



NATIONAL
CITIZEN
LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE

CONNECT. COMMIT. ACT.

4th Annual National Citizen Leadership Conference

Full Conference Schedule

All times in Eastern Daylight Time

Sunday, May 2, 2021

7:30 - 9:00pm **Lobby Day Training**

Monday, May 3, 2021

5:00 - 6:00pm **Virtual Networking**

6:00 - 8:15pm **Main Stage Program**

8:15 - 9:00pm **Breakout Sessions**

Thursday, May 6, 2021

5:00 - 6:00pm **Virtual Networking**

6:00 - 8:15pm **Main Stage Program**

8:15 - 9:00pm **Breakout Sessions**



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Sunday, May 2, 2021

All times in Eastern Daylight Time

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Lobby Day Final Training

Listen to the recording of Lobby Day Training 3 [here](#)

Review our Lobby Day training material [here](#)

Join us for our final Citizen Lobby Day training session ahead of our big week of congressional meetings. Leading the call will be Marie HenselderKimmel, American Promise New Jersey Citizen Leader, Vicki Barnes, American Promise Minnesota Citizen Leader, Azor Cole, American Promise Deputy Political Director, and Marnie Walsh, American Promise Citizen Empowerment Coordinator.

We will role-play effective meetings with Members of Congress and have plenty of time for Q&A.

Questions? Email Azor Cole at azorc@americanpromise.net



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Monday, May 3, 2021

All times in Eastern Daylight Time

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM CONNECT: Virtual Networking

6:00 PM - 8:15 PM Main Stage Program

6:00 PM Welcome Remarks

Jeff Clements, President

6:05 PM American Promise Conversation: Our Common Purpose

Leaders from the national, non-partisan "Our Common Purpose" Commission convened by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences outline an urgent vision and action agenda for reform and renewal of American constitutional democracy. Cross-partisan members of the Commission will share how they engaged Americans and each other over two years to arrive at the most promising roadmap for immediate action to ensure freedom, equal rights, and effective representative government in the 21st-century.

Panelists

Danielle Allen, Co-Chair of the Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship and James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard University

Eric Liu, Co-Chair of the Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship and Co-Founder and CEO of Citizen University

Pete Peterson, Member of the Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship and Dean of the School of Public Policy, Pepperdine University

Moderator

Jeff Clements, President, American Promise

Background: <https://www.amacad.org/ourcommonpurpose/report>



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6:50 PM **National Citizen Leadership Award**

Brian Boyle, American Promise, Senior Legal Counsel

Ishwari Sollohub, American Promise New Mexico Chapter

Scott Kendall and Jason Grenn, Alaskans for Better Elections

7:00 PM **Reuniting America: Leadership in Congress to Serve America's Demand to End Big Money in Politics**

With American representative government divided and fractured, Americans are searching for common ground on issues that unite, rather than divide us. The conversation with two members of Congress from different parties shows we have a big one: Three out of four Americans favor American Promise's constitutional amendment to empower voters and end big money's outsized influence in our political system, 22 states have resolved to support the amendment, and millions of Americans across the political spectrum have signed on. Can our leaders in Washington respond to the will of Americans to harness this momentum and win real, permanent reform? Listen in on this conversation with two members of Congress who are receiving American Promise leadership awards for their work to join together across partisan lines to lead the way.

American Promise has given the Congressional Leadership Awards to Rep. Katko and Rep. Deutch for their support of the 28th Amendment.

Panelists

Rep. John Katko, US Congressman (Republican) – NY 24th District

Rep. Ted Deutch, US Congressman (Democratic) – FL 22nd District

Moderator

Elizabeth Doty, Director of the Corporate Political Responsibility Taskforce Erb Institute for Sustainability in Business at the University of Michigan



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7:25 PM **C-Suite Conversation: What is the Role of Business in Politics and Reform?**

Corporations don't vote in elections, but they have a big impact on our democracy and society, for better or worse. Four business leaders from American Promise's National Business Network will discuss how free enterprise and the open exchange of ideas are too often replaced by "pay-to-play" and "crony capitalism", where firms and special interests compete for favors based on political spending. They also engage in the controversial question of the proper role, if any, of American corporations in politics, and how business leaders can best serve their country and their business in this challenging time.

Panelists

Donnel Baird, Founder, BlocPower

Peter Schwartz, SVP, Strategic Planning, Salesforce; author, *Art of the Long View*; Co-Founder, Global Business Network

Neal Simon, Former CEO, Bronfman Rothschild, 2018 Independent candidate for US Senate in Maryland; author, *Contract to Unite America*.

Moderator

Lisa Lewin, CEO, General Assembly

8:10 PM **National Citizen Leadership Award**

Marie HenselderKimmel, American Promise, New Jersey Chapter

Scott Wallace, Wallace Global Fund

Laura Knipmeyer, American Promise, California Chapter

What's Next

Jeff Clements, President, American Promise



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8:15 - 9:00pm **Breakout Sessions**

America 2026: The Reforms That Will Renew America & Secure Government of the People for the 21st Century

Across the country, Americans are working together to bring new ideas, energy, leaders, and coalitions together to respond to our systemic crises and renew democracy and effective representative government for America's third century. Join leaders of some of the best new ideas and bridge builders who are showing the way to real reform, empowering all voters, and breaking through the toxic hyper-partisan landscape to forge a new era of civic renewal and national purpose.

Panelists

Cheryl Crawford, Executive Director, MassVOTE

Scott Kendall, Alaskans for Better Elections

Debilyn Molineaux, President, and CEO, Bridge Alliance

Layla Zaidane, President, and CEO, Millennial Action Project

Moderator

Jeff Clements, President, American Promise



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8:15 - 9:00pm **Breakout Sessions**

Rising to the Challenge: Providing Clear Communication in Today's Media Landscape

During the \$200 Million Senate race in 2020, David Trahan, president of the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine, said people in Maine were "20 feet under an avalanche, and no one could hear us." Big money attacks dominate election information—or too often, misinformation, heedless of facts – leaving citizens increasingly isolated, angry, divided, misinformed, and unrepresented. Algorithms designed to capture attention, harvest data, and sell advertising drive media while amplifying the voices of the most divisive. How are Americans rising to this challenge to communicate together as citizens in a democracy?

Panelists

Ann Ravel, Former Commissioner, Federal Elections Commission

John Gable, Founder, and CEO, Allsides.com

Tim Marema, Editor, Daily Yonder and Rural Assembly

Moderator

Jessica Kellner, Bark Media/American Promise



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8:15 - 9:00pm **Breakout Sessions**

National Security & Democracy: Combating Big Money, Disinformation Politics & the Erosion of Civic Trust to Make Us More Safe at Home and Abroad

Freedom, democracy, security, and defense of human rights were once the reasons America went to war. Now dark money pay-to-play politics, divisive disinformation campaigns, and breakdowns in civic trust and democratic norms are fueling both domestic and global dangers. Join this breakout session to explore how uniting to reform big-money politics and win big democracy reform are keys to both domestic and global security.

Panelists

Col. Lawrence Wilkerson, US Army (Ret.)-fmr. Chief of Staff, US Secretary of State Gen. Colin Powell; William & Mary Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Government and Public Policy; American Promise Advisory Council.

Nilmini Rubin, Center for Strategic and International Studies; fmr. Senior Staff, US Senate Foreign Relations Committee & Senior Advisor, US House Committee on Foreign Affairs; Global Public Policy Strategist

Rachel Goodman, Counsel, Protect Democracy

Moderator

Alan LaPolice, American Promise States Manager; combat veteran; fmr. Supervisor, United States Veterans Administration, Topeka-Fort Riley KS; educator, independent reformer, congressional candidate

- END OF DAY 1 -



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Thursday, May 6, 2021

All times in Eastern Daylight Time

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM CONNECT: Virtual Networking

6:00 PM - 8:15 PM Main Stage Program

6:00 PM OPENING VIDEO - Spiral of Silence

A Short Video by filmmaker and 2021 Independent Spirit Award nominee Noah Hutton

Welcome Remarks

Jeff Clements, President

6:15 PM The Next Generation: Stepping Up to Strengthen America

A rising generation of young leaders is bringing a new spirit of unity, problem-solving, and engagement across many different political and social perspectives to renew America and opportunity for all. As always, young Americans will live with the consequences of our successes and failures today, and these young leaders reflect so many who are determined to reform, renew and secure our constitutional democracy and representative self-government so everyone wins.

Panelists

Anthony Marcum, Resident Fellow, R Street Institute

Maria Yuan, Founder, IssueVoter

Moderator

Manu Meel, CEO, Bridge USA



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6:25 PM **Leading through Adversity & Challenge:
Congressman Jamie Raskin & Debra Winger**

Debra Winger, American Promise board member, environmental leader, & award-winning actress talks with Jamie Raskin, US Congressman from Maryland and Constitutional scholar.

American Promise has given the Congressional Leadership Award to Maryland Congressman, Jamie Raskin for his courage and leadership in the midst of extraordinary national and personal struggle and adversity.

6:45 PM **The Faith Imperative to Secure American
Democracy**

Faith leaders share their different perspectives on the faith imperative to strengthen our democracy and heal our civic fractures.

Panelists

Rev. Mitchell Hescox, President, Evangelical Environmental Network

Rev. Jennifer Bailey, Founder, and Executive Director, Faith Matters

Simran Jeet Singh, Union Theological Seminary and Sikh Coalition

Moderator

Rev. Dr. Katharine Henderson, President of Auburn Seminary

7:25 PM **American Promise Conversation: Reason to
Believe, with Fmr. Governor Deval Patrick**

Jeff Clements, President of American Promise, talks with Deval Patrick, former Governor of Massachusetts and presidential candidate, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, as well as business leadership during his career at Texaco, Coca-Cola & Bain Capital. Governor Patrick will share insight from his remarkable American journey, and his philosophy of generational responsibility: As Americans, "we all have a stake in each other's dreams."

Closing Remarks - Jeff Clements

Jeff Clements, President, American Promise



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8:15 - 9:00pm **Breakout Sessions**

Citizen Lobby Day: Sharing Stories and Successes from American Promise's Citizen Lobby Days

As American Promise supporters from across the country delivered on a successful Citizen Lobby Day, this breakout session will celebrate their success and give our citizen lobbyists an opportunity to share their experience. Participants at this panel will engage in discussions around best practices, tips, and strategies to successfully organize and execute a Citizen Lobby event, as well as exploring what the future of grassroots engagement looks like.

Special Guests:

Rep. Jim McGovern, US Congressman (Democrat) – MA 2nd District

Rep. Dean Phillips, US Congressman (Democrat) – MN 3rd District

Rep. John Katko, US Congressman (Republican) – NY 24th District
(invited)

Judy Nagel, American Promise, Wisconsin Chapter

Jim Rubens, Fmr. NH State Senator

Moderator

Azor Cole, Dep. Political Director, American Promise



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8:15 - 9:00pm **Breakout Sessions**

Connect. Commit. Act: Staying Connected, Committed, and Active with American Promise

Join the fastest growing, cross-partisan, all-welcome constitutional reform movement in America! This breakout session will help you channel your determination to turn “imagine a government run by people, not money” into reality with the next amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The American Promise team is here to help you connect, commit and act with any community or network that matches your interests. Explore skills-building workshops, grow and motivate your network, and find the unity, hope, and purpose in our historic campaign for the 28th Amendment and a strong, free American democracy.

Panelists

Brian Boyle, Legal Counsel, American Promise

Marie HenselderKimmel, American Promise, New Jersey Chapter

Sean Callahan, American Promise, Massachusetts Chapter

Moderator

Dr. Jessica Hare, Empowerment Director, American Promise



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8:15 - 9:00pm **Breakout Sessions** **LIVE**

The Cost of Democracy: Prioritizing Investment in Reforms to Secure & Renew American Democracy

From every direction, the call is heard for big, historic reform and urgent action to ensure that Americans thrive with freedom and democracy in the years to come. But democracy infrastructure and civic renewal require big investment from everyone. Join the conversation with a panel who has the latest on what can be done now-- from foundations and major donors to every American who wants to help with impactful small-dollar contributions, this is the time.

Panelists

Susan Clark, Advisor, Gaia Fund

Jeremy McKey, Special Assistant and Project Manager for the President and CEO,
Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Corinne Noonan Leadership Gifts Officer, American Promise

Sterling Speirn Fmr. President, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Strategic Advisor
on Civic Engagement, Philanthropy, and Public Policy

Moderator

Buff Kavelman, The Kavelman Group, and American Promise Board member

- END OF CONFERENCE -