

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 Córdoba
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



W.K. KELLOGG
FOUNDATION
Trustee Fund, Milton Chen



THE LANIG FAMILY FUND



CareerWise

ROSE COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



BE FUTURE
READY



American Public
University System



University of Colorado
Denver



DENVER
HEALTH.



NBCUniversal Local



LG



INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S FORUM



Mile High United Way



Base 44



2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

PARTNERS



PHILANTHROPY IS BEAUTIFUL
JEWELRY BY JOAN HORNIG












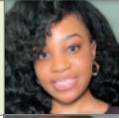








2026 First Gen Leadership Program GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

Creating Your Powerful Voice, Impact, Path, and Service

Windows

8:15-8:45	Registration <i>3rd floor</i>	<i>For approved students to attend. Business attire, please</i>	
9:00-9:10	Welcome, Introductions, and Goals of the Day Dr. Paula Hopkins, <i>EVP Strategic Partnerships, Miami-Dade Beacon Council</i> Dani Bedoni, <i>Master Coach</i>		 
9:10-9:30	Leveraging the GlobalMindED Success Network: Voice and Impact Dr. Lori Marie Huertas, <i>Assistant Director, Industry Partnerships, MSU Denver</i> Brian Ysasaga, <i>Mission Engineering & Operations Systems Engineer, Lockheed Martin</i> Angela Martinez, <i>Community Partnership and Marketing Manager, Thrive; President, GMED Emerging Leaders</i>		  
9:30-10:00	Activating Your GlobalMindED Potential: Building Your Professional Pathway Dr. Angie Paccione, <i>Chief Impact Officer, Verus Global Training and Management</i>		
10:00-10:30	From Poverty to Prosperity: How Entrepreneurship Saved My Life Travis Luther, <i>First Gen grad, serial entrepreneur, servant leader</i>		
10:30-11:00	From Student to Grad to C-Suite to Board Leader to Philanthropist Richard Lewis, <i>Air Force veteran, Founder and CEO, RTL Networks and RTL Foundation</i>		
11:00-11:45	Global Leadership, Local Impact Dr. Melinda Cain, <i>Managing Director, Real World Solutions</i>		
11:45-12:30	Lunch <i>Join people you don't know to grow your network and make new friends!</i> Chawtana Edwards, MPH, <i>Program Director, AGAPE Strategic Solutions of Maryland; VP Emerging Leaders, GlobalMindED</i>		
12:15-1:00	Your Struggle is Your Strength Torian Richardson, <i>Chief Executive Officer, DBR77; formerly with NVIDIA</i>		
1:00-2:15	How Failure Strengthens Leadership Dr. Tony Hansberry II, <i>Psychiatry Resident, Tripler Army Medical Center</i>		
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, <i>Former Colorado Director, U.S. Small Business Administration</i>		
3:15-4:00	Speed Networking and Wrap-Up: Making the Most Out of Growing Your Leadership Dr. Paula Hopkins, <i>EVP Strategic Partnerships, Miami-Dade Beacon Council</i> Rocio Pérez, MBA, <i>International Speaker, Bestselling Author, Creator of The MindShift Experience</i> Rimshah Jawad, <i>Strategic Initiatives and Data Consultant, InPerson+</i>		  
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

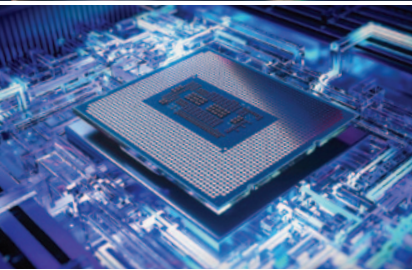


Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming how we teach, learn, and do mathematics leaving us with the question: *What is math's mission in an AI driven world?* Join us to debate, collaborate, and generate new ideas about our future and how AI tools can enhance critical thinking, personalize learning,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



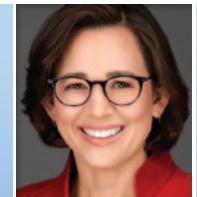
Dr. Po-Shen Loh
 Professor of Mathematics, Carnegie Mellon University



Debra Wilcox
 Former Chair, Colorado AI & Supercomputing Roundtable



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



Erika Twani
 Founder, Learning One to One



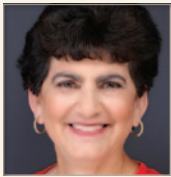
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 12:30–3:00PM • SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

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

This 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 McCrickard

*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
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
Manager, WGU Coach,
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.



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*

Creating Worldwide Peacemakers



Richard Jordan
*United Nations Non-governmental
Organizations*

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*

First Gen Breakthrough: Rewiring the Mental Script



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

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

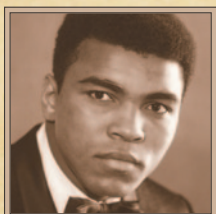


Dr. Christian Anderson
*Assoc. Professor of Mathematics Education,
Morgan State University*

Africa-America Higher Education Partnerships



Dr. Plus Kamau
President, AAHEP



America is a place where the impossible becomes possible.
Muhammad Ali



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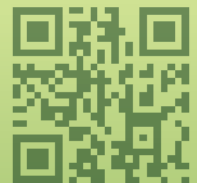
GLOBALMINDED

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 for link.

www.globalminded.org



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



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



Jean-Claude Brizzard
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

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

CLOSING 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

OPENING 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



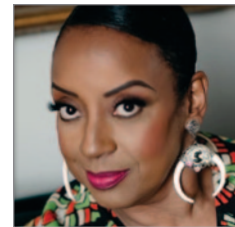
Antoinette Gawin
President and CEO
Terumo Blood and Cell Technologies



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



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



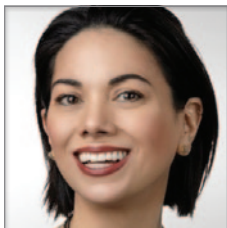
Melba Wilson
Restaurateur, author, and Food Network personality
Melba's Restaurant, Harlem

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



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



Barbara Bickham
Founder and Managing Partner
Trailyn VC
Angel Investor

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



2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

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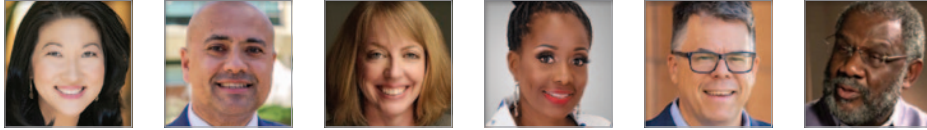
EARLY LEARNING (DAY I)

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*

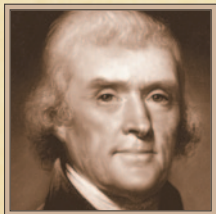
BREAKOUT IV 2:30–3:20
TOWER COURT D

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

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

K–12



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*
Kim LeClaire, *ISTE Faculty Consultancy, International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)*
Palmira Tolotti, *Educational Public Policy Analyst, Palmira Tolotti Talks, Brazil*

BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00
TOWER COURT A

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

K–12



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. Jasmine Kullar, *Chief School Leadership Officer, Cobb County School District*
Dr. Cassandra Herring, *President and CEO, BranchED*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20
TOWER COURT C

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

GLOBAL WORK SKILLS



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)

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

WORKSHOP



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*
Kim LeClaire, *ISTE Faculty Consultancy, International Society for Technology in Education*
Palmira Tolotti, *Educational Public Policy Analyst, Palmira Tolotti Talks, Brazil*

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



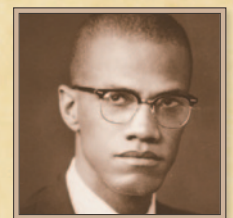
Jason Dropik, *Executive Director, National Indian Education Association (NIEA)*
Shawna Becenti, *President, Head of School, Navajo Preparatory School*
Dr. Alex Marrero, *President, Assoc. of Latino Administrators & Superintendents (ALAS), Superintendent, Denver Public Schools*
Dr. Kimberly McLeod, *President, 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. Yolanda Watson Spiva, *President & CEO, Complete College America*
 Dr. LaTonia Collins Smith, *President, Harris-Stowe State University*
 Dr. Nia Woods Haydel, *Vice President for Institutional Transformation & Scaling, Complete College America*
 Dr. Carla Tweed, *President, Coalinga College*
 TBD, *Los Angeles Board of Regents*

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)

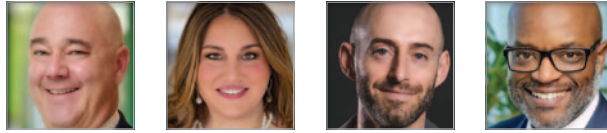
Tower Court B (Main)

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

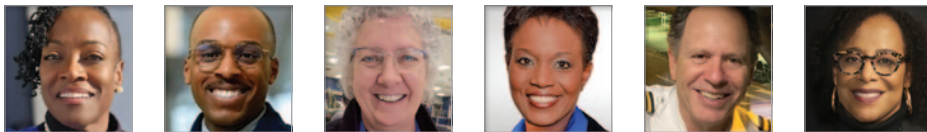
Engineers Managing and Leading Innovation for the Future: Managing Change and Innovation for a Thriving Democracy



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

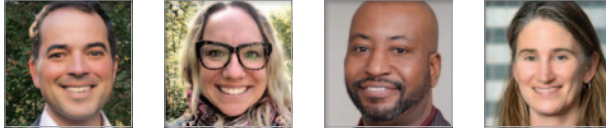
JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

STEAM (DAY II)

Spruce (Mezz)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BREAKOUT I 10:10–11:00 **Innovative Approaches for STEM Education: *The Metrics of Trust In the Age of AI***



Dustin DeBrum, *Operations Director, Innovation Programs, Noyce School of Applied Computing, Cal Poly*
 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*

John Pittinger, *Chief Engineer and Director of Innovation in R&D, Terumo Blood and Cell Technologies*

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 Doracha, *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*

Eric Hagerson, *Public Safety and Security Government Affairs Director, T-Mobile*

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*

Shawna 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*



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

HEALTH (DAY I)

Windows (Main)

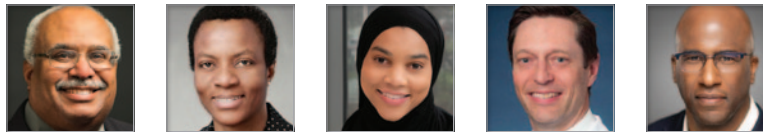
THURSDAY, JUNE 11

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*
 Zaynab (“Lina”) Shaheed, *MSc Candidate, Duke University School of Medicine*
 Dr. Bob Belknap, *Executive Director, Public Health Institute, Denver Health*
 Dr. Pierre Theodore, *Executive Director, Health Equity and Patient Inclusion, Roche-Genentech*

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, UHealth*
 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



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



2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

HEALTH (DAY II)

Windows (Main)

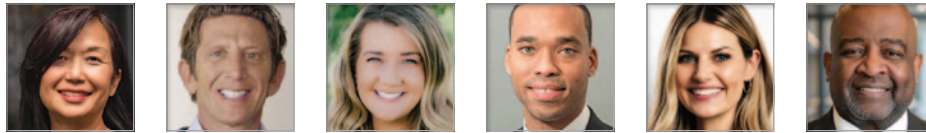
FRIDAY, JUNE 12

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**



Karen Chong, *Vice President of 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"*



What happens to GlobalMindED graduates over time?



They become the professionals who . . .



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



250 YEARS

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where students can meet with speakers and key conference participants

FEATURING

THE VFW BAND

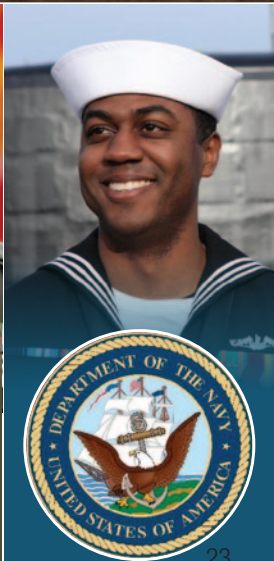
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 4:30-6:00 • SOUTH LOBBY, SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN



32 patriotic musicians play favorites that celebrate our independence



REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVE





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

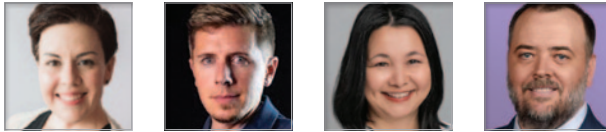
Financial Planning for Small Business: From Survival to Sustainability to Success for Underestimated Talent



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

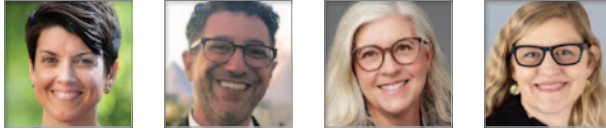
JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

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 (invited)*

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*

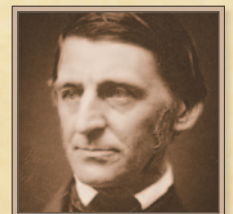


The American Dream is something that every immigrant brought to this country, as my parents did, and that is the ability to go as far as you can in life, limited only by your own dreams, and willingness to work hard.

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**



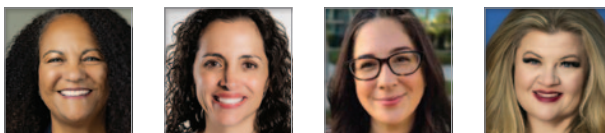
Stephanie Garnica, *Director Global Business Development, Denver Economic Development and Opportunity*
 Antonio Huerta, *Legislative Liason and Public Information Officer, Colorado Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs*
 Allen Webb II, *Lead Program Specialist, Denver Youth Employment Program, Denver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

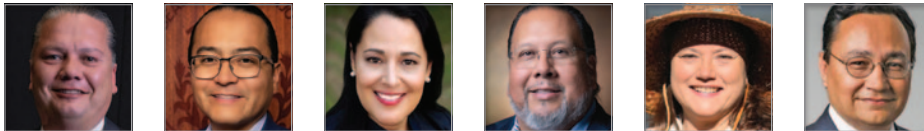
FRIDAY, JUNE 12

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)*

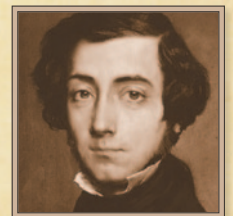
**BREAKOUT II 11:10–12:00 Democracy, Tribal Nation Building, Sovereignty, and Land Restoration:
Advancing Native American Political Leadership**



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*
Chuck Hoskin Jr., *Principal Chief, Cherokee Nation*

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*
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*





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 Rascist 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*

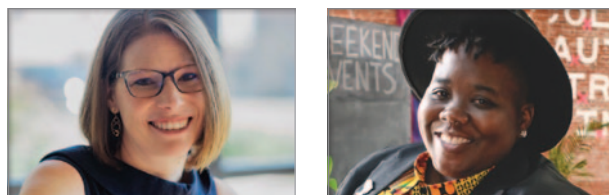
BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Navigating AI Implementation to Fortify Our Democracy:**
Thoughtful Inclusion, Governance Principles, Citizenship, and Equity Outcomes With Employees, Faculty, Staff, and Students



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 Colorado Springs*



2026 DIMENSIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

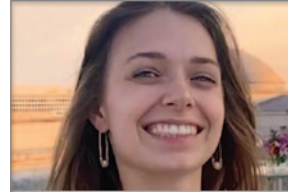
JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

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, or 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*



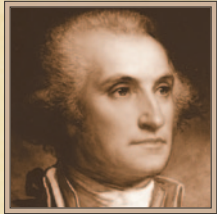
Dr. Landon Mascareñaz, *Chief Executive Officer, Courageous Colorado; State Board Chair, Colorado Community College System*
Beth Hendrix, *Executive Director, League of Women Voters for Colorado*
Tony Haas, *Volunteer Engagement Director, Veterans for All Voters*
Dr. Michael Cortés, *President and CEO, 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*

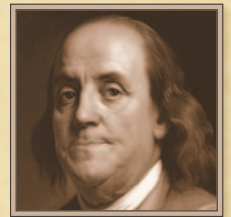


Liberty when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth.

George Washington

Where liberty dwells, there is my country.

Benjamin Franklin

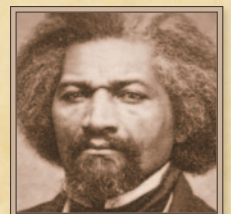


Those who deny freedom to others, deserve it not for themselves; and, under a just God, can not long retain it.

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 Certified Master Trainer; 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*



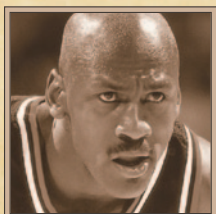
Landon Jordan, *President and Founder, RunKind; Public Policy & Economics Student, Cornell University*

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: 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

ROUNDTABLES (DAY II)

Aspen (Mezz)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

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



Dr. Bahiyyah 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, *Title, Harris Consulting*

BREAKOUT III 1:30–2:20 **Systems Supporting Access, Communication, and Opportunity**



Jason J. Clark, *Director, Diversity and Inclusion Function Lead, Charles Schwab*



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*



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*
 Shawonna Hoffman, *Chief Executive Officer, Armored Quantum, Inc.*
 Adam Popp, *Board Member and Peer Mentor, EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Warrior Foundation*
 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*
 Diego Mariscal, *CEO and Chief Disabled Person, 2Gether-International*



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



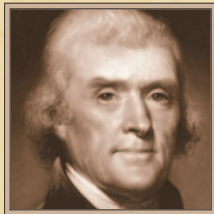
Simone Ross, *Chief Executive Officer, Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce*

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*

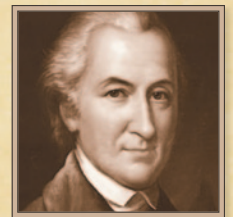
Bill Mascareñaz, *Title, Affiliation (invited)*



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*

Then join hand in hand, brave Americans all!

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



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



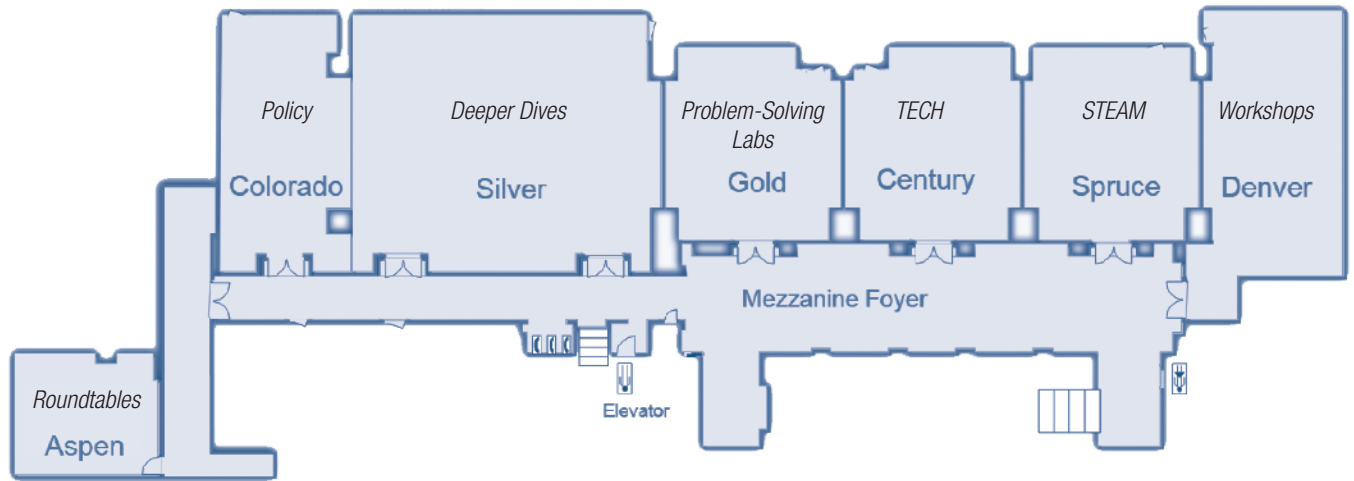
2026

GLOBALMINDED CONFERENCE

JUNE 10, 11, 12 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

DIRECTORY

WiFi password: GMED 2026

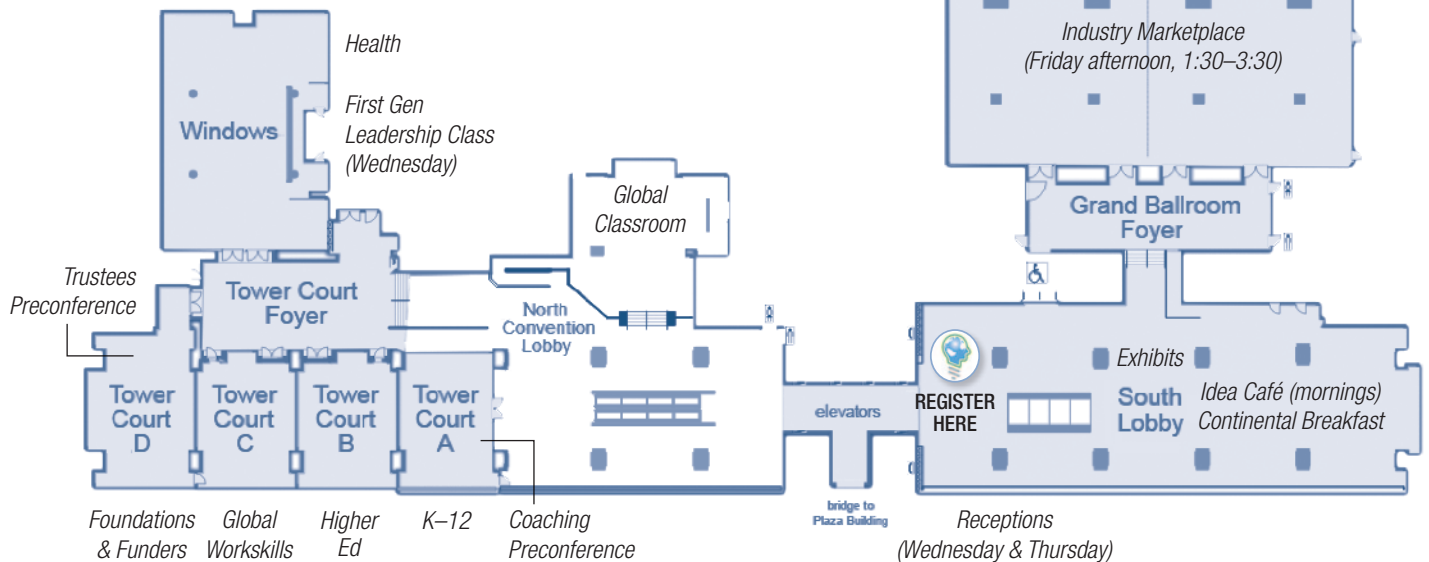


Tower Building Mezzanine Level

(One flight of stairs up from the Main Conference Level)

Tower Building Second Floor

(Main Conference Level)



Exceptional Leader Awards: Grand Ballroom

K-12 Track: Tower Court A (Main)

Higher-ED Track: Tower Court B (Main)

STEAM Track: Spruce (Mezz)

Tech Track: Century (Mezz)

Health Track: Windows (Main)

Global Work Skills Track: Tower Court C (Main)

Foundations Track: Tower Court D (Main)

Policy Track: Colorado (Mezz)

Workshops: Denver (Mezz)

Presentations: Grand Ballroom

Global Classrooms: North Convention Lobby

Deeper Dives: Silver (Mezz)

Roundtables: Aspen (Mezz)

Problem-Solving Labs: Gold (Mezz)

Idea Café: South Convention Lobby (Main)

Exhibitors: South Convention Lobby (Main)

Industry Marketplace: Windows (Main)

SAMPLE: PARTICIPANTS FROM 2024-2025 INCLUDED

INDUSTRY MARKETPLACE, CAREER EXPLORATION ARENA, APPRENTICESHIP/INTERNSHIP & JOB FAIR



FRIDAY JUNE 12, 1:30-3:30 • GRAND BALLROOM • SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

Participants from 2025 and 2024 included:



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