



2026 AI SUMMIT SPEAKER BIOS

THE DUPONT CIRCLE HOTEL | JULY 14-15, 2026



Brendan Abel is the Director of State Policy at Johnson & Johnson, where he serves on the national policy team leading the company's strategy on a portfolio of state policy issues, including artificial intelligence, data privacy, and legislation impacting the medical device business. Over his career, Brendan has built a strong foundation in healthcare law, policy, and bioethics. Prior to joining Johnson & Johnson, he served as the Director of Government Affairs at the Massachusetts Medical Society, where he directed the state and federal legislative affairs for the organization representing over 25,000 physicians in the Commonwealth. In addition to his policy work, Brendan serves on the teaching faculty at the Center for Bioethics at Harvard Medical School. He earned his JD from Suffolk University Law School and has completed a fellowship in Medical Ethics at Harvard Medical School.



James Atkinson is the Vice President of Thought Leadership at SHRM, where he leads research teams on the challenges and trends affecting HR and the workplace. Prior to joining SHRM, he served as Vice President of Data Products at PayScale and spent nearly six years at Gartner in a series of leadership roles, including Managing Vice President and Vice President of Data Products. In those positions he led multidisciplinary teams and oversaw data strategy and operations. Across his career, James' teams have produced award winning research and products featured in top business journals and media outlets including Harvard Business Review, The Wall Street Journal, and Forbes. He holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Michigan and an MBA in Marketing from The Ohio State University Fisher College of Business.



Dustin Carmack serves as Director, Public Policy, Executive Branch at Meta. Prior to joining Meta, he served in senior national security and technology policy roles, including as Chief of Staff to the Director of National Intelligence. He has also held senior positions in Congress, advising on technology, intelligence, and national security policy. Dustin earned his bachelor's degree from Truman State University and is the recipient of the Director of National Intelligence's Distinguished Service Award.



Kristen Casimir serves as Senior Manager of Government Affairs at Salesforce, Inc., where she works to shape state and local regulatory policy that supports innovation, economic growth and digital transformation. Prior to joining Salesforce, she worked as a lobbyist at ConnectSouth Public Affairs, representing clients from a variety of industries across the U.S. Kristen is the Vice Chair of the Technology Association of Georgia Government Affairs Committee and a board member with the State Government Affairs Council. Kristen built a strong foundation in government affairs through leading the Student Ambassador Program at the Georgia Secretary of State's Office along with strategic internships at the Governor's Office and the Georgia House of Representatives.



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Michele Cober is Executive Director of External Affairs & Strategic Alliances at Verizon, where she manages strategic relationships with third party organizations representing various civil and human rights interests. Prior to this role, she was an attorney in Verizon's Federal Regulatory & Public Policy Group, advocating on behalf of the company at the Federal Communications Commission. She graduated cum laude from Howard University School of Law where she was Executive Publications Editor of the Howard Law Journal. After graduating from law school, she served as a law clerk in the United States District Court for the District of Maryland and went on to join the litigation groups at Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Hogan Lovells LLP. She maintains an active pro bono practice, with a focus on criminal justice reform.



Renee Dabbs serves as the Executive Director the National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL), where she is responsible for the leadership and management of NFWL following the strategic direction set by the Board of Directors. She is the principal of Renee Dabbs, LLC, a management consulting firm specializing in organizational strategy, operations, and sales growth. Renee helps organizations improve performance, align goals, and drive sustainable results. She is a certified CliftonStrengths Facilitator, guiding leaders and teams to maximize their talents and collaborate effectively. Renee's background includes serving as COO of a top-tier Republican media production firm and a 16-year leadership career at Procter & Gamble, where she managed a \$220 million business.



Diana Doukas serves as Director, Economic Opportunity & Advocacy, US Policy at Meta. Prior to joining Meta, she served in senior leadership roles in both the public and private sectors, including at the White House, where she was Director of the White House Business Council and White House Liaison to the U.S. Small Business Administration. Diana has extensive experience building partnerships between government, business, and community leaders to advance economic growth and innovation. She holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Villanova University and completed the Executive Program in Social Impact Strategy at the University of Pennsylvania.



Margaret Durkin serves as the Executive Director for Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic at Technet. In this role, she oversees TechNet's state advocacy in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and West Virginia. This year alone, she has engaged on 173 bills and achieved a 94% success rate. Prior to joining TechNet, Margaret worked for eight years at a Pennsylvania-based contract lobbying and advocacy firm where she worked with clients in front of the Pennsylvania General Assembly and managed legislative tracking, lobbying disclosure, and PAC budgeting and administration. There she gained experience on a variety of client issues, including internet retail, data security, information technology, and healthcare, and had the opportunity to collaborate with the grassroots advocacy teams on select legislative issues.

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Mary K. Engle serves as the Executive Vice President, Policy, for BBB National Programs, where she leads policy efforts across more than 20 industry self-regulation programs and provides strategic oversight of advertising, privacy, and digital accountability initiatives. She also serves as the Vice President of the International Council for Advertising Self-Regulation, representing the United States Internationally. Before joining BBB National Programs in 2020, Mary spent 30 years at the Federal Trade Commission, including nearly two decades as Associate Director for Advertising Practices. In that role, she helped shape FTC Policy on green marketing, advertising substations, influencer and native advertising, online disclosures, children's privacy, and health related advertising. She received the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award in 2012. Mary holds a BA from Harvard University and a JD from the University of Virginia School of Law.



Safia Gourani serves as the Field CTO for the Public Sector at Dynatrace, where she helps government organizations modernize their technology through observability, AI, and cloud transformation. She has been at Dynatrace for over 11 years, and has partnered with both enterprise and public sector customers to accelerate digital transformation initiatives. She is passionate about putting customers at the center of every solution, using modern technology to solve complex challenges. Prior to Dynatrace, Safia served as a Senior Systems Engineer at Infosys where she developed enterprise software solutions, automated deployment processes, and supported large scale technology modernization projects. She holds a Master's degree in Computer and Information Sciences from University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, as well as a B.E in Electronics and Communications from Osmania University.



Kaitlin Horton is the Campus and Fair Chance Pipeline Lead at Aventiv Technologies, where she leads workforce development initiatives focused on creating innovative talent pipelines and expanding opportunities for emerging professionals and justice-impacted individuals. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance and a Master of Science in Economic Development from the University of Southern Mississippi, graduating magna cum laude. With a professional background spanning banking and finance, project management, workforce strategy, and community development, Kaitlin brings a unique perspective on the intersection of talent, technology, and economic mobility. Her work centers on building equitable workforce solutions that connect individuals to meaningful career opportunities while helping organizations develop sustainable talent strategies.



Chinnu Joseph is Senior Counsel within Salesforce's AI Legal team, serving as product counsel for the company's AI/ML offerings and agentic platform. She partners with technical and executive leadership to navigate novel legal issues, negotiate enterprise LLM agreements, and build compliance frameworks powering AI innovation. Previously, Chinnu structured major technology, privacy, and cybersecurity transactions for Paramount Global and led large-scale cloud migrations as Assistant General Counsel for the NYC Office of Technology and Innovation. An Adjunct Professor at New York Law School, she co-founded an in-house legal course, holds a J.D. from the institution, and serves on the Board of Directors for the nonprofit Start Small Think Big.



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Christine Maroulis is the Director of the U.S. State Government Affairs within Government Affairs and Policy at Johnson & Johnson, where she leads advocacy on state level public policy issues surrounding healthcare, pharmaceuticals, and patients. Prior to her current role, Christine held positions across Johnson & Johnson including with the Cornell Sloan Program in Health Administration and Ethicon, building expertise at the intersection of healthcare, policy, and innovation. Prior to joining Johnson & Johnson, she was a lobbyist at Wexler & Walker Group, a bipartisan firm in Washington, D.C., where she led strategic planning, direct lobbying, and coalition building for Fortune 500 companies. Christine holds an MBA from the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland, and a BA in Psychology from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL.



Laura McGorman serves as the Director of AI for Good at Meta, where she leads a global program that leverages Meta's open-source AI models to help government, universities, and nonprofits expand economic opportunity, accelerate scientific discovery, and support small businesses. She has more than 15 years of experience leading AI, data, analytics, and operations initiatives across the technology industry and the public sector. Prior to Meta, Laura served in the Obama Administration in the U.S. Department of Commerce, where she led an open data team focused on expanding access to federal data and modernizing government technology. Her career also includes leadership roles at Opower, the World Bank, and USAID, where she advanced initiatives in analytics, entrepreneurship, and global public health. She currently serves on the board of advisors for CapoeiraDC, a nonprofit dedicated to youth and community development through Afro-Brazilian cultural arts.



Erin McKinney serves as a principal policy counsel for Amazon Web Services (AWS) State, Local, and Education Public Policy. Erin is currently focused on state legislative efforts related to artificial intelligence and other technology policy matters, regularly interacting with internal and external stakeholders and policymakers. Prior to focusing on tech policy, Erin worked on the AWS Tax team, as the State and Local Tax Legal Advisor at IBM and as a Senior Associate at Grant McCarthy Group LLC. She holds a JD from Pace University and a BA in Gender Studies and Communication from Loyola University Chicago.



Jane Oates is the president of WorkingNation, a storytelling organization that builds support for mitigating the employability gap in America. Prior to her current position, Jane was the Vice President for External Affairs and Corporate Social Responsibility at the for-profit college Apollo Education Group and its subsidiaries; the University of Phoenix, the College of Financial Planning, and Western International University. In January 2009, President Obama appointed her to serve as the Assistant Secretary of Employment & Training Administration at the US Department of Labor. In this role, she developed and implemented skills-based training and education platforms for the 21st Century workforce, including efforts focused on formerly incarcerated women.



Ga-Young Park serves as the Director of Verizon's Small Business Supplier Accelerator, where she leads initiatives that help expand opportunities for small business suppliers. With extensive experience across both the public and private sectors, she has built her career focused on strategic program management, stakeholder engagement, and driving sustainable growth. Prior to joining Verizon, Ga-Young led the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's corporate greenhouse gas emissions measurement and management resource center, supporting organizations and greenhouse gas accounting, climate risk assessment, and emissions target setting. She also managed the ENERGY STAR residential appliances portfolio, overseeing products specification development and fostering partnerships with global appliance manufacturers. Earlier in her career, she served on the executive team of an energy engineering firm, where she directed business strategy and operations within the commercial real estate sector.



Aimee Privitera currently serves as the New York Policy Manager for Waymo, a leader in autonomous vehicle (AV) technology. Aimee is an accomplished policy professional, responsible for developing and implementing strategic policy initiatives to support the deployment of autonomous vehicles within New York State. She actively engages with government officials, regulatory agencies, and community stakeholders at both city and state levels. Her expertise includes analyzing legislative proposals impacting AV operations, with a focus on AI and Electric Vehicle policy. Notably, Aimee contributed to securing the first-ever AV permit for New York City, demonstrating her impactful contributions to the advancement of autonomous mobility. Her experience also includes significant roles in legislative affairs and government contracting.



Sahiti Sarva is a Data Scientist with the Development Data Partnership at the World Bank, where she focuses on data science, policy, and global development. Previously, Sahiti served as a junior Research Analyst Consultant with the United Nations Development Programme in the Crisis Bureau, supporting disaster preparedness and response efforts. She also worked as a Freelance Data Journalist with The Pudding, where she co-authored a visual essay titled, "When Women Make Headlines," which analyzes the representation of women in top news publications using Python and D3.js. Sahiti holds an MS in Engineering and Policy Analysis from the Delft University of Technology and a Graduate Certificate in Public Policy from The Takshasila Institution.



Justine Spore is a GIS Research Associate on the Forests Program's Restoration team at the World Resources Institute, where she supports the development and integration of remote sensing datasets used to monitor forest and landscape restoration efforts worldwide. Prior to joining WRI, Justine worked on deforestation detection and monitoring at the Amazon Conservation Association, where she used satellite imagery and automated alerts to identify patterns and trends across the Amazon. She also served as a Project Lead with NASA DEVELOP, where she evaluated changes in ecosystem vitality and freshwater health in Tonle Sap Basin using remotely sensed data. Justine holds a BA in Journalism and Environmental Studies, and an MS in Environmental Observation and Informatics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Susan St. Clair As a principal solutions engineer at Dynatrace, where she partners with customers and executive teams to drive technology strategy, accelerate business growth, mentor sales organizations, and provide thought leadership across the industry. With more than 14 years of experience as a product manager and strategist, she has built a career focused on bringing innovative technologies to market and negotiating contracts. Before joining dynatrace, Susan held leadership roles at Whitesource, Contrast Security, Checkmarkx, and Codiscope, where she gained experience in customer success management. She holds an MS, in Computer Information Sciences and a BS in Business Administration and Management from Colorado State University.



Representative Lisa Subeck serves in the Wisconsin State Assembly, where she has represented District 78 since 2014. A full-time legislator, she currently holds the position of Minority Caucus Chair and previously served as Minority Caucus Vice Chair. Her public service began at the local level as a member of the Madison Common Council from 2011 to 2015. Before her legislative career, Rep. Subeck worked in early childhood education, served as a Head Start program manager, technical college instructor, and nonprofit executive director. She holds a BA from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and is a graduate of Rich Central High School. Lisa is a board member of the National Foundation for Women Legislators and serves on the Executive Committee of the National Association of Jewish Legislators. She is also active with the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, Great Lakes Legislative Council, and Women in Government.



Dr. Nicol Turner Lee is a Senior Fellow in Governance Studies and the Director of the Center for Technology Innovation at the Brookings Institution, where she also serves as Co-Editor-In-Chief of TechTank and co-host of The TechTank Podcast. Her research focuses on the intersection of technology, public policy, and social justice. In 2023, Dr. Turner Lee launched the AI Equity Lab, an initiative advancing inclusive, ethical, and nondiscriminatory AI systems in the United States and across the Global South. She is the author of “Digitally Invisible: How the Internet is Creating the New Underclass (Brookings Press, 2024)” and has contributed extensively to leading academic journals. She holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in sociology from Northwestern University.



Mandy Ulrich is a Senior Manager at Amazon Web Services, where she leads teams developing and delivering energy, water, and carbon-free energy strategies across the Western United States, Canada, and Latin America. In this role, she supports cross-regional transmission studies, planning, and water quality initiatives that advance sustainable infrastructure at scale. Prior to joining AWS, Mandy spent about 14 years at the U.S. Census Bureau, where she led large-scale enterprise modernization efforts, including programs supporting the 2020 Decennial Census, managed multi-hundred-million-dollar budgets, and drove organization-wide transformation. Mandy holds a BA in Sociology from University of Virginia and brings deep experience at the intersection of technology, public service, and infrastructure planning.