



# Agenda-at-a-Glance

## BY DAY

## Enrich Your Board Leadership Potential at NACD Directors Summit™

**This premier conference brings the governance elite together to shape the future of boardrooms.**

### **What You Will Experience:**

- **Unrivaled Networking:** Connect with 1,600+ directors and executives from over 1,000 boards, including Fortune 500 leaders.
- **Game-Changing Insights:** Gain cutting-edge insights from over 200 visionary speakers who are setting the new standard in boardroom leadership.
- **Tailored Learning:** Select from multiple customized learning paths designed to meet your area of expertise and level of experience.
- **Hands-On Innovation:** Engage in 12 interactive workshops that will equip you to tackle the most pressing challenges, from AI governance and cybersecurity readiness to CEO succession, and board composition.

Don't just prepare for the future—be the one who shapes it.

[nacdonline.org/summit2025](https://nacdonline.org/summit2025)

**October 12 – 15, 2025 | Gaylord National Harbor | Washington, DC Area**

# Sunday, October 12, 2025

## ▶ WORKSHOPS

1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

**Architects of Agility: Navigating AI Guardrails That Enable Continuous Innovation (Part 1, led by Grant Thornton)**

**Audit Committee Workshop (led by KPMG)**

**Board Bound: A Strategic Guide to Landing Your First Board Role**

**Industry Cross-Pollination in Incentive Design (led by Pearl Meyer)**

**Nominating and Governance Committee Workshop (led by Russell Reynolds Associates)**

**Strategy Workshop (led by EY) Part 1**

**The Board of the Future: Don't Let Your Board Get Left Behind (Part 1, led by Deloitte)**

3:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

**Architects of Agility: Navigating AI Guardrails That Enable Continuous Innovation (Part 2, led by Grant Thornton)**

**Audit Committee Briefing and Tabletop Scenario (led by KPMG)**

**Navigating Leadership Transitions in Volatile Times (led by Pearl Meyer)**

**Next-Gen Board Candidates: Unlocking Secrets for Success**

**Nominating and Governance Committee Roundtables (led by Russell Reynolds Associates)**

**Strategy Interactive Exercise (led by EY) Part 2**

**The Board of the Future: Don't Let Your Board Get Left Behind (Part 2, led by Deloitte)**

5:15 p.m.–6:45 p.m.

**Welcome Reception in the Insight Hub (Sponsored by KPMG)**

8:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.

**Certified Directors After-Party (Invite Only)**

# Monday, October 13, 2025

7:00 a.m.–8:15 a.m.

## **Breakfast in the Insight Hub**

7:00 a.m.–8:15 a.m.

## **Breakfast Session: Navigating Governance in Family Businesses (Sponsored by EY)**

7:00 a.m.–6:30 p.m.

## **Insight Hub**

8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

### **▶ MAINSTAGE I**

## **NACD President & CEO Message by Peter Gleason Optimizing the Board-CEO Relationship**

### **▶ BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

10:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

## **Blind Spots in the Boardroom: Disruptors See the World Differently**

## **Bridging the Tech-Value Gap: Rethinking Organizational Design for AI-Driven Success**

## **Empowering Innovation: A Modern Board's Guide to Tech Governance**

## **Inside the Private Boardroom: Perspectives from Employee-Owned, PE-Owned, and Family-Owned Companies**

## **Leadership Under Pressure: Mentoring the Modern CEO**

## **Supply Chain Risk: Oversight, Visibility, and Governance for Corporate Boards**

## **The Valuation Edge: How Transformations Drive Growth, Profitability, and Shareholder Value**

## **Tokens Come to Town: Why Boards Need to Think About Crypto**

12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m.

## **Advancing Value with AI: What Are Leaders Getting Right?**

## **Crucible Boards: Building Boards that Deliver When the Stakes are High**

## **Future Proofing Talent: AI, Workforce Evolution, and Board Oversight from Alphas to Boomers**

## **Heard on the Street: A Practical Cybersecurity Discussion for Boards**

## **How Customer Insights Improve Corporate Governance: What Board Directors Need to Know**

## **Leaning (Way) into Strategy Development**

## **Strategic Readiness: Preparing for an IPO or M&A Success**

## **What to do When the Activist Knocks—An Interactive Simulation**

1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.

**Lunch**

2:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

▶ **MAINSTAGE II**

**The Power of Crisis**

3:00 p.m.–3:45 p.m.

**Sweet Social Dessert Reception in the Insight Hub**

4:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

▶ **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**Board Succession Planning: Strategies, Frameworks, and Readiness Gaps**

**Crisis-Ready: A Director's Role in Preparation and Response**

**Driving Global Growth: The Complexity of Strategy in Today's Evolving World**

**Five Directors, Five Dilemmas: Navigating Boardroom Challenges in 2025**

**From Insular to Independent: The Evolution of Private Company Boards**

**Investors' Expectations of Today's Board Leaders**

**The Big Opportunity and Risk: AI Governance for Long-term Value Creation**

**From Qubits to Big Bets: The Board's Guide to Quantum Computing**

5:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

**Reception in the Insight Hub (Sponsored by Infosys)**

# Tuesday, October 14, 2025

7:00 a.m.–8:15 a.m.

**Breakfast in the Insight Hub**

7:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

**Insight Hub**

8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

## ▶ MAINSTAGE III

**NACD's State of the Association by Kimberly Simpson**

**Trailblazing Leadership in Action: A Strategic Fireside Chat with NYSE Chair Sharon Bowen**

**Transforming Corporate Leadership: A Conversation with Jeffrey Sonnenfeld, the CEO Whisperer**

10:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

## ▶ BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**AI in the Boardroom: From Readiness to Responsible Oversight**

**Board Governance Under Uncertainty: It's the Economy ...**

**Cybersecurity in the Boardroom: Navigating Emerging Threats and Responsibilities**

**Director Liability & Responsibility: Reexamining the Board's Role in Fraud Prevention, Detection, and Mitigation in an Age of Disruption**

**Embracing "Outside the Box" Thinking in CEO Succession: Co-CEOs and Other Innovative Strategies**

**Retaining Mission-Critical Talent: Strengthening C-Suite Succession Planning**

**Strategic Oversight in Turbulent Times: Balancing Governance and Performance**

**The New Frontier: Positioning for Board Roles in a Private Equity-Dominated Era**

12:00 p.m.–12:45 p.m.

**Lunch**

12:45 p.m.–2:15 p.m.

## ▶ MAINSTAGE IV

**Bridging the Digital and Physical Worlds with AI**

2:15 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

**Sweet Social Dessert Reception in the Insight Hub**

3:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.

### ► BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**Emerging Frontiers in Quantum Computing and Cybersecurity**

**Integrating a “Digital Director” on Your Board**

**Managing a New Wave of Reputational Risks**

**Navigating Priorities: What Audit Committees Need to Know**

**The Board’s Role in Transformation**

**The Impact of the New Administration on Executive Compensation Design**

**The Next Generation: Oversight of CEO Succession Planning and Leadership Change for Family Business Boards**

**Unlocking Potential: Harnessing Your CLO and Corporate Secretary to Magnify Your Board’s Impact**

4:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.

### ► BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**7 Big Ideas in 7 Minutes**

**AI Agents and the Enterprise: What Every Board Member Needs to Know**

**Boardroom Resilience: Navigating Climate, Financial Risks, and Policy Shifts**

**Risk in Focus: Data-Driven Insights About Emerging Risks and Audit Priorities for Boards**

**Strengthening Shareholder Trust: Effective Engagement in a Shifting Landscape**

**Taking the Leap: From an Executive to Portfolio Lifestyle**

**The Battle for Business: Reincorporation and the Shifting Landscape of Corporate Law in Texas vs. Delaware**

**The Rapid Evolution of People Governance**

## Wednesday, October 14, 2025

8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m.

**Breakfast in the Potomac Lobby**

9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

### ► MAINSTAGE V

**Navigating the Future: AI, Blockchain, Cryptocurrency, NFTs & Smart Contracts with Shelly Palmer**

**25 Years Later: Leadership, Legacy, and Lessons from 9/11**

**Strategic Insights for Navigating “Probable Futures”**

*Updated 09/11/2025*