Louise Phipps Senft is a lawyer and mediation expert who is best known for integrating transformative approaches to conflict into her work as a mediator, executive coach in negotiation and personality dynamics in the workplace, and trainer. She founded the Baltimore Mediation Center in 1993, now Louise Phipps Senft and Associates/Baltimore Mediation, the first transformative mediation firm in Maryland. The firm offers mediation, facilitation for collaborative decision-making, and conflict resolution training with emphasis on mediator and negotiator self-awareness, on fostering quality interaction, recognition, and empowerment, and on informed decision-making. With over 20 years experience, Louise is recognized nationally and internationally for her elective design and delivery of conflict resolution and transformation skills training and for her mediation for organizations across all government, business and nonprofit sectors.

Since 1998, Louise has been an adjunct Law Professor at the University of Maryland School of Law teaching various courses in Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution (ADR) for lawyers, Negotiation and Mediation Theory and Practice. As a member of the faculty of the Harvard Law School’s Program on Negotiation Insight Initiative, she taught conflict transformation theory and self-awareness practices and has joined Helen Palmer teaching the Enneagram. She has also been faculty at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and the Johns Hopkins Carey Business School. Louise is an elected Associate of the Institute for the Study of Conflict Transformation and is a nationally Certified Transformative Mediator™. She is one of the founding members of Mediators Beyond Borders™, a non-profit offering conflict resolution aid and training for initiatives such as the Child Soldier Project in Ghana and the Katrina Mediation Project.

Her work with corporate and public policy multiparty facilitation is featured in the book the Promise of Mediation (Jossey-Bass, 2004). She has been a guest on an NPR radio affiliate and other radio programs and is the author of numerous training manuals.  She was voted “Baltimore’s Best” Mediator by Baltimore Magazine 2002 and named one of “Maryland’s Top 100 Women” for the year 2004, 2007, and 2009 by The Daily Record, and inducted into Maryland’s “Circle of Excellence” for outstanding leadership in Maryland. Louise was named one of Maryland’s Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise Owners in 2009 and 2014.

Honored in 2012 by *Smart CEO Magazine* with a Brava Award as a top CEO in Maryland, Louise is often invited to provide thought-provoking keynotes on the dynamics of interaction in conflict and effective ways to achieve breakthroughs for ourselves and others.

And now, together with her husband Bill Senft, Louise have co-authored a book to be released in September, “Being Relational: The Seven Ways to Quality Interaction & Lasting Change.” As a longtime law professor, mediator, lawyer,  entrepreneur, and mother of five children: Louise has a unique perspective on the ways that leaders and others manage conflict, experience conflict and manage themselves in conflict. Louise is the founder of the nonprofit ORANS and the Institute for Relational Leadership, which she has created for the purpose of developing leaders who will transform stressful interactions that we all know happen every day at home, at work and in our communities.