

WELCOME

CITIZEN UNIVERSITY NATIONAL CONFERENCE



RECKONING AND REPAIR IN AMERICA

MARCH 24 - 25, 2017 AT SEATTLE CENTER

@CitizenUniv #CitizenUCon17



CITIZENUNIVERSITY.US

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

5:30P Check-In • reception • breakout session sign-up • bookstore open

6:30 Opening Plenary

Music: Benjamin Hunter

Welcome: Eric Liu

Reckoning With History: Annette Gordon-Reed and Titus Kaphar in conversation with Krista Tippett

Music: Benjamin Hunter

Poem: Claudia Castro Luna

Stories of a New America: Rajiv Chandrasekaran, Maria Hinojosa, Brad Jenkins, and Matthew Dowd

9:00 Doors close

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

8:00A Check-In • reception • breakout session sign-up • bookstore open

8:30 Morning Plenary

Music: Benjamin Hunter

Reckoning and Repair: Eric Liu

The Moral Citizen: Usra Ghazi, Tara Houska, Jim Wallis, and Bob Woodson
Moderated by Eric Liu

Past Tense: Carrie Mae Weems

10:30 SESSION I BREAKOUTS • Choose One. Space is limited.

You must get a Session I Breakout sticker and place it on your name badge.

1. Annette Gordon-Reed, Matt Kibbe, Jim Wallis: Conversations

Join these luminary presenters to hear their thoughts on this moment in our country, and a chance for Q&A with all three.

2. Family Independence Initiative (FII): Unity Not Fear

FII family partners are experts in collective self-organizing. In this workshop, FII families will lead dialogue focused on protecting and encouraging unity - not fear - and breaking stereotypes. We will share stories and lead discussions so participants feel motivated, know that they are not alone, that their voices matter, and that they are able to create next steps for action!

3. Kaz Brecher: Reframing Civic Participation: A Method to Drive Fresh Thinking for Impact

Sometimes the boldest and most innovative new ideas are all a matter of perspective, depending on the frame with which we look at the world. The assumptions on which a frame is based are often unexamined or wrong - but how might we overcome our own biases? In this workshop, participants will learn how to challenge our initial assumptions through a structured approach to creative problem-framing and use these new insights to uncover bold pathways to new solution spaces for civic participation.

4. Berto Aguayo, Brittany Packnett, Bob Woodson: Conversations

Join these luminary presenters to hear their thoughts on this moment in our country, and a chance for Q&A with all three.

5. **Jeremy Haile, Indivisible: A Practical Guide for Resisting the Trump Agenda**

In mid-December, a group of former congressional staffers created the Indivisible Guide online. Since then, the guide has been downloaded millions of times and more than 6,000 local groups have signed up to resist the Trump agenda. In this session, we'll look at how constituents across the country are making Congress listen. We'll see how smart strategies (local, defensive action) and tactics (showing up at congressional offices and town halls) are being used to resist the Trump agenda.

6. **Matthew Dowd, Maria Hinojosa, Titus Kaphar: Conversations**

Join these luminary presenters to hear their thoughts on this moment in our country, and a chance for Q&A with all three.

11:45 **Family-style lunch.** Presented with the Edible Schoolyard Project **The Democracy of Gardens:** Alice Waters and Eric Liu

12:45P **Repairing the Breach:** Matt Kibbe and Heather McGhee in conversation with Krista Tippett

Better Arguments: Rebecca Burgess, Jeremy Haile, Ruben Navarrette, Jr., Rinku Sen
Moderated by Eric Liu

3:00 **SESSION II BREAKOUTS** • Choose One. Space is limited.

You must get a Session II Breakout sticker and place it on your name badge.

1. **Rebecca Burgess, Brad Jenkins, Heather McGhee: Conversations**

Join these luminary presenters to hear their thoughts on this moment in our country, and a chance for Q&A with all three.

2. **Rinku Sen: We Don't Do Diversity: Taking a Systemic Approach to Operationalizing Racial Justice**

An ongoing challenge in racial justice is tying individual lived experience to rules, policies, and systems in ways that enable lasting change. This workshop will introduce participants to strategic frameworks for improving relationships, processes, and racial outcomes. Learn key definitions, how to apply systemic approaches to racial issues and how to operationalize equity commitments.

3. **Annie Leonard and Ben Smith: Building the New Resistance and the Future We Want**

We will share themes emerging from modern resistance movements, including lessons learned from victories, challenges, and failures of the past couple years. We'll then engage participants in a mini-workshop on some of the essential building blocks of any "people-powered" activist campaign. You'll leave prepared to get your communities active online AND offline, by learning from the cutting-edge analysis of Greenpeace's Global Mobilization Lab (@MobilisationLab).

4. **Usra Ghazi, Ruben Navarrette, Jr., Carrie Mae Weems: Conversations**

Join these luminary presenters to hear their thoughts on this moment in our country, and a chance for Q&A with all three.

5. **Alice Waters, Katrina Heron, Kyle Cornforth: An Edible Education with Alice Waters**

Join an informal discussion with Alice Waters, chef, author, food activist and founder of the Edible Schoolyard Project. Alice, along with her colleagues Katrina Heron, Executive Director of the Edible Schoolyard Project, and Kyle Cornforth, Director of the Edible Schoolyard Garden at King Middle School in Berkeley, will lead this "Town Hall" style discussion focused on their vision for the edible education movement, including school lunch programs, and teaching lunch as an academic subject.

6. **Krista Tippett: Speaking Together Differently In Order to Live Together Differently**

Our public life feels so fraught and frightening right now because it is defined by vast open questions that aren't going to have resolution. How do we come into relationship with each other, to be able to formulate the questions that would actually draw out the other person, and allow us to know them in a new way? In this workshop we'll explore new ways to begin to speak to each other — new framings — and create new spaces that don't have the same kinds of assumptions about why we're in the room together.

4:15 **Closing Plenary**

You're More Powerful Than You Think: Berto Aguayo, Annie Leonard, Brittany Packnett, and Jose Antonio Vargas. Moderated by Eric Liu

Closing Ceremony: Sworn-Again America Oath

Music and Song: Benjamin Hunter and Seattle Choruses

5:30 **Book signing with conference authors and ice cream social**

6:30 **Thank you and goodnight!**

SPEAKER & PRESENTER BIOS

Alice Waters is a chef, author, food activist, and the founder and owner of Chez Panisse Restaurant in Berkeley. She founded the Edible Schoolyard Project, which advocates for a free school lunch for all children and a sustainable food curriculum in every public school. In 2015 she was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Obama. @AliceWaters

Annette Gordon-Reed is the Charles Warren Professor of American Legal History at Harvard Law School. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize in History for *The Hemingses of Monticello*, her most recent book is *“Most Blessed of the Patriarchs.”* Her honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship, MacArthur Fellowship, and the National Humanities Medal. @agordonreed

Annie Leonard is the Executive Director of Greenpeace USA. Her film, *The Story of Stuff*, blossomed into The Story of Stuff Project, which works to empower people around the globe to fight for a more sustainable and just future. @AnnieMLeonard

Benjamin Hunter is a musician, educator and community activist. He co-leads the Rhapsody Project, which brings folk and blues instruction to schools and is the co-founder of Black & Tan Hall, a co-operatively owned restaurant and performing arts venue. blackandtanhall.com

Berto Aguayo is a community activist, organizer, and a proud Back of the Yards native. His experiences as a former gang member led him on an ardent journey toward social justice through community service. He is the Community Organizer for Safety and Nonviolence for The Resurrection Project. @bertoaguayo

Bob Woodson is Founder and President of the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, a MacArthur Fellow, and one of America’s most influential leaders on issues of poverty and upward mobility. He was instrumental in paving the way for resident management and ownership of public housing, and helped create Violence-Free Zones. @rwoodson2

Brad Jenkins is the Managing Director and Executive Producer of Funny Or Die DC. He served as President Obama’s liaison and director of engagement to the creative and advocacy communities, bringing together creative executives, advocacy leaders, and some of the world’s biggest stars to advance the President’s agenda. @bradjenkins

Brittany N. Packnett is an unapologetic educator, organizer, activist, writer, speaker, and national leader in social justice. She serves as Teach For America’s Vice President of National Community Alliances, and is co-founder of Campaign Zero. She was named one of *Time* magazine’s 12 New Faces of Black Leadership, LinkedIn’s Next Wave, and received the Peter Jennings Award for Civic Leadership. @mspackyetti

Carrie Mae Weems has worked to develop a complex body of art that investigates family relationships, gender roles, the histories of racism, sexism, class, and various political systems. Weems has received numerous awards including the prestigious Prix de Roma. Weems is represented in public and private collections around the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art. @weemscarrie

Claudia Castro Luna is Seattle’s Civic Poet (2015–2017) and the author of the chapbook *This City*. Born in El Salvador, she came to the United States in 1981. Her poems appear in print and on-line in publications such as *La Bloga*, *Diálogo*, and *Poetry Northwest*. @ClaudiaC_L

Eric Liu is the founder and CEO of Citizen University and director of the Aspen Institute Citizenship and American Identity Program. He is the author of several books, including his newest *You’re More Powerful Than You Think: A Citizen’s Guide to Making Change Happen*. He is a regular columnist for CNN.com and a correspondent for TheAtlantic.com. @ericpliu

Family Independence Initiative (FII) is a national nonprofit which leverages the power of information to illuminate and accelerate the initiative low-income families take to improve their lives. FII families work inside their communities across the nation — from Boston to New Orleans to San Francisco — to improve their lives and neighborhoods. @FIInational

Heather C. McGhee is President of Dēmos. She is a frequent writer, speaker, and media commentator on issues of democracy reform, economic opportunity, racial equity, and financial regulation. Her opinions, writing, and research have appeared in numerous outlets, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *USA TODAY*, NPR, and *The New York Times*. @hmcghee

Jeremy Haile is a co-author of the Indivisible Guide and a contributor to the Indivisible Project’s policy, communications, and development teams. He works at The Sentencing Project and as a public interest lawyer in San Francisco. A longtime activist, Jeremy’s work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and on NPR. @texpat

Jim Wallis is president and founder of Sojourners in Washington, D.C., a non-profit faith-based organization, network, and movement whose mission statement calls for “putting faith into action for social justice.” He is editor-in-chief of *Sojourners* magazine and website. His latest book is *America’s Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America*. @jimwallis

Jose Antonio Vargas is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, filmmaker, and media publisher whose work centers on the changing American identity. He is the founder and CEO of Define American, and the founder and editor of #EmergingUS, a media startup that lives at the intersection of race, immigration, and identity in a multicultural America. @joseiswriting

SPEAKER & PRESENTER BIOS

Kaz Brecher founded Curious Catalyst to marry investigation with action, bringing a new take to the business of social impact through her experience in agile approaches. She brings a unique creative perspective to her strategy work, combining film, print, broadcast, branding, and transmedia storytelling. She is a Challenge Faculty and fellow of THNK, the School of Creative Leadership. @kazbrecher

Krista Tippett is a Peabody Award-winning broadcaster and *New York Times* bestselling author. She created and hosts the public radio program and podcast *On Being* and curates the Civil Conversations Project. She was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Obama for “thoughtfully delving into the mysteries of human existence.” Her most recent book is *Becoming Wise: An Inquiry into the Mystery and Art of Living*. @kristatippet

Matt Kibbe is the President and Chief Community Officer for Free the People, and a leading advocate for personal, civil, and economic liberties. He is a public policy expert, bestselling author, and political commentator. In 2004 Kibbe founded FreedomWorks, a national grassroots advocacy organization. He is the author of *Don't Hurt People and Don't Take Their Stuff: A Libertarian Manifesto*. @mkibbe

Matthew Dowd is an analyst and special correspondent for ABC News, and founder of ListenTo.US, a community of independent minded citizens putting common-sense and innovation back into our broken political system. His forthcoming book is *A New Way: Bridging the Paradox As We Lead and Serve*. @matthewjdowd

Maria Hinojosa is an award-winning news anchor and reporter who covers America's untold stories and highlights today's critical issues. She created the Futuro Media Group, giving a critical voice to the diversity of the American experience. She is the anchor and Executive Producer of *Latino USA*, and anchor and Executive Producer of *America By The Numbers with Maria Hinojosa*. @maria_hinojosa

Rajiv Chandrasekaran is a senior vice president for Public Affairs at Starbucks and the executive producer of the company's social impact media initiatives. Rajiv was a senior correspondent and associate editor of *The Washington Post*, where he worked for two decades. He and Howard Schultz wrote *For Love of Country: What Our Veterans Can Teach Us About Citizenship, Heroism and Sacrifice*. @rajivscribe

Rebecca Burgess manages the Program on American Citizenship at the American Enterprise Institute, which conducts research on critical questions related to citizenship including the health of our public institutions, the state of the professions, civic education, voting and the political process, and military-civilian relations. @TheSubtleNotes

Rinku Sen is the President and Executive Director of Race Forward: The Center for Racial Justice Innovation and the Publisher of the award-winning news site Colorlines. She is the author of *The Accidental American: Immigration and Citizenship in the Age of Globalization*, and a leading voice in the racial justice movement, building upon the legacy of civil rights by transforming the way we talk about race. @rinkuwrites

Ruben Navarrette, Jr. is the most widely read Latino columnist in the country, and the 16th most popular columnist in America according to Media Matters. He is a nationally syndicated columnist with The Washington Post Writers Group whose column appears in more than 100 newspapers, a contributor to *USA TODAY* and FOXNEWS.COM, and a regular columnist for the Daily Beast. @RubenNavarrette

Seattle Men's Chorus and Seattle Women's Chorus comprise the largest community chorus organization in North America, and stand out as the largest LGBT-identified men's and women's choruses in the world. @SMC_Chorus @SWC_Chorus

Tara Houska is a citizen of Couchiching First Nation and a tribal rights attorney based in Washington, D.C. She is a founding board member of Not Your Mascots. She is a contributor to *Indian Country Today*, The Huffington Post, and the *Guardian*, and has been featured on The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, and RT America. @zhaabowekwe

Titus Kaphar is the founder of the Elm City Postmasters project, a professional development and mentorship program for creative individuals situated within a cutting edge 3D printing and fabrication studio and art gallery. His artworks interact with the history of art by appropriating its styles and mediums. Kapharstudio.com

Usra Ghazi has worked in the nonprofit sector on interreligious engagement for over ten years, as a Campus Outreach Manager with the national nonprofit Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC), and currently serves as a Policy Advisor at the Secretary's Office of Religion and Global Affairs at the US Department of State. @ursaghazi

Youth Speaks Seattle is a space for young people to think critically, write honestly, and reclaim their creativity so the next generation of revolutionaries can emerge. Youth Poets performing: Cornelius Cambronero and Carlynn Newhouse. @youthspeaks206

[Iconography #10] Flag of Clothes is on loan from artist Luke Haynes. [Fisher Pavilion stage backdrop.] @lukehaynescom

Origami Crane American Flag by Seattle artists Jocelyn Schmidt and Chris Bauer. More than 1,000 hand-dyed, handmade paper cranes strung in the pattern of a vintage American flag. [Exhibited in Fisher Pavilion.]

The Guardians, nine giant puppets, are on loan from Parading Marchers. Created for the Women's March on Seattle 2017, they give homage to the extraordinary women in our world fighting for our planet and human rights. [Exhibited in The Armory.]

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Bianca Guerrero, Hasher Nisar,
 and **Jacob Miller**, Harry S. Truman
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Citizen University is a national platform for fostering responsible and empowered citizenship through activation, communication, and education. We believe in the promise of a nation where more people are more literate in civic power – and more steeped in a sense of civic character. CITIZENUNIVERSITY.US

We are a recognized leader and innovator in the field of civic engagement, working at the intersection of the public, private, and independent sectors, to democratize the practice of civic power. Our portfolio of programs includes our annual National Conference, the Civic Collaboratory, The Joy of Voting, Sworn-Again America, Civic Saturday, Citizen University TV, and The Youth Power Project.

THANKS TO OUR STELLAR CONFERENCE CREW:

Jubilee Event Engineers: **Alex Martin**, conference director;
Sasha Summer Cousineau, event lead and stage manager;
Meera Bhardwaj, Justice Beitzel, production assistants.
Taelore Rhoden, hospitality manager; **David Verkade, Bobbin Ramsey**, technical support; **Timothy Sanders**, graphic design;
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SPECIAL THANKS:

Our fantastic volunteers, donors to the student scholarship fund, Seattle Center staff and employees, Madres Kitchen, Anaviv Catering, Palace Ballroom, Karen Maeda Allman and Elliott Bay Bookstore, Diane Douglas, FSG, and Carrie Hopper.

NEXT UP: Civic Saturday, in association with Town Hall Seattle. April 8th, 10:30am-noon. Civic Saturday is a periodic gathering we organize that's a civic analogue to church. It includes song, readings of civic scripture (great and provocative American texts), a sermon, and silent reflection. But mainly it's about fellowship. Find out more and RSVP at citizenuniversity.us/civic-saturday

FII's participation made possible by the Marguerite Casey Foundation. The Youth Collaboratory made possible by a grant from the Ford Foundation. Snacks and coffee provided by Starbucks. Ice Cream provided by Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream.