

9:00 AM Opening Reception

Join your colleagues for a special reception and opportunity to reconnect and meet new colleagues. Special thanks to reception host, The William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund.

10:00 AM Opening Remarks and Welcome

10:15 AM Plenary – Once Upon a Time in Connecticut

Connecticut may be small but it holds a rich and diverse cultural history, with stories still unfolding and shaping our state today. This engaging plenary will feature storytellers, historians, and community leaders sharing some of the stories that make up our state's rich tapestry, offering profound insights into the cultural context of Connecticut and strategies to create a state where all communities thrive. **Speakers:** Antoinette Brim-Bell, CT Poet Laureate; Joshua Carter, Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center; Mark Overmyer-Velázquez, University of CT, Hartford; Moderator: Tiffany Donelson, CT Health Foundation

11:30 AM Breakout Sessions

Please refer to page 2 for Breakout Session details.

12:30 PM Lunch and Networking

1:15 PM Council Updates

1:45 PM Keynote with Andy Goodman, Telling Your Story

Since human beings first began talking to each other, telling stories has been a powerful way to capture attention, engage an audience, and motivate them to act. As we learn more about how our minds work, we're also discovering that stories are intrinsic to decision-making and influence our behavior every day. In his keynote speech, "Telling Your Stories," Andy Goodman will show how storytelling is the single most powerful communications tool you possess, explain how to tell memorable and persuasive stories, and identify the kinds of stories your organization should be telling right now.

3:00 PM Afternoon Plenary – Philanthropy Match Game: Perspectives to Advance our Sector

In storytelling, no two people have the same perspective, so no two stories are exactly the same. In this fun closing session, we'll explore different perspectives on some of the sector's biggest questions. This game show-inspired session will foster a deeper understanding of Connecticut's philanthropic landscape with intergenerational perspectives on strategies we can use to move our sector forward. **Speakers:** Cesar Aleman, Will Ginsberg, Kim Russo, Mirellise Vazquez; Host: Nora Moreno-Cargie.

3:45 PM Closing Remarks

4:00 PM Afternoon Reception

Join your colleagues for this closing reception and opportunity to network, connect and reflect. Special thanks to reception hosts, the Connecticut United Ways.

11:30 Breakout Sessions

Special Opportunity for Foundation Leaders and Trustees:

The Stories Leaders Must Tell, with keynote speaker Andy Goodman

“People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.” To lead, persuade and motivate in general, you must share what you believe in, what values have guided your actions and choices, why you have chosen the particular path you’re on (and, presumably, want others to follow.) Marshall Ganz, a lecturer in public policy at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, calls this form of public speech the “Story of Self.” In this session, Andy Goodman will familiarize you with Ganz’s powerful model, show examples of leaders sharing this story, and provide a tool to help you identify, develop and share your own Story of Self.

This session is for presidents, CEOs, board members and trustees.

Data Storytelling

Join the CT Data Collaborative for this special workshop focused on becoming a skilled data storyteller. Learn to collect and communicate data to create compelling stories that motivate action.

Who should attend? This session is for foundation staff in a wide variety of roles, including communications, development, program, operations and administration.

Empowering Community Voices in Philanthropy

Hear stories from funders engaged in community-informed grantmaking, and explore the practices and lessons of this powerful and effective approach to philanthropy.

Speakers: Lucas Cordognolla, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving; Saran White, Leever Foundation; Aurora Women & Girls Foundation. Moderator: Alexis Bivens, CT Council for Philanthropy

Who should attend? This session is for staff and leadership involved in all aspects of the grantmaking process, from setting strategy to managing grants.

Understanding Connecticut Philanthropy: Stories from Sector Leaders

In this special session, designed for those who are relatively new to the field of philanthropy, experienced funders will share stories, key lessons, and answer questions in this mid-morning version of a fireside chat. **Speakers:** Yolanda Caldera-Durant, Community Foundation for Greater New Haven; Kathy Luria, HW Smith Foundation; Jay Williams, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. Moderator: Katherine Gehrman, Lone Pine Foundation

Who should attend? This session is for anyone new to Connecticut philanthropy or interested in learning more about your peers in this sector.

Thriving in the Multi-Generational Workplace

This is the year the youngest working generation (the “Zoomers”) officially began to outnumber the “Boomers.” What does that mean for your organization and donor community? In short, it means we need to rethink just about everything. Join in as we discuss successful and practical strategies for creating organizations where every generation thrives. **Speaker:** Allison Ebner, Employers Association of the NorthEast

Who should attend? This session is for staff and leadership of foundations across a variety of roles.