



WORKPLACE SUMMIT

(FROM WHEREVER YOU WORK)

WELCOME TO THE OUT & EQUAL 2020 SUMMIT!

Each year, more than 5,000 executives, Employee Resource Group (ERG) leaders and members, HR, Diversity & Inclusion professionals and experts convene at the Out & Equal Workplace Summit- the largest LGBTQ focused conference in the world. Summit has grown to become the preferred place to network, share strategies and best practices that help create workplaces which are inclusive of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions – workplaces where everyone belongs, and where LGBTQ employees can be out and thrive. Time and time again, we hear (and have experienced personally) that Summit is life-changing and transformative – a pivotal boost to professionals’ personal and professional lives.

This year’s Summit is being reimagined to be an exceptional experience that drives all of these goals and can continue as a virtual event at a time of social distancing. We have partnered with one of the world’s leading virtual engagement team of experts, Pathable – a company that has more than a decade of experience serving Fortune 500 clients, leading global investors, and non-profits – in the development of virtual conferences and convenings. We are confident in their ability to help us provide a transformational Summit. This is not a two-dimensional attempt to replicate an in-person event. Rather Summit will leverage all of the assets of digital mediums and offer enhanced capacity for connection, career development, expertise sharing and more.

This year’s Summit experience will maintain our most popular features, while enhancing learning, engagement and celebration across several key elements:

1 Get inspired by exclusive keynote addresses from LGBTQ celebrities, executives, and thought leaders! We’re in conversation with world-famous actors, political leaders, athletes, and corporate and government pioneers who will tell us their stories and help open our minds to what’s possible for us to achieve.

“Every day, I am bolstered by our community’s resilience. We have always risen to the occasion in moments of shared adversity – from the AIDS crisis to economic downturns. We know how vital our work is together and we have always come out of crises stronger. Summit is especially personal to me this year. That’s why we are spending every ounce of energy and creativity we have to deliver a truly transformational 2020 Out & Equal Summit.”

- Erin Uritus, Out & Equal CEO

2 Stuck choosing between two sessions? This year participants can access all content workshops. You can choose to take part live or later on, on-demand. Now spread across five days versus three, Summit will feature workshops, roundtable discussions, and panels that provide essential learning for D&I practitioners, ERG members and allies. This year will have unprecedented enhanced access to content for all participants. Summit will also include high visibility panels to elevate issues of concerns, and the possibility of earning continuing education credits through SHRM.

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OUT & EQUAL

WORKPLACE ADVOCATES

3 Remember the deep connection and dialogue achieved during our now renowned “Snowflake” event? Mass Participation activities have become a hallmark of Summit. They served all of us in better understanding our peers’ perspectives. And they highlight and leverage what we all have in common. We are working hard to ensure we continue this momentum – making use of both technology and creative engagement mechanisms.

4 Build your networks and meet new friends! From collaborative and competitive games like scavenger hunts, to forums for one-on-one conversation, to a participant talent show – we are engineering Summit to involve a great deal of fun and creative opportunities for connection. Those magical hallway conversations are now not limited by time or space. You’ll be able to learn more about other attendees, and “chat” with people around the world.

And speaking of connection: We’ll be able to accommodate more identity-based roundtable sessions than ever before. We are creating designated spaces for private group conversations in areas like a 12-step room, open and closed rooms for members of key identity groups – such as People of Color, Bi+, Transgender, Non-Binary, Gender Non-Conforming professionals, and parents – to discuss unique challenges, to support one another, and to celebrate successes.

5 Visit a robust virtual engagement center that is built around one-on-one interaction! The center will have places like company booths, non-profit partners, and a marketplace for queer merch and to support small LGBTQ businesses.

6 Within the engagement center, you can visit an enhanced Career Fair. Companies will be invited to post their open positions and to be available to connect LGBTQ job-seekers with enthusiastic recruiters 1:1.

7 Celebrate those forging the way for LGBTQ inclusion and workplaces of belonging! This year’s Summit will feature an expanded set of Outie Awards to celebrate and elevate those that are leading the way.

All of this will be powered by queer ingenuity and state-of-the-art technology to make this a Summit like never before! Please join us, and consider what participation could mean for an expanded group of LGBTQ leaders and employees at your organization this year – a time when support and connection is most needed.

