The 2019 Concordia Annual Summit

Taking place on September 22-24, 2019 in New York, the 2019 Concordia Annual Summit will be the largest and most inclusive nonpartisan forum alongside the United Nations General Assembly. Bringing together decision-makers and opinion-formers in the public, private and nonprofit sectors, as well as the next generation of partnership-builders, the Annual Summit will advance critical global discussions and transform conversations into action. As our signature gathering, the 2019 Concordia Annual Summit will provide a powerful forum to catalyze action through shared value approaches and social impact objectives.

To learn more, visit www.concordia.net/annualsummit
Past Speakers

Akon
Singer, Songwriter, Record Producer, & Actor

Amb. Liu Xiaoming
Ambassador to the United Kingdom
The People’s Republic of China

Amb. Robert Lighthizer
U.S. Trade Representative
Executive Office of the President

Bassem Youssef
Former Host
Al-Bernameg

Bernard-Henri Lévy
Philosopher
Filmmaker and Activist

Carlos Vives
Singer

Christine Lagarde
Managing Director
International Monetary Fund

Dara Khosrowshahi
Chief Executive Officer
Uber

David Miliband
President & CEO
International Rescue Committee

Forest Whitaker
Oscar-Winning Actor

Gayle King
Chief Anchor of CBS This Morning
CBS News

George Soros
Chairman, Soros Fund Management &
Open Society Foundations

Gregory Hayes
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
United Technologies Corporation

H.E. Alexis Tsipras
Prime Minister
The Hellenic Republic

H.E. Dr. Abdullah Abdullah
Chief Executive
Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
Former President
The Republic of Liberia

H.E. Iván Duque Márquez
President
Republic of Colombia

H.E. Jovenel Moïse
President
Republic of Haiti

H.E. Juan Manuel Santos
Former President
Republic of Colombia

H.E. Nana Akufo-Addo
President
Republic of Ghana

H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo
Former President
Federal Republic of Nigeria

H.E. Paul Kagame
President
Republic of Rwanda

H.E. Sebastián Piñera
President
Republic of Chile

Hon. Catherine McKenna
Minister of Environment & Climate Change, Canada

Hon. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Former Secretary of State
United States of America

Hon. John Hickenlooper
42nd Governor of Colorado

Hon. Lindsey Graham
Senator
U.S. Senate

Hon. Madeleine Albright
Chair
Albright Stonebridge Group

Ian Bremmer
President and Founder
Eurasia Group & GZERO Media

Ivanka Trump
Advisor to the President
United States of America

Jennifer Lawrence
Oscar Winning Actress

Joe Geppa
Co-Founder and Chief Product Officer
Airbnb

Laura Bush
Former First Lady
United States of America

Lilian Tintori
Venezuelan Human Rights Activist
Todos Por La Libertad

Luis Alberto Moreno
President
Inter-American Development Bank

Luis Leonardo Almagro Lemes
Secretary General
Organization of American States

Madame Monica Geingos
First Lady
Republic of Namibia

Mohammed Yunus
Founder
Yunus Social Business

Muhtar Kent
Chairman of the Board
The Coca-Cola Company

Neré Oxman
Associate Professor of Media Arts and Sciences, MIT Media Lab

Noélla Coursaris Musunka
Founder & CEO
Malaika

Nomzamo Mbatha
Actor

Paul Bulcke
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Nestlé, S.A.

Paul Polman
Chief Executive Officer
Unilever

President Bill Clinton
42nd President
United States of America

President George W. Bush
43rd President
United States of America

T. Boone Pickens
Founder & Chairman
BP Capital

Tom Brokaw
Special Correspondent
NBC News

Vice President Joe Biden
47th Vice President
United States of America

Warren Buffett
Chief Executive Officer
Berkshire Hathaway Inc.

Yo-Yo Ma
Cellist, Educator, and Humanitarian
Programming Spotlight
The Future of Technology

In an effort to keep conversations action oriented, future focused, and solutions driven, the 2019 Concordia Annual Summit will feature a track of programming looking at the role of technology, and specifically the next generation of technology, in addressing major global development issues.

The Transition to 5G
Connectivity, speed, security, and reliability are essential components of a functioning network that can power the Internet of Things and a robust economy. Is 5G the solution? Adoption of 5G technology will require clear communication, investments, and collaboration between the public and private sectors to set smart policy that ensures data protection and allows for equitable access to the networks while at the same time stimulating innovation.

AI, Data Science, & The Future of Work
There is no denying artificial intelligence and data science will transform global labor markets. The questions companies and governments must now tackle is in what way will this transformation be a benefit for societies, and what are the potential pitfalls.

Technology Addressing Refugees & Migration
New technology and the role of data are increasingly being linked to the humanitarian and policy responses to global migration and refugee-related matters. The Concordia Annual Summit will bridge with its regional programming to explore how these tools can be leveraged in a do-no-harm manner, where necessary connections and learnings can be applied to rapidly provide assistance to those most in need, and what policy framework is required to scale the positive impact that next-generation technology can have, in light of the worlds greatest levels of human displacement.

Next Generation Technology & Cybersecurity
From election meddling to data breaches and cyber-attacks, recent events have fundamentally changed how we think about privacy, national security, and the immense capacity of digital information and access. As societies and governments have become heavily dependent on digital services, cyber-attacks and hackers have grown more sophisticated and ubiquitous and often end up inflicting immense collateral damage on people and organizations well outside the intended targets.
Innovative Financing for Sustainable Development

Innovative financing can unlock whole-of-society solutions towards achieving the SDGs, but it has not yet succeeded at the scale and rate required. Enhanced efficiency in funding scalable projects, brought forth via multi-sectoral dialogue, the public mapping of viable financing opportunities, and the creation of a universal agenda for investing groups, is essential for effectively leveraging innovative financing. The Annual Summit will continue its legacy of programming on financing the SDGs as framed by its Innovative Financing Coalition, which aims to bridge “talk” with “action,” advance progress and know-how within the innovative financing ecosystem and catalyze investment into impactful projects.

Mental Health Is Health

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, nearly 1 in 5 U.S. adults lives with a mental illness. On a global scale, the burden of disease attributable to mental disorders has risen in all countries over the last decade, and the World Health Organization (WHO) cites mental health as one of the leading causes of ill-health and disability worldwide. Despite substantial research demonstrating the potential to prevent and treat mental disorders and to promote mental health, as many as two-thirds of people with mental health disorders never receive help from a mental health professional because of stigmatization, gaps in policies, and lack of resources. Americares and Concordia will be focusing on mechanisms to reframe the global dialogue around mental health, with the idea that “mental health is health” to serve as the priority element guiding this partnership.

Supporting Children in Crisis

One hundred years ago, Save the Children was founded by Eglantyne Jebb, a visionary who challenged the world to stop wars on children. Progress has been made, but today, at least one in five children in the world are still suffering the unacceptable impact of conflict. If the world is to achieve Jebb’s vision and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in the next decade, we must collectively ensure children in crisis are protected. While governments need to uphold international laws and bring rights violators to justice, NGOs and businesses play a role in developing and supporting programs to protect children and help them rebuild their lives. Children are resilient but must be given the education, mental health, and psychosocial support, and other programs they need to recover and look to the future. Save the Children and Concordia will examine the importance of public and private sector programming, strategic partnerships, and the need for greater investments and advocacy for children in crisis.

Concordia Africa Spotlight: Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship

Africa represents the fastest growing and youngest population, but as a continent, it faces challenges around industry growth, capacity building, and attracting long-term sustainable investment. Opportunities abound, however, to scale partnership-led initiatives that foster innovation, job creation, and economic growth. This programming will build on prior Partnership Accelerator initiatives held throughout 2019 with the aim of uncovering models that have proven effective, shaping youth and employment-oriented policy, and spurring investment in leading interventions from across the continent.

Program outcomes will shape the Concordia Africa Summit (March 2020, Kigali) goals and objectives.
Concordia Americas Spotlight: Venezuela

Concordia has a long history of programming on Venezuela at both the Annual Summit and through Concordia’s Americas Initiative. At the Annual Summit, programming will reflect the current situation at the time with expert analysis from those most closely involved in addition to grassroots level response and partnerships addressing the migration crisis.

Global Trade

A trade war between China and the United States has markets on edge. With major international trade pacts on the chopping block and traditional, longstanding trading partners sparring, new approaches to trade, tariffs, and where mass-production hubs are built are reshaping the world marketplace.

Civic Engagement, Social Media, and the Rise of Populism

If there is one common ideology that has controlled the ballot box of major elections in recent years, it is has been that of Western populism. The rising inequality, economic instability and unprecedented migration rates that have dominated the past decade have spurred a common perception of unjust leadership, polarization and mistrust worldwide. Though populism’s resurgence has been attributed to a number of socio-economic and political factors by many global leaders and platform, one of the most critical areas to examine is the intersection of populism and civil society. With technology disrupting social infrastructure, harmful rhetoric and misinformation has permeated civil discourse and allowed civic engagement to erode. The same technology and social platforms that have brought people together have also undermined trust in traditional news sources, isolated people inside ideological “echo chamber”, and served as a forum for political operatives and governments to spread disinformation, interfere in elections, and inflame hatred of ethnic minorities and political opponents. As technology and social innovation continue to steer public opinion, global leaders will need to develop new social infrastructure and public forums to revive civic engagement and strengthen individuals’ sense of community and shared-responsibility.

Orange Economies: Arts and the Creative Sector Driving Development

A creative economy capitalizes on the power of arts, innovation, culture, and imaginative thinking to inspire business growth, socio-economic opportunity, financial inclusion, and sustainable human development. Creative industries and cultural initiatives tap into humanity’s inherent tendencies to produce and consume, and can empower individuals to take ownership of their own development and work product. Research on the subject shows that creative industries are emerging as significant contributors to GDP growth - generating income, jobs and exports worldwide. This programming will build on the Concordia Americas session The Creative Economy & Conservation as Pillars of Sustainable Development to discuss how lessons from Colombia’s Orange economy can be applied on a global scale and how both the public and private sector can ensure creative and cultural industries are integrated into national frameworks, budgets, and strategies, as well as how cross-sector collaboration can spur artistic cross-fertilization, cultural education, and creativity to bolster Orange Economies.

Sustainable Agriculture & Innovation: Building a Virtuous Cycle

Rapid population growth and climate change have had significant impacts on global food security, nutrition, resilience, and livelihoods. As such, agricultural systems across the world are becoming increasingly more complex and dynamic - calling for innovative solutions to feed 10 billion people by 2050. Africa sits at the heart of the issue, and is key to achieving inclusive and sustainable agricultural transformation to meet growing global demands. This session will focus on innovative approaches to drive sustainable agricultural development, drawing insights from the OCP Group - an African agriculture company fully integrated across the phosphate value chain.
Awards

P3 Impact Award

The P3 Impact Award was created by Concordia, the University of Virginia Darden School Institute for Business in Society, and the U.S. Department of State’s Office of Global Partnerships to recognize and honor leading public-private partnerships (P3s) that improve communities and the world. Past winners tackle global issues like food security; water, sanitation & hygiene; refugee integration; internet connectivity; and youth employment. The award, now in its 6th year, seeks to highlight leading practices and actionable insights in the P3 arena. The Annual Summit will provide a platform for 5 semi-finalists to present their partnership models and impact to Concordia Members and a panel of judges, with the winner being announced on the main stage.

Concordia Leadership Award

The Concordia Leadership Award recognizes global leaders within the public, private, and nonprofit sectors who have made pioneering contributions and inspire others through their ability to turn vision into social impact.

The Concordia Leadership Awards will be celebrated throughout the 2019 Concordia Annual Summit. Past recipients of the Leadership Award have included, but are not limited to David Miliband, President, and CEO of the International Rescue Committee; Kathy Calvin, President and CEO of the United Nations Foundation; Strive Masiyiwa, Group Executive Chairman, Econet Wireless Global; H.E. Monica Geingos, First Lady of Namibia; and Nobel Peace Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus, Founder of Grameen Bank and Co-Founder and Chairman of Yunus Social Business. As the world turns its attention to New York City during the week of the General Debate of the UN General Assembly, the 2019 Summit will convene a diversity of opinions to discuss the power of partnerships in tackling timely global issues.
Get Involved

Each year, Concordia brings together hundreds of public, private, and nonprofit leaders by organizing regional events, private meetings, briefings, and the Annual Summit. Members will be able to connect with an immense network of global leaders and find opportunities for creating partnerships that align with their areas of interest as well as experience unique opportunities such as year-round Concierge Services and private roundtables, which are exclusive conversations with Leadership Council Members, Speakers, and Partners to receive insight from today’s top thought leaders. To learn more about how you or your organization can become a Concordia Member, please email membership@concordia.net.

Patron Membership - $20,000
Concordia Patron Membership enables organizations to share Membership opportunities within their organization, providing unique opportunities for all to connect, convene, and create. Patron Members receive five all-access passes to all of Concordia’s global events, as well as the 2019 Concordia Annual Summit in New York. These all-access passes grant organizations with access to the Members’ Lounge, Concordia’s unique space designed to accelerate dialogue and foster partnership. Through Concordia’s Concierge Services, Patron Members will also have access to a full team of specialists, able to assist with facilitating meeting requests with other Members and Speakers within the Concordia community.

Individual Membership - $2,500

Young Professional Membership - $1,000
Individuals receive one all-access pass to all of Concordia’s global events, as well as the 2019 Concordia Annual Summit in New York. This all-access pass grants individuals with access to the Members’ Lounge, Concordia’s unique space designed to accelerate dialogue and foster partnership. Through Concordia’s Concierge Services, Members will also have access to a full team of specialists, able to assist with facilitating meeting requests with other Members and Speakers within the Concordia community.

Concordia Young Professionals under the age of 35 are eligible for special pricing.

Become a Programming Partner or Sponsor
Programming Partners and Sponsors have the opportunity to leverage Concordia’s programmatic platform to advance their impact objectives and facilitate in-depth conversations on and off stage. If you are interested in how your company, nonprofit, or institution could be on Concordia’s stage, please contact programming@concordia.net.