

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Statue of Liberty in New York City. The statue is shown from the waist up, holding the torch in her right hand and the tablet in her left. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The mountains in the background are silhouetted against the sky.

**JUNE 10, 11, 12 • GLOBALMINDED 2026 • SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN**

*Unifying, Uplifting, and Uniting*

AMERICA  
250 YEARS

COLORADO 150

**DIMENSIONS OF  
OUR DEMOCRACY**

ARCHITECTING THE NEXT 250/150 YEARS



*Join us for our  
12th-year  
Celebration, Reunion,  
and Acknowledgement  
of our students and graduates;  
and those who teach them,  
who work with them,  
and hire them.*



# GlobalMinded 2026

## EXCEPTIONAL LEADER AWARDS

EARLY CHILDHOOD



**Michelle Kang**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
National Assoc. for the  
Education of Young Children  
(NAEYC)

K-12



**Jean-Claude Brizard**  
*President and CEO*  
Digital Promise  
Global

HIGHER ED



**Dr. Freeman Hrabowski III**  
*former President*  
University of Maryland,  
Baltimore County

HEALTH & WELLNESS



**Donna Lynne, DrPH**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
Denver Health

BANKING & FINANCE



**Mike Lettig**  
*Sr. Managing Director,  
Group Head Native  
American Financial Svcs.*  
Huntington National Bank

ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY



**Telva McGruder**  
*Exec. Dir., Global Body  
Manufacturing Engineering*  
General Motors

SPACE & AEROSPACE



**Ron Lopez**  
*President*  
Astroscale U.S.

TECHNOLOGY



**Kinsey Fabrizio**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
Consumer Technology  
Association

ENTREPRENEURSHIP



**Stuart Weismiller**  
*Founder*  
Everyday Entrepreneur  
Fund

MEDIA & ARTS



**Sergio Fernández de Córdova**  
*Chairman*  
PVBUBLIC Foundation

NON-PROFIT



**Steve Schwab**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
Elizabeth Dole  
Foundation

FOUNDATIONS & FUNDERS



**La June Montgomery Tabron**  
*President and CEO*  
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

LEADERSHIP & EQUITY



**Kimberly Cooper**  
*Global Board Chair*  
International Women's  
Forum

GLOBAL IMPACT



**Valerie Singer**  
*General Manager*  
Global Education  
Amazon Web Services

*Celebrate these tremendous luminaries with us at GlobalMinded 2026*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## PRESENTING SPONSORS

*This event and the awards dinner are made possible by*

Morgan Stanley



El Pomar  
A Foundation for Colorado

## SPONSORS





# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## PARTNERS



PHILANTHROPY IS BEAUTIFUL  
JEWELRY BY JOAN HORNIG





# 2026 First Gen Leadership Program GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## Creating Your Powerful Voice, Impact, Path, and Service

Windows

8:15-8:45 **Registration** 3rd floor

For approved students to attend. Business attire, please

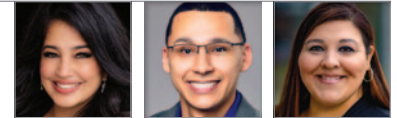
9:00-9:10 **Welcome, Introductions, and Goals of the Day**

Dr. Paula Hopkins, *EVP Strategic Partnerships, Miami-Dade Beacon Council*  
Dani Bedoni, *Master Coach*



9:10-9:30 **Leveraging the GlobalMinded Success Network:  
Voice and Impact**

Dr. Lori Marie Huertas, *Assistant Director, Industry Partnerships, MSU Denver*  
Brian Ysasaga, *Mission Engineering & Operations Systems Engineer, Lockheed Martin*  
Angela Martinez, *Community Partnership and Marketing Manager, Thrive; President, GMED Emerging Leaders*



9:30-10:00 **Activating Your GlobalMinded Potential:  
Building Your Professional Pathway**

Dr. Angie Paccione, *Chief Impact Officer, Verus Global Training and Management*



10:00-10:30 **From Poverty to Prosperity: How Entrepreneurship Saved My Life**

Travis Luther, *First Gen grad, serial entrepreneur, servant leader*



10:30-11:00 **From Rural America to National Impact: Tips to Let Your Light Shine**

Jill Wright, *Founder and CEO, Executive Shine*



11:00-11:45 **Global Leadership, Local Impact**

Dr. Melinda Cain, *Managing Director, Real World Solutions*



11:45-12:30 **Lunch** Join people you don't know to grow your network and make new friends!

Chawtana Edwards, MPH, *Program Director, AGAPE Strategic Solutions of Maryland; VP Emerging Leaders, GlobalMindED*



12:15-1:00 **Your Struggle is Your Strength**

Torian Richardson, *Chief Executive Officer, DBR77; formerly with NVIDIA*



1:00-2:15 **How Failure Strengthens Leadership**

Dr. Tony Hansberry II, *Psychiatry Resident, Tripler Army Medical Center*



2:15-2:30 **Break**

2:30-3:15 **Networking and Next Steps for Your Voice, Impact, Path, and Service:  
Leveraging Your Super Powers of Grit, Courage, Faith, Fearlessness**

Patricia Barela Rivera, *Former Colorado Director, U.S. Small Business Administration*



3:15-4:00 **Speed Networking and Wrap-Up:  
Making the Most Out of Growing Your Leadership**

Dr. Paula Hopkins, *EVP Strategic Partnerships, Miami-Dade Beacon Council*  
Rocio Pérez, MBA, *International Speaker, Bestselling Author, Creator of The MindShift Experience*  
Rimshah Jawad, *Strategic Initiatives and Data Consultant, InPerson+*



5:00-7:00 **Opening Reception**

SOUTH LOBBY

7:00-9:00 **First Gen Leadership and Exceptional Leaders Awards Dinner**

GRAND BALLROOM



PRE-CONFERENCE  
 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION

# Math Learning in the Age of AI

Wed., June 10, 12:00–3:00 • University of Colorado Denver • Lunch included

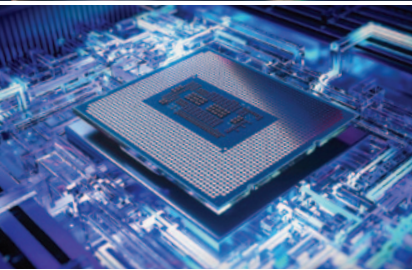


Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming how we teach, learn, and do mathematics leaving us with the question: *What is math's mission in an AI driven world?* Join us to debate, collaborate, and generate new ideas about our future and how AI tools can enhance critical thinking, personalize learning, foster conceptual understanding, and advance career paths involving mathematics.

## Introduction to AI in Our World Today and Predictions for Its Future

QUESTION: *Will AI be good for our world or bad?*

- What are current uses for AI?
- What are future predictions for AI usage and implementation?
- What will innovations in the future “look like” with AI?



## State of Mathematics in Education Today and the Push for AI Tools

QUESTION: *What is mathematical proficiency going to be in our future world with AI, and how will we learn it?*

- What is the state of achievement and student learning today?
- What are challenges in fostering student mathematics reasoning with technology?
- How might AI hinder or foster future learning in mathematics?



## Mathematics Understanding and Knowledge and Career Pathways

QUESTION: *What is our future career pathway going to look like with AI and human reasoning of mathematics?*

- How is math currently, deeply connected to careers?
- How is math relevant and why is proficiency important beyond school?
- How are AI's abilities to do math evolving in our world now?
- How does AI and human math-knowledge have the potential to overlap in the future?

*This event is made possible by GlobalMindED, Digital Promise, and the University of Colorado Denver.*

GlobalMindED welcomes



Dr. Karen Marrongelle  
 Provost, University of Colorado Denver

Jean-Claude Brizard  
 President and CEO, Digital Promise



Dr. Nicola Hodkowski  
 Dir., Mathematics Ed. Research, Digital Promise



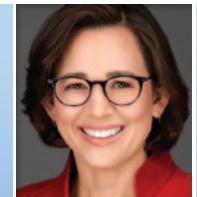
Dr. Po-Shen Loh  
 Professor of Mathematics, Carnegie Mellon University



Debra Wilcox  
 Former Chair, Colorado AI & Supercomputing Roundtable



Nithin Singh Mohan  
 AI & Supercomputing Leader, Hewlett-Packard Enterprise



Erika Twani  
 Founder, Learning One to One



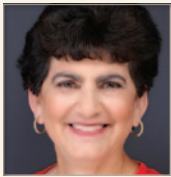
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 12:30–3:00PM • SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

GLOBALMINDED 2026 PRE-CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE PRESIDENTS AND TRUSTEES

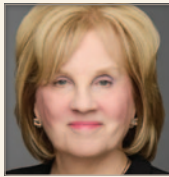
# The Transformational College Leader

DESIGNING INSTITUTIONS THAT THRIVE IN AN AI-DRIVEN WORLD

*Presented by GlobalMindED College Leaders*



**Dr. Mary Papazian**  
*Global Fellow,  
University Design Institute  
Arizona State University*



**Dr. Barbara Gellman-Danley**  
*President  
Higher Learning  
Commission*



**Russell Noles**  
*Past Chair,  
Board of Trustees  
Metropolitan State  
University of Denver*



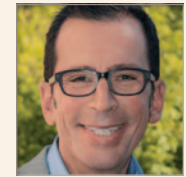
**Dr. Justin Lonon**  
*Chancellor  
Dallas College*



**Dr. Yolanda Watson Spiva**  
*President and CEO  
Complete College  
America*



**Dr. Michael Gavin**  
*President and CEO  
Alliance for  
Higher Education*



**Dr. Elliot Stern**  
*President  
Saddleback College  
Founding Partner  
CCC Digital Center*

**T**his session is for presidents ready to move from incremental change to institutional reinvention. AI is redefining what students need, how faculty teach, what employers expect and what communities demand. This pre-conference focuses on how presidents can harness the power of AI to expand access, personalize learning, strengthen financial resilience, and build inclusive pathways to economic mobility. Leaders will walk away with new perspectives, actionable frameworks, strategic tools and renewed sense of purpose for the era ahead.

Options are available to attend the GlobalMindED Opening Reception from 5:00–7:00 pm, the Exceptional Leader Awards Dinner at 7:00 pm, and/or join the GlobalMindED 2026 Annual Conference on June 11 and 12.





# 2026 GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**2026 PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT** *(Fee waived with conference registration.)*

Tower Court A (Main)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 9:00AM – 3:00PM *(With paired coaching time during lunch. Meal not included.)*



**Dr. Jennifer McCrickerd**

*LifeBound Lead  
Coaching Educator  
Professor of Philosophy,  
Drake University*

## Coaching Students for Personal and Professional Success in Challenging Times

*Building Academic, Personal, Practical, and Professional Skills*

**Learn effective coaching tools and practices that help students overcome setbacks, navigate challenges, and thrive.**

Students are navigating a time of extreme uncertainty in the job market while striving to cope with the aftermath of the pandemic, all while managing a challenging array of formats in their college coursework. Coaching strategies can support students' functioning and accountability as they face financial, social/emotional, and academic issues in this time.

This one-day, interactive session of LifeBound coaching training will give you coaching tools to help you meet students where they are right now and help them grow to their full potential.



**Sarah Kravits**

*LifeBound Certified  
Master Trainer  
Senior Academic Coach,  
Rutgers University*

### Coaching strategies can help students in the age of AI:

- build academic, personal, practical, and professional skills,
- transition more effectively to college and the world of work,
- connect more deeply with faculty, staff, and resources,
- build accountability, self management, and skills of personal agency,
- navigate the myriad of uncertainties during this time,
- find fulfillment in school, work, and personal life,
- and gain the confidence to pursue the career they choose.



**Sarah Zeren**

*LifeBound Certified  
Master Trainer  
Senior Coaching Manager,  
Western Governors University*

### Creating a campus wide culture of coaching™

LifeBound trains and certifies individuals and institutions worldwide in coaching for personal, academic, and professional success. Our educators help students gain the practical, transferable skills they need to complete college, secure gainful employment, and achieve financial security.

*For more coaching training, sign up for the 3-Day Virtual Class via Zoom, or you can take the Asynchronous Guided Class on your own time and work with a private coach. More information can be found at [www.lifebound.com](http://www.lifebound.com).*



INVITATION ONLY

## PRIVATE LEADERSHIP ROUNDTABLE

# UNLOCKING HUMAN CAPACITY AT SCALE

You are invited to a pre-conference roundtable with a select group of foundation leaders and legacy stewards to examine **the next highest-leverage investment frontier** in the United States: unlocking suppressed human talent at scale. This is an opportunity to engage not just as institutions and donors but as human beings.

Technology is no longer the defining ROI lever, *human capacity is.*

Yet the **systems** that cultivate leadership, belonging, and the next-generation talent remain *under-examined and under-coordinated.*

PRECONFERENCE EVENT:

WEDNESDAY, 1:00-3:00 PM, ASPEN ROOM, SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN



**HOLLY RUXIN**  
Founder & CEO  
Montcalm



**RAHIM RAJAN**  
Chief Executive  
Officer, AQL Labs

This private, candid dialogue will bring together peers operating at the highest levels of responsibility to explore:

- Where capital can most effectively **unlock talent**
- What **structural shifts** are required
- How collaboration at the leadership level can **accelerate impact**

The conversation serves as a strategic portal into the GlobalMindED Conference, shaping how participants engage the issues, the talent, and one another.

Two focused hours and lunch with **senior peers**, field-shaping perspective and making us all better human beings and stewards.



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**IDEA CAFE (DAY I & II)**

**South Convention Lobby (Main)**

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, JUNE 11 & 12

7:30–8:45 AM (during breakfast)

*Piano music by Santiago Ramos Arjona, 2026 Graduate, Dakota Ridge High School, Jeffco Public Schools*

**Using AI to 10X Nonprofit Outcomes:  
Better ROI for Funders and Nonprofit Leaders**



**Dr. Solomon Abiola**  
*Biomedical, Mechanical, and Aerospace  
Engineering, Computer Science (AI)*

**From Insight to Impact:  
Leveraging Learning in a Business Internship**



**Dr. Susan Yturraspe**  
*Researcher, Speaker, and Consultant  
Yturraspe & Co.*

**How Can You Plan to Thrive—No Matter What?**



**Deena Larsen**  
*Organizational Development Strategist,  
Clearly Consistent  
formerly Bureau of Reclamation*

**LEADERSHIP—Leading With Balance:  
“Weighing It All”**



**Roddrick Marshall**  
*Board Member, SOAR Elementary  
CEO, FreshStart of Denver Consultant Group  
Public Speaker*

**Start Where You Are:  
Designing a Life of Purpose, Energy, and Impact**



**Scott Talvin**  
*Award-winning Radio Host  
and Motivational Speaker  
Magic 94.9 at Cox Media*

**First Gen Breakthrough:  
Rewiring the Mental Script**



**Quynh Anh Do**  
*Founder and Coach  
Self Management for Success*

**What Does Inclusive Leadership Look Like  
for First-Gen Talent in Practice?**



**Sherica Hymes**  
*Associate Dean, Memphis Academy  
of Civic Engagement  
Founder and CEO, Polished Consulting*

**Creating Worldwide Peacemakers**



**Richard Jordan**  
*United Nations Non-governmental  
Organizations*

**Who Should Care About STEAM Education?  
Considerations for Families and Communities**

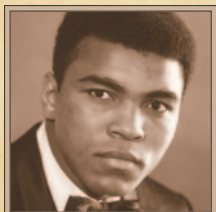


**Dr. Christian Anderson**  
*Assoc. Professor of Mathematics Education,  
Morgan State University*

**Climb Your Everest**



**Leitzia Pileggi**  
*Cofounder, Lumina Investment Group  
Lead Instructor, Climb Your Everest*



America is a place where the impossible becomes possible.

*Muhammad Ali*



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JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

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## Music for the 150/250 Celebration

### DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY: ARCHITECTING THE FUTURE

#### WEDNESDAY JUNE 10

OPENING RECEPTION—South Lobby, Windows Side, 5:00–7:00 pm  
*with the jazz stylings of the*

**Norton Ewart and the Resonant Unit**

EXCEPTIONAL LEADER AWARDS DINNER—Grand Ballroom, 7:00 pm  
*with classical music by the*

**Classical Musicians of Thomas Jefferson High School**

#### THURSDAY, JUNE 11

MORNING BREAKFAST & IDEA CAFE—South Lobby, 7:30–8:45 am  
*with piano accompaniment by*

**Santiago Ramos Arjona, 2026 grad, Dakota Ridge High School**

CONFERENCE OPENING—Grand Ballroom, 9:00 am

*Stand with your hand on your heart for the National Anthem by*

**Lily Urbana, Health Science Student, MSU Denver**

LUNCH—Grand Ballroom, 12:00–12:30

**Orchestrating Peace with Diego Carniego**

from the Amazon Art Foundation,  
*sponsored by Rotary International*

NETWORKING RECEPTION—South Lobby, 4:30-6:00 pm

*with patriotic favorites from the oldest VFW band in the country*

**The Colorado Veterans of Foreign War Band**

*Welcome to our 32 Veteran musicians!*

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 12

MORNING BREAKFAST & IDEA CAFE—South Lobby, 7:30–8:45 am  
*with piano accompaniment by*

**Santiago Ramos Arjona, 2026 grad, Dakota Ridge High School**

CLOSING SESSION: *What Unites Us?*—Grand Ballroom, 3:30 pm  
*with the exciting music of the*

**North High School Drum Corps and Alex Rodriguez**



# 2026 Plenary Sessions: DAY I

## GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, JUNE 11 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

### Creating Our Democratic Destiny

*Responsible Tech, AI, Learning, Working, and Leading*

OPENING PLENARY • 9:00–10:00

*“The Star Spangled Banner” sung by Lily Urbina, student, MSU Denver Health Institute*



**Jean-Claude Brizard**  
*President and CEO*  
Digital Promise



**Valerie Singer**  
*General Manager,*  
*Global Education*  
Amazon Web Services



**Telva McGruder**  
*Executive Director, Global Body*  
*Manufacturing Engineering*  
General Motors



**Dr. Freeman Hrabowski III**  
*President Emeritus*  
University of Maryland,  
Baltimore County

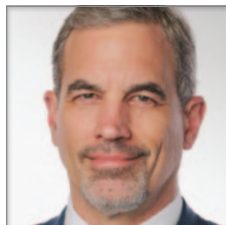


*Panel Facilitator*  
**Scott Carter**  
*Producer, Playwright,*  
*and Podcast Host*

### People-Powered Progress

*Prioritizing Human Connection to Build Bridges of Impact Across Differences*

LUNCH: 12:00–1:20 • SESSION: 12:30–1:20



*Panel Facilitator*  
**Tom Vander Ark**  
*Advisor, Partner,*  
*and former CEO*  
Getting Smart



**Jerome “JYD” Williams**  
*Author, businessman,*  
*producer, former NBA player*  
*for the New York Knicks*



**Michelle Kang**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
National Association for the  
Education of Young Children  
(NAEYC)



**Steve Schwab**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
Elizabeth Dole  
Foundation

### Pillars of Our Democracy—The Connect Effect

*53 Minutes to Authentic Leadership, Deep Respect, and Cooperation*

AFTERNOON PLENARY • 3:30–4:30



*Introduction by*  
**Simone Ross**  
*CEO, Colorado Women’s*  
*Chamber of Commerce*



**Riaz Patel**  
*Executive Producer and Director*  
ConnectEffect

**NETWORKING RECEPTION • 4:30–6:00, SOUTH LOBBY**



# 2026 Plenary Sessions: DAY II

## GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

### Financial Freedom and Economic Mobility

*Creating and Compounding Long-Term Financial Health and Success*

MORNING PLENARY • 9:00–10:00



**Rodney Bolden**  
*Executive Director, Head of Workplace Benefits Insights*  
Morgan Stanley at Work



**Lori Reynolds**  
*Lt. General, U.S.M.C. (ret.)*  
Member, Board of Trustees  
American Public Univ. Sys.



**Richard Lewis**  
*Founder and CEO*  
RTL Networks  
and RTL Foundation



**Mike Lettig**  
*Group Head Native American Financial Services*  
Huntington National Bank

### Learning, Earning, and Educating to Realize the America Dream

*Building Capacity, Aligning Systems, and Sustaining Impact State by State*

LUNCH: 12:00–1:20 • SESSION: 12:30–1:20



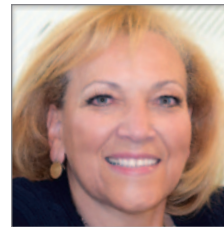
**Mike Johnston**  
*Mayor*  
Denver, Colorado



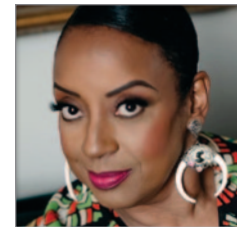
**Antoinette Gawin**  
*President and CEO*  
Terumo Blood and Cell Technologies



**Larry Wright, Jr.**  
*Executive Director*  
National Congress of American Indians



**Dr. Angie Paccione**  
*Chief Impact Officer*  
Verus Global Training and Management



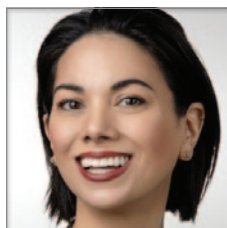
**Melba Wilson**  
*Restaurateur, author, and Food Network personality*  
Melba's Restaurant, Harlem

### What Unites Us?

*Sports, Music, the Arts, Purpose, and Service*

CLOSING PLENARY • 3:30–4:30

*Music by the North High School Band Drum Corps and Alex Rodriguez*



**Tatiana Arguello**  
*President and Gen. Manager*  
Telemundo Colorado & Utah,  
NBC-Universal Local Division



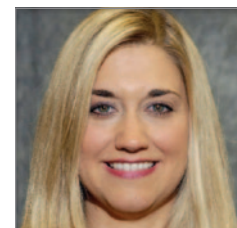
**Daniel Wachter**  
*President and CEO*  
Colorado Symphony



**Charles Johnson**  
*Board Member,*  
Denver Health  
*Former Executive VP,*  
Ball Corporation



**Diego Carniero**  
*Founder and Director,*  
AmazonArt Foundation  
*Cofounder,*  
Orchestrating Peace



**Shawna Hoffman**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
Armored Quantum, Inc.

All Industry Marketplace attendees, students, graduates, and businesses are invited to this closing session.



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

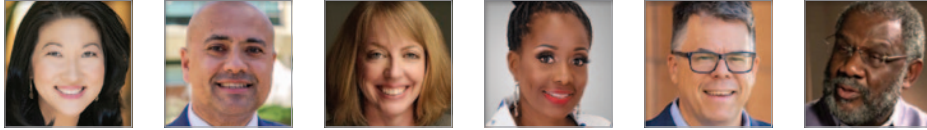
## EARLY LEARNING (DAY I)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

SILVER 10:10–12:00  
(Mezzanine)

### Early Learning: Creating the Fabric of Our Democratic Future One Young Learner at a Time With Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) Families

#### DEEPER DIVES



Introduction & Overview

Michelle Kang, *Chief Executive Officer, National Assoc. for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)*  
Chris Preston, *Chief Strategic Partnerships Officer, BlueSKY Collaborative Partners*  
Dr. Pamela Harris, *President and CEO, Mile High Early Learning*  
Blythe Keeler Robinson, *President and CEO, Sheltering Arms Early Education and Family Centers*  
William Browning, *President and CEO, Clayton Early Learning*  
Ralph Smith, *Managing Director, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20  
COLORADO (Mezzanine)

### Policy, Programs, and Partners for Preschool and Early Education

#### POLICY



Dr. Lisa Roy, *Executive Director, Colorado Department of Early Childhood*  
Patricia Lozano, *Executive Director, Early Edge California*  
Mirel Herrera, *Senior Policy Analyst, Early Edge California*  
Theresa Christensen, *Founder and CEO, Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Development Center*

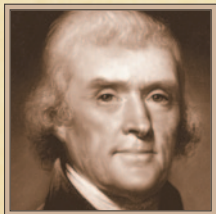
BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20  
TOWER COURT D

### Little Learners, Big Democracy: Why and How Funding 0-3rd Grade Will Secure Our Economic Future

#### FOUNDATIONS



Michelle Kang, *Chief Executive Officer, National Assoc. for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)*  
Chris Preston, *Chief Strategic Partnerships Officer, BlueSKY Collaborative Partners*  
Christine Benero, *President and CEO, Mile High United Way*



We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

*Thomas Jefferson*, DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## EARLY LEARNING (DAY II)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00  
TOWER COURT A

K–12

### Personal and Professional Self Care for Educators: *Surviving In Times of Extreme Challenge*



Dr. Rosemarie Allen, *Dean, School of Education, Metropolitan State University of Denver*  
Sharyn Pirtle, *Director of Education, Sing for Hope; Founder and Artistic Director, Young at Arts*  
Dani Bedoni, *Master Coach, President, Learning One-to-One; GlobalMindED Emerging Leaders*  
Yolanda Greer, *President and CEO, ElevateU Consulting*  
Palmira Tolotti, *Educational Public Policy Analyst, Palmira Tolotti Talks, Brazil*  
Gabrielle Larson, *LCSW, Licensed Mental Health Therapist, Beyond Dreams Therapy at Colorado Dream Foundation*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00  
TOWER COURT A

K–12

### Inclusive Educator Talent Pipeline: *K-12 Leaders of Color Unifying and Empowering the Future*



Jason Dropik, *Executive Director, National Indian Education Association (NIEA)*  
M. Ann Levett, Ed.D., *Senior Vice President, Leadership Network, AASA, The School Superintendents Association*  
Dr. Alex Marrero, *President, Assoc. of Latino Administrators & Superintendents (ALAS), Superintendent, Denver Public Schools*  
Dr. Kimberly McLeod, *President, National Alliance of Black School Educators*  
Dr. Cassandra Herring, *President and CEO, Branched*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20  
TOWER COURT C

GLOBAL WORK SKILLS

### Caregiving, Supporting Employees for Our Economic Future: *Workforce Competitiveness Across Industries*



Wendi Safstrom, *President, SHRM Foundation*  
Nicole Riehl, *President and CEO, Executives Partnering to Invest in Children (EPIC)*  
Steve Schwab, *Chief Executive Officer, Elizabeth Dole Foundation*  
Dr. Tatiana Bailey, *Executive Director, Data Driven Economic Strategies*  
Don Vetal, *Cofounder and CEO, ChorUS; Founder and former CEO, LyfLynks*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20  
DENVER (Mezzanine)

WORKSHOP

### Early Learning—Where We Go From Here Between Now and Next June: *Blueprint for a Democratic Early Learner Success Pipeline*



Ralph Smith, *Managing Director, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading*  
William Browning, *President and CEO, Clayton Early Learning*  
Dr. Lisa Roy, *Executive Director, Colorado Department of Early Childhood*  
Jason Dropik, *Executive Director, National Indian Education Association (NIEA)*  
Lucille Echohawk, *Founder, Native Americans in Philanthropy; Interim Exec. Director, Denver Indian Family Resource Center*  
Elsa Holguin, *President and CEO, Denver Preschool Program*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**K-12 (DAY I)**

**Tower Court A (Main)**

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

**BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00** **The Future of Teacher Education Preparation:  
Bolstering Education as a Pillar of Democracy**



Dr. Cheryl Holcomb-McCoy, *President and CEO, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE)*  
 Dr. Marvin Lynn, *Dean, School of Education, University of Colorado Denver*  
 Dr. Cassandra Herring, *President and CEO, BranchED*  
 Albert Chen, *Chief Operating Officer, PDK International*  
 Dr. Ambereen Khan-Baker, *Senior Policy Program Specialist, National Education Association (NEA)*

**BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00** **The Civic Fabric of Our Democracy: AI's Rapid Integration Into K-12  
and How Teachers and Students Can Be Helped Not Harmed**



Erika Twani, *Founder, Learning One to One*  
 Jean-Claude Brizard, *President and CEO, Digital Promise*  
 Dr. Nicola Hodkowski, *Senior Researcher, Mathematics Education, Digital Promise*  
 Dr. Po-Shen Loh, *Professor of Mathematics, Carnegie Mellon University*  
 Chris Gdowski, *Superintendent, Adams 12 Five Star Schools*

**BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20** **Human-Centered AI Literacy: Teaching Strong Critical Thinking Skills  
to Evaluate AI Outputs, Algorithmic Bias, and Ethical Engagement**



Tom Vander Ark, *Advisor, Partner, and former CEO, Getting Smart*  
 Dr. Joseph South, *Chief Innovation Officer, ISTE+ASCD*  
 Dr. Padmanabhan Seshaiyer, *Professor and Director, College of Science, George Mason University*  
 Antonio Vigil, *Director of Innovative Classroom Technology, Aurora Public Schools*  
 Nithin Singh Mohan, *AI & Supercomputing Leader, Hewlett Packard Enterprise*

**BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20** **Where Opportunity Begins:  
Employment Launchpads for High School Talent and Postsecondary Leaders**



Lisa Dughi, *Chief Executive Officer, NAF*  
 Milanka Muecke, *Executive Director of Global Solutions and Services, Lenovo*  
 Jerome "JYD" Williams, *Author, businessman, producer, former NBA player for the New York Knicks*  
 Amy Loyd, *Chief Executive Officer, All4Ed; former Asst. Secretary, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Ed., U.S. Dept. of Education*  
 Lauryn Fisher, *former educator, former Lenovo intern & NAF graduate; Forensics Services Technician, Winston-Salem Police Dept.*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

K-12 (DAY II)

Tower Court A (Main)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **Personal and Professional Self Care for Educators and School Counselors:  
Surviving In Times of Extreme Challenge**



Dr. Rosemarie Allen, *Dean, School of Education, Metropolitan State University of Denver*  
Sharyn Pirtle, *Director of Education, Sing for Hope; Founder and Artistic Director, Young at Arts*  
Dani Bedoni, *Master Coach, President, Learning One-to-One; GlobalMindED Emerging Leaders*  
Yolanda Greer, *President and CEO, ElevateU Consulting*  
Palmira Tolotti, *Educational Public Policy Analyst, Palmira Tolotti Talks, Brazil*  
Gabrielle Larson LCSW, *Licensed Mental Health Therapist, Beyond Dreams Therapy at Colorado Dream Foundation*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **Inclusive Educator Talent Pipeline:  
K-12 Leaders of Color Unifying and Empowering the Future**



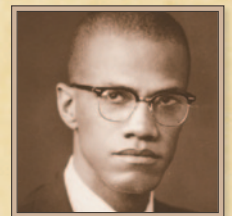
Jason Dropik, *Executive Director, National Indian Education Association (NIEA)*  
Shawna Becenti, *Head of School, Navajo Preparatory School*  
Dr. Alex Marrero, *President, Assoc. of Latino Administrators & Superintendents (ALAS), Superintendent, Denver Public Schools*  
Dr. Kimberly McLeod, *President, National Alliance of Black School Educators*  
Dr. Cassandra Herring, *President and CEO, BranchED*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Promoting Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Employment-Ready Skills  
With CTE Strategies: Career Success From Classroom to Workforce Impact**



Allison Doe, *Founder, Classroom to Leadership; CTE Business and Technology Instructor, Stride, Inv.*  
Laura Burke, *Chief of Innovative Systems and Empowerment, Venture Academy of Leadership and Entrepreneurship (VALE)*  
Neil Morris, *Former Chief Information Officer, AI Advisor, Author of "Why AI Fails"*  
Lee-Ann Hayen, *Chief Learner and Disruptor, Venture Academy of Leadership & Entrepreneurship (VALE)*  
Dennis Sierra, *Administration Leader, K-12 Education*

You can't separate peace from freedom because no one can be at peace unless he has his freedom. *Malcolm X*



Freedom makes a huge requirement of every human being. With freedom comes responsibility. *Eleanor Roosevelt*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

HIGHER ED (DAY I)

Tower Court B (Main)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **Leadership, Skills-Based Learning, and Employment-Ready Graduates in the Age of AI**



Susan Adams, *Founder, Women in AI Colorado; Assoc. Director of Teaching & Learning, Achieving the Dream*  
 Dr. Angie Paccione, *Chief Impact Officer, Verus Global Training and Management*  
 Dr. Melissa Vito, *Vice Provost for Academic Innovation, University of Texas at San Antonio*  
 Dr. Christine Looser, *Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships, Minerva Project; Assoc. Professor of Business, Minerva University*  
 Rev. Lamont Wells, *Executive Director, Network of ELCA (Lutheran) Colleges and Universities (NECU)*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **Solutions to Top Challenges Facing College Presidents: Political Pressures, Institutional Autonomy, Enrollment Declines, Affordability, Student Debt, Mental Health and Student Well-Being, and Free Speech on Campus**



Dr. Barbara Gellman-Danley, *President, Higher Learning Commission*  
 Dr. Freeman Hrabowski III, *President Emeritus, University of Maryland, Baltimore County*  
 Dr. Elliot Stern, *President, Saddleback College; Founding Partner, CCC Digital Center*  
 Dr. Monte Randall, *President, College of the Muscogee Nation*  
 Dr. Marielena DeSanctis, *Chancellor, Colorado Community College System*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Architects of Higher Education Transformation: Creating Conditions for Lasting Change and Impact**



Dr. Nia Woods Haydel, *Vice President for Institutional Transformation & Scaling, Complete College America*  
 Dr. LaTonia Collins Smith, *President, Harris-Stowe State University*  
 Dr. Carla Tweed, *President, Coalinga College*  
 Dr. Valerio Ferme, *President, New Mexico State University*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20 **Leaders of Collegiate Leaders: Advancing Affordability, Belonging, and Employment-Ready Outcomes**



Dr. Mary Papazian, *Global Fellow, University Design Institute, Arizona State University*  
 Dr. Yolanda Watson Spiva, *President & CEO, Complete College America*  
 Dr. Justin Lonon, *Chancellor, Dallas College*  
 Dr. Meg Lota Brown, *Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, University of Arizona*  
 Nuno Fernandes, *President, American Public University System (APUS)*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

HIGHER ED (DAY II)

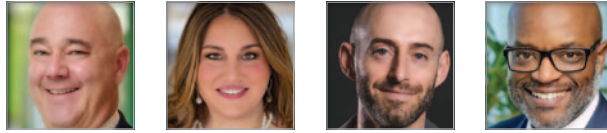
Tower Court B (Main)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

## Democracy Campus 2036:

*Building Morally Democratic Leaders in the Higher Education HIVE*



Dr. Michael Gavin, *President and CEO, Alliance for Higher Education*

Skye Perryman, *President and CEO, Democracy Forward*

Jonathon Feingold, *Professor of Law, Boston University*

Alfonzo Alexander, *President and CEO, The PhD Project*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

## Articulation and Transfer AI Network (ATAIN):

*Making Students First in the College Transfer Process to Maximize Belonging, Completion, and Employment*



Dr. Karen Vignare, *VP, Digital Transformation for Student Success, Assoc. of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)*

Dr. Zachary Pardos, *Associate Professor, School of Education, University of California Berkeley*

Dr. Angel M. Royal, *Senior Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)*

Angela Martinez, *Community Partnership and Marketing Manager, Thrive; President, GMED Emerging Leaders*

Quynh Anh Do, *Psychology student, University of Colorado Boulder; Founder and Coach, Self-Management for Success LLC*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20

## Listening, Implementing, and Leveraging AI With Faculty and Students:

*Involving Key Stakeholders in Successful Outcomes*



Dave Toole, *Chairman, Outhink.AI*

Zak Zielezinski, *Chief Executive Officer, GLX Studio, MediaMobz Inc.*

Lucinda Bliss, *Dean, College of Arts & Media, University of Colorado, Denver*

Marin Wilts, *Assistant Director, We Make Noise; Faculty Associate—Popular Music, Arizona State University*

Yvette Sanchez, *Program Operations Coordinator, Ourmedia*



We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain . . .

This nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—  
and that government of the people, by the people, for the people,  
shall not perish from the earth. *Abraham Lincoln*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**STEAM (DAY I)**

**Spruce (Mezz)**

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

## **Cybersecurity Careers and Frontiers:** *Charting the Future of Safety, Strength, and Sovereign Systems*



Julia Costin, *Cofounder and COO, Cyber Qubits*  
 Danny Magallanes, *Board of Advisors, Impact Driven Comms; former FBI Cyber Threat Program Manager*  
 Lynn Dohm, *Executive Director, Women in CyberSecurity (WiCyS)*  
 Safa Edwards, *Director, Cyber Statecraft Initiative, Atlantic Council*  
 Shawna Hoffman, *Chief Executive Officer, Armored Quantum, Inc.*  
 Milan Williams, *Senior Product Manager, Semgrep*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

## **Rocketing to Resilience: Aerospace Visionaries Protecting Freedom's Frontier**



Debra Wilcox, *Founder, Creating Manufacturing; Former Chair, Colorado Space Business Roundtable*  
 Ron Lopez, *President, Astroscale U.S.*  
 Rich Kolberg, *Vice President of Business Development, Special Aerospace Services*  
 Rita Peterson, *Chief Executive Officer, Caribou Thunder*  
 Matt Blackford, *SpaceWERX Portfolio Management, Deputy Team Lead, SpaceWERX*  
 Brian Ysasaga, *Mission Engineering & Operations Systems Engineer, Lockheed Martin*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20

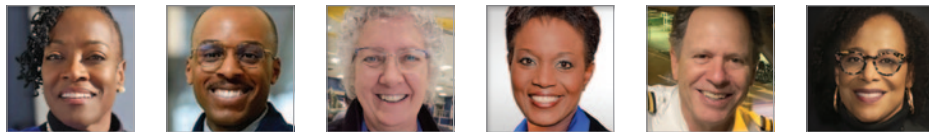
## **Engineers Managing and Leading Innovation for the Future:** *Managing Change and Innovation for a Thriving Democracy*



Dr. Gilda Barabino, *Former President, Olin College of Engineering*  
 Lori Reynolds, *Lieutenant General, U.S. Marine Corps (ret.); Member, Board of Trustees, American Public University System (APUS)*  
 Dr. Gregory Triplett, *Dean of the School of Science and Engineering, Saint Louis University*  
 Dr. Eden Mamut, *Professor, Engineering Thermodynamics, Ovidius Univ. of Constanta; Fellow, World Acad. of Art and Science*  
 Aidan Sens, *Engineering/Industrial Management student, Miami University*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20

## **The Business and Technology of Aviation: Career Opportunities**



Marlene Price, *Faculty, Aviation and Aerospace Sciences, Metropolitan State University of Denver; Boeing (retired)*  
 Anthony Clark, *Research Strategist, Center of Equity and Excellence of Aviation, Denver International Airport*  
 Michelle McMahon, *Director of Education, Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum*  
 Dawn Massop Love, *Chief Operating Officer, Advanced Space*  
 Alex Strickland, *Airline Safety Engagement Specialist, Boeing; Former Boeing 787 Captain, United Airlines*  
 Vanessa Blacknall-Jamison, *Executive Director, Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (OBAP)*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

STEAM (DAY II)

Spruce (Mezz)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

## Innovative Approaches for STEM Education: *Collaboration, Prototyping, and Experiential Programs Making a Difference*



Dustin DeBrum, *Operations Director, Innovation Programs, Noyce School of Applied Computing, Cal Poly*  
Kim LeClaire, *ISTE Faculty Consultancy, International Society for Technology in Education*  
Grace Crain-Wright, *Director of Programs and Education, Colorado Space Institute at Arapahoe Community College*  
Jamaal Smith, *Vice President, Kajeet*  
Kristen Fox, *Chief Executive Officer, Business-Higher Education Forum (BHEF)*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

## Elevating Math's Global Purpose in the 21st Century: *Financial Markets, AI Math Literacy, Business Success*



Dr. Scott McLeod, J.D., *Founding Director, Center for the Advanced Study of Technology Leadership in Education (CASTLE), UC Denver*  
Dr. Po-Shen Loh, *Professor of Mathematics, Carnegie Mellon University*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20

## Creating a STEM Ecosystem: *Cultivating Connection, Cross-Section Partnerships, and Community*



Dr. Janelle Johnson, *Director, Colorado STEM Ecosystem; Professor of STEM Education, Metropolitan State Univ. of Denver*  
Jenny Frank, *Director, STEM Learning Ecosystems Community of Practice, Teaching Institute for Excellence in STEM*  
Dr. Eden Mamut, *Professor, Engineering Thermodynamics, Ovidius Univ. of Constanta; Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science*  
Dr. Stephanie Rodriguez, *Director, STEMM Opportunity Alliance, American Assoc. for the Advancement of Science*  
Heather Ellis, *Program Manager, Career Pathways, Denver International Airport*



The essence of America, which really unites us, is not ethnicity, nationality, or religion. It is an idea, and what an idea it is—that you can come from humble circumstances and do great things.

*Condoleezza Rice*

The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do. *Steve Jobs*





# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**TECH (DAY I)**

Century (Mezz)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

## **No Tech Company Can Solve It: How Tech Companies Can Lead the Sea Change Needed**



Valerie Singer, *General Manager, Global Education, Amazon Web Services*

Tekla Moquin, *Skills to Jobs Leader—Americas, Asia-Pacific, Japan, Australia; Amazon Web Services*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

## **Empowering Leaders Through Safety, Security, and Thoughtful Technology: Strengthening Democracies Worldwide**



Grant Schreiber, *Global Campaign Manager, WAAS Human Security for All Campaign*

Amanda Ellis, *Sr. Director, Global Partnerships, Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory, Arizona State University*

Dr. Eden Mamut, *Professor, Engineering Thermodynamics, Ovidius Univ. of Constanta; Fellow, World Acad. of Art and Science*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20

## **AI Innovators: From Startup to Scale**



Brittany Saunders, *President and CEO, Colorado Technology Association*

Musa Hakim Jr., *Cofounder and CEO, Lazy Moose Co.; Board Member, Breakthrough Public Schools (BPS)*

Casey Bleeker, *Cofounder and CEO, SurePath AI*

Susan Adams, *Founder, Women in AI Colorado; Assoc. Director of Teaching & Learning, Achieving the Dream*

Dr. Solomon Abiola, *Biomedical, Mechanical, and Aerospace Engineering, Computer Science (AI)*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20

## **Is AI Making Us Dumber or Smarter? Cognitive Guardrails for Tech Developers, Faculty, Education Leaders, and Managers**



Musa Hakim Jr., *Cofounder and CEO, Lazy Moose Co.; Board Member, Breakthrough Public Schools (BPS)*

Kennon Harrison, Jr., *Head of Workforce Partnerships, ETS*

Jasmine Motupalli, *Founder and CEO, The Data Love Company*

Lawrence Ford, *Founder and CEO, Conscious Capital*

Torian Richardson, *Chief Executive Officer, DBR77*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**TECH (DAY II)**

Century (Mezz)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

## **Agricultural and Rural Tech:**

*Reinventing One of Our Oldest and Most Important Industries*



Daniel Ryley, *Vice President of Economic Development, Metro Denver EDC*

Troy Pegg, *Director of the Office of the CIO, CoBank*

Tiago Darocha, *Chief Operating Officer, Ardent Mills*

Dr. Curt Freed, *President, Morgan Community College*

Sara Jennings, *Chief Executive Officer, Orion Labs*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

## **Improving Public Safety Responsiveness:**

*AI, Enhanced Tech, and Increased Human Effectiveness in Challenging Situations*



Chandy Ghosh, *Chief Operating Officer and General Manager, Emergency Services, Sinch*

Charles Gifford, *Vice President, Chief Information Security Officer, Intrado*

Mag'e Hernandez, *Software Enterprise, Motorola Solutions*

Jason L'odense, *Chief Information Technology Officer, Global Medical Response*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20

## **Women Breaking Barriers in Tech and AI: From Entry Level to C-Suite**



Kathleen Lockhart, *Senior Vice President, Deal Management, Zayo Group*

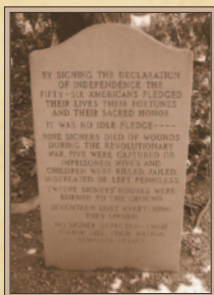
Dr. Kiesha King, *U.S. Head of Strategic Engagement and Market Development, K-12 Education, Apple*

Shawwna Hoffman, *Chief Executive Officer, Armored Quantum, Inc.*

Katherine Kirchner, *Sr. Vice President of Service Assurance, Zayo*

Kate Carney Landow, *IEEE Women in Engineering Region 5 Coordinator, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers*

Crystal Black, *Fractional Marketing Leader, Sonet.io*



By signing the Declaration of Independence the fifty-six Americans pledged their lives their fortunes and their sacred honor. It was no idle pledge. . . . Nine signers died of wounds during the Revolutionary War. Five were captured or imprisoned. Wives and children were killed, jailed, mistreated or left penniless. Twelve signers' houses were burned to the ground. Seventeen lost everything they owned. No signer defected—their honor, like their nation, remained intact.

*The Signers Monument*, CHARLES CITY, VIRGINIA



*What happens to GlobalMindED graduates over time?*



*They become the professionals who . . .*



*. . . give back to the next generation of students.*



# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## GlobalMinded graduates in meaningful professions



**Aaizib Siddique**, CSU Global, Help Desk Analyst 2, SRK Consulting  
**Abbygail Brewster**, Univ. of Mo. St. Louis, Elem. Teacher, KIPP Endeavor  
**Abigail Jimenez**, Metro State Univ., Registered Nurse  
**Abigail Shugert**, Bentley Univ., Digital Marketing Intern, Spare Rooms BA  
**Aidan Boyer**, Metro State Univ., New York Life Agent  
**Aileen Alvarado Marquez**, MSU Denver, GIVE Donations Program Admin.  
**Alberto Castro**, Loyola Marymount, Engineer in Training, Bohannon Huston  
**Alexa Molinar-Almeida**, Adams State, Prog. Coord., High Valley Comm. Ctr.  
**Alicia Fulton**, N.W. Indian College, Board Director, Noo-Kayet Investments  
**Alicia Sepulveda, PhD.**, U. of N. Co., Asst. Dir. Research, CU Boulder  
**Allana Allen Johnson**, Wales Univ., Partner Svcs. Mgr., Visit Albuquerque  
**Amelia Mawlawi**, Univ. of N. Colorado, Head, Customer Advocacy, Arceria  
**Ana Castro**, CU Denver, Medical Asst., The Steadman Clinic  
**Andrea Rosas**, CU Denver, Admin. Asst., Borwick Wealth Tax Service  
**Angela Acuna**, Univ. of Arizona, Registered Nurse  
**Angelina Duran**, CSU Global, Paralegal, Leonard Berenato Law  
**Angela Martinez**, Metro State Univ., Thrive, Program Coord.  
**Angela Vetaw-Brinkly**, Univ. of Mo. KC, Freelance Graphic Design Artist  
**Aniceto Chavez**, E. N.M. Univ., Metrology Engr., Los Alamos Nat'l. Lab.  
**Aniyah Ware**, Xavier Univ. of Louisiana, Researcher, Univ. of Mo. St. Louis  
**Anyx Burd**, Dillard Univ., Educator & Prog. Coord., Long Vue House  
**Ariana Vargas**, Red Rocks Coll., Land Mgmt. Tech., Nature Conservancy  
**Arimus Wells**, Univ. of Denver, Realtor, MPA Cand., USC (Public Policy)  
**Arlin Diaz-Torres**, Univ. of N.M., Graduate Teaching Asst., Univ. of N.M.  
**Arnold Bhebhe**, Alabama State Univ., Software Engineer, Microsoft  
**Ashlee Tate**, Colorado State Univ., Generation Teach, Cohort Director  
**Ashley Delgado**, N.E. Illinois Univ., Curriculum Designer, Chicago Schools  
**Autumn Coonrod**, Clark Atlanta Univ., Hotel Spec., Marriott Hotels  
**Autumn Perez Diaz**, CSU Global, Contract Spec., U.S. Air Force  
**Benice Atufunwa**, Univ. of S.F., Robinhood, UX/CX Content Strategy  
**Betelhem Tewodros**, Metro State Univ., Customer Svc. Ambassador, CLEAR  
**Bethame Hailu**, Geo. Washington Univ., Internat'l. Trade & Customs, KPMG  
**Brandon Williams**, Univ. of North Texas, Camera Operator, Texas Legends  
**Brenna Martinez**, Williams Coll., Clin. Research Asst., Children's Hosp., Boston  
**Brenda Martinez-Perez**, CU Denver, Field/Office Engineer, Kiewit Corp.  
**Brenda Santoyo**, Univ. of Utah, Manager, Salt Lake Comm. College  
**Brian Barrera**, Bentley Univ., Corp. Finance Intern, PWC  
**Brian Kabbash**, MSU Denver, Events and Mktg. Producer, Discosapien  
**Brian Ysasaga-Christan**, Metro State, Sys. Int./Test Engr., Lockheed Martin  
**Brionna Badoni**, Univ. of Okla., Academic Advisor, Tulsa Public Schools  
**Brittney Godar**, CSU Global, Client Svc. Super., Boulder Cty. Agency on Aging  
**Brock Morris**, Miami Univ., Implementation Analyst, DHL Supply Chain  
**Bustaman Kartabrata**, Metro State, 2017, Transport./Trucking/Rail Pro.  
**Camryn Roberts**, Shenandoah Univ., Clinical Spec., Oak Street Health  
**Carli Rodriguez**, Arapahoe C.C., Appr. Prog. Spec., Ind. Electrical Contractors  
**Cassandra Ortega**, MSU Denver, Accounts Pay. Spec., Nat'l. Corp. Housing  
**CeCe Rodgers**, Tougaloo University, 5th Grade Teacher  
**Chanelle Ahmed**, CU Denver, 2026, Youth Advocate, PCMH  
**Charlee Riggio**, Regis Univ., Collaborative Gain, Member Experience  
**Chelsea Situmeang**, CU Denver, Ed. & Youth Cncl., Young Aspiring Americans  
**Chloe Dechiro**, Arapahoe C.C., Internship Advisor, CU Denver  
**Christian Thornton**, Univ. of North Texas, Asst. Designer, Perry Ellis Internat'l.  
**Christina Souknarong**, Univ. of Utah, Student Success Mgr., Salt Lake C.C.  
**Christopher Baz**, Univ. of Denver, CSC Super., Dept. of Veterans Affairs  
**Christopher Jimenez**, Pikes Peak Comm. College, Office Mgr., Future Matters  
**Connor Sturgeon**, S. Indiana Univ., Mental Health Spec., Indiana Univ.  
**Cristina Gonzales Diaz**, CSU Pueblo, Member. Coord., Latino C. of C. Pueblo  
**Cynthia Rojo-Chavez**, CU Denver, 5th Grade E/S Teacher, College View Elem.  
**Damowa Biah**, CSU Global, Admin. Asst., Altruistic Transition Agency  
**Daniel Thomas**, Virginia Union Univ., Adj. Professor, Baltimore Comm. College  
**Daniella Duran**, Univ. of Denver, Victim Advocate, Lakewood Police Dept.  
**Danielle Edwards**, Carnegie Mellon, Software Engr./Product Owner, CMU  
**David Garcia**, Co. Mesa University, Project Manager, My Future Pathways  
**David Merlano**, Arapahoe C.C., Industry Amb., College Renaissance Corps  
**David Trinh**, CU Denver, Facilitator, NVIDIA  
**Deandre Lee**, NC State Univ., Therapist, Family Ties Counseling Center  
**Dena Sarrajji**, Comm. College of Denver, Biomedical Engineering PhD Cand.

**Derek Garcia**, MSU Denver, Peer Professional, Comm. College of Denver  
**Destinee Wells**, Clark Atlanta Univ., Therapist, Tranquil Life Counseling Ctr.  
**Destiny Calderon-Ruiz**, Trinidad State, Consult., Security Svc. Fed. Credit  
**Diamond Wilson**, St. John's Univ., Special Asst., Equity Comm. Real Estate  
**Diana Roman**, CSU Global, Client Engagement Quality Assur. Mgr., Cerebral  
**Dillon Teska**, Front Range Comm. College, Operations Spec., UDR  
**Donovan Bethea**, NC A&T Univ., HR Intern, JP Morgan  
**Elijah Ortegon**, CU Denver, Freelance Residential Architect (Self-Employed)  
**Elise Tran**, School of Mines, Project Controller, Nat'l. Renewable Energy Lab  
**Elsa Yehdego**, Univ. of N. Colorado, Claims Spec., Social Security Admin.  
**Emily Balentine**, Univ. of Mo. KC, 2026, Behav. Health Tech., KVC Health Sys.  
**Emily Hernandez**, Shenandoah Univ., Scheduling Mgr., Annandale Millwork  
**Emmanuel Walker**, Comm. College of Denver, Lead Intel. Analyst, U.S. Army  
**Erica Estrella**, Bentley Univ., 2026, Prog. Mgr., Friends of Waltham School  
**Erik Nevarez**, CSU Pueblo, Amazon Logistics Spec.  
**Erin Washington**, Shenandoah Univ., Analyst, Deloitte  
**Estefania Peña Figueroa**, Metro State, Prog. Dir., Latinx Stu. Svc., CU Denver  
**Fartun Faray**, MSU Denver, Team Lead, Resettlement Agency  
**Gabrielle (Gabby) Brosk**, Fairmonth State, Emer. Dept. Scribe, WVU Med.  
**Gemechu Gishu**, Comm. College of Denver, Accounting Clerk, Denver Mgmt.  
**Graciela Guillen**, Regis Univ., Bilingual Resource Adv., Rose Anom Center  
**Hala Ashmaig**, Co. School of Public Health, Infection Prevention, Sky Ridge  
**Hana Mawlawi**, School of Mines, Sr. Automation Engineer, Eli Lilly  
**Hanushya Paspuleti-Tiwari**, Seneca Polytechnic, Prog. Officer, Health PEI  
**Hector Ramos Diaz**, Univ. of Portland, Enrichment Teacher, Saklan School  
**Heidi Familia**, Miami Dade College, Entrepren. Spec., Start-Up Venture, MDC  
**Humberto Pallares**, MSU Denver, Stu. Outreach Coord., Classroom to Carrier  
**Ignacio Pardo**, Univ. of Mo. KC, Sales Representative, RTS Financial  
**Irina Amouzou**, CO Colorado Springs, Student Coord., Colorado College  
**Isaiah Hardin**, Comm. College of Denver, PQ Marketing Mgr., Vivax Pros  
**Ivan Grachev**, CSU Global, Project Coord., Catchafire  
**Jacari Gill**, Georgia Highlands College, Leadership Intern, Kohls  
**Jacob Gordon**, Thomas More Univ., Prog. Coord., Access. Res., Univ. of Cinc.  
**Jakoby McKinney**, NC A&T State Univ., 2027, U.S. Army, Greensboro-WS  
**Janet Asante**, Scripps College, Comms. Mgr., Dignity and Power Now  
**Javier Figueroa**, Univ. of Alabama, Registered Nurse, UAB Medicine  
**Javis Quach**, CU Denver, System Int. and Test Engineer, Ball Aerospace  
**Jazmin Barahona**, Univ. of Mo. KC, Dental Asst., Pacific Dental Services  
**Jemima Safi**, CU Denver, Peer Network Leader, Ambassador Foundation  
**Jessica Cedillo**, Regis Univ., Financial Aid Advisor, Arapahoe C.C.  
**Jesus Banuelos-Rivera**, CU Boulder, Project Manager, Milender White  
**Jonathan Catch The Bear**, Sitting Bull College, Dir., N.D. Native Vote  
**Jordan Means**, West Virginia Univ., Clinical Assoc., WVU Medicine  
**Jordon Taylor**, NC A&T State Univ., Brand Ambassador, Carhartt  
**Joseph Mueller**, Va. Wesleyan Univ., Lighting & Sound Super., Va. Stage Co.  
**Jose Perez**, Front Range Comm. College, Bus. Owner, Pixelhaven Gaming  
**Jose Ramos Aguina**, Co. State Univ., Sr. Analyst, Global IT SOX Compliance  
**Josh Sekutera**, CU Colorado Springs, Cyber Security Engr., Lockheed Martin  
**Joshua Shelton**, Univ. of North Texas, Director, Services & Projects, UCEP  
**Joyce Balajond**, Metro State Univ., Healthcare professional/Future RN  
**Juan Gonzales**, CU Denver, Intake Spec., Lisinski Law Firm  
**Juana Rodriguez Tarango**, Adams State, Sr. Mentor, CAMP, Adams State  
**Julio Valdez**, Sam Houston State Univ., Trading Rep., Fidelity Investments  
**Julisha Wilkins**, Univ. of Mo., Assoc. Consultant, IBM  
**Kaitey Davis**, Univ. of Mo. KC, Foster Care Case Mgmt., Cornerstones  
**Karely Hernandez**, UC Denver, Sr. Prof. Research Asst., Ctr. for Health  
**Karina Hernandez**, Univ. of Denver, MPH Intern, Juntos Comm.  
**Katie Cillessen**, Metro State, Behav. Health Tech, Autism Learning Partners  
**Kayla Cooper**, Univ. of Arizona, Registered Nurse  
**Kayla Zimmerman**, CU Denver, 3rd Grade Teacher, Sabin World Elem.  
**Kaylen Pulluaim**, Univ. of Mo. KC, 2026, Team Mem., Local Investments  
**Kelvin Agyemang**, Colorado State Univ. Cloud Computing Engineer, Pfizer  
**Kendrick Agyapong**, Bentley Univ., Private Bank Analyst, JP Morgan  
**Kevin Argueta**, Colby College, Project Manager, Harris County  
**Kevin Sajous**, Georgia Highlands College, Owner, Visuelkc Photography  
**Kevin Tran**, Co. School of Mines, Assoc. Software Engr., Northrop Grumman

**Ki'Andre Thomas**, Clark Atlanta Univ., Audit & Consulting Analyst, Dell  
**Kiara Picharo**, Bentley Univ., Mentor Program Coord., Bentley Univ.  
**Kimera Peterson**, Morgan State Univ., Structural Engineer, FHA  
**Kyra Afolabi**, Univ. of Mo. KC, Intern Manager, IAM4THIRTEEN  
**Laila Alfakih**, Middle Tenn. State Univ., Procurement Officer, State of Tenn.  
**Laisa Gallegos**, CU Denver, 5th Grade Teacher  
**Lakshmi Abraham**, Metro State, Behav. Health Couns., Eating Recovery  
**Leah Porter**, CU Denver, Denver Program Mgr., College Renaissance Corps  
**Leyla Abdi**, Metro State Univ., Mentor, LifeSpacial  
**Louis Butler**, Sam Houston State Univ., Southern Univ. JD Candidate  
**Luis Trejo**, Univ. of Utah, Comm. Health Worker, Salt Lake County  
**Malvin Bonwa**, Univ. of Buea, Graphic Designer, Unity Cooperative Society  
**Maria Marin Garcia**, Co. Mesa Univ., Reading Intervention, Orchard Mesa  
**Maria Martinez**, CU Boulder, Undergraduate Program Coord.  
**Mariah Thomas**, Univ. of North Texas, Design Asst., APNY Apparel  
**Marie Gomez**, CSU Pueblo, Medical Asst., CU Dermatology  
**Marie Grace Shayamba**, C.C. of Denver, Sr. Legal Asst., Wagstaff Law  
**Marisa Moran**, Ogala Lakota College, Receptionist, Meiners Animal Clinic  
**Marisol Flores**, Cal State Channel Islands, Data Analyst, Saalex Solutions  
**Melina Chacon**, MSU Denver, Contractor, Rising Higher Staffing Solutions  
**Melissa Mendes**, Regis Univ., Jefferson County Librarian  
**Melody Ornelas**, CSU Pueblo, App. Behav. Analysis Therapy, Clinical Super.  
**Michael Celiberti**, Motlow College, Educator Hillsborough County Schools  
**Michelle Bravo**, CUNY Lehman, Med. Scribe, Columbia Univ. Medical Ctr.  
**Michelle Kengkar**, Penn State, Legal Extern, Office of Pa. Attorney Gen.  
**Mileati Melese**, Emory Univ., Health Data Annotator, Meta via Apex  
**Natalie Martinez**, CU Colorado Springs, Sports Mktg. Intern, Tom's Watch  
**Nazaree Diaz**, CSU Global, Epic ClinDoc Systems Analyst Assoc., UC Health  
**Nico Sanchez**, School of Mines, Barry-Wehmiller Group, (MS, Chem Engr.)  
**Nicolas Soto Juarez**, S.F. State Univ., Ext. Care Asst. Dir., St. James School  
**Nima Shahab Shahmir**, Md. Inst. Coll. of Art, Graphic Designer, HealthNet  
**Oscar Fraire**, CU Denver, Residential Revenue Financial Analyst, Comcast  
**Paul Park**, Emory Univ., Assoc., Veronique Oro Corp.  
**Perla Bustillos**, Metro State Univ., Co-founder and Event Manager, Ednium  
**RaeAnn Gutierrez**, CSU Pueblo, Director of Recruitment, Pueblo C.C.  
**Rhiannon Armbruster**, MSU Denver, Guest Rel., Athletics Dept., CU Boulder  
**Richard Maez**, Univ. of Denver, Executive Director, Ednium  
**Robert De Mata**, Univ. of Denver, Project Manager, MSU Denver  
**Rodera Johnson**, Ft. Lewis College, After School Activities, Navajo Prep.  
**Roger Businge**, CSU Global, Managing Director, NAS Rentals LLC  
**Rontavious Coley**, Georgia Highlands College, Owner, The Early Way 247  
**Ruth Rivera**, Metro State Univ., 201, Translator, Adams 12 Five Star Schools  
**Saif Eldeen**, CU Denver, Project Manager, EPIC  
**Sasha Shadrina**, Univ. of Denver, Law Clerk, Taft Stettinius and Hollister  
**Savannah Lewis-Sweed**, Arapahoe C.C., Professional Artist, Littleton, Co.  
**Sergey Fouks**, Regis Univ., Pharmacist, Walmart  
**Seth Hosford**, Metro State Univ., Research Assoc., James Martin Center  
**Shauntel Thomas**, Ft. Lewis College, Project Coord., Fred Hutch Cancer Ctr.  
**Sheena Ortiz**, MSU Denver, Event Manager, ASM Global  
**Sierra Funk**, Arapahoe C.C., Health Asst., Sierra Middle School  
**Sophia Dennis**, Metro State Univ., Relationship Mgr., Colorado Credit Union  
**Taisha Gonzalez**, UT El Paso, Academic Mentor, GO Foundation  
**Tamir Harper**, American Univ., Dir., Devel. & Ext. Affairs, Philadelphia Acads.  
**Terri Long**, Pikes Peak Comm. College, Donor Manager, Food for Orphans  
**Tessa Doan**, Univ. of North Texas, Admin. Asst., Star Sleep and Wellness  
**Thomas Vogenthaler**, Co. State Univ., Sr. Prod. Security Eng., MedTronic  
**Tomzia Graves**, Hartford C.C., Comms. Coord., Johns Hopkins Health Inst.  
**Tyler McKenzie**, Redlands C.C., Division III Internat'l. VP, Phi Theta Kappa  
**Valeria Aguillon**, S.F. State Univ., Admissions and Enroll. Assoc., MNC S.F.  
**Vanessa De la Torre**, Univ. of Houston, Presales Sol. Architect, Dell  
**Vanessa Del Real**, Purdue Univ. N.W., Accounting Spec., Porter-Starke Svcs.  
**Victor Anaya**, Univ. of Arizona, Registered Nurse  
**Wilber Kyagulanyi**, CU Denver, Jr. Architect, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
**William Webber**, CU Boulder, Professional Research Asst., Dionarelo Lab  
**Xelene Rodriguez**, Univ. of N. Colorado, Legislative Asst., U.S. House of Reps.  
**Xiomara Alfaro**, Auburn Univ., Shipping Assoc., Webster Fulfillment  
**Yusura Ali**, Crisis Triage Worker, Seven Counties Services



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**HEALTH (DAY I)**

Windows (Main)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

## **Social Determinants of Health:**

*Education, Housing, Climate, Food, Mental Health, and Digital Health Equity*



Dr. Tony Hansberry II, *Psychiatry Resident, Tripler Army Medical Center*

Dr. Katie Bakes, *Emergency Physician, Rocky Mountain Regional Veterans Hospital*

Robin Bruce FN, BSN, RN, *Chairman, CCBN Inc. Aerospace*

Chawtana Edwards, MPH, *Program Director, AGAPE Strategic Solutions of Maryland; VP Emerging Leaders, GlobalMindED*

Dr. Mya O. Price, *Executive Vice President and Chief Social Impact Officer, Creating Healthier Communities*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

## **Population Health as a Basic Right: The Economic Need for Population Health Equity in Rural, Urban, and Global Locations**



Dr. Georges Benjamin, *Executive Director, American Public Health Association*

Dr. Frances Ilozue, *Director, Rapha Family Wellness Centers*

Dr. Bob Belknap, *Executive Director, Public Health Institute, Denver Health*

Dr. Pius Kamau, *President, Africa America Higher Education Partnerships (AAHEP)*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20

## **Identifying Talent, Supporting Talent, Growing Talent, and Inspiring Talent: Creating a Thriving Healthcare Talent Pipeline**



David Mafe, *Vice President, Human Resources, UCHHealth*

Heather Callander Potters, *Cofounder, Officer, Board Member, PharmaJet, Inc.*

Robyn Korkus, *Vice President, Enterprise Strategy, Terumo Blood and Cell Technologies*

Mira Morton Luna, *Assoc. Director, The Gina and Frank Day Health Institute, MSU Denver*

Blair Fogoros, *Region Director, Talent Acquisition, CommonSpirit Health*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20

## **Mindset and Emotional Awareness: Cognitive Sovereignty in the Age of AI**



Dr. Mya O. Price, *Executive Vice President and Chief Social Impact Officer, Creating Healthier Communities*

Susan Adams, *Founder, Women in AI Colorado; Assoc. Director of Teaching & Learning, Achieving the Dream*

Dr. Fernando Branch, *Chief Executive Officer, Colorado Men of Color Collaborative*

Jill Cook, *Executive Director, American School Counselor Association*

Phuong Teresa Dinh, *Manager, Colorado Access; Cofounder, GlobalMindED Emerging Leaders*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**HEALTH (DAY II)**

Windows (Main)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

## **AI Driven Solutions: Impacting and Improving Health Equity, Maternal Healthcare, and Social Determinants in Rural and Urban Communities**



Alex Magaña, *Executive Director, Beacon Network Schools*

Dr. Indira Lanig, *Spinal Cord Injury Medical Director, Paradigm*

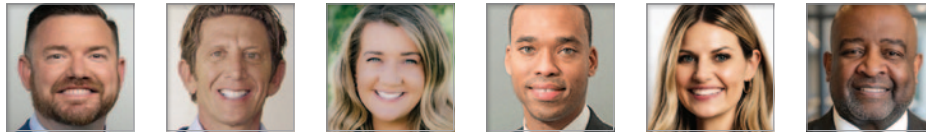
Dr. Mikhail Higgins, *Founder and Medical Director, The Bahamas Fibroid and Interventional Clinic*

Dr. Saralyn Mark, *Founder and CEO, iGIANT and SolaMed Solutions, LLC*

Dr. Denise Reading, *Founder and CEO, Future Plans, Inc.*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

## **Aging in Place and Aging in Tech: Promoting Longevity and Health Equity Across Populations**



John-Paul Hayworth, *Director, Audience Strategy, AARP*

Dr. Scott Brandt, *Founder and Medical Director, ThriveMD Longevity Medicine*

Sydney Byer, *Director, Advocacy & Strategic Initiatives, Next50*

Dr. Mikhail Higgins, *Longevity Ambassador, GARM Bahamas (Global Alliance of Regenerative Medicine)*

Emily Steedman, *Founder and CEO, Longevity Land*

Chris Denmark, *Program Manager, E-STEM FWD, Lincoln Hills Cares*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20

## **Apprenticeships and Internships Growing the Healthcare Talent Pipeline: Paperless Reporting, Measurement, and Learner/Employer Success Outcomes**



Dr. Bridgett Willey, *Director, Allied Health Education and Career Pathways Department, University of Wisconsin Health*

Dr. Annette Cannon, PhD, MA, RN, MSN, D-ABMDI, DF-AFN, *Coroner, Jefferson County Colorado*

Scott Sterling, *Vice President of Philanthropy, Project C.U.R.E.*

Elerie Archer, *Director, Nursing and Student Health Services, Denver Public Schools*

Whitney Allen, *National Consultant—Apprenticeships, CareerWise USA*

B.J. Joyce, *Program Manager, INROADS College Links*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20

## **Mitigating and Healing Trauma Through Human-Animal Connection, and Alternative Methods: Widening and Improving Options for Mental Health Treatments**



Dr. Kevin Morris, *Executive Director, Institute for Human-Animal Connection, University of Denver*

Chawtana Edwards, MPH, *Program Director, AGAPE Strategic Solutions of Maryland; VP Emerging Leaders, GlobalMindED*

Carol Frank, *Managing Director, BirdsEye Advisory Group*

Michelle Williams, *Technical Training Support Specialist, Broadcom Inc.; Advocate for the "Care Economy"*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## GLOBAL WORK SKILLS (DAY I)

Tower Court C (Main)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

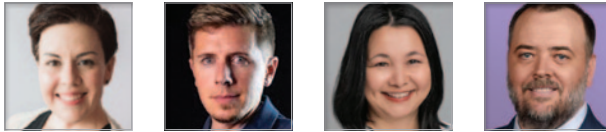
### Financial Planning for Small Business: *From Survival to Sustainability to Success for Underestimated Talent*



Karen Ashworth-Macfarlane, *Cofounder and CEO, Doña Loca; GlobalMindED Board Treasurer; former Wall Street executive*  
 Frank Robinson, *VP, Sr. Business Consultant, Chase Business Coaching for Impact, JPMorgan Chase & Co.*  
 Jason Janz, *Chief Executive Officer, Cross Purpose*  
 Kristopher Kerr, *Commercial Real Estate Broker, Cushman & Wakefield*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

### How Can Skills-First Learning Redefine the American Promise of Education?



Kacey Thorne, *Senior Director of Skills Architecture, Western Governors University*  
 Tyson Heath, *Director of Credential Integrity, Western Governors University*  
 Dr. Tonya Drake, *Regional Vice President for the Northwest, Western Governors University*  
 Taylor Hansen, *Achievement Wallet Strategy and Ecosystem Principal, Western Governors University*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20

### From First-Gen Grad to Professional Success to Corporate Leadership



Dr. Kiesha King, *U.S. Head of Strategic Engagement and Market Development, K-12 Education, Apple*  
 Maria Gonzalez, *Founder and CEO, Adelante Community Development*  
 Barbara Bickham, *Founder and Managing Partner, Trilyn VC*  
 Torian Richardson, *Chief Executive Officer, DBR77; formerly with NVIDIA*  
 Jeaneen Kappell, *JD, Attorney, formerly of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20

### Impact of Relational Trust on People, Organizations, and Communities: *Democracy and Gainful Employment Around the World*



Dr. Catherine Carlton, *Cofounder and CEO, The Trust Impact Group; Managing Trustee, San Mateo County Vector Control District*  
 Rodney Bolden, *Executive Director, Head of Workplace Benefits Insights, Morgan Stanley at Work*  
 Shirlayne Quayle, *Founder and CEO, PowerLane Studio; Cofounder, Women's Influence Network*  
 Derrick Watchman, *President, Sagebrush Hill Group*  
 Maria Dayton, *Senior Director of Capital Partnerships, LG*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

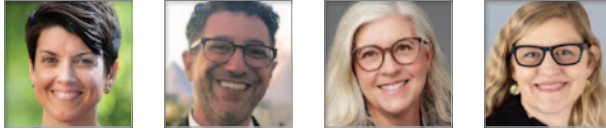
JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

GLOBAL WORK SKILLS (DAY II)

Tower Court C (Main)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **State-by-State Alignment of Workforce Skills With Public Purpose:  
Higher Education Driving Democracy and Economic Thriving**



Ashley Finley, *Vice President for Research, Senior Advisor to the President, American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)*  
Noah Geisel, *Micro-Credentials Program Manager, University of Colorado Boulder*  
Dr. Melanie Booth, *Principal, Nectary Solutions*  
Dr. Niesha Taylor, *Director of Career Readiness, National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE)*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **Latino Leaders Growing Talent in Times of Great Challenge**



Thomas Savino, *Chief Executive Officer, Prospanica*  
Amanda Tovar, *Chief Operating Officer, Prospanica*  
Jackie Bouvier, *President, Denver Chapter Board, Prospanica*  
Rocío Pérez, MBA, *International Speaker, Bestselling Author, Creator of The MindShift Experience*  
Rick Garcia, *Board Chair, Colorado Hispanic Latino Heritage Fund, former Denver City Councilman*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Caregiving, Supporting Employees for Our Economic Future:  
Workforce Competitiveness Across Industries**



Wendi Safstrom, *President, SHRM Foundation*  
Nicole Riehl, *President and CEO, Executives Partnering to Invest in Children (EPIC)*  
Steve Schwab, *Chief Executive Officer, Elizabeth Dole Foundation*  
Dr. Tatiana Bailey, *Executive Director, Data Driven Economic Strategies*  
Don Vetal, *Cofounder and CEO, ChorUS; Founder and former CEO, LyfLynks*



“Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!” cries she with silent lips.  
“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless,  
tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

*Emma Lazarus*

Let America be the dream the dreamers dreamed. *Langston Hughes*





# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDERS (DAY I)

Tower Court D (Main)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

### BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **Democracy in Action: Creating Financial Empowerment for Generations**



Milton Chen, *Formerly of Edutopia—The George Lucas Educational Foundation*  
 La June Montgomery Tabron, *President and CEO, W.K. Kellogg Foundation*  
 Santhosh Ramdoss, *President and CEO, Chief Investment Officer, Gary Community Ventures*  
 Mike Lettig, *Sr. Managing Director, Group Head Native American Financial Svcs., Huntington National Bank*  
 Barbara Bickham, *Founder and Managing Partner, Trilyn VC*

### BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **Courageous Funding in Times of Change With the Next Gen and Seasoned Gen: Connecting Across Differences to Fuel the Future With Individual Donors**



Holly Ruxin, *Founder and CEO, Montcalm*  
 Kyle Hybl, *President and CEO, El Pomar Foundation*  
 Anna Pruitt, *Senior Vice President and Philanthropic Strategist, Bank of America Private Bank*  
 Maria Dayton, *Senior Director of Capital Partnerships, LG*  
 Rodney Bolden, *Executive Director, Head of Workplace Benefits Insights, Morgan Stanley at Work*

### BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Funding Sources for New and Existing Initiatives: Social Impact and Philanthropy Are Central to National and Global Economic Security**



Wendy Lea, *Board Member, Elevate Quantum; Cofounder and Chair, Energize Colorado*  
 Dr. Praful Shah, *Board of Directors, PharmaJet, Inc.; GlobalMindED Foundation/Funders Equity Team*  
 Molly Logan, *Founder and CEO, Irregular Hours*  
 Derrick Watchman, *President, Sagebrush Hill Group; Chair of the Board, RES*  
 Indrani Pal-Chaudhuri, *Founder and Chief Vision Officer, Open Origin*

### BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20 **Little Learners, Big Democracy: Why/How Funding 0-3rd Grade Will Secure Our Economic Future**



Michelle Kang, *Chief Executive Officer, National Assoc. for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)*  
 Chris Preston, *Chief Strategic Partnerships Officer, BlueSKY Collaborative Partners*  
 Christine Benero, *President and CEO, Mile High United Way*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDERS (DAY II)

Tower Court D (Main)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

### BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **Risk, Return, and Resilience: A New Framework for Philanthropy**



Christopher Coritsidis, *Founder, Opus I Foundation*  
 Nisaa Jetha, *Founder and Curator, Impact for SDGs*  
 Andrew Lee, *Board Member, The National Park Foundation*  
 Ali Motroni, *Founder, Field Guide*  
 Christiaan van Driel, *Director, Family Office Solutions, UBS*

### BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **What Differentiates America? Social Mobility, Advancement, and Opportunity**



Rahim Rajan, *Chief Executive Officer, AQL Labs*  
 Elizabeth González, *Chief Program and Strategy Officer, College Futures Foundation*  
 Archie Cubarrubia, *Vice President, Grants, ECMC Foundation*  
 Dr. Zoë Stemm-Calderon, *Executive Director, Raikes Foundation*

### BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Pathways to Possibilities: Philanthropies Powering Post-Secondary Attainment and Career Success**



Tina Gridiron, *Chief Impact and Learning Officer, ACT Center for Impact and Learning*  
 Jenny Achilles, *Senior Program Officer, Trellis Foundation*  
 Desiree Vazquez Barlatt, *Program Director, The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation*  
 Dr. Susan Johnson, *Director of Grants Administration, Lumina Foundation*

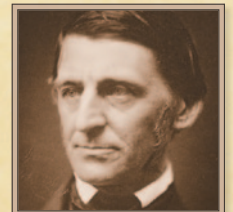


The American Dream is something that every immigrant brought to this country, as my parents did, and that is the ability to go as far as you can in life, limited only by your own dreams, and willingness to work hard.

*Colin Powell*

America is another name for opportunity. Our whole history appears like a last effort of divine providence on behalf of the human race.

*Ralph Waldo Emerson.*





# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**POLICY (DAY I)**

Colorado (Mezz)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

**BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 Careers in City, State, and National Government**



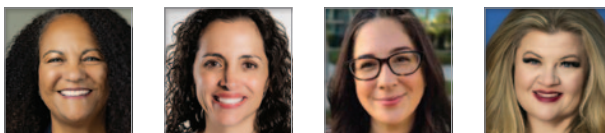
Stephanie Garnica, *Director Global Business Development, Denver Economic Development and Opportunity*  
 Antonio Huerta, *Legislative Liason and Public Information Officer, Colorado Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs*  
 Allen Webb II, *Lead Program Specialist, Denver Youth Employment Program, Denver Public Schools; Candidate, Denver City Council*  
 Beth McCann, *former District Attorney, City of Denver; former Colorado State Representative from Denver*  
 Max Haynes, *Political Director, Bennet for Governor*

**BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 Making a Difference with Law School and Professions in Legal Careers**



*Introduction & Overview* Jeaneen Kappell, *JD, Attorney, formerly of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission*  
 Dr. Kimberle Jackson-Butler, *Executive Director, Law School—Yes We Can!*  
 Brandon Gonzalez, *J.D. Candidate, Rosenberg College of Law, University of Kentucky*  
 Kimberly Luna, *Attorney, Appellate Law Clerk, Colorado Court of Appeals*  
 Katie Wynn Lorne, *Attorney, Ralph L. Carr Appellate Fellow, Colorado Attorney General's Office*

**BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 Policy, Programs, and Partners for Preschool and Early Education**



Dr. Lisa Roy, *Executive Director, Colorado Department of Early Childhood*  
 Patricia Lozano, *Executive Director Stay, Early Edge California*  
 Mirel Herrera, *Senior Policy Analyst, Early Edge California*  
 Theresa Christensen, *Founder and CEO, Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Development Center*

**BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20 Amplifying and Activating Alumni Civic Engagement:  
Reinvesting In Leadership and Policy Change for Home-Grown Talent**



Richard Maez, *Executive Director, Ednium*  
 Elijah Huff, *Research & Action Manager, Ednium: The Alumni Collective*  
 Synique Cortez, *Elementary Educator, Denver Public Schools*  
 Angelica Granados, *Policy Advisor, Division of Youth Services, Colorado Department of Human Services*  
 Ousman Ba, *Programs Director, African Leadership Group*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

**POLICY (DAY II)**

Colorado (Mezz)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

**BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 Policy Threats and Opportunities In the Educator Workforce**



Richard “Lennon” Audrain, *Head of Innovation and Policy Initiatives, Next Education Workforce Initiative, Arizona State Univ.*  
Julie Ferin, *Executive Director, National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs (NACCTEP)*  
Dr. Marvin Lynn, *Dean, School of Education & Human Development, University of Colorado Denver*  
Jeanette Simenson-Gurolnick, *AI, EdTech, and STEM Consultant, Knowing Technologies*  
Sam Brobeck, *Sr. Director of Research & Innovation, Tennessee State Collaborative on Reforming Education (TN SCORE)*

**BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 Democracy, Tribal Nation Building, Sovereignty, and Land Restoration:  
Advancing Native American Political Leadership**



Larry Wright, Jr., *Executive Director, National Congress of American Indians*  
Buu Nygren, *President, Navajo Nation*  
Shannon Holsey, *President, Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians*  
Stephen Roe Lewis, *Governor, Gila River Indian Community*  
Fawn Sharp, *Former President, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI); Board Member, The Nature Conservancy*

The greatness of America lies not in being more enlightened than any other nation, but rather in her ability to repair her faults.

*Alexis de Tocqueville*



For while we have our eyes on the future, history has its eyes on us. There is always light, if only we’re brave enough to see it.

*Amanda Gorman*

Within the soul of America is freedom of mind and spirit in man. Here alone are the open windows through which pours the sunlight of the human spirit. Here alone is human dignity not a dream, but an accomplishment. *Herbert Hoover*





# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## GLOBAL CLASSROOMS (DAY I)

North Convention Lobby (Main)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

**BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00** **Preparing for Global Leadership:**  
*GlobalMindED, Global Livingston Institute,  
and Colorado Leaders for 150 More Years of Impact*



*Introduction & Overview* Huda Almaghour, *Program Assistant, The World Bank*  
Dr. Henrika McCoy, *Dean, Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver*  
Jamie Van Leeuwen, *Managing Director, BuildStrong Foundation*  
Sofia Rodriguez, *Master of Social Work candidate, University of Denver*  
Bernadetta Owusu, *Master's candidate, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, University of Colorado Denver*  
Joshua Best, *Master's candidate, Advanced Energy Systems, Colorado School of Mines*  
Kylan Bain, *Psychology & Philosophy student, Colorado Mesa University*  
*plus 15 GlobalMindED/Global Livingston Institute Fellows*

**BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00** **Orchestrating Impact:**  
*Music-Inspired Teamwork, Leadership, and Global Citizenship for Young Adults*



Diego Carniero, *Founder and Director, AmazonArt Foundation; Cofounder, Orchestrating Peace*

**BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20** **How High School Students Help Humanity to Thrive in the Age of AI**



Dr. Po-Shen Loh, *Professor of Mathematics, Carnegie Mellon University*

**BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20** **Beacons of Peace:**  
*Building International Bridges of Impact, Understanding, and Collaboration*



Sarmad Khan, *Founder and CEO, Telos Futures*  
Indrani Pal-Chaudhuri, *Founder and Chief Vision Officer, Open Origin*  
Sharina Gutierrez, *Cofounder, Rise and Redemption Foundation*  
Shawwna Hoffman, *Chief Executive Officer, Armored Quantum, Inc.*  
Richard Jordan, *United Nations Non-governmental Organizations*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## GLOBAL CLASSROOMS (DAY II)

North Convention Lobby (Main)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

### BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **Equity, Economics, Politics, International Leadership, and Cultural Identity**



*Introduction & Overview* Ken Epps, Adjunct Business Professor, Wake Forest University; Board President, GlobalMindED  
 Dr. Ryan Ross, Chief Executive Officer, Urban Leadership Foundation of Colorado  
 Nicole Jones, Chief Executive Officer, Elite Workforce Consulting  
 Jeffrey Kass, Speaker and Consultant, Jeffrey Kass Global; Professor of Law, University of Denver  
 Wafa Saeed, Founder and Principal Consultant, ProjectEDGE

### BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **Denver Kids and Rotary Celebrate 80 Years: Building a Strong Employment Pipeline With the Emerging Leaders Who Are Our Future**



*Introduction & Overview* Huda Almaghour, Program Assistant, The World Bank  
 Jay Grimm, Chief Executive Officer, Denver Kids; Rotary Club of Denver  
 Jim Goddard, Trustee and Owner, Goddard Commercial Trust; Past President, Rotary Club of Denver  
 Tamara Otero, Business Owner, Alfabet Soup, LLC; Rotary Club of Denver  
 Diane Knight, Principal, Kessel Performance Consulting; Rotary Club of Fort Collins

### BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Collaborative Impact, Community, and Connection: Through Creativity, Science, and the Arts**



Andrea Albo, Executive Director, Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD)  
 Christin Crampton Day, Executive Director, Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA)  
 Jannett Matusiak, Executive Director, Collaborative of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD)  
 Libby Barbee, Sr. Program Manager, Colorado Creative Industries, Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade



Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. *Martin Luther King Jr.*

This world of ours . . . must avoid becoming a community of dreadful fear and hate, and be, instead, a proud confederation of mutual trust and respect. *Dwight D. Eisenhower*



## What comes after college?

After graduation, New Career Leaders join GlobalMindED Emerging Leaders to participate in monthly professional development nationally and to lead service projects locally. This network is more connected than any one organization or company and can provide much needed support to those who are early in their careers.



Take your next steps with us.



**GLOBALMINDED**

# EMERGING LEADERS



EMERGING LEADERS

We are cultivating a vibrant, inclusive pipeline of talent through innovative programs, strategic partnerships, and real-world opportunities. We connect purpose-driven leaders with personal and professional development, networking opportunities, monthly leadership gatherings, and community outreach and service projects. Within a supportive community, we empower emerging leaders to build skills and expand their networks locally, nationally, and globally!



GLOBALMINDED

**JOIN US! • THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH • 6:00–7:30 PM**

In-person at GlobalMindED, 1530 High Street in Denver or online via Zoom, E-mail [angela.martinez@globalminded.org](mailto:angela.martinez@globalminded.org) for link.

**[www.globalminded.org](http://www.globalminded.org)**

# USA 250 & CO 150

## GlobalMindED Networking Reception

where students can meet with speakers and key conference participants

FEATURING

# THE VFW BAND

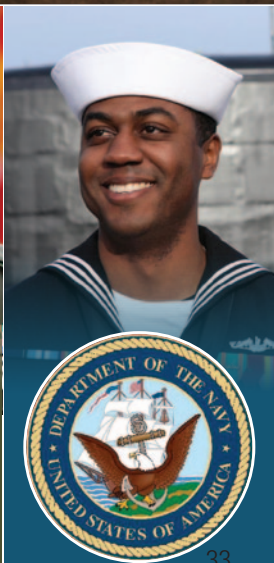
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 4:30-6:00 • SOUTH LOBBY, SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN



32 patriotic musicians play favorites that celebrate our independence



## HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE





# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## WORKSHOPS (DAY I)

Denver (Mezz)

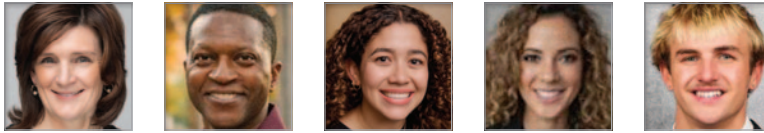
THURSDAY, JUNE 11

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **Why Good People Do Racist Things:**  
*How to Be an Effective, Inclusive Leader*



Jeffrey Kass, *Speaker and Consultant, Jeffrey Kass Global; Professor of Law, University of Denver*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **Sports, Inspiration, Transformation:**  
*Becoming an Impactful Change Agent, Generous Leader, and Global Citizen*



Gwen K. Young, *Chief Executive Officer, Women Business Collaborative*

Patrick Jones, *Founder and CEO, Vocatio*

Joann Moreira López, *Manager Community Relations and Supporter Services, Denver Summit FC*

Guiselle Torres, JD, *General Counsel, Denver Summit FC*

Gabriel Schreiber, *Swim Athlete, Rising Sophomore, University of Nevada Las Vegas*

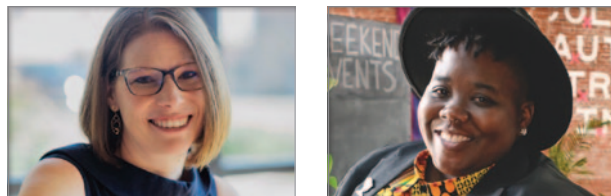
BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Navigating AI Implementation to Fortify Our Democracy:**  
*Thoughtful Inclusion, Governance Principles, Citizenship, and Equity Outcomes With Employees, Faculty, Staff, and Students*



Ahrash Bissell, *President and Chief Academic Officer, The NROC Project*

Dr. Jennifer McCrickerd, *Professor of Philosophy, Drake University*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20 **How Do We Move in Harmony?**  
*Building Collective Wellness Through Voice, Movement, and Community*



Kim Schultz, *Cofounder and Codirector, Unity Project Colorado Springs*

Victoria Lipscomb, *Cofounder and Codirector, Unity Project Colorado Springs*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

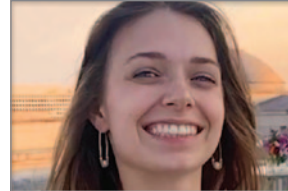
JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## WORKSHOPS (DAY II)

Denver (Mezz)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **Cultivating Curiosity: Powerful Questions for Deep, Meaningful Conversations**



Tim O'Shei, *Executive Director, Education Revolution Association; Journalist/Author, Founder, "Live Starring You!"*  
Emily Matthew, *Journalist; Director of Programming and Operations, Education Revolution Association*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **Corporate Fractional Leadership:  
Powering and Empowering the Talent Pipeline**



Roquita Coleman Williams, *Director, Commercial Readiness, Uber Freight; President, Polished Consulting*  
Sherica Hymes, *Associate Dean, Memphis Academy of Civic Engagement; Founder and CEO, Polished Consulting*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Student-Centered Approach to Data:  
Transforming Teaching and Learning Through Evidence-Informed Practices**



H. Ray Keith, *Associate Director of Teaching and Learning, Achieving the Dream*  
Ayse Durmus, *Curriculum Specialist and Instructional Coach, HOPE Online Learning Academy Co-op*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20 **Early Learning—Where We Go From Here Between Now and Next June:  
Blueprint for a Democratic Early Learner Success Pipeline**



Ralph Smith, *Managing Director, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading*  
William Browning, *President and CEO, Clayton Early Learning*  
Dr. Lisa Roy, *Executive Director, Colorado Department of Early Childhood*  
Jason Dropik, *Executive Director, National Indian Education Association (NIEA)*  
Lucille Echohawk, *Tribal Advisory Council member, Colorado Department of Early Childhood*  
Elsa Holguin, *President and CEO, Denver Preschool Program*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## PRESENTATIONS (DAY I)

Grand Ballroom (Main)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **A Crisis of Meaning-Making:  
Reengaging Students Through Agency, Ownership, and Relevance**



Dr. Scott McLeod, J.D., *Founding Director, Center for the Advanced Study of Technology Leadership in Education (CASTLE), UC Denver*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **Leaders, Strategies, and Systems of Belonging:  
Building a Fortified Talent Pipeline**



Dr. Dedrick Sims, *Chief Executive Officer, Sims-Fayola Foundation; Chairman of the Board, The Hancock Foundation*

Darius Wise, *President and CEO, Red Rocks Credit Union*

Michael Hancock, *Chief Executive Officer, Hancock Foundation; former Mayor of the City of Denver*

Elias Diggins, *Sheriff, City and County of Denver*

Dr. Michael Giles, Jr., *Superintendent, Aurora Public Schools*

Dr. Alex Marrero, *President, Assoc. of Latino Administrators & Superintendents (ALAS), Superintendent, Denver Public Schools*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Successful Early Career Launchpads:  
Growing Your Professional Success Network, Abilities, and Skills**



Gary Bolles, *Chair for the Future of Work, Singularity University*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20 **Latina Women Breaking Barriers:  
Politics, Small Business, and Civil Society**



Dani Bedoni, *Master Coach, President, Learning One-to-One; GlobalMindED Emerging Leaders*

Maria Gonzalez, *Founder and CEO, Adelante Community Development*

Patricia Barela Rivera, *Former Colorado Director, U.S. Small Business Administration*

Ramona Martinez, *Former President, Denver City Council*

Jackie Bouvier, *President, Denver Chapter Board, Prospanica*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## PRESENTATIONS (DAY II)

Grand Ballroom (Main)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

### **Courageous Democratic Leadership: A Statewide Model of Communities Expanding Democracy in Colorado From the Ground Up**



Dr. Landon Mascareñaz, *Chief Executive Officer, Courageous Colorado; State Board Chair, Colorado Community College System*

Beth Hendrix, *Executive Director, League of Women Voters for Colorado*

Tony Haas, *Volunteer Engagement Director, Veterans for All Voters*

Dr. Michael Cortés, *President and CEO, Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy, and Research Organization (CLLARO)*

Uriel Espinoza, *Cofounder and CEO, Scholarlead*

Jamie Engel, *Founding Chief Partnership Officer, Courageous Colorado*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

### **The Next Ten Years of Education-to-Career Pathways: Future-Ready Apprenticeships Center and the Employer Apprenticeship Accelerator**

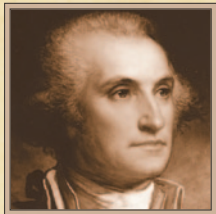


Ryan Gensler, *Executive Vice President, Director of National Partnerships, CareerWise USA*

Kelly Folks, *Director of the Division of Employment and Training, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment*

Casey Coghlan, *Apprenticeship and Workforce Consultant, Associated General Contractors Colorado*

Meredith Smith, *Director, Alabama Office of Apprenticeship*

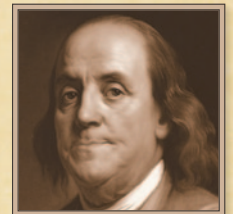


Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth.

*George Washington*

Where liberty dwells, there is my country.

*Benjamin Franklin*

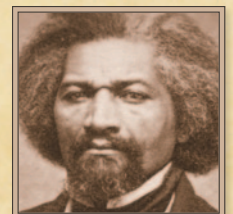


Those who deny freedom to others, deserve it not for themselves;

and, under a just God, can not long retain it. *Abraham Lincoln*

The life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful,

and virtuous. *Frederick Douglass*





# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## ROUNDTABLES (DAY I)

Aspen (Mezz)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00

### **The Last Exit—Lessons from the Terminally Ill and Healing for Bereaved Parents, Siblings, Friends:** *Honoring Those We Will Lose and/or Have Lost With a Lasting Legacy*



Sarah Kravits, *LifeBound Cert. Master Trainer; Senior Academic Coach, Rutgers University; Sibling Coordinator, Bereaved Parents USA*  
Travis Luther, *Author "The Last Exit: Lessons In Life and Business From the Terminally Ill"*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00

### **Turning Your Identity Into Your Professional Superpower:** *Building Social Capital for Career Advancement*



Sumayyah Emeh-Edu, *Chief Experience Facilitator, Embedded Consulting*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20

### **How Change Happens:** *Observations, Data, and Action—Building Pathways to Local Impact*



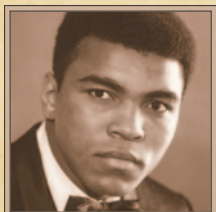
Landon Jordan, *President and Founder, RunKind; Public Policy & Economics Student, Cornell University*

BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20

### **Downside of Digital Credentials: Protecting Learners From Hidden Pitfalls**



Dr. Kelly Page, *Founder and CEO, Live What You Love Studio*



America is a place where the impossible becomes possible.

*Muhammad Ali*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

ROUNDTABLES (DAY II)

Aspen (Mezz)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **Reimagining the Freshman Year Experience for HBCU Success**



Dr. Bahiyah Muhammad, Assoc. Professor of Sociology and Criminology, Howard University

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 **Transforming Workplace Culture: Unlocking First Gen Economic Mobility**



Arquella Hargrove, Chief Culture Officer, Alchemy Consulting Group

Yvonne Harris, Human Resources & People Culture Consultant, Harris Consulting



America ... It is a fabulous country, the only fabulous country; it is the only place where miracles not only happen, but where they happen all the time. *Thomas Wolfe*

America is a vast conspiracy to make you happy. *John Updike*



America is a place where you can reinvent yourself, no matter how many times you've failed. *Walt Disney*

I see America, not in the setting sun of a black night of despair ahead of us, I see America in the crimson light of a rising sun fresh from the burning, creative hand of God. I see great days ahead, great days possible to men and women of will and vision. *Carl Sandburg*





# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## DEEPER DIVES (DAY I)

Silver and Gold (Mezz)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

SESSION I 10:10–12:00

### Early Learning:

*Creating the Fabric of Our Democratic Future One Young Learner at a Time With Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) Families*

GOLD ROOM

MEZZANINE LEVEL



Introduction & Overview

Michelle Kang, Chief Executive Officer, National Assoc. for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

Chris Preston, Chief Strategic Partnerships Officer, BlueSKY Collaborative Partners

Dr. Pamela Harris, President and CEO, Mile High Early Learning

Blythe Keeler Robinson, President and CEO, Sheltering Arms Early Education and Family Centers

William Browning, President and CEO, Clayton Early Learning

Ralph Smith, Managing Director, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading

SESSION II 1:30–3:20

### Entrepreneurship for Economic Mobility:

*From Seed to Scale to Sale for Underestimated Talent*

SILVER ROOM

MEZZANINE LEVEL



Dr. Rebecca Corbin, President and CEO, National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE)

Chip Weismiller, Founder, Everyday Entrepreneur Venture Fund

Stuart Weismiller, Founder, Everyday Entrepreneur Venture Fund

Dave Toole, Chairman, Outthink.AI

Zak Zielezinski, Chief Executive Officer, GLX Studio, MediaMobz Inc.

Rocío Pérez, MBA, International Speaker, Bestselling Author, Creator of The MindShift Experience

Dr. Solomon Abiola, Chief Executive Officer, Guidance Technologies

Laura Burke, Chief of Innovative Systems & Empowerment, Venture Academy of Leadership and Entrepreneurship (VALE)

Musa Hakim Jr., Cofounder and CEO, Lazy Moose Co.; Board Member, Breakthrough Public Schools (BPS)

Lee-Ann Hayden, Chief Learner and Disruptor, Venture Academy of Leadership and Entrepreneurship (VALE)

Karen Ashworth-Macfarlane, Cofounder and CEO, Doña Loca; GlobalMindED Board Treasurer; former Wall Street executive

Stan Hickory, Director, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, University of Colorado Boulder

Leah Jean Shafer, Program Manager, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Initiative, University of Colorado Boulder

Maria Gonzalez, Founder and CEO, Adelante Community Development

Henry Wright, Director of Technology, CoreLogic Inc.



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## DEEPER DIVES (DAY II)

Silver and Gold (Mezz)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

SESSION I 10:10–12:00

### New Identities from Military to Civilian Life for Effective Career Transitions: Education, Skills Development, Entrepreneurship, Community Service, and Board Leadership

GOLD ROOM

MEZZANINE LEVEL



Anthony Newton, *Microsoft Alumni Network, Director of Product Management, AireSpring*

Jerry Shelton, *Executive Director, EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Warrior Foundation*

Lori Reynolds, *Lieutenant General, U.S. Marine Corps (ret.); Member, Board of Trustees, American Public University System (APUS)*

Steve Schwab, *Chief Executive Officer, Elizabeth Dole Foundation*

Brian Kibby, *former president, McGraw-Hill Higher Education Group; Board Member, Grade Potential Tutoring*

Richard Lewis, *Founder and CEO, RTL Networks and RTL Foundation*

Barbara Faulkenberry, *Major General, U.S. Air Force (ret.); Independent Corporate Director, Callon Petroleum*

Dr. Tony Hansberry II, *Psychiatry Resident, Tripler Army Medical Center*

Nina Ekholm Fry, *Director of Equine Programs, Institute for Human-Animal Connection, University of Denver*

Gail Colvin, *Colonel, U.S. Air Force (ret.), Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force Academy*

Dr. Reid Jewett Smith, *Vice President, Research and Policy, Disability:IN*

Dr. Kevin Morris, *Executive Director, Institute for Human-Animal Connection, University of Denver*

Shawwna Hoffman, *Chief Executive Officer, Armored Quantum, Inc.*

Jasmine Motupalli, *Founder and CEO, The Data Love Company*

SESSION II 1:30–3:20

### Building a Workforce Pipeline for Ability Status Learners, Earners, and Leaders

SILVER ROOM

MEZZANINE LEVEL



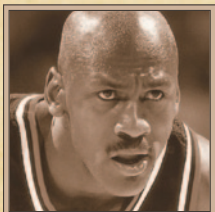
Ann Hynek, *Founder and CEO, Hestia Wealth & Wellness*

Dr. Reid Jewett Smith, *Vice President, Research and Policy, Disability:IN*

Kristy Schenderlein, *Vice President of Operations, Blind Institute of Technology*

Karen Chong, *Vice President of Audience Strategy, AARP*

Dr. Amanda Kelly, *President and CEO of Firefly Autism; Cofounder, Colorado Neurodiversity Chamber of Commerce*



America: the place where dreams can come true,  
but only if you're willing to work for them.

*Michael Jordan*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

## PROBLEM-SOLVING LABS (DAY I)

Silver and Gold (Mezz)

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

SESSION I 10:10-12:00

### Reset the Compass in a World Gone Insane To Reach the Future We Want: *Breakthroughs in Clean Energy, Climate Resilience and Regenerative Solutions*

SILVER ROOM

MEZZANINE LEVEL



A.J. Grant, *President, Environmental Communications*

L. Hunter Lovins, *President and Founder, Natural Capitalism Solutions*

Indrani Pal-Chaudhuri, *Founder and Chief Vision Officer, Open Origin*

Telva McGruder, *Executive Director, Global Body Manufacturing Engineering, General Motors*

Sarmad Khan, *Founder and CEO, Telos Futures*

Lawrence Ford, *Founder and CEO, Conscious Capital*

GK Reid, *Regenerative Producer and Chief Communications Officer, Open Origin*

SESSION II 1:30-3:20

### The Next 150/250 of Women in Work: *Architecting Work That WORKS for All*

GOLD ROOM

MEZZANINE LEVEL



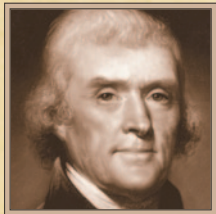
Simone Ross, *Chief Executive Officer, Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce*

Gwen K. Young, *Chief Executive Officer, Women Business Collaborative*

Lawrence Ford, *Founder and CEO, Conscious Capital*

Christin Crampton Day, *Executive Director, Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA)*

Dr. Paula Hopkins, *EVP Strategic Partnerships, Miami-Dade Beacon Council*



How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy!

*Thomas Jefferson*

I say to you that our goal is freedom, and I believe we are going to get there because however much she strays away from it, the goal of America is freedom.

*Martin Luther King Jr.*



Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.

*John F. Kennedy*



# 2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

PROBLEM-SOLVING LABS (DAY II)

Silver and Gold (Mezz)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

SESSION II 1:30–3:20 **Colorado Hispanic, Latino, Indigenous Museum and Living History Movement**

SILVER ROOM

MEZZANINE LEVEL



Patricia Barela Rivera, *Former Colorado Director, U.S. Small Business Administration*

Ramona Martinez, *Former President, Denver City Council (invited)*

Dr. Lori Marie Huertas, *Assistant Director, Industry Partnerships, Metropolitan State University of Denver*

Rick Garcia, *Board Chair, Colorado Hispanic Latino Heritage Fund, former Denver City Councilman (invited)*

Charlene Garcia Simms, *Special Collections Librarian, Pueblo City–County Library District (invited)*

Grace Moreno, *Title, Affiliation (invited)*

Chris Martinez, *Executive Director, Hispanic Contractors of Colorado (invited)*

Ray Rodriguez, *Master Data Analyst, Tech Data Corporation; Board, Rocky Mountain Equality Action Fund (invited)*

Carolyn Terrell, *MBDA Consultant, former Supervisory Business Development Specialist, U.S. Small Business Admin. (invited)*

Jennifer Smith, *Title, Affiliation (invited)*

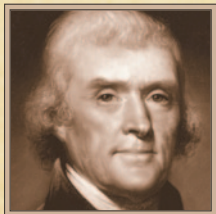
Angela Martinez, *Community Partnership and Marketing Manager, Thrive; President, GMED Emerging Leaders*

Bill Mascareñas, *Title, Affiliation (invited)*



Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world. *Harriet Tubman*

America is great because she is good. *Alexis de Tocqueville*



And for the support of this Declaration [of Independence], with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor. *Thomas Jefferson*, DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Ken Epps**  
Adjunct Prof., Business  
Wake Forest University  
*Board President*



**Dr. Paula Hopkins**  
EVP Strategic Partners  
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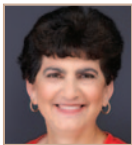
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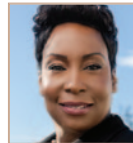
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My fellow Americans: Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country.

*John F. Kennedy*

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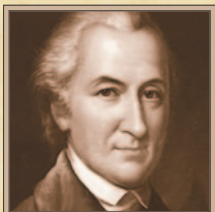
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Then join hand in hand, brave Americans all!

By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall. *John Dickinson*

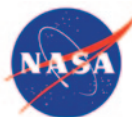
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