



NATIONAL  
ALUMNI  
NETWORK  
SUMMER  
SEARCH

# NATIONAL ALUMNI SUMMIT & LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**10.17.15 | PwC, 300 Madison Avenue, NYC**



# Summer Search Alumni Summit & Leadership Conference

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Welcome to the Alumni Summit & Leadership Conference! We are so thrilled that you've joined us in New York City for an incredible day of networking, skill building, and FUN!

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## ITINERARY

8:00 - 8:45 AM	Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:45 - 9:15 AM	Welcome Remarks <i>Amy Saxton, CEO</i>
9:15 - 9:45 AM	Morning Keynote Speaker <i>Robert Reffkin</i>
9:45 - 10:15 AM	Recharge & Reconnect Networking & Coffee Break
10:15 - 11:30 AM	Breakout Sessions #1 <i>"The Inside Out"</i>
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Recharge & Reconnect Networking & Coffee Break
12:00 - 1:15 PM	Breakout Sessions #2 <i>"It Takes a Village"</i>
1:15 - 2:30 PM	Lunch
2:30 - 3:45 PM	Breakout Sessions #3 <i>"Forever Changed: Developing your Global Voice"</i>
3:45 - 4:00 PM	Recharge & Reconnect <i>Short Break</i>
4:00 - 4:30 PM	Closing Remarks <i>Seth James Ellis, Alumni Director</i>



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## KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ALUMNUS ROBERT REFFKIN



Alumnus Robert Reffkin was among the earliest Summer Search alumni, and now has the kind of résumé that exhausts you!

Robert graduated from Columbia in just over two years. At 25, after spending two years at McKinsey and two at Lazard and getting a Columbia MBA in between, he became a White House Fellow, during which he spent a year working with Treasury Secretary John Snow. Then he returned to banking, spending five years as a VP at Goldman Sachs and a year as now-president and COO Gary Cohn's chief of staff.

In 2008 he raised \$1.3 million to help the Success Charter Network open its first school in the Bronx. Then three years ago he launched Compass, a tech-driven real estate firm With 190 employees, over 230 agents, an easy-to-use app, and \$123 million in funding from big names like Marc Benioff, Ken Chenault and IVP. The Berkeley native hasn't abandoned his public-service mission: Reffkin also founded America Needs You, a nonprofit that provides career development and mentorship to first-generation college students.

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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1 “THE INSIDE OUT”



### **The Dream Team: Building Your Personal Executive Cabinet**

**Suezette Yasmin Robotham, The Higher and Hire Group**

“Teamwork makes it dream work,” is Talent Coach Suezette Yasmin Robotham’s favorite quote of all time. A product of years of love and support poured into her from a dynamic group of family, friends, mentors, and extraordinary managers - known as her village and her tribe. Suezette firmly believes that one of the most important keys to any professional’s success is the professional and personal advice that one gets from their own personal Executive Cabinet, a group of individuals that support, develop, advise and create opportunities for you along your professional journey.

During her interactive session, you’ll have the opportunity to learn more about what a personal executive cabinet actually is and why having one is vital. You’ll also have an opportunity to get insights from members of Suezette’s own personal executive cabinet and begin defining and building your own e-board.



### **The Entre-Professional: How To Have It All In Your Career**

**Alumna KishaLynn Elliott, This Stuff’s Working**

In the 13 years since receiving her bachelor's degree, Summer Search alumna KishaLynn Elliot has had a taste of it all - from being a full-time corporate employee, to working in the non-profit world, to being a full-time entrepreneur.

Now, she blends these roles as an "entre-professional" (an entrepreneur who also has a full-time job). Find out how you can "have it all" - whether you are contemplating a career change from traditional corporate to nonprofit work, you are gathering the courage to start your own business full-time, or you are feeling you need to sacrifice your entrepreneurial vision to return to the stability of full-time employment. Learn about another way, from someone who is living it!



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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1 (CONT.) “THE INSIDE OUT”



### **Being Different Matters: Uncovering Your Authentic Brand Story**

(Repeated in Breakout Session 2)  
[Forrest Wright, Page90](#)

“What are you known for? Why do people look to you instead of others to get the job done?”

This interactive workshop is about leveraging your differences into your successes. By answering simple questions like, “What makes me weird?” “How is this relevant?” and “Where does this fit?” we get to the heart of defining your personal brand story, the foundation of all great careers.

Along the way, we’ll meet folks like The Human Aspirin and Food Girl to understand how identifying those differences can supercharge your career development.

Attendance at this workshop presumes participation and a willingness to share what makes you different.



### **Work-Life Balance vs. Work-Life Effectiveness** [Alumna Sharon de Oliveira, Pathfinder International](#)

Have you struggled with striking a balance between your personal and professional life? Do you find yourself stepping away from dinner or family gatherings to take work calls or write emails? Is it even possible to separate the two? Should you?

Join this interactive session to get an inside scoop on what work-life balance and work-life effectiveness mean. Depending on your industry, one is more applicable than the other and there are tons of professional tips to help guide you. At the end of the day, the most important thing is being happy and satisfied at work and at home. If you're struggling with finding this balance, then it's a no-brainer.



### **LinkedIn for Maximum Impact**

(Repeated in Breakout Session 3)  
[Andrei Santalo, LinkedIn](#)

LinkedIn is the most used social media network for job recruiters, and is fast making the paper resume less relevant in your job search. Summer Search has partnered with LinkedIn for this crash course in maximizing the impact and effectiveness of your LinkedIn Profile. Discover the incredible opportunities you have to catch the eye of recruiters and hiring managers in your industry.

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## BREAKOUT SESSION 2

### “FOREVER CHANGED: DEVELOPING YOUR GLOBAL VOICE”



#### **Forging a Personal Path While Impacting the World: a Conversation on Social Entrepreneurship** Moderated by **Alumnus Niles Lichtenstein, The History Project**

**Ever wonder what social entrepreneurship is?** Come hear from fellow alumni who are providing innovative ideas to solve some of society's most pressing problems. The goals of the panel are two-fold: it will answer the question of what social entrepreneurship is and will also serve as a forum to understand, support and learn how to build successful social ventures, while celebrating the success of some of your fellow alumni.

Panelists:

**Kevin L. Nichols, KLN Consulting Group; Riana Shah, The Advisory Board Company; and Stephane Jean-Baptiste, Kreyol Essence**



#### **Forging New Paths in Government, Policy, and Politics** Moderated by **Alumna Audrey Flattes, Ernst & Young**

Strong policy changes are needed to guide the world toward a more prosperous and equitable society. Summer Search alumni have created a strong network of government and policy professionals to lead changes across economic, political, and social issues. From local grass root organizations to large government institutions, these alumni panelists will explore the different approaches to make impact from a government and policy perspective.

Panelists:

**Lillian Amaechi, National Institutes of Health (pictured); Peter Boyle, USAID; and Carrie Gonzalez, Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian.**



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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2 (CONT.)

### “FOREVER CHANGED: DEVELOPING YOUR GLOBAL VOICE”



#### **Salary Negotiations in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** Alumna KishaLynn Elliott, [This Stuff's Working](#)

Many people are incredibly uncomfortable when negotiating salary and benefits, either for a new job or a job they already have. This kind of feeling is very common -- we all fear being rejected, or worse! Gender differences in particular affect how, when, and for how much, we ask for in salary negotiations.

Join KishaLynn Elliott as she explores the latest research, and shares her strategies and guidance she gives to her personal life coaching clients. Walk away informed and empowered to negotiate from a stronger position for your next salary!



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(Repeated in Breakout Session 1)

[Forrest Wright, Page90](#)

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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS 3 “IT TAKES A VILLAGE”



### **Summer Search’s Role in Developing a Socially Responsible Alumni Community** **Salem Valentino, Summer Search**

Summer Search strives to be an organization that is not only passionate, but also intelligent. We have recently taken strides to bolster evaluation capacity and re-commit to continuous learning strategies, which allow us to examine how Summer Search partners with its students on their paths to success, and ultimately the value of Summer Search itself for our students.

In this session, Summer Search will share with alumni the organization’s new Theory of Change and facilitate a conversation on the nature of one long-term outcome, Social Responsibility.

Social responsibility incorporates aspects of morality and social justice. Currently, Summer Search is exploring how our alumni represent this quality and how it was fostered through Summer Search or elsewhere. Come prepared to actively contribute to this crucial conversation and directly impact our program development! How do you embody social responsibility as an adult? What can we learn from you to better serve our current students?



### **What’s Under the Hood?** **Alumna Stacey Thompson, Summer Search** **Sandra LaFleur, Summer Search**

An engaging session to give alumni a “behind the scenes” look at Summer Search today. If you want to know more about the evolution and growth of Summer Search, then this is a session you won’t want to miss!

We will discuss what has stayed the same over the years, what’s changing, and where we’re headed. Along the way we’ll ask you to share some of your own memories of the Summer Search experience you remember, and we’ll share how those same experiences translate into the Summer Search of today.

We can’t wait to hear what you think!





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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS 3 (CONT.) “IT TAKES A VILLAGE”



### **Now What? – Become a Summer Search Visionary**

**Cristina Perez, Summer Search**  
**Kaitlin Irvine, Summer Search**

You’ve already invested by joining fellow alumni in New York for the Summit, but you might be wondering...what’s next? What’s the direction the Alumni Network will take now? How can you continue to engage? Now’s the time to figure it out! We want to hear from you.

Join us for a creative and interactive session to visualize how Summer Search and alumni will shape our program and communities in the future. Bring your burning ideas on what alumni leadership and engagement can look like, and work with fellow alums from across the country to create a vision and plan.



### **LinkedIn for Maximum Impact**

**(Repeated in Breakout Session 3)**

**Andrei Santalo, LinkedIn**



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The Alumni Summit & Leadership Conference would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of these alumni, volunteer leaders, and staff. Thank you!

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