



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Announcing Fifth Annual *Sun Valley Forum on Resilience*
July 23-26, 2019 at Argyros Performing Arts Center
Government, Business, Investment, Advocacy & Adventure
Representatives to Address Gathering

SUN VALLEY, IDAHO, June 3, 2019—The Sun Valley Institute announces the fifth annual Sun Valley Forum, **“The Future We Want: Transforming Leadership, Accelerating Innovation, Unlocking Imagination,”** to take place at the Argyros Performing Arts Center in Ketchum, Idaho on July 23 – 26, 2019.

The Forum will gather several hundred leaders and luminaries, trailblazers and change-makers from across the globe for three days together to build the future we want. Attendees engage in a participative experience, hearing from experts in government, business, philanthropy, investment, advocacy, the arts and entertainment from the main stage and participating together in breakout “Innovation Laboratory” working sessions. Topics include: the transformation of our energy and food systems, impact investment, building resilient cities and rural communities, protecting our oceans from plastic waste and islands as innovation laboratories, the *Political Climate* podcast will be back again to be taped live on stage, now hosted by the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation and the USC Schwarzenegger Institute. Registration is open now at <https://www.sunvalleyforum.com/>.

“Accelerating environmental harm is a threat multiplier to our economically interdependent world and calls for urgent, proactive leadership to build resilience. Our task is informed by the World Economic Forum’s 2019 Global Risks report, Out of Control, which named the top two risks facing humanity: extreme weather events and the failure of climate change mitigation and adaptation. Last fall’s report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned of significant changes to the earth’s life support systems in the next decade, and here in the U.S., the devastating California fires illustrate how much is at stake,” said Aimée Christensen, founder of the Sun Valley Forum and the Sun Valley Institute.

“Fortunately, leaders and innovators are showing the way forward to build the future we want, and dozens of them will be joining us this summer in Sun Valley, including military leaders, the insurance industry and indigenous communities. Each year the Forum sparks new cross-sector collaborations, mobilizes capital towards promising ideas, and inspires uncommon thinking.”

The 2019 Forum will also include parallel programming for high school-aged leaders at the inaugural **“Claiming Our Future: Youth Action for a Resilient World.”** The gathering is organized by and for young leaders from across the nation – and beyond – to inspire, share experiences and empower action on resilience. More information and applications for students are available at <https://www.sunvalleyforum.com/youth-forum/>.

“We look forward to welcoming global experts to come together to collaborate in Sun Valley, from the leading foundations and investors tackling these challenges such as the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, BNP Paribas/Bank of the West and BlackRock, to the innovators transforming our energy and food systems including American Farmland Trust, the Drawdown Fund, Duke University and Food System 6.”

“Washington State is on the frontlines of our nation’s most pressing challenges, from wildfire to struggling rural economies,” said Hilary Franz, Washington State’s Commissioner of Public Lands. “Solving these challenges requires big, bold ideas. The Sun Valley Forum plays a critical role in bringing people together to share knowledge and develop the solutions we need to confront climate change and build healthy, strong communities.”

The Sun Valley Institute is pleased to present its 2019 program to build the future we want, with the help of these sponsoring partners: American Farmland Trust, Arizona State University’s Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability, BNP Paribas / Bank of the West, Hillary Institute of New Zealand, Idaho Public Television, Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, Lonely Whale Foundation, New Barn Organics, IBM/The Weather Company and The YEARS Project.

A selection of speakers at the 2019 Forum includes:

- Mitch Anderson, Founder & Executive Director, Amazon Frontlines
- Mark Brand, Social Entrepreneur & Founder, A Better Life Foundation
- Meagan Fallone, CEO and Founder, Barefoot College International
- Hilary Franz, Commissioner of Public Lands, State of Washington
- David Gelber, Co-Creator & Executive Producer, YEARS OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY
- Jeff Goodell, Contributing Editor, Rolling Stone
- Sherri Goodman, Secretary General, International Military Council on Climate and Security
- Brandon Hurlbut, Co-Founder & Partner, Boundary Stone Partners
- Dune Ives, Executive Director, Lonely Whale Foundation
- Ellen Jackowski, Global Head of Sustainability Strategy & Innovation, HP
- Mike Kreidler, Insurance Commissioner, State of Washington
- Renske Lynde, Co-Founder & CEO, Food System 6 Accelerator
- Robyn O’Brien, Vice President, rePlant Capital
- John Piotti, President, American Farmland Trust
- Mark Prain, Founding Director, The Hillary Institute, New Zealand
- Julia Pyper, Host, *Political Climate* podcast & Contributing Editor, *Greentech Media*
- Ted Robb, Co-Founder, New Barn Organics
- Ashley Schulten, Managing Director, BlackRock
- Julie Shafer Davitz, Head of Purpose Investments, Bank of the West / BNP Paribas
- Shane Skelton, Partner, S2C Pacific
- Olaf Sleijpen, Director of Insurance Supervision, De Nederlandsche Bank N.V.
- Erik Snyder, Co-Founder, The Drawdown Fund
- Eamonn Store, Founder & CEO, FairShare
- Nainoa Thompson, President, Polynesian Voyaging Society
- Paul Walsh, Director, Weather Strategy, IBM Global Business Services/The Weather Company
- Justin Winters, Executive Director, Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation
- Steve Wysmuller, Global Lead Meteorologist, IBM
- Admiral Paul Zukunft (Ret.), 25th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard

SCHEDULE & PROGRAM

2019 Sun Valley Forum Schedule

Tuesday, July 23: Opening Afternoon Sessions, Reception & Dinner at The Warfield
Wednesday, July 24: Full Day of Forum Sessions, Reception & Dinner at The Limelight
Thursday, July 25: Full Day of Forum Sessions & Closing Dinner at Galena Lodge
Friday, July 26: Adventure Day

Please see the Sun Valley Forum [website](#) for more information. The Forum is open to the public and remaining tickets are available for purchase with more information available at: www.sunvalleyforum.com. Scholarships are also available.

Media interested in attending should email Annie Keenan at Annie@sunvalleyinstitute.org.

Please see more information in our Forum Overview and on the media resources page [here](#).

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About the Sun Valley Institute

The Sun Valley Institute is a catalyst for lasting quality of place, advancing economic, ecological and social resilience by pioneering transformative solutions, driving awareness and convening leaders and innovators for global and local impact. Sun Valley leaders founded the Institute in the spring of 2015 to protect and enhance local quality of place for future generations of residents and visitors alike, and to serve as a resource for communities everywhere. From the original Native American inhabitants to the miners and ranchers of the valley's early days, from the Union Pacific engineers who built the world's first chairlift to those who challenge themselves in its mountains and rivers today, Sun Valley is about history and tradition, grit and perseverance, well-being and quality of life. The risks, assets and values of Sun Valley make it the perfect home for an institute dedicated to resilience. For more information, please visit: www.sunvalleyinstitute.org and follow the institute on Twitter @SunValleyInst and Instagram at @SunValleyInstitute and Facebook at facebook.com/sunvalleyinstitute.