

Torts Center | Episode 2 | Part 2

“The Buc Stops Here”

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[00:00:56] **Courtney Dunn:** By accessing and listening to the Tort Center podcast, [00:01:00] you agree to these terms and conditions. Welcome to Tort Center with Carla Barialli Barker, Courtney Dunn, and our special guest, Micah Day. Micah, last time we spoke, you were telling us a little bit about the impact of cultural differences in your line of work.

[00:01:16] **Courtney Dunn:** We want to talk more about that. Carla, I think you had a question.

[00:01:20] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** So what are some strategies for inclusivity that the Bucks?

[00:01:27] **Micah Day:** So first off is defining what our brand is like, what really is, is it just a red flag with a skull and crossbone on it or, or, you know, what is that? And we've got some really smart, bright minds right now.

[00:01:39] **Micah Day:** We have a new chief marketing officer down there who is phenomenal and really passionate about this and has come up with some new brand initiatives that we're going to start seeing. I don't want to say too much about it right now, rolling out as we come into this next season that really. Tries to capture that, but not in a way that everybody does a, for example, on the Latino front, everybody [00:02:00] does a Latin heritage night, right?

[00:02:01] **Micah Day:** It's like kind of check the box kind of a thing.

[00:02:03] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** It's been done.

[00:02:04] **Micah Day:** Done, right? Is it really appealing to that demographic? There's organizations that, well, we're just doing it because we need to do it because it checks the box, right? And you could pick any other minority. Gender or race. Otherwise, like, right, there's different nights for different things, right?

[00:02:19] **Micah Day:** Okay. Well, we acknowledge it for a night. Then we moved on. Is that really what we want to represent is just checking the box. And I think collectively an organization is no, we don't. We, we know the makeup of our region and our culture and, and, and what we have there in Tampa. And there's historical, like, Okay.

[00:02:35] **Micah Day:** Last season, we brought back the creamsicle, uh, Jersey. So the old light orange and white bucko Bruce logo, and we played against the Detroit lions and brought that back. Now, some might argue the team was not very good when we had that Jersey. So there are, there's that side of it, but. A lot of people brought back that heritage of the team where we're 48 years old.

[00:02:56] **Micah Day:** It's where we're approaching our 50th anniversary. You've got to [00:03:00] take some of that history, right? So there's, there's that part of, of that diversity because the fan of a Tampa Bay Buccaneer fan today, wasn't. May not necessarily be the fan that was back then, or even understand the history. They may have been only a Tampa Bay Buccaneer fan for the last three years because Tom Brady started, but now they like the team and they want to stay one.

[00:03:16] **Micah Day:** So we've got to reflect those and those fans, just as much as we are 50 year, 48 year season ticket holders. Right. But not only that, just the cultural elements of Florida and Tampa has been one of the fastest growing markets in the country since the last five years. And COVID was a place where a lot of people went and it's a, it's a diverse place.

[00:03:37] **Micah Day:** It is not just a bunch of retirees out there in their trailer parks, you know, enjoying the sunshine. That is not Tampa Bay at all. And so how do you bring every all these new people right now, there's a lot of transplants and new people, but also keep the old in the same. And that's what

we're doing a lot of heavy, heavy lift right now to really do that as an [00:04:00] organization, because we want to reflect the area.

[00:04:02] **Micah Day:** We want to take that 76 percent of people and be 90 percent that say, I'm Tampa Bay. And if you think Tampa Bay, you think Buccaneer.

[00:04:09] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** So are you doing that by. Reaching out and trying to bring that community within the Buccaneers umbrella.

[00:04:18] **Micah Day:** Yes. Well, again, a number of different ways, because you have to do things that are authentic to those different communities and cultures, right?

[00:04:26] **Micah Day:** You can't just throw up a Latin heritage night and say, Oh, we reached out to them. What did like, was there community relations or social responsibility initiatives? Did you create events, smaller grassroot events that appealed to those? Did you hold. Watch parties in places that they frequent. Are you doing things in game in terms of an entertainment perspective that appeal to different elements food?

[00:04:49] **Micah Day:** Like we offer a cuban sandwich in tampa bay Like you're gonna get a great cuban at raymond james stadium because that's a representation of the area, right? [00:05:00] Culturally, they're one of the oldest cuban restaurants and I think the entire united states Based in Tampa has been around for like 150 years and it's still operating.

[00:05:07] **Micah Day:** So connecting with what those. Different cultures and those different entities want and are, and are passionate about and bring it into your brand. I'm not the right person to say what would make, you know, the Latino neighborhood want to be more part of the Bucks brand, but I got a great corporate communications guy.

[00:05:27] **Micah Day:** Our chief communications guy who's from Tampa is Latino. And I turned to him, Hey, how do we. Improve this, enhance this in a way that makes sense for you. And when you ask me, how do you do that? It's getting the people, the right people on the bus that can help you do that. Like, and having them be part of your organization, having your organization reflect the surrounding area demographically.

[00:05:49] **Micah Day:** And I sit on our diversity executive committee doing it in every facet of ability in, in the hiring. In the day to day operation in

understanding that making sure everybody in the organization understands [00:06:00] the vision and that we're all part of the crew. And that's part of the, you know, the driving. Force right now is even in when our group goes out to train all of our Incoming part time staff for the upcoming season.

[00:06:11] **Micah Day:** There's been kind of a disconnect because we have vendors, you know We have a security vendor. They're not all my employees. They're a vendor right? Do they really feel like they're part of the bucks? I don't know that they do. I want them to. And so, you know, I want to make, so some of the things I'm doing in preparation for next season is those things that I can do in my role is to make sure that the employees feel like they're a buck.

[00:06:33] **Micah Day:** Now, whether they get their paycheck directly from the bucks or not is irrelevant, they are part of the bucks in terms of their identity and who they are. And I want them to be proud. To be at those games and working those games, whether they're an elevator operator or they're a bag searcher or they're a volunteer in a concession stand like they are part of the bucks and we are bucks and they we wouldn't be the bucks without them and they wouldn't be part of the books without us.

[00:06:58] **Courtney Dunn:** Aside from being a [00:07:00] pride thing, which I think is important. Do you think that positively affects how they work events? Does it have a beneficial impact?

[00:07:07] **Micah Day:** Absolutely. Absolutely. I've worked in a lot of places and Utah is one of those that I started there as an event coordinator. I became a guest services manager early in my career, and I had 300 people reporting to me.

[00:07:19] **Micah Day:** Most of them over the age of like 55 because they were in our part time ushers and security people. And my boss told me when I took that job, he said, you can manage tables and chairs fine. But can you manage people? And I said, I Well, we'll find out. And he said, I'll give you one little hint. Go around to the, each of the positions, every portal, every, and just say hi to each one.

[00:07:42] **Micah Day:** And that was. Critical to my understanding of not only how our guests operate, but how our people operate, because if I could take care of that usher at a down aisle or that security person on the floor, Hey, how's it going tonight? Got any concerns? What are your issues? How's the kids? How, you know, how's your job, you know, [00:08:00] understanding them as a

person that first year, I think I had 88 grandparents and about 20 offers to come to Thanksgiving dinner, just because I've made that personal connection.

[00:08:10] **Micah Day:** I don't care. It doesn't really matter where you're at, whether you're at a league, whether you're at a team, you earn a fan one person at a time. And it's making that personal, emotional touch point. Courtney, I don't know who you root for, but I'm sure that whatever team that you would assign it's because you've had an emotional connection to that team in some form or fashion.

[00:08:28] **Micah Day:** Could it come from a father? Could it come from a brother? Could it come from a mom? Hopefully we really women, there's a big issue right now. In the NFL, because we have Taylor Swift showing up at games, right? Of course, right? There's, I saw,

[00:08:41] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** we were going to get into that. Okay. Good one.

[00:08:43] **Micah Day:** So I think I saw a statistic that towards the end of the season, it was about 133 million in additional revenue had been spent by women in the league last season, partly because of the Taylor Swift effect.

[00:08:55] **Micah Day:** Right. And so, yeah, thank you, Taylor. But women are such [00:09:00] an underrepresented demographic in the league yet have so much. Purchasing power, and we've got to do a better job at tapping into that. And the NFL is working on it. And we're all working on it because women are a huge part of our fan base. And I don't know, any team has really done a great job of harnessing that.

[00:09:18] **Micah Day:** Our owner, one of our owners, Darcy Castle, it's, you know, she's very passionate about it to the point that when we designed our new team store a few years ago, we did a renovation. She went through and wanted to look at every fixture and wanted to know what every single feature was. Item and skew that was being offered to a woman.

[00:09:35] **Micah Day:** And we have a woman in red program at the Buccaneers that even our sections of our, our team stores designated the women in red section, because we want to have this subgroup of fans that identify, well, I'm a, I'm part of the women in red, but we want you to be able to say that, right. I'm part of the women in red.

[00:09:52] **Micah Day:** And so it's not that we haven't been doing it. It's just now we, we, we have a huge opportunity because of the most recent,

[00:09:58] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** yea

[00:09:59] **Micah Day:** know, [00:10:00] opportunity with. That we've seen just in this last season to really capture that and really listen to women. How do you want these? How do you want your experience at the stadium to be?

[00:10:08] **Courtney Dunn:** I was going to suggest field side pedicures, but the ladies in red sounds better.

[00:10:14] **Micah Day:** Yield side pedicure. I'll work on that for you. You got it.

[00:10:17] **Courtney Dunn:** No, I had a thought that I'm curious. Micah said earlier, Carla, that from the operation side, you know, you look at an Eagles fan and you say, Oh, he's an Eagles fan, but you have to think, well, that's not how we want fans to behave.

[00:10:33] **Courtney Dunn:** And I understand that. I think that there would be an argument from a liability standpoint. A reasonable Eagles fan behavior versus a reasonable Packers fan behavior. If you're on notice that Eagles fans have this bad chant or this is a rival game where they tend to do this dangerous thing. Doesn't that play in?

[00:10:52] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** I think that there might be certain rivalries where there might be an enhanced risk where it is more [00:11:00] foreseeable that spirits are going to be high. And that there is sort of attention so that there might be a potential for altercations.

[00:11:09] **Micah Day:** We've seen that with Dodgers Giants, right? We've had some tort issues in those games.

[00:11:13] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** That's right. But I don't know that we want to make generalizations. About an excusing, like what's a reasonably prudent venue operator is supposed to anticipate

[00:11:26] **Micah Day:** absolutely

[00:11:27] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** and deflect from, you know, the same standard of vigilance should apply to the California angel as well. The, uh, San Francisco Giants or the Dodger.

[00:11:39] **Micah Day:** Absolutely. No, no. Yeah. You have to have, like, if we go back, you have to have that standard, right? And there is behaviors that's not appropriate. It doesn't matter what fan you are, whether you're a Buccaneer fan or like, there's certain things that people should not be engaged. And, you know, we have the mechanisms for those, those criminal trespassing or arrest, if it has to come to that.

[00:11:56] **Micah Day:** And sadly we live in a society where people make [00:12:00] poor decisions and, you know, We have to protect others against those poor decisions. If we didn't, we wouldn't have seatbelts. Right. So yeah, I agree with you, Carla. You know, I use the Eagles as a reference just because they're an easy one, easy target, and they're proud of it, to be honest with you too.

[00:12:13] **Micah Day:** But you know, I look at like Notre Dame. You ever go to a game at Notre Dame and they are some of the nicest fans you will ever, and they welcome the opposing fans. And, and the Notre Dame experience as an opposing fan is like no other. And they pride themselves. That's part of their culture, right? So for whatever reason, you have to have that identity.

[00:12:33] **Micah Day:** Your brand is important. You know, let's take the Eagles, but like, you can take that and run with it to a point, right? As long as you don't cross the line where you're, you're Encouraging poor behavior as an excuse for your brand, right?

[00:12:48] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** And your Philly office. Courtney might have something to say, characterize

[00:12:55] **Micah Day:** we beat the Eagles in the Kelsey's last game.

[00:12:57] **Micah Day:** So Jason Kelsey's last game, [00:13:00] so

[00:13:00] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Philadelphia office, they moped for days. Yeah. It was a bad time.

[00:13:06] **Micah Day:** We play him again and we're going to beat him again this year. So

[00:13:09] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Micah, two last questions for you, given your wide experience, both with the NBA and the NFL. Can you share with us and our audience? What one of your favorite, most treasured memories are of an event that you did?

[00:13:28] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** And second question, can you share with us something that people might be surprised to know about you?

[00:13:36] **Micah Day:** So I would say that I loved working in the Olympics. The Olympics is like no other event and I did two winter Olympics, but I do those again I mean, they're just they're a different event. You have all these cultures all the stuff We've kind of talked to all coming into one place And there's just something, I don't know, I get nostalgic.

[00:13:57] **Micah Day:** I get sentimental about when it comes to the Olympics. [00:14:00] Uh, having them in my hometown in Salt Lake city was phenomenal. Being part of Vancouver was amazing. And I've got some lifelong friends that have come out of that as well. And they've really inspired those experiences have inspired my career. One particular event, I was just going through some boxes actually.

[00:14:15] **Micah Day:** And I found a memory of an event in 2013. A basketball game for San Antonio Spurs in Google this one. There's some footage of it Spurs versus the Timberwolves in Mexico City and that game right before you asked me earlier, Courtney, what happens when something goes awry? Right? What do you do? This was that moment.

[00:14:38] **Micah Day:** We vetted everything. We knew what the building was like for the most part. It's a beautiful building. If I were to blindfold you and walk you into our arena, they see that they may go, it was my Spanish, my gringo Spanish coming out there. You wouldn't know that you are in Mexico city. This is a beautiful arena inside and out, but it wasn't built to American standards.

[00:14:56] **Micah Day:** So for one example, they don't have a fire suppression system [00:15:00] inside the building. There's no sprinklers. They have a fire brigade on site for any event. And in 2013. We had brought the teams out to do warmups and while they were doing warmups, they wanted to open doors really early, like three hours before a game, but most places is 90 minutes to at the most in Mexico city.

[00:15:18] **Micah Day:** I want it culturally. They wanted to open up three hours, partly because in Mexico city, people like to come, they like to drink,

[00:15:23] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** right?

[00:15:24] **Micah Day:** So they want to come just be in there and party inside. So we had opened up the out. So I said, that's, that's a lot of time, especially when we're trying to do. You know, anthem rehearsals and game entertainment rehearsals and warmups and stuff.

[00:15:37] **Micah Day:** I said, let's open the outer doors at three hours Can we open the inner doors, you know a little bit later? So people on the concourse, that's fine We just won't let them in the bowl right right when we open up the whole thing. So they agreed and I went to our security guy, I think it was the, um, the morning of, and I said, Hey, is there any way we could hold doors just 15 minutes internally in the inner doors, just [00:16:00] 15 minutes more.

[00:16:00] **Micah Day:** And he goes, well, why? And I said, I just, I, it just made me feel better. And did

[00:16:06] **Courtney Dunn:** you really just have a feeling, just had

[00:16:07] **Micah Day:** a feeling. I just wanted to hold them a little bit longer. So I wanted to open them at seven 15 internally. And at seven Oh seven, we had both teams on the court warming up and we were doing some things in the bowl.

[00:16:17] **Micah Day:** Still. And a half of a bank of lights went out. So we had a power outage and we didn't have the full bowl. It was all the other lights were on, half of them were on. This one side just went out and we're in Mexico city. And it happened earlier in the week at one point. It happened once early in the week and it was like a breaker.

[00:16:35] **Micah Day:** We had to just go fix the breaker. Typically not a big deal. The players kept warming up. I went and met with our basketball head of basketball operations. I was down on the court right by the scores table. I said, Hey, they went out. We're getting them on. And he's like, yeah, no big deal. We're in Mexico.

[00:16:48] **Micah Day:** It's fine. Like, we're not in one of our arenas. So we understand sometimes those things happen. And I looked up in one of the

fixtures. I can see a little bit of smoke over one of the fixtures now, that's [00:17:00] actually at the time now with led systems. You're never probably going to see that. But these metal halide systems that take 20 minutes to warm up and everything else.

[00:17:08] **Micah Day:** If you saw a little bit of smoke or fish, you're like, oh, that was the 1 that blew.

[00:17:12] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Oh, so this is like a relief,

[00:17:13] **Micah Day:** right? So it's like, oh, okay. We'll unplug that one. We'll turn the rest of them on. We're going to be fine. It's not a big deal. Right? And so I said, Oh, I think we just had a fixture out. We'll get it back on.

[00:17:22] **Micah Day:** Well, that smoke started becoming more than just enough smoke from 1 fixture. And it started to the entire ceiling of the arena had this smoke in it and that smoke started to descend into the bowl. And what had happened, you know, obviously hindsight, 1 of the generators had blown up basically, and the generator room underneath the facility.

[00:17:45] **Micah Day:** So, in Mexico City, a lot of our arenas here run off of city power city grids. And there's a multiple switches that come in, so that there might be with 1 line. Dies for some reason, you can automatically transfer it to another source. So, you're, you might see a [00:18:00] blip in power, but otherwise, you're going to always have power.

[00:18:02] **Micah Day:** Mass Square Gardens got multiple lines coming into it. If one line goes down for some reason, they'll be able to power it up. Mexico city is not that same way. They have a line coming into it, but they, at the time they weren't running it off of the city grid because they couldn't ensure that the city grid wouldn't have an issue.

[00:18:17] **Micah Day:** So they have a number of generators they built as part of this building that they would run the building off of these generators to ensure the power kept running during the event. Well, one of these generators failed massively. To the point that it got so hot, it actually melted the wall, the steel wall that was, as it was housed in it and that generator, it's attached to the building, but it's kind of outside the main bowl area of the, of the building.

[00:18:40] **Micah Day:** But all that smoke came through an escalator kind of shaft and into the concourse and then into the bowl, we ended up having to cancel that game.

[00:18:49] **Courtney Dunn:** This is all still before you open this

[00:18:50] **Micah Day:** is before we open those inner doors. So we didn't have any, but we had, we have fans in the building. We have fans out in the concourses.

[00:18:56] **Micah Day:** We don't have any in, in the bowl. Yeah. So I was like, I'm so glad that [00:19:00] I didn't have all these people in the bowl that I then had to try to get out of the bowl. It's a lot easier to get people out of the building from a concourse than it is. And when they're in their seats, but we had to evacuate the building.

[00:19:09] **Micah Day:** So we had to evacuate the teams. We had to evacuate people and this was a brand new building and the great people that worked there, but they didn't have an emergency response plan at this building. And so me and our, at our head of security for the event at the time, who was actually Latino and had worked in the FBI and some other three letter organizations in his career.

[00:19:31] **Micah Day:** And a lot of it in Latin America. He and I kind of helped direct and drive the evacuation of the building. And so we got everybody out and we postponed the game. They ended up playing in Minnesota a few weeks later. So we couldn't hold the game, but I came back to the office and I had so many people say, Oh, I'm so sorry that you had to go through that.

[00:19:48] **Micah Day:** What, what a horrible event to have to occur. And I didn't look at it that way. I looked at it like, there's nothing that you train for. There's no training. Right. For that type of an experience, right? [00:20:00] You just have to rely on your knowledge as a venue operator and all of the other tabletop experiences you go through and the what ifs you go through that when something like that happens, you can rely on that knowledge bank.

[00:20:13] **Micah Day:** And be able to react in the right way. And I think we learned some things we weren't perfect, but I'd say given the circumstance, everything else, I'd give myself an A plus on how I, and how the league responded in that moment of handling that situation. Because we had really good people that kind of knew what to do and, and how to handle it, even though they'd never have done it before.

[00:20:35] **Micah Day:** Yeah. And I look at that kind of as a badge of honor in my career. So when you ask like, what's my favorite event? It's like a tragedy.

That's what I'm, you know, Carly, you've known me long enough. You, that's, you're not surprised by that.

[00:20:45] **Courtney Dunn:** No. You, yeah. I think that's a great way to look at it and probably makes you so good at what you do.

[00:20:49] **Courtney Dunn:** You don't just have a checklist, X, Y, Z, you know how to approach things that just.

[00:20:53] **Micah Day:** I think that, and, and one thing we didn't talk about, which I could probably do an entire other podcast on was [00:21:00] building the NBA bubble. Like I built the bubble in terms of those venues. And so

[00:21:04] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** I didn't want to talk to you about it because I wasn't sure how much you were allowed to share about life in the.

[00:21:11] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** COVID bubble. How could that be a pop, one of your positive memories?

[00:21:15] **Micah Day:** I, I, well, I think there was like an, an ancillary NDA we had to sign about the bubble and I think it expires after like seven years, but that doesn't mean I can't talk about my personal experiences, but no, the bubble is a great experience in terms of how to put on an event.

[00:21:29] **Micah Day:** It's in under circumstances that nobody's ever seen in their lifetime, right? So I'd say that as a whole, it was kind of a badge of honor as well.

[00:21:36] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** So you lived in this, like what I call hermetically sealed environment for how long were you away from your family and only interacting with other? NBA

[00:21:49] **Micah Day:** 118 days.

[00:21:50] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Whoa. I mean,

[00:21:51] **Micah Day:** 118 days,

[00:21:52] **Courtney Dunn:** but who's counting there?

[00:21:53] **Micah Day:** Yeah, it did.

[00:21:55] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** That's intense. And I think psychologically, and again, this probably could be a whole [00:22:00] nother podcast that must be enormously challenging.

[00:22:03] **Micah Day:** You know, they've missed the mark. They really should have had sociologists inside just observing and keeping track because they're not.

[00:22:10] **Micah Day:** It was an experience and it's hard, you know, if I were any of the colleagues in the room and have on this podcast with me, I think we all agree. That's like, it's so hard to describe unless you are there. I mean, I could tell you stories. I could tell you different things that happen, but you just don't get the.

[00:22:26] **Micah Day:** Both like, it's, it's just so hard to articulate.

[00:22:29] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** I could see that. It's like the Tom Hanks movie with Wilson, the Baptist.

[00:22:33] **Courtney Dunn:** Castaway.

[00:22:34] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Castaway. Did you feel a little bit like that?

[00:22:36] **Micah Day:** There were times it was really lonely. I mean, I had 22 teams and all my colleagues and staff around me, but. Yeah, there was loneliness.

[00:22:44] **Micah Day:** I have utmost respect for the military. I've never served in the military, but I love all of our military and veterans and I'm proud of them. The only thing I can liken it to is being deployed. It was my version of being deployed and what, what they must go through when they get deployed. I don't know how they do it because that's what [00:23:00] I felt like it was in those 118 days.

[00:23:02] **Micah Day:** And now I, so I was the first one on site and almost the last one off. And it was partly because I had voluntarily, I'd gone to Florida for spring break. And ended up that's when everything shut down. And so I just stayed and when we started doing the bubble while I was one of the first calls they made, because I was already there, Hey, can you go and look at, can we do it?

[00:23:21] **Micah Day:** Can we build this? Can we put practice facilities inside hotel ballrooms? So I went through Disney with all the lights off and not a soul in sight, and it was dystopic. It was. Amazing. I still have video. I, I put video on my phone. I had to, I, because it was a just amazing experience. And so when you ask event that was tragic in its own right or, you know, globally, but I think that was one of my hugest successes, to be honest with you, is to, to put that on and be part of that and, and make that happen.

[00:23:48] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Now, tell us something that people would be, pg version people would be Surpris.

[00:23:53] **Micah Day:** I'm always a PG version. People would be surprised to know about me. I don't know. I, I grew up playing the piano. I am

[00:23:59] **Speaker 2:** [00:24:00] surprised. I've known you for almost 15 years.

[00:24:02] **Micah Day:** Yeah, my mom made me a deal. We have this, uh, concert upright grand that's about 120 years old.

[00:24:08] **Micah Day:** It's like the family heirloom. And when I was a kid, she said, if you keep taking lessons until you're 16, I'll give you the piano. And so. I cheated. I think I quit when I was about 15 and a half, but, uh, I played all the way up. I still got the piano, but, uh, and, but from that, I taught myself how to play organs.

[00:24:25] **Micah Day:** I play, I play the guitar, not as good at the guitar. I should practice more on that, but yeah, I had living in Salt Lake, it's home of the Tabernacle Choir. And, uh, one of my favorite venues actually ever is the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. If you ever want to be a venue operator, go see how that thing is built.

[00:24:40] **Micah Day:** I could spend another podcast talking about. That was the largest performing arts center in the world until royal albert hall was finished in london Most people don't know that but I had an opportunity to play the eleven thousand seven hundred plus pipe organ there once And I could jam on there on that so I can I can hit the keys

[00:24:59] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** How's

[00:24:59] **Micah Day:** that [00:25:00] for

[00:25:00] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** that?

[00:25:00] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Did you

[00:25:00] **Micah Day:** not know that about me early?

[00:25:02] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** I did not and i've known you for such a long time and i've known about your hobbies and interests and I never knew That you could play the piano or the tabernacle choir organ well rounded

[00:25:16] **Micah Day:** credit, credit my mother's insistence. My tone deaf mother who doesn't really have any musical capabilities whatsoever, not sharing anything that she wouldn't admit herself, but she credit her for starting me early.

[00:25:28] **Micah Day:** I was four or five and I played by ear when I was a kid and making me go through it and do it. And I have, it's an outlet too. Sometimes I'll just get on the piano and it's how I put off stress or get, yeah,

[00:25:39] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Well, there you have it. There's a little known fact about Micah J. Day that we would not have known about otherwise.

[00:25:47] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Well, guess what? Later, Micah and I are going to go co teach a facilities class at Columbia University's sports management program. Any topics in particular? [00:26:00] Micah is going to lead the class. Everything from Eminent Domain and using it to create sports venues and communities. What else do you have up tonight?

[00:26:10] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** I'm a student. I'm not a teacher. Micah?

[00:26:12] **Micah Day:** Oh, I don't know about that. You're always, you're always my teacher. Always have been. I get a lot out of Carla. I always learn something from Carla. Every conversation it would do it. Yeah, I mean, it domains the big one, but we're going to talk about lease agreements and naming rights and what goes along with those types of things.

[00:26:27] **Micah Day:** So

[00:26:28] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** can we talk about how much we both hate the reciprocal indemnification agreements and contracts?

[00:26:34] **Micah Day:** Absolutely.

[00:26:35] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** There you go. There's a fun night ahead.

[00:26:37] **Micah Day:** Oh, pull those out. If we could get rid of those, make my life better. Yes. Refine

[00:26:42] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** them or refine them. It's

[00:26:43] **Micah Day:** just refining. That's that's fair. Yes.

[00:26:45] **Courtney Dunn:** Okay. Well, the students will be lucky to have Micah there.

[00:26:47] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** They sure are.

[00:26:49] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** He's salty and they love it.

[00:26:51] **Micah Day:** I'm always salty. No, I just, I, this has been an honor and a privilege and there's not many people in the world. I love more than Carla. She's, she's a great friend and [00:27:00] Courtney is great meeting you and being part of this. So I hope I gave your listeners something to think about or some fun stories.

[00:27:07] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** Okay. Well, we'll definitely have you back.

[00:27:09] **Courtney Dunn:** Thank you guys. Don't forget to send any questions to info at S M S M. com. Our episodes are available the first Monday of every month, and you can listen to us on pod bean or anywhere else you get your podcasts.

[00:27:25] **Carla Varriale-Barker:** That's right. If you've got questions or comments for Micah, we'll send them his way.

[00:27:30] **Courtney Dunn:** Please rate, review and

[00:27:31] **Courtney Dunn:** subscribe. Thanks.