



The Best and Brightest National Summit Agenda

DAY 1 • SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

NOON - 4 PM **Summit Attendees Registration and Welcome Packet Pick-up**

6 PM - 8 PM **Opening Night Illuminate Social**

Just as you celebrate your Best and Brightest Employees, we want to celebrate you – rub elbows, relax, enjoy food and drinks and let us entertain.

DAY 2 • MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019

6:00 AM **Wellness Morning Activity – Yoga**

7:00 AM **Summit Attendees Registration and Welcome Packet Pick-up**

For those attendees that weren't able to pick up their packets on Sunday.

8:00 AM **Illuminate 2019 Kickoff Celebration**

Be prepared to be invigorated and engaged to take on the day and get the most out of the Illuminate 2019 experience!

8:30 AM **Breakfast and Presentation**

A Deep Dive into the Best Practices of the Best and Brightest Companies To Work For

9:30 AM **Ignite Keynote Speaker**



Dr. Gustavo Grodnitzky
Culture Trumps Everything

10:15 AM **Networking Break**

10:30 AM **Chicago Best and Brightest Companies To Work For Gala**

OR

ILLUMINATE Session 1

Radiate Track

The Partnership Between Human Resources and C-Suite

Collaboration between Leadership and Human Resources is essential to an organizations growth in helping to build and maintain a company's culture of engaged employees. When HR has a seat at the table, it ensures they have a full understanding of leadership's vision. The sessions will include insight into the successful workings of the CEO and lead HR executive and how they've built a relationship of trust and respect when handling their greatest asset...their people.

Ignite Track

Creating and Leading Accountable Teams



Eric Coryell, Core Connections

Eric will command the discussion around his non-traditional approach to leading teams. Building a team of trust and accountability creates a healthy team that feels confident to make statements and speak on their own behalf. When they do that, real data is brought to the table, real issues are addressed, and most importantly, judgment is eliminated.

11:30 AM **Snack Break**

The Best and Brightest National Summit Agenda (Day 2 continued)

11:45 AM

ILLUMINATE Session 2

Radiate Track

War for Talent – Overcoming the Talent Shortage and Tapping the Untapped



Jing Liao, Managing Director, Talent at Vista Equity Partners

Across the nation we are seeing the talent gap continue to increase to widespread proportions in some regions, the low supply in skilled trades climbing and tech firms continuing to struggle to fill vacancies. Jing will address the current skill gap and share new ways to address this gap such as engaging untapped talent and helping leadership manage talent with mismatched skill sets.

OR

Ignite Track

Guided Conversations with the C-Suite

Become Unmistakable: Start the Journey from Commodity to Oddity



Mike Novakoski, CEO, Elzinga & Volkers Construction

No two companies operate the same way and neither should their styles of leadership. Unfortunately, many corporations use the same leadership methodologies and are afraid of deviating from the status quo. Mike will examine how business leaders can tap into their “right-brained leadership” to foster a creative and employee-centric culture.

Elong Dairy’s Secrets to Success



Laurette Rondenet, President & CEO, Edlong

Edlong Dairy sets itself apart as a century old family owned flavor company. Laurette began her journey in the family business in 1993, through a customer service and sales positions followed by leadership roles that expanded her experience across the multiple functions within the company until she became CEO in 2008. Under Laurette’s leadership, Edlong has experienced unprecedented growth in the highly competitive flavors category. She leads the organization with a commitment to nurturing long-term, integrated relationships with both customers and employees, and in bringing value to the customer with innovative products and attentive service that truly differentiates Edlong.

12:45 PM

Lunch Served

1:45 PM

ILLUMINATE Session 3

Radiate Track

Diversity + Inclusion = Engaged, Productive Workplace



Denise Barreto Managing Partner, Relationships Matter Now

The Best and Brightest workplaces often have two important elements, a diverse workforce and an inclusive work environment. Easy to say, but tough to build and maintain both a diverse workforce and inclusive work environment. This session will give you practical advice and actions to support your company wherever you are in your journey to a more diverse talent pool and greater inclusive work ambient.

OR

Ignite Track

Guided Conversations with the C-Suite



Joe Slawek
Chairman and CEO
FONA International



Denise Navarro
President and CEO
Logical Innovations, Inc.

The Best and Brightest National Summit Agenda (Day 2 continued)

2:45 PM **Networking Break**

3:00 PM **ILLUMINATE  Session 4**

Radiate Track

Leading Through Disruption: Anxiety to Adaptability



Dorie Ellzey Blessoff, Chief People Officer, Relativity

No matter the industry or sector, organizations face challenges of constant transformation, disruption from all angles, and different expectations from four different generations in the workforce, to name a few. Dorie will discuss how to identify what can be done to increase organizational agility and the role of HR in helping to do so in addition to identifying what are the tools for making institutional and individual change happen.

OR

Ignite Track

Building a Great Culture "On Purpose," While Maintaining Your Roots



Amy Bastuga, Chief People Officer, Radio Flyer

Amy joined Radio Flyer, home of the iconic little red wagon, tricycles and other ride-on toys, in 2007. As Chief People Officer, she brings her HR expertise to a growing organization whose vision is to create an innovative environment where every employee says "I love my job." She'll share practical "how to's" on building and sustaining a high performance culture and company.

4:00 PM **Break Prior to Evening Activities**

5:00 PM - **Illuminate Evening Activities**

7:00 PM

Activity to be selected by attendees from the below options. Options will be distributed post registration.

- Craft Brews & City Views
- Experience Chicago Food Like a Local
- Architectural River Cruise
- Chicago Art and Architectural Walking Adventure

DAY 3 • TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

6:00 AM **Wellness Morning Activity – Zumba**

7:00 AM **Coffee Illumination Networking Hour**

8:00 AM **Breakfast Served**

9:00 AM **Radiate Keynote Speaker**



John O'Leary

Expected to die. Now teaching others how to truly live. National #1 bestselling author and speaker, John takes his experience from a childhood injury and miraculous recovery to teach others to Ignite a Radically Inspired Life.

10:00 AM **Networking Break**

10:30 AM **Featured Illuminate 2019 Keynote Speaker**



Patrick Lencioni

The author of eleven best-selling books with over five million copies sold. After sixteen years in print, his classic book, "The Five Dysfunctions of a Team", remains a weekly fixture on national best-seller lists.

11:45 AM **Networking Break**

12:15 PM **Lunch Served**

1:30 PM **National Best and Brightest Companies To Work For Celebration**

Exclusive celebration for our National Winners during the inaugural Best and Brightest National Summit. We will announce the 13 Elite National Winners including the "Best of the Best."

2:30 PM **Summit Conclusion**