator
- Filipino Women's Network: 100 Most Influential Filipino Women in the U.S. (2009)
- Published in Ripley's Believe It or Not (2009)
- The Filipino American Journal Award of Excellence, Outstanding Filipino Award (2008)

**Although often referred to as the first "licensed" pilot, the correct title is first "certified" pilot as Jessica holds a Sport Pilot Certificate.*

Rightfooted, the Documentary

Jessica's next big project

In November 2011, Jessica teamed up with Emmy Award winning filmmaker Nicholas Spark to begin production of a documentary chronicling Jessica's life. This is the story of one woman's courage, determination, love and faith. Perhaps most importantly, it is the story of resilience and hope that will touch anyone who feels different or limited or has a disability to look beyond their limitations... as Jessica has.

Tax deductible donations are still needed to finish production. The trailer and more information can be found at www.rightfootedmovie.com.

Recent News Articles

[Ercoupe hosts guest speaker on last night](#), Mt. Vernon Register-News

[Armless pilot Jessica Cox gets married](#), ABS-CBN News

[The Story of Jessica Cox, The Power of Human Spirit](#), NDTV (Jessica at the 2012 World Economic Forum, video hosted on YouTube)

[JCMS 2011 Newsletter](#)

JCMS provides pictures for event organizers requesting them. Click [this link](#) to download the most recent ZIP file.