

TED^x Philadelphia

**x = independently
organized TED event**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TEDxPhiladelphia Explores “The New Workshop of the World” at Temple Performing Arts Center, Friday, March 28

Builders and makers, entrepreneurs and artists, scientists and educators converge at daylong conference celebrating Philadelphia’s past and future as a center for global innovation

PHILADELPHIA — **TEDxPhiladelphia 2014**, a daylong multidisciplinary conference that champions great ideas, will explore the theme “The New Workshop of the World” on **Friday, March 28** at **Temple Performing Arts Center** in Philadelphia. TEDxPhiladelphia will bring together engaging voices from across the city as speakers, performers, participants and exhibitors examine the city’s rich past and promising future as a hub of global innovation.

In its heyday, Philadelphia was known for its new ideas, artistic experimentation, scientific breakthroughs and feats of engineering. At the height of its industrial era, the city flourished as the home of a dizzying array of industries of all types and sizes, from small craft producers to massive shipbuilders and locomotive factories. Benjamin Franklin’s legacy of idea incubators and exchanges combined with the intellectual power of the region’s educational institutions to make the Philadelphia region one of the most diverse, prosperous and interlinked economic ecosystems the world has ever known.

Today, Philadelphia is a city on the verge of reinvention, as a wave of makers, entrepreneurs, scientists, artists and inventors are once again creating new products at the intersection of community, education, business and culture. The speakers at the **TEDxPhiladelphia 2014** conference will explore the implications of the emerging forces driving Philadelphia to become “The New Workshop of the World,” and ignite new ideas and new directions for the city.

TEDxPhiladelphia is an independently organized not-for-profit event, licensed by **TED** and created in the spirit of the TED conference and its mission, “ideas worth spreading.” The program is designed to give communities, organizations and individuals the opportunity to stimulate dialogue through TED-like experiences at the local level. TEDx talks and performances are varied in length, but last no more than 18 minutes.

Due to overwhelming demand, **TEDxPhiladelphia** ticket sales were temporarily suspended after more than 700 tickets to the event were sold in the first 30 days. Any remaining inventory will be placed on sale on Monday, March 10. A waitlist is available at TEDxPhiladelphia.org.

In addition to talks, the **TEDxPhiladelphia** conference will feature local exhibitors and vendors,

assembled by retailer and designer Alex Stadler of Center City's stadler-Kahn, who will be sharing their expertise throughout the day. On March 28, a live video webcast of speaker talks will be available at TEDxPhiladelphia.org and several free live stream events will be held during the conference (locations TBA). A series of talks, walks and tours by conference partners PlanPhilly, Design Advocacy Group and StreetsDept.com will expand on the conference theme from March 22-30 (schedule TBA).

"Our theme, 'The New Workshop of the World,' was inspired by two questions," said Emaleigh Doley, producer and co-organizer of **TEDxPhiladelphia**. "What attributes made Philadelphia so resilient during its industrial heyday? And could those attributes be the key to its economic and social future? We hope that the wide range of perspectives presented at TEDxPhiladelphia will provoke, engage and excite — but most importantly spark new ideas, new conversations and new ways of doing things."

The 2014 **TEDxPhiladelphia** conference will be held from **9 a.m. to 6 p.m.** at **Temple Performing Arts Center**, located at **1837 N. Broad St.** on Temple University's campus. Admission is \$75 and includes an entire day of TEDxTalks, catered lunch, refreshments and a post-event reception. For additional information, email info.tedxphiladelphia@gmail.com.

Over 500 people applied to speak at the 2014 conference, or were nominated by others. All **TEDxPhiladelphia** speakers recognize the importance of sharing great ideas and are generously donating their time. *Additional information about each speaker follows below. Full bios are available at www.TEDxPhiladelphia.org/speakers.*

2014 SPEAKERS LIST

Nikki Adeli is a junior at the Science Leadership Academy in Philadelphia and an active Philadelphia citizen and a passionate advocate for quality public education, serving as Youth Commissioner to Mayor Michael A. Nutter, and Vice President of the School District of Philadelphia's Student Government. Nikki is a Duke of Edinburgh Award winner and enjoys mentoring other youth medalists in Philadelphia.

Chris Bartlett is the executive director of Philadelphia's William Way Community Center and a gay activist, feminist, educator and researcher. He was formerly the director of the SafeGuards Gay Men's Health Program, and created with Eric Rofes the Gay Men's Health Leadership Academy, a national center for excellence for gay and bisexual men and their allies. Chris also founded the LGBT Leadership Initiative; a convening of thinkers addressing the strategic leadership needs of America's LGBT communities. He hosted the 2010 and 2011 TEDxPhiladelphia conference.

Andrew Dahlgren is a lecturer of architecture at the University of Pennsylvania and faculty in Product Design, at Parsons The New School for Design in New York City. His work explores the social, cultural and economic impacts of manufacturing. He has created his own professional practice, focusing primarily on collaborations with fashion designers, industrial designers, and architects. Most recently (under the title Knit Lab), Andrew has been exploring the potentials of community supported manufacturing, mobile factories, and community skill development.

Geoff DiMasi is the founder of web and software design company P'unk Ave, co-founder of Indy Hall and co-founder and curator of Ignite Philly. Geoff serves on the advisory board of Weathervane Music and the Passyunk Square Civic Association, an organization he co-founded. He taught for many years at the University of the Arts and holds a bachelor's degree from Rutgers and a master's of fine arts from the University of the Arts.

Genevieve Dion is an Assistant Professor and director of the Shima Haute Technology Laboratory at Drexel University, a state-of-the-art laboratory that conducts multidisciplinary research on smart textiles and wearable technology. Her research focuses on the investigation of novel processes that allow the metamorphosis of planar materials into unique three-dimensional forms, including the exploration of new production methods, mass customization of wearable technology and the development of seamlessly integrated knitted electronic components into garments.

Terry Gillen is an economic development adviser with more than 20 years of executive experience in the private, nonprofit and public sectors. She most recently served as the Director of Federal Affairs for the City of Philadelphia. Terry was formerly the Executive Director of the Redevelopment Authority (RDA) of Philadelphia, where she established the award-winning Philadelphia Foreclosure Prevention Program, won and implemented a \$64 million HUD stimulus grant program, and laid the groundwork for the city's new land bank. From 1992 to 1998, she was Senior Vice President of the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC), where she directed the successful planning process for the former Philadelphia Navy Yard. Terry serves on numerous boards including the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation, and mentors local youth through Philadelphia Futures.

Helen Gym is a parent and community activist who advocates for quality public education for all Philadelphia schoolchildren. She is a co-founder of Parents United for Public Education, a citywide parent group, serves on the board of Asian Americans Unite, and is a co-founder of Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School. Helen is a former editor and frequent contributor to the *Philadelphia Public School Notebook* and is a national board member of Rethinking Schools, a social justice teaching journal.

Stephen K. Klasko is the President and CEO of Thomas Jefferson University and the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital System. He is a nationally recognized leader in transforming the art and science of medicine and healthcare information technology through entrepreneurial clinical practice and contemporary business and leadership training. As CEO of the University of South Florida Health and Dean of the Morsani College of Medicine, Stephen designed and built the Center for Advanced Medical Learning and Simulation. He holds a bachelor's degree from Lehigh University, and earned his medical degree from Hahnemann University and his MBA at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He is a board certified and actively practicing OB-GYN.

Brian McTear is the owner of Miner Street Recordings in Philadelphia's Fishtown, and a nationally recognized producer and musician. He is the founder of Weathervane Music, a nonprofit arts and culture organization with a mission is to advance independent music and the community that surrounds it. Though surprisingly healthy, Brian and his youngest sister have been treated all their lives for Cystic Fibrosis, a genetic disorder that effects the respiratory and digestive systems. He is a graduate of The Hill School in Pottstown Pennsylvania, and attended West Chester University.

Joshua H. Nims co-founded Franklin's Paine Skatepark Fund in 2000 and is Operations Manager for Schuylkill River Development Corporation (SRDC), an organization with the mission to revitalize and redevelop the lower Schuylkill River and reconnect it to Philadelphia's urban core. Joshua is a graduate of Temple University School of Law and Winthrop University. He is a lifelong skateboarder; student of urban planning, horticulture and politics; artist; and optimist.

Natalie Nixon is Director of the Strategic Design MBA program and Associate Professor in Fashion Merchandising & Management at Philadelphia University. A practitioner and researcher of design thinking, she is a bridge builder to the creative side of strategy. She has worked in the fashion industry as an entrepreneurial hat designer as well as in apparel sourcing for The Limited Brands. Natalie earned her bachelor's degree from Vassar College; a master's degree from Philadelphia University, Shenkar College (Israel) & Reutlingen University (Germany); and a Ph.D. from the University of Westminster, London.

Chris Rabb is a consultant, teacher and thought leader on the intersection of entrepreneurship, media, civic engagement and social identity. He is an adjunct professor at the Fox School of Business at Temple University where he teaches social entrepreneurship and organizational innovation and is an affiliated faculty member of Temple's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Institute. A graduate of Yale College, Chris worked in the U.S. Senate as a legislative aide and as a writer, researcher and trainer for the White House Conference on Small Business. He is the author of *Invisible Capital: How Unseen Forces Shape Entrepreneurial Opportunity*, which explores the landscape of modern U.S. business in the context of structural inequality.

Katherina M. Rosqueta is the founding executive director of The Center for High Impact Philanthropy and adjunct faculty of the School of Social Policy & Practice (SP2) at the University of Pennsylvania, and a former consultant with McKinsey & Company where she served clients in the areas of strategy development and post-merger management. She received her bachelor's degree from Yale University and an MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Sonia Sanchez is an award-winning poet, activist, scholar, and national and International lecturer on Black Culture and Literature, Women's Liberation, and Peace and Racial Justice. She is the author of more than 16 celebrated books, including *Like the Singing Coming off the Drums* and *Homegirls and Handgrenades*, and a recipient of many awards, including the American Book Award and the Robert Frost Medal for distinguished lifetime service to American poetry. Sonia is the former Poet Laureate of Philadelphia, was the first Presidential Fellow at Temple University, where she was a professor of English and Women's Studies.

Austin Seraphin is an accessibility consultant. Austin became blind at birth. He started programming at age seven and developed a life-long passion for technology and a first-hand insight into how it affects the lives of the blind. He works with developers to make their apps accessible, helped design touch tours at the University of Pennsylvania, and made graffiti accessible to the blind with braille street art in a project with Sonia Petrus. Austin uses a cane for short-range vision and echolocation for long-range vision.

Simran Sidhu is executive director of YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School, a diploma-based program that provides young people who have dropped out of high school with an opportunity to reconnect with their education and to serve their communities in a meaningful way. She earned her bachelor's degree in Psychology at St. Xavier's College at Bombay University, and a master's in Journalism from Temple University.

Dominique Streater designs for her self-titled line, and appeared on the Emmy Award-winning television series, *Project Runway*, where she made her mark on the fashion industry by winning the competition in 2013 through her use of bold and daring color and prints. Dominique earned her bachelor's degree in Fashion Design from Moore College of Art and Design.

Mathieu Turpault is Managing Partner and Director of Design at the product design firm Bresslergroup. He has been published in many leading design journals and speaks frequently about multisensory and immersive design, brand building, integrated design methods, and sustainability. Mathieu earned a master's degree in Industrial Design from École Supérieure de Design Industrielle (Paris).

Richard Vague is a managing partner of Gabriel Investments, an early stage investment fund; Chairman of The Governor's Woods Foundation, a nonprofit philanthropic organization; and managing director of The Miletos Group. Richard was co-founder and CEO of two credit card companies, First USA and Juniper Financial. He currently serves on numerous boards, is president of the FringeArts Board, and the Chairman of the University of Pennsylvania Press. Richard is also editor of the blog and email newsletter service Delanceyplace.com and of the website Debt-economics.org.

TEDxPhiladelphia 2014 is a program of CultureTrust Greater Philadelphia, and made possible by the generous contributions of sponsors:

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FACT SHEET

About TEDxPhiladelphia

TEDxPhiladelphia is an independently organized TED event, created to bring people together to share a TED-like experience on the local level. TEDxPhiladelphia (formerly TEDxPhilly) programs offer interactive, immersive experiences for all participants, from speakers to attendees. TEDxPhiladelphia held its first multidisciplinary conference in 2010, guided by the theme *Right Here, Right Now*. The second TEDxPhiladelphia conference in 2011 examined vast interpretations of the theme *The City*.

TEDxPhiladelphia 2014, the organization's third conference, will bring together engaging voices from across the city as speakers, performers, participants and exhibitors to explore the theme of *The New Workshop of the World* through an examination of the city's rich past and promising future as a hub of global innovation.

Web: <http://www.TEDxPhiladelphia.org>

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About TEDx, x = independently organized event

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)

About TED

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. Started as a four-day conference in California almost 30 years ago, TED has grown to support those world-changing ideas with multiple initiatives. The two annual TED Conferences invite the world's leading thinkers and doers to speak for 18 minutes on a diverse mix of topics. Many of these talks are then made available, free, at TED.com. TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Nandan Nilekani, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Isabel Allende and former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown. The TED2014 Conference will take place in Vancouver, British Columbia, along with the TEDActive simulcast in neighboring Whistler. TEDGlobal 2014 will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

TED's media initiatives include TED.com, where new TED Talks are posted daily; the Open Translation Project, which provides subtitles and interactive transcripts as well as translations from volunteers worldwide; the educational initiative TED-Ed; and TEDBooks, short e-books on powerful ideas. TED has established the annual TED Prize, where exceptional individuals with a wish to change the world get help translating their wishes into action; TEDx, which supports individuals or groups in hosting local, self-organized TED-style events around the world; and the TED Fellows program, helping world-changing innovators from around the globe to amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities.

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