

● ● EDGE CONFERENCE 2026 LOOKBOOK

● ● POWERED BY JAG

THE OFFICIAL SESSIONS GUIDE

# EDGE 2026

*Where education meets the future of work. Three days. Nine blocks. One hundred conversations.*

**DATES**

July 14–16, 2026

**LOCATION**

Long Beach Convention Center  
Long Beach, CA

**AUDIENCE**

JAG Affiliates, Specialists, Educators & Partners



POWERED BY  
**JAG**  
JOBS FOR AMERICA'S GRADUATES

JULY 14 - 16, 2026  
LONG BEACH, CA

SESSIONS GUIDE / V.1  
JOBS FOR AMERICA'S GRADUATES

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**— ABOUT THIS LOOKBOOK**

## ***A field guide* to every session, panel, lab, and immersion across three days in Long Beach.**

EDGE is the nation's premier education-to-employment conference for practitioners who turn ideas into scalable opportunities for young people. This lookbook gathers every confirmed and in-flight session so JAG affiliates, presenters, and attendees can plan their week before they arrive.

Sessions are organized by day, then time block, then session type — so you can scan a window of time and see your full set of choices at a glance. Use the type key on the next page to know what to expect from each.

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**WHEN****July 14–16, 2026**

Tuesday through Thursday

**WHERE****Long Beach Convention Center**

300 E Ocean Blvd · Long Beach, CA 90802

**HOTELS****Hyatt Regency Long Beach  
Westin Long Beach****CONTACT**

events@jag.org · jag.org/edge

— THE FIVE FORMATS

# HOW EDGE IS BUILT.

EDGE runs on five distinct session formats. Each is designed for a different kind of contribution — listening, building, testing, or experiencing. Skim the cards below before you build your schedule.

**01**

MAIN STAGE

**KEYNOTE**

Headline conversations from leaders, artists, and changemakers shaping the future of work and youth.

**02**

90 MINUTES

**LAB**

Expert-facilitated think tanks tackling the toughest questions in education-to-employment. Collaborate and contribute to published insights.

**03**

60 MINUTES

**WORKSHOP**

Fast, practical skill-builders led by practitioners. Walk out with tools, frameworks, and strategies you can use Monday morning.

**04**

DROP-IN

**SANDBOX**

Open, hands-on spaces to test tools, platforms, and assessments. Try. Test. Tinker.

**05**

FIELD EXPERIENCE

**IMMERSION**

Field experiences with industry partners — talent pathways and real-world work environments.





MONDAY · JULY 13, 2026

# LAUNCHPAD

● JAG NETWORK ONLY — CLOSED TO EXTERNAL PARTNERS & PUBLIC

A JAG-first day built exclusively for the JAG network — Affiliate teams, Specialists, and managers. These role-based Launchpad tracks run twice (morning and afternoon) and are not open to external partners or the public.

● MONDAY · PRE-CONFERENCE

# MORNING LAUNCHPAD JAG NETWORK · ROLE-BASED TRACKS

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · NEW SPECIALISTS ROOM 202A

## New Specialist Training

**Josh Yow & Stephanie Goodman** · JAG National Faculty

Core onboarding for Specialists new to the JAG model — the foundations of delivery, relationships, and outcomes.

● 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · NEW SPECIALISTS ROOM 202B

## New Specialist Training

**Candice Fedeler** · JAG National Faculty

Core onboarding for Specialists new to the JAG model — the foundations of delivery, relationships, and outcomes.

● 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · NEW MANAGERS ROOM 202C

## New Manager Training

**Trinetta Lipsey & Renee Van Der Werff** · JAG National Faculty

For new JAG managers — leading Specialists, managing data, and running a high-performing program.

● 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · JAG ADVANTAGE

ROOM 103A & 103B

## JAG Advantage Trifecta

**Shi Pillars** · JAG National Faculty

A deep dive into the three pillars of The JAG Advantage™ — trauma-informed care, project-based learning, and employer engagement.

● 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · AFFILIATE LEADERS ROOM 201B

## JAG Leadership

**Jan Ennis & Karin Wu** · JAG National Team

A working session for affiliate leaders on the year ahead.

● 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · JAG TECHNOLOGIES ROOM 102C

## JAG Technologies: JAGForce

**Michele Cody** · JAG National Team

Hands-on with JAGForce, JAG's data and case-management platform.

● 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**WORKSHOP · LEADER IN ME ROOM 203C**

## The 4 Essential Roles of Leadership

**Dr. Candy Singh** · FranklinCovey Consultant, Speaker, and Former Superintendent

In today's complex landscape, leaders must go beyond managing programs to align people, priorities, and purpose. In this engaging full-day session, participants will explore the 4 Essential Roles of Leadership and learn practical strategies to build trust, clarify vision, focus execution, and develop others.

Designed for leaders working across education and workforce systems, this session provides actionable tools and a clear framework to strengthen leadership impact.

● 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

● MONDAY · PRE-CONFERENCE

# AFTERNOON LAUNCHPAD JAG NETWORK · ROLE-BASED TRACKS

1:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · NEW SPECIALISTS ROOM 202A

## New Specialist Training

**Josh Yow & Stephanie Goodman** · JAG National Faculty

Core onboarding for Specialists new to the JAG model — the foundations of delivery, relationships, and outcomes.

● 1:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · NEW SPECIALISTS ROOM 202B

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WORKSHOP · NEW MANAGERS ROOM 202C

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● 1:00 – 4:00 PM

**WORKSHOP · JAG HUB ROOM 102C**

## JAG Hub Foundations

**Natalie Toney & Shane Krukowski** · JAG National Team

This in-person introductory training is designed for specialists who are new to the JAG Hub, powered by Headrush Learning. The session provides a high-level overview of the JAG Hub and its role as a centralized platform for learning, collaboration, communication, and support within JAG programs.

● 1:00 – 4:00 PM





TUESDAY · JULY 14, 2026

# DAY 1 SET THE STAGE

<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>
KEYNOTE	LABS	WORKSHOPS	SANDBOXES	IMMERSION

● TUESDAY · DAY 1

## OPENING KEYNOTE

9:00 – 10:15 AM

KEYNOTE · GENERAL SESSION **MAIN STAGE**

### Opening Keynote

**Coach Ken Carter** · Author, Speaker, Philanthropist

Subject of the 2005 film "Coach Carter," celebrated for his transformational coaching philosophy and unwavering belief in young people.

● 9:00 – 10:15 AM

# BLOCK 1 DAY 1 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

## LABS

2

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201A

### AI to ROI: Designing Ethical, Career-Connected Learning for the Future of Work

Melissa Winter · Kuder

As AI is redefining workplace readiness, learn how JAG leaders can transform disruption into a competitive advantage with a structured blueprint to stay ahead.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 203C

### McDonald's & JAG Partnership

Kaity Parent · JAG New Mexico

Learn about our new partnership! Across the country, JAG affiliates are looking for stronger employer alignment, clearer career pathways, and more sustainable program models. In New Mexico, we're piloting a new approach through our partnership with McDonald's, moving beyond traditional job placement to true employer integration.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

## WORKSHOPS

10

WORKSHOP · EDUCATORS ROOM 102C

### Mindful Journeys: Nurturing Resilience in Classrooms and Beyond

Christine Spiese · JAG Louisiana

Equip JAG educators with strategies and tools to turn classrooms into connected learning communities, using practical mindfulness, movement techniques, and soft skills that help students succeed in school and in life.

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP · EDUCATORS ROOM 103B

### JAG is a Culture, Not a Class

April King · JAG Louisiana

JAG educators facing low engagement and inconsistent outcomes will gain practical tools to build a culture-driven program that strengthens leadership and workforce readiness.

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP · WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ROOM 103C

### So You've Got the Skills- Now What?

Alexis Franks & David Barch · NAWDP

Credentials and Career Pathways Solutions for Workforce Professionals

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP · CURRICULUM / PBL ROOM 202C

### Profits with Purpose: Elevating Student Leadership Through High-Impact Fundraising

Dr. Michele Margavio · JAG Louisiana

Equip students to solve fundraiser fatigue by launching student-led ventures that build real-world leadership skills and record-breaking revenue.

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP · AI TRACK ROOM 203B

### Try AI Coaches That Help Young People Speak Up with Confidence at Work

**Eric Shepherd** · Foundation for Talent Transformation

Try AI Coaches that help young people practice workplace conversations and build the confidence to ask questions, contribute ideas, and speak up at work.

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP · JAG ADVANTAGE ROOM 203A

### Invisible Reflection: How Story Prompts Engage Students Who Hate Journaling

**Andrew Webster** · JAG Missouri

A simple storytelling-based reflection system that helps even the most disengaged students build self-awareness, resilience, and career readiness—without feeling like they are completing another assignment.

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 202B

### The Leadership Blueprint: Cultivating Youth Voice & Student-Led Impact

**X'Zaeviu Sims & Jaimere Rainey** · JAGCA National President & President-Elect

A hands-on masterclass on building true student autonomy. Grounded in the JAG Advantage and the 5 Pillars of the Career Association, learn the operational playbook behind chapter Plans of Work, democratic officer elections, and student-driven community initiatives.

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 103A

### Building Digital Citizenship Leaders: How Your Students Can Teach Your Community

**Jess Golson & Stephanie Hartung** · Connected Nation and JAG National

Using the JAG approach and the Teens Teach Tech model—powered by AT&T—learn how students can lead digital-literacy workshops that build real career networks while raising funds for their programs.

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP · EDUCATORS ROOM 201B

### JAG & National Security

**Dr. Carrie Curtis**

National security isn't just defended at sea—it's built in communities across America. More than 20,000 companies in all 50 states support the U.S. Navy's Submarine Industrial Base, creating opportunities in manufacturing, technology, engineering, business, and skilled trades. Join this interactive session to explore how JAG students can connect their strengths and workforce readiness skills to meaningful careers that make a difference.

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP · WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ROOM 202A

### We Got Us: A Youth-Led Mental Health Movement

**Dr. Jamila Davis** · Partners Uplifting Our Daughters and Sons (PUDS)

Students are facing rising levels of anxiety, trauma, depression, and disconnection. This session explores how youth-led peer-to-peer mental health initiatives can transform school culture, strengthen student leadership, and create healing-...

● 10:30 – 11:30 AM



SANDBOX · SANDBOX ROOM 101A

## Build-A-Future: The Agilities Sandbox

**Kristie Larson** · DeBruce Foundation

In this come-and-go session, participants will "play" with The DeBruce Foundation's suite of free, research-based tools, including the Agile Work Profiler®, Career Explorer Tools, and K-12 resources. Discover how these resources help individuals identify their unique strengths, build Career Literacy, and connect to meaningful career pathways.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

# BLOCK 2 DAY 1 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:30 – 2:30 PM

## LABS

2

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201A

### JAG & National Security

Dr. Carrie Curtis

National security isn't just defended at sea—it's built in communities across America. More than 20,000 companies in all 50 states support the U.S. Navy's Submarine Industrial Base, creating opportunities in manufacturing, technology, engineering, business, and skilled trades. Join this interactive session to explore how JAG students can connect their strengths and workforce readiness skills to meaningful careers that make a difference.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201B

### Roundtable: California Afterschool Network

Jeff Davis · California Afterschool Network

Welcome to the California Afterschool Network Roundtable, the ultimate pit stop for champions of education and workforce development! This isn't just another meeting. It's a dynamic space designed for California change-makers to sync up, share wisdom, and spark new ideas.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

## WORKSHOPS

10

WORKSHOP · YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

ROOM 202B

### Through the Alumni Lens: Strengthening JAG Programs Beyond Graduation

Jennifer Bogar Richardson & Alberto Romero · JAG New Jersey

See life through your students' eyes and transform post-graduation outcomes with hands-on strategies to engage, mentor, and empower every JAG alum.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · POLICY / FINANCE ROOM 102C

### Building Bridges: Connecting Students to Local Careers

Steven Ford · JAG Kansas

Go beyond career conversations by turning community connections into real opportunities for students.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 103A

## Defining Workforce Readiness: JAG's Modernized Competency Framework and Credential

**Breanna Morsadi** · JAG National

What if workforce readiness could be clearly defined, consistently measured, and meaningfully demonstrated? This session introduces JAG's modernized framework of 15 workforce-readiness competencies and the credentialing model designed to help youth showcase growth in the durable skills employers need most.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · EDUCATORS ROOM 103B

## Supercharge Your Specialist Toolkit

**Pamela Donnelly & Bill Swartout** · American Access Institute

Unlock a new era of Gen Z economic mobility through AI-supported tech, where every grad identifies the right-fit career pathway from trades, military, technology, and entrepreneurship, to college and beyond.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ROOM 103C

## The Value of Your First Job

**Sheila Jones** · Whicked Results

Your first job is not just where you earn money. It's where you prove your VALUE and BUILD your reputation. In this high-energy, hands-on session, participants will learn how to stand out from Day 1.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · SKILLED TRADES ROOM 202A

## Financial Tools for Student Success

**Marlena Stout, Azia Darko & Derrick Ramsey** · Synchrony

Synchrony's Empowering Financial Futures program supports educators with practical financial literacy resources for teachers and students. In this session, JAG Specialists will preview and participate in a Credit and Debt lesson plan designed by the Synchrony Financial Literacy Service Corps (employee volunteers). We'll walk through the activities as we would do it with students. Attendees will be asked to share feedback on relevance, engagement, clarity, and ease of use in JAG programs. Your input will help refine the lesson before it's deployed in local schools and nonprofit organizations.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · CURRICULUM / PBL ROOM 202C

## Coaching by Design: Building Championship-Level JAG Programs Through Performance Systems

**Leon Bunion & Kenneth Scott** · JAG New Jersey

JAG Specialists are expected to build high-performing programs without a clear playbook—this session provides a proven coaching framework to create consistent, results-driven student outcomes.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · JAG ADVANTAGE ROOM 203A

## "It is Fun, and You Should Do It!": Why Students Recommend Classroom Discussion Circles

**Renee Van Der Werff** · Aspire Consulting

Cultivate relationships, engagement, learning, and fun in your classrooms by adding student and teacher recommended discussion circles to your repertoire of instructional strategies

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · AI TRACK ROOM 203B

### Discovery to Motivate the Next Generation Workforce

**Leticia Hart** · Hill Country Education & Training Consultants, LLC

Empower disconnected or uncertain students to discover their strengths and career direction by using identity-based talent discovery and leadership activation tools.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · SPECIAL ROOM 203C

### Bridging the Gap: Co-Investing in Tomorrow's Workforce

**Jose Guadron and Latea Davis** · Coalition for Responsible Community Development

Get creative to fully support young adults entering the workforce by playing resource Tetris.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

## SANDBOX

SANDBOX · SANDBOX ROOM 101A

### Foundations of Resilience: Building Trauma-Resilient Educational Communities

**Craig Beswick & Dana Brown** · TREC

For dedicated educators and leaders struggling to bridge the academic and emotional gaps created by the trauma epidemic, TREC 101 provides the evidence-based PACEs science and practical tools needed to cultivate lasting resilience through t...

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

# BLOCK 3 DAY 1 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:00 – 4:00 PM

## LABS

3

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201B

### Connection Architect Certification

Lindsay Clark · Plus Wonder

Join us for this session to get further engaged with the 6 Degrees of Connection Framework. During our session, you will start earning your micro-credential to be Plus Wonder Certified!

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201A

### From Vision to Voice: Elevate Your JAG Presence through Branding

Christine Spiese · JAG Louisiana

JAG Specialists: Want more students and community backing? Learn how to market your program to inspire participation and support.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201A

### JAG Hub Foundations

Natalie Toney & Shane Krukowski · JAG National Team

An in-person introduction to the JAG Hub, powered by Headrush Learning — a centralized platform for learning, collaboration, communication, and support across JAG programs.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

## WORKSHOPS

10

WORKSHOP · POLICY / FINANCE ROOM 102C

### Regions Bank & JAG: Money Management and Mentorship

Nancy Barnes-Ault (Regions Bank), X'Zaeviu Sims (JAGCA President) & Jaimeare Rainey (JAGCA President-Elect)

Join Regions Bank to discover how you can actively engage with JAG's brand-new National Service Project, blending essential financial literacy with impactful youth mentorship.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 103A

### Promoting Positive Behaviors

Dr. Monica Scott · JAG Louisiana

Stop playing "whack-a-mole" with classroom disruptions and start building a culture where positive behavior is the default. In this high-energy session, you'll move beyond traditional discipline to master a proactive framework that focuses on connection over compliance.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ROOM 103C

### The Pando Way: Strategic Innovations (Perspectives in Organizational Change)

Niki Childers, Daniel Morford, Kenya McConico, Katie Kelly

How The Pando Initiative modernized a 35-year-old organization by integrating workforce readiness, financial-literacy tech, and a five-pillar support framework.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · SKILLED TRADES ROOM 202A

### Experience a Microcredential from FranklinCovey that Builds Real-World Skills

Dr. Michelle Berry · Franklin Covey

For workforce-focused educators struggling to build durable skills in diverse learners, experience a microcredential model that makes leadership and life skills accessible, measurable, and real.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

ROOM 202B

### Draw Your Future with Agilities

Christine Hocker, Kristie Larson, Rebecca Kessler · DeBruce Foundation

In this interactive workshop, you'll experience the Draw Your Future process: a simple, visual approach you can use with the youth you serve to help them reflect on where they are today, imagine what's possible, and take action toward a better future. Through drawing, goal setting, and the power of Agilities, you'll learn how to guide students in identifying their strengths and taking three bold, achievable steps forward.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · JAG ADVANTAGE ROOM 203A

### The JAG Store Incubator: From Competency to Commerce

Jacques Watkins · JAG Alabama

Overcome student disengagement by launching a creative 'Incubator' store model that transforms classroom competencies into a self-sustaining, student-led brand.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · AI TRACK ROOM 203B

### From Purpose to Paycheck: AI Powered Project-Based Learning for Career Readiness

Dr. Latunja Caster · Next Level Consulting Group, LLC.

Equip mentors overwhelmed by disengaged students and unclear career paths with an AI-powered Pathway to Purpose Leadership Assessment that turns identity into actionable career plans.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · SPECIAL ROOM 203C

### The Power of Partnership: Engaging Communities for Greater Impact

Christiana Faulkner & Kenta Estrada Darley · Coalition for Responsible Community Development

We will discuss best practices for partnership development, stakeholder engagement, coalition building, and maintaining trust within the communities organizations serve

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · SKILLED TRADES ROOM 103B

## The No-Drama Classroom

Beatrice Matthews & April Stewart · JAG  
Louisiana

Drama free, preventative tools to keep our middle school classroom in order.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · CURRICULUM / PBL ROOM 202C

## Designing an Effective JAG Out of School Model

Kristine Moore, Andrew Urquidez, Janice De La O , · JAG New Mexico

This session will guide participants through the essential components of building a high-impact Out-of-School (OOS) model that supports youth success beyond the traditional classroom setting.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

### SANDBOX

SANDBOX · SANDBOX ROOM 101A

## JAGForce Data Management System

Michele Cody · JAG National Team

Welcome to the JAGForce Sandbox, the ultimate tech playground at EDGE! No rigid presentations, no "look but don't touch" rules, just pure, unadulterated exploration. Think of it as your digital recess. You're welcome to explore at your own pace, and ask questions on the platform as you go.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

1

● TUESDAY · DAY 1

# BLOCK 4 DAY 1 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

4:15 – 5:30 PM

## WORKSHOPS

2

WORKSHOP · POLICY / FINANCE ROOM 102C

### The Huddle: An Affiliate Leader Pop-In Space

Jan Ennis & Karin Wu · JAG National Team

No agendas. No formal presentations. Just collective genius. While structured sessions are great, some of the best breakthroughs happen during the casual, unplanned chats between peers. Welcome to The Huddle, a dedicated pop-in workshop designed entirely for JAG Affiliate Leaders.

● 4:15 – 5:30 PM

WORKSHOP · SPECIAL ROOM 203C DETAILS TBA

### California Connections: Come and Network with other California-Based Organizations

Jeff Davis · California Afterschool Network

● 4:15 – 5:30 PM

## SANDBOX

1

SANDBOX · SANDBOX ROOM 101A

### Scaling Work-Based Learning: Tools That Drive Measurable Outcomes

Melissa Winter · Kuder Inc.

Expand equitable access to work-based learning opportunities with scalable solutions used by JAG affiliates.

● 4:15 – 5:30 PM

● TUESDAY · DAY 1

# IMMERSIONS

Afternoon · 60–90 min

## IMMERSION

1

IMMERSION · STEAM IMMERSION

LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER

### STEAM Workforce Immersion: Try the Job, Then Teach It

In partnership with Legends Global

A working venue becomes a hands-on workforce simulation. Small groups rotate through three live zones — Workforce Pathways, Operations in Motion, and Live Production — trying real tasks alongside the pros who do them every day.

- AFTERNOON · 60–90 MIN

● TUESDAY · DAY 1

# EVENING

Evening

## SPECIAL

1

SPECIAL · EVENING SOCIAL

THE COVE · LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER  
(OUTDOOR SPACE)

### California Dreamin' at EDGE

Lean into the SoCal spirit with food trucks, music, games, and laid-back creative connections inspired by the energy of Long Beach.

- EVENING



# 02

WEDNESDAY · JULY 15, 2026

## DAY 2 BUILD TOGETHER

<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
KEYNOTE	LABS	WORKSHOPS	SANDBOXES	IMMERSION

● WEDNESDAY · DAY 2

### OPENING KEYNOTE

9:00 – 10:15 AM

KEYNOTE · GENERAL SESSION MAIN STAGE

#### Day 2 Keynote and panel

**Professor Fernando Garibay** · Garibay Center /  
Producer & Entrepreneur

The Vision: Moving beyond the technicalities of AI to explore the "Human Spirit in the Digital Age." We will challenge the next generation to bridge the gap between technical trades, academia, and the future of work.

Featuring panelists Leigh Anne Taylor Knight (DeBruce Foundation), Denise Yap (Synchrony Foundation), Emily Dickens (Chief Administrative Officer, SHRM), and Janelle Duray (Jobs for America's Graduates).

● 9:00 – 10:15 AM

● WEDNESDAY · DAY 2

## BLOCK 5 DAY 2 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

### LABS

2

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201A

#### Learning That Leads Somewhere: Creating Career-Connected Pathways for Economic Mobility & Contribution to Community

**Meg Riordan & Luke Matys** · The Possible Zone

Educators preparing students for the future of work can bridge the classroom-career gap by designing real-world learning with industry and community partners.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201B

#### Building Young CEOs: A New Model for Teen Entrepreneurship

**Dr. Jamila Davis** · Partners Uplifting Our Daughters and Sons (PUDS)

What happens when young people are given access to entrepreneurship, mentorship, leadership opportunities, and real belief in their potential?

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

### WORKSHOPS

10

WORKSHOP · POLICY / FINANCE ROOM 102C

#### Quite Possibly the Perfect Job: Helping Students Discover Careers as CFP® Professionals

**Moely Evans** · CFP Board

Most students can name careers in healthcare, tech, or the trades — but few know that becoming a CFP® professional is even an option. Explore why financial planning is a rewarding, growing career path available in communities of every size, and discover practical ways to connect students with CFP® professionals through career exploration, mentoring, and volunteer engagement.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 103A

#### From Classroom to Career: Building Employer-Aligned Talent Pipelines That Actually Work

**Thomas Covington** · Tennessee College of Applied Technology – Murfreesboro

Workforce leaders struggling with low placement or weak employer engagement will learn how to design employer-aligned pipelines that produce measurable hiring outcomes—not just program completion.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · EDUCATORS ROOM 103B

#### Connecting Futures: How Mobile Connectivity Expands Opportunity for JAG Students

**Chris Watson & Kaity Parent** · Mobile Beacon

Discover how JAG New Mexico is closing the digital access gap and transforming learning through innovative, low-cost mobile connectivity.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ROOM 103C

#### Building a Youth Apprenticeship Movement: A California Blueprint for Employer-Driven Scale

**Jill Armington** · Career Wise

For workforce and education leaders stuck in pilot mode, this session delivers a proven blueprint to turn youth apprenticeship into a scalable, employer-driven regional movement.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · SKILLED TRADES ROOM 202A

### Break Before You Break: Addressing Mental Health in the Construction Workforce

Tony Glover · ClayCo

Change the culture of high-pressure careers by teaching the next generation how to recognize burnout early and break before they break.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

ROOM 202B

### The Agilities Flyover

Christine Hocker, Kristie Larson, Rebecca Kessler · DeBruce Foundation

Help Students Build Confidence and Prepare for Careers through the Agilities©

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · CURRICULUM / PBL ROOM 202C

### The Power of Possibility

Krisner Green · JAG Louisiana

When you control your attitude, you control your direction and outcome. Positivity isn't just a feel-good concept; it's a powerful leadership tool. Learn how positivity influences motivation, resilience, and success in both personal and professional environments.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · JAG ADVANTAGE ROOM 203A

### Foundations of Resilience: Building Trauma-Resilient Educational Communities

Craig Beswick & Dana Brown · TREC

For dedicated educators and leaders struggling to bridge the academic and emotional gaps created by the trauma epidemic, TREC 101 provides the evidence-based PACes science and practical tools needed to cultivate lasting resilience through t...

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · AI TRACK ROOM 203B

### The Missing Half of AI Literacy: The Failures That Quietly Erode the Skills Behind Every Career

Jen Garcia · Ingrained

Discover practical, user-friendly AI tools designed to supercharge your daily productivity, streamline workflows, and amplify human capability without requiring a tech background.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 203C

### Fostering Collaborative Funding Opportunities

MODERATOR Jahrell Thomas · Coalition for Responsible Community Development

Strengthening collaboration through funding investments to drive education and workforce outcomes for youth and young adults

PANELISTS

- **Dr. Alfred McQuarters**  
President, Los Angeles Trade-Technical College
- **Diana Amparo Jiménez**  
Program Officer for Housing Justice, Weingart Foundation
- **Kawena Cole**  
Program Officer, Foster Youth, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
- **Gerardo Ruvalcaba**  
Assistant General Manager, Workforce Development, City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department
- **Kelly LoBianco**  
Director, Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

**SANDBOX**

SANDBOX · SANDBOX ROOM 101A

### Catapult Career Readiness Software

**Pamela Donnelly & Bill Swartout** · American Access Institute

Explore how this intuitive platform streamlines career exploration, skill-building, and resume creation to effectively propel students into their next professional steps.

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

# BLOCK 6 DAY 2 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:30 – 2:30 PM

## LAB

1

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201A

### JAG Engagement Bootcamp

Jennifer Bogar Richardson & Leon Bunion · JAG New Jersey

JAG Specialists are expected to launch high-impact programs — this hands-on boot camp gives educators a step-by-step, student-centered playbook to boost engagement, ignite motivation, and leave with a student success toolkit to make their J...

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

## WORKSHOPS

11

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 201B

### Data Management & Data Integrity

Michele Cody · JAG National Team

Join us for a drop-in session to ask questions about the JAGForce Data Management System. Come with questions or to learn new tips and tricks to master your data entry!

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · POLICY / FINANCE ROOM 102C

### Pipeline Development

California Afterschool Network

Join the California Afterschool Network to explore collaborative strategies and proven practices that align expanded learning programs with workforce development pipelines across the state.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 103A

### High Road Leadership - Uniting When Their Is Division

Sheila Jones · Whicked Results

In today's environment, division is easy. Unity takes leadership. This powerful session, inspired by principles from High Road Leadership by John Maxwell, is designed for business owners, community leaders, and JAG team members who are responsible for guiding teams through tension, change, and competing priorities.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ROOM 103C

### Strengthening Teacher Preparation

Dr. Danielle Williams, Patti Cruz, Austin Small, Michael Dozier · Grambling State University

Teacher preparation programs across the nation face a persistent gap between what candidates experience in preparation and how they are evaluated once they enter K-12 classrooms.

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · SKILLED TRADES ROOM 202A

### Behind the Breakthrough: Participant Voices from CSU East Bay's Innovative Workforce Development Program

Dr. Harshdeep Singh Nanda, Rachel Ticas · California State University, East Bay

Behind every workforce breakthrough is intentional design - and participants who can prove it.

● 1:30 - 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · AI TRACK ROOM 203B

### AI With Discernment: Help JAG Students Work With AI, Not Just For It

Poly Chen Smith · PlayLab AI

Participants who want to close the career-readiness gap will leave this session with a custom-built AI tool designed for their students' real barriers — and the discernment to know when AI helps and when it gets in the way.

● 1:30 - 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · SPECIAL ROOM 203C

### Services and Support Model for Homeless Youth

Carolina Cortazar, Ileana Martinez, Nelson Murcia-Chavez, Neri Rivas · Coalition for Responsible Community Development

Homeless; not Hopeless, through coordinated support, young people can thrive and feel empowered to achieve stability by building a career to secure and sustain permanent housing.

● 1:30 - 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · CURRICULUM / PBL DETAILS TBA

### Empowered: How Principles Help Shape a Vision for Classroom Culture

Brandi Newry · Empowered

● 1:30 - 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · JAG ADVANTAGE ROOM 203C DETAILS TBA

### A Day in the Life on the JAG Hub (Powered by Headrush): Specialist Edition

Headrush Learning

● 1:30 - 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · EDUCATORS ROOM 101 DETAILS TBA

### Working with Native Populations

Kyle Tapaha

● 1:30 - 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP · EDUCATORS ROOM 203C DETAILS TBA

### Helping Youth Present Their Skills with Confidence Through Video

Robert Smith & Victoria Jackson · MyDAR Foundation

● 1:30 - 2:30 PM



SANDBOX · SANDBOX ROOM 101A

## The Transformational Shift in Youth Interview Skill Development!

**Emanuel Wilder** · Interview Institute

Ask yourself 2 questions: What is the key global challenge that you were uniquely designed to solve? And, Why haven't you solved it yet?

● 1:30 – 2:30 PM

# BLOCK 7 DAY 2 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:00 – 4:00 PM

## LABS

2

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201B DETAILS TBA

### The Skill That Navigates Change, Now More than Ever!

Shane Krukowski

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201A DETAILS TBA

### Youth Participatory Budgeting in Long Beach — What, How, & Why!

Christina Hall

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

## WORKSHOPS

10

WORKSHOP · POLICY / FINANCE ROOM 102C

### Financial Tools for Student Success

Marlena Stout, Azia Darko & Derrick Ramsey · Synchrony

Synchrony’s Empowering Financial Futures program supports educators with practical financial literacy resources for teachers and students. In this session, JAG Specialists will preview and participate in a Credit and Debt lesson plan designed by the Synchrony Financial Literacy Service Corps (employee volunteers). We’ll walk through the activities as we would do it with students. Attendees will be asked to share feedback on relevance, engagement, clarity, and ease of use in JAG programs. Your input will help refine the lesson before it’s deployed in local schools and nonprofit organizations.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ROOM 103C

### Future-Proof Planning: A Career-Centric Pathway Framework for College & Career Readiness

Melissa Winter · Kuder Inc.

Create a future-proof approach to student success planning by implementing a structured, career-centric pathway planning framework that guides every student from exploration to postsecondary and workforce outcomes.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · SKILLED TRADES ROOM 202A

### Universal Technical Institute: In-Demand Careers & Skilled Labor

Join Universal Technical Institute to explore high-growth career paths and discover exactly what skills today’s economy is looking for in the next generation of technical professionals.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

ROOM 202B

### Meeting Youth Where They Are To Get Them To Where They Want To Be

Kerry Twomey & Max Schelkopf · Metrix Learning

Connecting youth learners with the skills they need to thrive in in-demand occupations

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · CURRICULUM / PBL ROOM 202C

### Tools for Active Listening to Support Students and Employees

Jason Filie · Empowered

Discover practical strategies and actionable tools to master the art of active listening, fostering stronger relationships and deeper engagement with both the young people and professionals you lead.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · JAG ADVANTAGE ROOM 203A

### Successful Classrooms Begin with Healed Teachers

Dr. Paulette Brown · JAG New Jersey

Teaching is one of the most impactful professions, yet educators often carry stress, emotional fatigue, and personal challenges that can influence the classroom environment. This workshop explores the powerful connection between teacher well-being and student success.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · AI TRACK ROOM 203B

### The Great Wealth Transfer: Preparing Youth for America's Largest Career Opportunity

Jordan & Deanna Blackwell · Siah Labs

Transform young people from job seekers into business owners by connecting them to 6 million retiring entrepreneurs.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 103A

### The Huddle: An Affiliate Leader Pop-In Space

Jan Ennis & Karin Wu · JAG National Team

No agendas. No formal presentations. Just collective genius. While structured sessions are great, some of the best breakthroughs happen during the casual, unplanned chats between peers. Welcome to The Huddle, a dedicated pop-in workshop designed entirely for JAG Affiliate Leaders.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · CURRICULUM / PBL DETAILS TBA

### Empowered: How to Transform Your Classroom Culture

Cameron McBeth · Empowered

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP · SPECIAL ROOM 203C

### Personalized Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (PrTMS®)

Carlos Partida & Craig McEwen · Serene Health

PrTMS is delivered to help reduce symptoms associated with depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and sleep disorders.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM



SANDBOX · SANDBOX ROOM 101A

### Try AI Coaches That Help Young People Speak Up with Confidence at Work

Eric Shepherd · Foundation for Talent Transformation

Try AI Coaches that help young people practice workplace conversations and build the confidence to ask questions, contribute ideas, and speak up at work.

● 3:00 – 4:00 PM

● WEDNESDAY · DAY 2

## IMMERSIONS

4:15 – 5:45 PM

### IMMERSION

1

IMMERSION · DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

CONVENTION CENTER · ROOM 204

### La Lucha — Documentary Screening

La Lucha: Getting Schooled in America

Five students fight to graduate against the odds in this nine-time award-winning documentary. Featuring Danny Trejo, Tony Cárdenas, and Dr. Drew Pinsky; directed by Rand Courtney. Watch it with a room full of practitioners who live this work.

● 4:15 – 5:45 PM



# 03

THURSDAY · JULY 16, 2026

## DAY 3 SEND-OFF

2

KEYNOTES

2

LABS

6

WORKSHOPS

1

SANDBOX

● THURSDAY · DAY 3

### EDGE ACCELERATOR

7:30 – 8:00 AM

■ SPECIAL

1

SPECIAL · COFFEE & NETWORKING EXPO HALL

#### The EDGE Accelerator

Get a head start on your day with coffee and networking in the Expo Hall.

● 7:30 – 8:00 AM

# OPENING KEYNOTE

8:00 – 9:30 AM

KEYNOTE · GENERAL SESSION MAIN STAGE

## Step up to the EDGE: Plenary 3

**Governor Albert Bryan** · Governor, US Virgin Islands

Plenary 3 featuring keynote speaker Governor Albert Bryan of the US Virgin Islands.

● 8:00 – 9:30 AM

PANEL · MAINSTAGE FIRESIDE MAIN STAGE

## Hope Through Good Governance

A mainstage fireside conversation on leadership, trust, and the systems young people need to thrive — aligning policy, education, and workforce pathways around opportunity for the next generation.

### PANELISTS

- **Gov. Albert Bryan Jr.**  
Governor, U.S. Virgin Islands · JAG Board Chair
- **Mayor Rex Richardson**  
Mayor of Long Beach, California

● 8:00 – 9:30 AM

# BLOCK 9 CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

9:45 – 10:45 AM

## LABS

2

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201A

### Multiply yourself with a gamified micro-coach for each of your students

**Amanda Perdaris** · Knowledge as a Service Inc / Ringorang

Create your own micro-coach that delivers personalized paths for each student and never let's them down

● 9:45 – 10:45 AM

LAB · CREATIVE LAB ROOM 201B

### Legacy by Design: Owning Your Town, Building What Lasts

**Sheila Jones** · Whicked Results

This session is about moving beyond plans and partnerships and stepping into full ownership of your community's future. It challenges leaders to stop tolerating misalignment and start making the decisions required to build lasting impact across education, business, and economic development.

● 9:45 – 10:45 AM

## WORKSHOPS

6

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 103A

### The 4 Essential Roles of Leadership

**Dr. Candace Singh** · Franklin Covey

Empower leaders across education and workforce systems to stop spinning plates and start driving outcomes — with a proven framework that builds trust, sharpens focus, and grows the next generation of leaders.

● 9:45 – 10:45 AM

WORKSHOP · WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ROOM 103C

### From Exposure to Employment: Building Pre-Apprenticeship that Actually Delivers

**Shauna Harman** · CareerWise

Move from exposure to employment by building pre-apprenticeship pathways that deliver real outcomes for students and employers.

● 9:45 – 10:45 AM

WORKSHOP · SKILLED TRADES ROOM 202A

### Bring Me All of Your Dreams...”: Introducing a new framework and resource kit for Dreamkeepers™ everywhere to activate the dreams of the rising generation

**Mike McGalliard (Calvin & Cara)** · Free to Dream

Dreams have the power to change life outcomes, and by learning these Five Practices caring adults (“Dreamkeepers”) can support youth in using their dreams for personal and collective transformation.

● 9:45 – 10:45 AM

WORKSHOP · YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

ROOM 202B

### From Exploration to Experience: Scaling High-Quality Work-Based Learning Through Strategic Employer Partnerships

**Melissa Winter, Sarah Wilson, & Wendy Mihm-Herold** · Kuder Inc.

A practical framework for program leaders and HR teams to build and sustain high-quality work-based learning and talent-pipeline partnerships.

● 9:45 – 10:45 AM

WORKSHOP · POLICY / FINANCE ROOM 202C

### Government Affairs Fishbowl Session

**Karin Wu** · JAG National Team

Join together with other leaders to discuss best practices and successes in government relations.

● 9:45 – 10:30 AM

WORKSHOP · LEADERSHIP ROOM 203B

### The Huddle: An Affiliate Leader Pop-In Space

**Jan Ennis** · JAG National Team

No agendas. No formal presentations. Just collective genius. While structured sessions are great, some of the best breakthroughs happen during the casual, unplanned chats between peers. Welcome to The Huddle, a dedicated pop-in workshop designed entirely for JAG Affiliate Leaders.

● 9:45 – 10:45 AM

### SANDBOX

SANDBOX · SANDBOX ROOM 101A

### Hands-On Career Discovery: Try the Latest Evidence-Based Assessments

**Eric Shepherd** · Foundation for Talent Transformation

Try free, evidence-based career discovery assessments and see how they help young people identify strengths, interests, and career direction.

● 9:45 – 10:45 AM

# CLOSING PLENARY

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

## KEYNOTE

1

KEYNOTE · CLOSING PLENARY MAIN STAGE

### Closing Plenary

JAG National

JAG leadership closes out EDGE 2026 with reflections, a panel, and a look ahead.

#### RUN OF SHOW

- 10:30 – 10:45 AM** Jason Van Heukelum
- 10:45 – 11:15 AM** Panel (TBD)
- 11:15 AM – 12:00 PM** Closing & invitation to the post-conference and virtual encore screening of Multiple Choice

● 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

— SEE YOU IN LONG BEACH

# WHERE EDUCATION MEETS THE FUTURE OF WORK.

EDGE 2026 brings together JAG affiliates, specialists, educators, alumni, employers, and policy leaders for three days of deep collaboration. We can't wait to build with you.

### DATES

July 14–16, 2026

### VENUE

Long Beach Convention Center  
300 E Ocean Blvd, Long Beach, CA

### REGISTER

[jag.org/edge](http://jag.org/edge)

### QUESTIONS

[events@jag.org](mailto:events@jag.org)

### FEATURED PARTNERS



Sponsorship opportunities and booth reservations remain open. See [jag.org/edge](http://jag.org/edge) for the full partner directory.

## APPENDIX

# SESSION INDEX.

Every session at a glance — title, presenter, room, and time, grouped by day. A quick reference for planning your route across the three days.

## MONDAY LAUNCHPAD · JAG NETWORK ONLY

14 SESSIONS

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	New Specialist Training	Josh Yow & Stephanie Goodman	Room 202A
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	New Specialist Training	Candice Fedeler	Room 202B
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	New Manager Training	Trinetta Lipsey & Renee Van Der Werff	Room 202C
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	JAG Advantage Trifecta	Shi Pillars	Room 103A & 103B
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	JAG Leadership	Jan Ennis & Karin Wu	Room 201B
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	JAG Technologies: JAGForce	Michele Cody	Room 102C
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	The 4 Essential Roles of Leadership	Dr. Candy Singh	Room 203C
1:00 – 4:00 PM	New Specialist Training	Josh Yow & Stephanie Goodman	Room 202A
1:00 – 4:00 PM	New Specialist Training	Candice Fedeler	Room 202B
1:00 – 4:00 PM	New Manager Training	Trinetta Lipsey & Renee Van Der Werff	Room 202C
1:00 – 4:00 PM	JAG Advantage Trifecta	Shi Pillars	Room 103A & 103B
1:00 – 4:00 PM	JAG Leadership	Jan Ennis & Karin Wu	Room 201B
1:00 – 4:00 PM	The 4 Essential Roles of Leadership	Dr. Candy Singh	Room 203C

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
1:00 – 4:00 PM	JAG Hub Foundations	Natalie Toney & Shane Krukowski	Room 102C

## TUESDAY JULY 14, 2026

46 SESSIONS

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
9:00 – 10:15 AM	Opening Keynote	Coach Ken Carter	Main Stage
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	AI to ROI: Designing Ethical, Career-Connected Learning for the Future of Work	Melissa Winter	Room 201A
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	McDonald's & JAG Partnership	Kaity Parent	Room 203C
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Mindful Journeys: Nurturing Resilience in Classrooms and Beyond	Christine Spiese	Room 102C
10:30 – 11:30 AM	JAG is a Culture, Not a Class	April King	Room 103B
10:30 – 11:30 AM	So You've Got the Skills- Now What?	Alexis Franks & David Barch	Room 103C
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Profits with Purpose: Elevating Student Leadership Through High-Impact Fundraising	Dr. Michele Margavio	Room 202C
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Try AI Coaches That Help Young People Speak Up with Confidence at Work	Eric Shepherd	Room 203B

<b>TIME</b>	<b>SESSION</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>ROOM</b>
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>Invisible Reflection: How Story Prompts Engage Students Who Hate Journaling</b>	Andrew Webster	Room 203A
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Build-A-Future: The Agilities Sandbox</b>	Kristie Larson	Room 101A
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>The Leadership Blueprint: Cultivating Youth Voice &amp; Student-Led Impact</b>	X'Zaevium Sims & Jaimere Rainey	Room 202B
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>Building Digital Citizenship Leaders: How Your Students Can Teach Your Community</b>	Jess Golson & Stephanie Hartung	Room 103A
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>JAG &amp; National Security</b>	Dr. Carrie Curtis	Room 201B
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>We Got Us: A Youth-Led Mental Health Movement</b>	Dr. Jamila Davis	Room 202A
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Through the Alumni Lens: Strengthening JAG Programs Beyond Graduation</b>	Jennifer Bogar Richardson & Alberto Romero	Room 202B
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Foundations of Resilience: Building Trauma-Resilient Educational Communities</b>	Craig Beswick & Dana Brown	Room 101A
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>JAG &amp; National Security</b>	Dr. Carrie Curtis	Room 201A

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Roundtable: California Afterschool Network</b>	Jeff Davis	Room 201B
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Building Bridges: Connecting Students to Local Careers</b>	Steven Ford	Room 102C
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Defining Workforce Readiness: JAG's Modernized Competency Framework and Credential</b>	Breanna Morsadi	Room 103A
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Supercharge Your Specialist Toolkit</b>	Pamela Donnelly & Bill Swartout	Room 103B
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>The Value of Your First Job</b>	Sheila Jones	Room 103C
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Financial Tools for Student Success</b>	Marlena Stout, Azia Darko & Derrick Ramsey	Room 202A
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Coaching by Design: Building Championship-Level JAG Programs Through Performance Systems</b>	Leon Bunion & Kenneth Scott	Room 202C
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>"It is Fun, and You Should Do It!": Why Students Recommend Classroom Discussion Circles</b>	Renee Van Der Werff	Room 203A

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Discovery to Motivate the Next Generation Workforce</b>	Leticia Hart	Room 203B
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Bridging the Gap: Co-Investing in Tomorrow's Workforce</b>	Jose Guadron and Latea Davis	Room 203C
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>JAGForce Data Management System</b>	Michele Cody	Room 101A
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Connection Architect Certification</b>	Lindsay Clark	Room 201B
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Regions Bank &amp; JAG: Money Management and Mentorship</b>	Nancy Barnes-Ault (Regions Bank), X'Zaevium Sims (JAGCA President) & Jaimeare Rainey (JAGCA President-Elect)	Room 102C
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Promoting Positive Behaviors</b>	Dr. Monica Scott	Room 103A
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>The Pando Way: Strategic Innovations (Perspectives in Organizational Change)</b>	Niki Childers, Daniel Morford, Kenya McConico, Katie Kelly	Room 103C
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Experience a Microcredential from FranklinCovey that Builds Real-World Skills</b>	Dr. Michelle Berry	Room 202A

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Draw Your Future with Agilities</b>	Christine Hocker, Kristie Larson, Rebecca Kessler	Room 202B
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>The JAG Store Incubator: From Competency to Commerce</b>	Jacques Watkins	Room 203A
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>From Purpose to Paycheck: AI Powered Project-Based Learning for Career Readiness</b>	Dr. Latunja Caster	Room 203B
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>The Power of Partnership: Engaging Communities for Greater Impact</b>	Christiana Faulkner & Kenta Estrada Darley	Room 203C
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>From Vision to Voice: Elevate Your JAG Presence through Branding</b>	Christine Spiese	Room 201A
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>The No-Drama Classroom</b>	Beatrice Matthews & April Stewart	Room 103B
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Designing an Effective JAG Out of School Model</b>	Kristine Moore, Andrew Urquidez, Janice De La O,	Room 202C
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>JAG Hub Foundations</b>	Natalie Toney & Shane Krukowski	Room 201A
4:15 – 5:30 PM	<b>Scaling Work-Based Learning: Tools That Drive Measurable Outcomes</b>	Melissa Winter	Room 101A

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
4:15 – 5:30 PM	<b>The Huddle: An Affiliate Leader Pop-In Space</b>	Jan Ennis & Karin Wu	Room 102C
4:15 – 5:30 PM	<b>California Connections: Come and Network with other California-Based Organizations</b>	Jeff Davis	Room 203C
Afternoon · 60–90 min	<b>STEAM Workforce Immersion: Try the Job, Then Teach It</b>	In partnership with Legends Global	Long Beach Convention Center
Evening	<b>California Dreamin' at EDGE</b>	—	The Cove · Long Beach Convention Center (outdoor space)

**WEDNESDAY** JULY 15, 2026

41 SESSIONS

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
9:00 – 10:15 AM	<b>Day 2 Keynote and panel</b>	Professor Fernando Garibay	Main Stage
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Catapult Career Readiness Software</b>	Pamela Donnely & Bill Swartout	Room 101A
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Learning That Leads Somewhere: Creating Career-Connected Pathways for Economic Mobility &amp; Contribution to Community</b>	Meg Riordan & Luke Matys	Room 201A
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Building Young CEOs: A New Model for Teen Entrepreneurship</b>	Dr. Jamila Davis	Room 201B
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Quite Possibly the Perfect Job: Helping Students Discover Careers as CFP® Professionals</b>	Moely Evans	Room 102C
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>From Classroom to Career: Building Employer-Aligned Talent Pipelines That Actually Work</b>	Thomas Covington	Room 103A

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Connecting Futures: How Mobile Connectivity Expands Opportunity for JAG Students</b>	Chris Watson & Kaity Parent	Room 103B
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Building a Youth Apprenticeship Movement: A California Blueprint for Employer-Driven Scale</b>	Jill Armington	Room 103C
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Break Before You Break: Addressing Mental Health in the Construction Workforce</b>	Tony Glover	Room 202A
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>The Agilities Flyover</b>	Christine Hocker, Kristie Larson, Rebecca Kessler	Room 202B
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>The Power of Possibility</b>	Krisner Green	Room 202C
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Foundations of Resilience: Building Trauma-Resilient Educational Communities</b>	Craig Beswick & Dana Brown	Room 203A
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>The Missing Half of AI Literacy: The Failures That Quietly Erode the Skills Behind Every Career</b>	Jen Garcia	Room 203B
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Fostering Collaborative Funding Opportunities</b>	Jahrell Thomas	Room 203C
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Data Management &amp; Data Integrity</b>	Michele Cody	Room 201B
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>The Transformational Shift in Youth Interview Skill Development!</b>	Emanuel Wilder	Room 101A
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>JAG Engagement Bootcamp</b>	Jennifer Bogar Richardson & Leon Bunion	Room 201A
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Pipeline Development</b>	California Afterschool Network	Room 102C
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>High Road Leadership - Uniting When Their Is Division</b>	Sheila Jones	Room 103A
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Strengthening Teacher Preparation</b>	Dr. Danielle Williams, Patti Cruz, Austin Small, Michael Dozier	Room 103C

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Behind the Breakthrough: Participant Voices from CSU East Bay's Innovative Workforce Development Program</b>	Dr. Harshdeep Singh Nanda, Rachel Ticas,	Room 202A
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>AI With Discernment: Help JAG Students Work With AI, Not Just For It</b>	Poly Chen Smith	Room 203B
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Services and Support Model for Homeless Youth</b>	Carolina Cortazar, Ileana Martinez, Nelson Murcia-Chavez, Neri Rivas	Room 203C
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Empowered: How Principles Help Shape a Vision for Classroom Culture</b>	Brandi Newry	Room 202C
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>A Day in the Life on the JAG Hub (Powered by Headrush): Specialist Edition</b>	Headrush Learning	Room 203A
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Working with Native Populations</b>	Kyle Tapaha	Room 103B
1:30 – 2:30 PM	<b>Helping Youth Present Their Skills with Confidence Through Video</b>	Robert Smith & Victoria Jackson	Room 202B
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Try AI Coaches That Help Young People Speak Up with Confidence at Work</b>	Eric Shepherd	Room 101A
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Financial Tools for Student Success</b>	Marlena Stout, Azia Darko & Derrick Ramsey	Room 102C
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Future-Proof Planning: A Career-Centric Pathway Framework for College &amp; Career Readiness</b>	Melissa Winter	Room 103C
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Universal Technical Institute: In-Demand Careers &amp; Skilled Labor</b>	—	Room 202A
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Meeting Youth Where They Are To Get Them To Where They Want To Be</b>	Kerry Twomey & Max Schelkopf	Room 202B
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Tools for Active Listening to Support Students and Employees</b>	Jason Filie	Room 202C

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Successful Classrooms Begin with Healed Teachers</b>	Dr. Paulette Brown	Room 203A
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>The Great Wealth Transfer: Preparing Youth for America's Largest Career Opportunity</b>	Jordan & Deanna Blackwell	Room 203B
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>The Huddle: An Affiliate Leader Pop-In Space</b>	Jan Ennis & Karin Wu	Room 103A
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Empowered: How to Transform Your Classroom Culture</b>	Cameron McBeth	Room 103B
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>The Skill That Navigates Change, Now More than Ever!</b>	Shane Krukowski	Room 201B
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Youth Participatory Budgeting in Long Beach — What, How, &amp; Why!</b>	Christina Hall	Room 201A
3:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>Personalized Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (PrTMS®)</b>	Carlos Partida & Craig McEwen	Room 203C
4:15 – 5:45 PM	<b>La Lucha — Documentary Screening</b>	La Lucha: Getting Schooled in America	Convention Center · Room 204

**THURSDAY** JULY 16, 2026

13 SESSIONS

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
7:30 – 8:00 AM	<b>The EDGE Accelerator</b>	—	Expo Hall
8:00 – 9:30 AM	<b>Step up to the EDGE: Plenary 3</b>	Governor Albert Bryan	Main Stage
8:00 – 9:30 AM	<b>Hope Through Good Governance</b>	—	Main Stage
9:45 – 10:45 AM	<b>Hands-On Career Discovery: Try the Latest Evidence-Based Assessments</b>	Eric Shepherd	Room 101A
9:45 – 10:45 AM	<b>Multiply yourself with a gamified micro-coach for each of your students</b>	Amanda Perdaris	Room 201A
9:45 – 10:45 AM	<b>Legacy by Design: Owning Your Town, Building What Lasts</b>	Sheila Jones	Room 201B
9:45 – 10:45 AM	<b>The 4 Essential Roles of Leadership</b>	Dr. Candace Singh	Room 103A

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER	ROOM
9:45 – 10:45 AM	<b>From Exposure to Employment: Building Pre-Apprenticeship that Actually Delivers</b>	Shauna Harman	Room 103C
9:45 – 10:45 AM	<b>Bring Me All of Your Dreams...™: Introducing a new framework and resource kit for Dreamkeepers™ everywhere to activate the dreams of the rising generation</b>	Mike McGalliard (Calvin & Cara)	Room 202A
9:45 – 10:45 AM	<b>From Exploration to Experience: Scaling High-Quality Work-Based Learning Through Strategic Employer Partnerships</b>	Melissa Winter, Sarah Wilson, & Wendy Mihm-Herold	Room 202B
9:45 – 10:30 AM	<b>Government Affairs Fishbowl Session</b>	Karin Wu	Room 202C
9:45 – 10:45 AM	<b>The Huddle: An Affiliate Leader Pop-In Space</b>	Jan Ennis	Room 203B
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Closing Plenary</b>	JAG National	Main Stage