

BBSJ 2019

BROADBAND AND SOCIAL JUSTICE SUMMIT

in f t i MMTCONLINE

MARCH 6, 2019

#BBSJ19

Speaker Biographies



Honorable Jonathan Adelstein
President & CEO,
Wireless Infrastructure Association
@WIAorg

Jonathan S. Adelstein is the President & CEO of the Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA). WIA represents over 200 companies devoted to building wireless broadband facilities that connect every corner of America. Since he became President in 2012, over 100 new members have joined the association, the annual wireless infrastructure show has broken participation records, a new association was formed in Europe, and a new nationwide training initiative and WIA PAC were launched. WIA is the principal organization representing the companies that build, design, own and manage telecommunications facilities throughout the world. Its members include carriers, infrastructure providers and professional services firms, with a combined market cap of over \$400 billion. Mr. Adelstein served as Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from 2002 to 2009, for which he was twice nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. At the FCC he achieved bipartisan progress on issues including broadband expansion, widening access to the Internet and media diversity.



Raúl Alarcón,
President and CEO,
Spanish Broadcasting System
#RaulAlarcon

Raúl Alarcón, Jr. joined us in 1983 as an account executive and has been our President and a director since October 1985 and our Chief Executive Officer since June 1994. On November 2, 1999, Mr. Alarcón, Jr. became our Chairman of the board of directors and continues as our Chief Executive Officer and President. Currently, Mr. Alarcón, Jr. is responsible for our long-range strategic planning and operational matters and is instrumental in the acquisition and related financing of each of our stations. Mr. Alarcón, Jr. is the son of Pablo Raúl Alarcón, Sr.

Speaker Biographies



Sindy Benavides
Chief Executive Officer,
League of United
Latin American Citizens
@SindyBenavides

Sindy Marisol Benavides is a Honduran-American immigrant who has experienced the American dream, and now devotes her career to public service, ensuring that countless young people, women, and immigrants have the same opportunity. She is currently Chief Executive Officer for the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the oldest Hispanic civil rights organization in the country. She previously served as the Chief Operating Officer and National Director for Civic Engagement and Community Mobilization for LULAC, Vice President of Field & Political Operations for Voto Latino and as Northern Virginia Political Director for the 2012 Kaine for Virginia senatorial campaign. She has also been National Director of Community Outreach for the Democratic National Committee, and Latino Liaison and Director of Gubernatorial Appointments for Governor Timothy M. Kaine.



Koustubh "K.J." Bagchi
Senior Staff Attorney
Telecommunications, Technology, and
Media, Asian Americans Advancing
Justice | AAJC
@AAAJ_AAJC

Koustubh "K.J." Bagchi serves as Senior Staff Attorney for Telecommunications, Technology, and Media at Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC based in Washington, DC. In this capacity, he supports AAJC's administrative, legal, and legislative advocacy efforts by promoting equal broadband access for the Asian American community and other underserved communities. Further, he works with Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) coalition groups to ensure fair and accurate depictions of Asian Americans in the media and to promote increased diversity both in front of and behind the camera.

Prior to his work at AAJC, he provided counsel and policy advice for elected members at the local, state, and federal levels. In addition to advising members of the Washington State Senate, he worked as Legislative Counsel for a D.C. City Council member and for a Member of Congress.

Speaker Biographies



Paula Boyd
**Senior Director of Government
and Regulatory Affairs,
Microsoft Corporation**
@PaulaBoyd901 @MicrosoftIPC

Paula H. Boyd is currently Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs for Microsoft Corporation, where she partners with colleagues to develop Microsoft's communications policy positions and advocates those positions before the Federal Communications Commission, Congress and the Administration. On behalf of Microsoft, Paula champions a variety of voice, video and text communications issues such as those related to spectrum, accessibility, universal service, next generation 911 as well as issues surrounding Internet governance and ICANN.



Shanell Boyd
**Corporate Development Director,
Pan-African Film Festival**
@Nellyonthego

As a business developer, marketing and media communications professional, Shanell prides herself on being a TRIPLE THREAT.

Over the course of her career, she's been a senior level strategic marketing & sales leader curating, strategizing, executing, and leading integrated sales & marketing solutions for B2B & B2C clients.

Having worked for Comcast, the largest global telecommunication conglomerate and several major networks, sports and film brands including UP TV, Oxygen, In Demand and TV One, she is truly a "Woman to Watch." During her time at each company, she successfully increased profit shares and subscriber growth by passionately ideating and executing cross-platform marketing strategies across TV, social media, OOH, digital, radio and national tentpole events.

Speaker Biographies



Doug Brake

Director of Broadband and Spectrum Policy, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation

@dbrakeITIF

Doug Brake is director of broadband and spectrum policy at the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation. He specializes in broadband policy, wireless enforcement, and spectrum-sharing mechanisms.

He previously served as a research assistant at the Silicon Flatirons Center at the University of Colorado, where he sought to improve policy surrounding wireless enforcement, interference limits, and gigabit network deployment. Prior to that, he served as a Hatfield scholar at the Federal Communications Commission, assisting with the implementation of the advanced communications services section of the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act.

Brake holds a law degree from the University of Colorado Law School and a bachelor's degree in English literature and philosophy from Macalester College.



John Breyault

Vice President, Public Policy, Telecommunications, and Fraud, National Consumers League

#JohnBreyault

John Breyault is a nationally-recognized consumer advocate with more than 15 years of experience championing the rights of consumers and the underserved. He joined the National Consumers League in September 2008 where his focus is on advocating for stronger consumer protections before Congress and federal agencies on issues related to telecommunications, fraud, data security, privacy, and other consumer concerns. In addition, John manages NCL's Fraud.org and #DataInsecurity Project campaigns.

Prior to coming to NCL, John spent five years as director of research at Amplify Public Affairs, where he helped launch the Internet public affairs practice support clients in the telecommunications, energy, labor, and environmental sectors. Earlier in his career, John worked and at the American Center for Polish Culture in Washington, DC.

He is a graduate of George Mason University, where he received a bachelor's degree in International Relations.

Speaker Biographies



Kisha Imani Cameron
President,
Completion Films
@KishaImani

Kisha Imani Cameron identifies, cultivates and connects diverse cinematic talent. Ms. Cameron recently held posts as COO and Chief Talent Development Officer of Ghetto Film School. Through her production company Completion Films, Kisha created the Focus Features Africa First Short Film Program and has an extensive background in film development having worked at New Line Cinema and Walden Media. A long-time champion of diversity of all kinds in entertainment, Ms. Cameron also passionately works in the artist development space as coach and trainer via the Visionary Legacy Project. She has led artist development workshops for Chicken & Egg, Refinery 29, Film Independent & Black Public Media. Her producing credits include Spike Lee's BAMBOOZLED and SOMETIMES IN APRIL for HBO.



Honorable Brendan Carr
Commissioner,
Federal Communications Commission
@BrendanCarrFCC @FCC #FCC

Brendan Carr was nominated to serve as a Commissioner of the FCC by President Donald J. Trump and was confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate on August 3, 2017. He was sworn into office on August 11, 2017. Commissioner Carr brings to the position over a dozen years of public and private sector experience in technology and communications law and policy. Most recently, Commissioner Carr served as the General Counsel of the FCC. In that role, he served as the chief legal advisor to the Commission and FCC staff on all matters within the agency's jurisdiction. Previously, he served as the lead advisor to FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai on wireless, public safety, and international issues. Before that, he worked as an attorney in the FCC's Office of General Counsel, where he provided legal advice on a wide range of spectrum policy, competition, and public safety matters.

Speaker Biographies



Maryam Casbarro, CIPP/US, concentrates her practice on cybersecurity and privacy litigation. She helps her clients through counseling and advising on cybersecurity best practices, drafting incident response plans, overseeing legal response after a breach has occurred, and assisting clients with privacy litigation strategies and government investigations and regulatory compliance. Maryam started her career as a securities and white Collar litigator at a large firm, before transitioning to cybersecurity and privacy. She has worked on a number of privacy related litigation, helped companies navigate breaches, and has helped businesses implement privacy compliance programs.

Maryam Casbarro, CIPP/US
Associate,
Davis Wright Tremaine
@CasbarroMaryam



As the Founder and Executive Director of the New York International Latino Film Festival, Calixto Chinchilla has made powerful and impactful progress for Latinos in the film industry. Founded in 1999, the festival realizes his dream to host an international festival that features domestic and international films by and/or about Latinos. Attracting over 100,000 attendees since its inception and garnering the attention of Hollywood and media from across the globe, the festival has quickly grown as the largest urban Latino film festival in the U.S.

Calixto Chinchilla
Founder and Executive Director,
New York Latin Film Festival
#CalixtoChinchilla

Speaker Biographies



Honorable Mignon Clyburn
Former Acting Chairwoman and
Commissioner,
Federal Communications Commission
@MignonClyburn @FCC #FCC

Mignon Clyburn was sworn in for her first term as commissioner on August 3, 2009; sworn in for a second term on February 19, 2013; and served until June 6, 2018. She also served as Acting FCC Chairwoman from May 20, 2013 through November 4, 2013. While at the FCC, Commissioner Clyburn was committed to closing the digital divide. Specifically, she was an advocate for Lifeline Modernization, which assists low income consumers defray the cost of broadband service, championed diversity in media ownership, initiated Inmate Calling Services reforms, emphasized diversity and inclusion in STEM opportunities, and fought to preserve a free and open internet. Prior to the FCC, she spent 11 years as a member of the sixth district on the Public Service Commission (PSC) of South Carolina. Prior to the PSC, Clyburn was the publisher and general manager of her family-founded newspaper for 14 years, the Coastal Times, a Charleston-based weekly newspaper that focused primarily on issues affecting the African American community.



Maurita Coley Flippin
President and CEO,
Multicultural Media Telecom &
Internet Council
@MauritaColey @MMTCTOnline

Maurita Coley joined MMTC's executive team in 2012, bringing over 25 years of experience in the media, communications, and entertainment industries to assist MMTC in reshaping its mission and vision to improve diversity and inclusion in a new digital economy. Previously, Coley served as Vice Chair of MMTC and as Executive Director of Capital Area Asset Builders, a nonprofit leader in asset-building and financial literacy and economic empowerment programs. She is a former partner with the Davis Wright Tremaine and the Cole, Raywid & Braverman law firms, where her practices included representing cable television programmers and operators, and minority venture capitalists. She is a former law and programming executive with the BET Cable Networks.

Speaker Biographies



Donald Cravins, Jr.

**Vice President, Policy and External Affairs,
Charter Communications, Inc.**

@DCravins @CharterGov

Cravins joins Charter from leading civil rights organization the National Urban League, where he served as Senior Vice President for Policy and Executive Director of the Washington Bureau. At the National Urban League, Cravins oversaw the development of the National Urban League's policy, research, and advocacy agenda, expanding the organization's impact and influence inside the Capital Beltway.

Cravins has been a practicing attorney and a member of the Louisiana Bar Association since 1998. In 2004, he was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives, and in 2006, Cravins was elected to the Louisiana Senate. During his tenure in the Louisiana Senate, Cravins became heavily involved in post-Hurricane Katrina issues as the Chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee and an active member of the Juvenile Justice Commission of Louisiana.



Jim Doyle

**President,
Business Forward**

@JimDoyleDC @businessforward

Jim Doyle is President of Business Forward, a trade group dedicated to building business support for public policies that promote America's economic competitiveness. With the support of more than 60 of America's most respected companies, Business Forward works with more than 100,000 local business leaders across the U.S., operates in more than 125 cities, and has briefed more than 650 mayors, governors, Members of Congress, and Administration officials. Through white papers, issue briefs, conference calls, and other events, Business Forward educates policy makers and the public about climate change, affordable health care, immigration reform, infrastructure investment, the future of work, and other critical issues. For 25 years, Jim Doyle has advised leading corporations, financial service firms, venture capitalists, and non-profits on a range of policy, regulatory, and communications issues. In addition to his work at Business Forward, Jim serves as president of Portico Policy Advisors, a policy research firm.

Speaker Biographies



Harold Feld
Senior Vice President,
Public Knowledge
@haroldfeld

Harold Feld is the Senior Vice President for Public Knowledge, one of the nation's premier consumer advocacy organizations working at the intersection of copyright, telecommunications and the Internet. Feld is highly regarded as a thought leader in the areas of spectrum reform, broadband policy and digital consumer protection. He was previously Senior Vice President at the Media Access Project (MAP), a public interest law firm, where he advanced competition policies in media, telecommunications and technology. Prior to joining MAP, Feld was an associate at Covington & Burling, and clerked for the DC Court of Appeals. Regulatory, and communications issues. In addition to his work at Business Forward, Jim serves as president of Portico Policy Advisors, a policy research firm.



Ari Q. Fitzgerald
Partner
Hogan Lovells
@HoganLovells @MMTCOnline
#AriFitzgerald

Ari Fitzgerald provides strategic, legal, and policy advice on a wide range of communications and spectrum policy issues to some of the world's largest and most dynamic communications network operators and equipment manufacturers, as well as a diverse assortment of industry trade associations and investors. Before joining Hogan & Hartson (now Hogan Lovells), he was a legal advisor to former FCC Chairman Bill Kennard, as well as deputy chief of the FCC's International Bureau. He also worked as a legal advisor in the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel, where he advised the White House, executive agencies, and the U.S. attorney general on constitutional and federal statutory interpretation matters. Ari started his legal career as a law clerk to the Honorable H. Lee Sarokin, U.S. district judge, and worked for several years after his judicial clerkship as legal counsel to former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley. Today, Ari serves on the board of directors of Crown Castle International, a large, publicly owned operator of towers and other communications infrastructure, and on the advisory board of several private technology companies and policy advocacy organizations. He also serves on the board of several nonprofit entities, including as vice president of the Yale Law School Alumni Executive Committee, secretary of the Multicultural Media and Telecommunications Council, president of the Duke Ellington Fund, and as an advisory board member of Catholic Charities Legal Network.

Speaker Biographies



John Gibson

**Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Director,
Diversity and Inclusion, MPAA**

@MPAA

Established in 2012, the MPAA's Inclusion and Multicultural Outreach program is lead by John Gibson, Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Director, Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives. John Gibson works to promote and highlight the association's diversity and inclusion initiatives in the film and television industry. In this role, Gibson also manages the MPAA's partnerships with national civil rights and multicultural groups as part of the association's outreach to leading third party organizations.

Since creating the MPAA's Diversity and Outreach Program, John has cultivated key partnerships with leading organizations such as the American Black Film Festival; Georgia Latino Film Festival, and the Latino Donor Collaborative, of whose advisory boards he serves on; the Washington Bureau of the National Urban League, serving on its Urban Solutions Council; Hispanic Heritage Foundation; National Association of Latino Independent Producers; and many other groups working tirelessly to promote gender equality and diversity in film and television. Through his active engagement, speaking with multicultural media outlets and addressing participants at national conferences throughout the country, John has helped bring increased awareness of the multicultural projects being pursued by both the MPAA and its member studios.



David Honig

**President Emeritus,
Multicultural Media**

Telecommunications & Internet Council

@DavidHonig2 @mmtconline

David Honig co-founded the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council (MMTC) in 1986. MMTC has represented over 70 minority, civil rights and religious national organizations in selected proceedings before the FCC, and it operates the nation's only full service, minority owned media and telecom brokerage. Mr. Honig is MMTC's President and Executive Director.

Since 1983, Mr. Honig has also been engaged in the private practice of communications and civil rights law, representing national organizations, broadcasters and broadcast applicants.

Mr. Honig is a member of the bars of the D.C. Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, the D.C. Circuit and Second Circuit of the U.S. Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He has litigated twenty federal appeals in four courts, and participated in over 90 FCC rulemaking proceedings and hundreds of adjudicatory cases.

Mr. Honig's current professional and public service work includes service as Special Counsel for Civil Rights for the Florida State Conference of Branches of the NAACP, and as founding General Counsel of the Broadband Opportunity Coalition, an association of the nation's leading civil rights organizations that promotes universal broadband adoption, literacy and minority business participation.

Speaker Biographies



Hon. Marie C. Johns
Former Deputy Administrator, U.S. Small
Business Administration;
Managing Member, Leftwich, LLC
@mariecjohns

The Honorable Marie C. Johns is the managing member of Leftwich, LLC. She has been a leader in business, civic and government service for more than 30 years.

Throughout her career, she has focused her community service in the areas of education and economic development. She has held senior positions in the telecommunications industry, including retiring as President of Verizon Washington. In that position, she was responsible for over 1800 employees and nearly 800,000 customers. Under her leadership, the company developed and implemented a regulatory plan that served as a model for the corporation. She is highly regarded for her corporate citizenship. One of her on-going efforts to leverage corporate resources for greater community good was the SEEDS program (Students Educated for Economic Development Success). It allowed drop outs to complete their high school requirements and receive technical training for jobs in the telecommunications industry. Over 200 students were employed as a result.



Ronald Johnson
Chair and Treasurer
MMTC Board of Directors
#RonaldJohnson @MMTCOnline

Ronald Johnson's company, Solutions4Change, has aligned millions of procurement dollars between the telecommunications industry, minority businesses, and HBCUs. As the Commissioner/Secretary of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, Johnson has assisted with the placement of billions of dollars in industrial revenue bonds. He has served as a Governor's appointee to the Southern Technology Council, as Rector of Virginia State University's Board of Visitors, and as Vice Chairman of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Johnson also serves on MMTC's Board of Directors as Treasurer.

Speaker Biographies



Kim M. Keenan

**Co-Chairwoman,
The Internet Innovation Alliance;
Senior EVP, Marketing & Research,
Odyssey Media
@iamkimkeenan @OdysseyMediaCo
@IABroadband**

Kim Keenan joined Odyssey Media as Executive Vice President of Marketing & Research and General Counsel in January 2018. She also serves as the first female Co-Chair of the Internet Innovation Alliance (IIA), a broad-based coalition of business and non-profit organizations working to ensure that every American has access to broadband Internet. The IIA seeks to promote public policies that support equal opportunity for universal broadband availability and adoption so that everyone, everywhere can seize the benefits of the Internet, from education to health care, employment to community building, civic engagement and beyond.

Previously, she served as the President and CEO of Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council. At MMTC, Keenan has been responsible for creating the Capital Pitch Competition to provide seed money to entrepreneurs interested in technology as well as a College Tech Prep Summit which provides college students with career preparation for digital and technical careers as well as an introduction to industry internships. Finally, she was instrumental in creating a partnership with the National Urban League and the Wireless Infrastructure Association to develop a telecommunications apprenticeship program for the Department of Labor.



Erwin Krasnow

**Of Counsel, Garvey Schubert Barer;
Vice Chair, MMTC Board of Directors
Chair, MMTC Mentoring Committee
@Ekrasnow @GSBLaw @MMTCOnline**

Erwin G. Krasnow has been described as a “dean of the Washington communications bar” by *Legal Times*, a “super lawyer of communications” by *American Film* magazine and the “guru of communications law” by the *Broadcast Cable Financial Journal*. Krasnow, a former General Counsel of the National Association of Broadcasters, serves as a Vice Chair of MMTC and as Washington Counsel to the Media Financial Management Association. He was the Founding Director and Vice Chair of Broadcast Capital, Inc., a minority broadcast investment company. Krasnow is Co-Chair of MMTC’s mentoring program and was inducted into MMTC’s Hall of Fame in 2004.

Speaker Biographies



Deborah Lathen
President,
Lathen Consulting;
Member, MMTTC Board of Directors
@DeborahLathen @MMTCTOnline

Deborah Lathen is an accomplished corporate attorney, business leader, and domestic and international policy advisor. She has enjoyed a distinguished career in both the private and public sectors. As Chief of the FCC's Cable Services Bureau, Lathen presided over significant proceedings in the communications industry, including the AOL/Time-Warner merger. She has held legal positions with national law firms including Foley and Lardner in Milwaukee, and Keck, Mahin and Cate in Chicago. She has also held senior management positions with Fortune 500 companies, including Quaker Oats Company, TRW Inc., and Nissan Motor Corporation USA.



Nicolaine Lazarre, Esq.
Senior Vice President and General Counsel,
National Urban League;
Member, MMTTC Board of Directors
@Nicolelazarre @NatUrbanLeague
@MMTCTOnline

Nicolaine M. Lazarre provides legal counsel and strategic guidance on the risk management, compliance, transactional, litigation and intellectual property activities of the National Urban League. As Senior Vice President, Special Projects, she plans and executes the implementation of special initiatives for the President's office. Ms. Lazarre has advised and represented companies on transactions, corporate structure and corporate governance since 1999. Prior to joining the National Urban League, she served as an associate in the structured finance groups of top tier international law firm Sidley Austin LLP and Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP. Ms. Lazarre received her Bachelor of Science in Political Science from the University of Houston and her Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center (1999).

Speaker Biographies



Gavin Logan, Esq.

**Director of Tech and Telecom Policy for the
National Urban League Washington Bureau
#GavinLoganEsq**

Gavin is the Director of Tech and Telecom Policy for the National Urban League Washington Bureau. Gavin's work focuses on issues ranging from diversity in the tech sector, data privacy and diversity in media and media ownership. Prior to joining the Washington Bureau, Gavin served as the Assistant General Counsel for the District of Columbia Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment. In Gavin's current role, he works with the Federal Communications Commission and members of the tech industry to insure that the Urban League, and those represented by the Urban League are given voice in telecom policy decisions that impact their ability to participate meaningfully in the economic and social impacts of technological advancements.



Gail MacKinnon

**Executive Vice President,
Government Affairs, MPAA
#GailMacKinnon @MPAA**

Gail MacKinnon joined the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) as Executive Vice President for Government Affairs in November 2017. A skilled senior executive with experience in public policy advocacy, issues management, and strategy development, Gail oversees the MPAA's government relations portfolio and policy agenda.

Previously, Gail served as Executive Vice President, Government Relations for Time Warner Cable, where she led all aspects of federal, state, and local government relations for the telecommunications company. She positioned the company as a trusted advisor to government leaders on a range of public policy issues; including video reform, cybersecurity, tax, and privacy.

Prior to her role at Time Warner Cable, Gail was Senior Vice President of Government Relations at the National Cable & Telecommunications Association. She has held senior positions at Viacom, CBS Inc., Telecommunications Inc., and Turner Broadcasting. She began her career on Capitol Hill, serving as Legislative Director for Congressman Jack Fields (R-TX).

Speaker Biographies



Rob McDowell advises telecommunications, media and technology clients on their most significant regulatory, legal and business matters. As a former commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and a highly regarded industry leader, Rob has been at the forefront of the most complex and groundbreaking issues facing telecommunications.

Rob was first appointed to the FCC by President George W. Bush in 2006 and again by President Obama in 2009. He was unanimously confirmed both times by the US Senate. During his tenure, Rob led efforts to expand consumer access to spectrum through his work on the two largest wireless auctions in US history at the time, played a key role in the 2009 digital television transition and led efforts to establish the first federal civil rights rule in a generation by creating a ban on racially discriminatory practices in broadcast advertising.

Honorable Robert M. McDowell

**Former Commissioner, FCC;
Partner, Cooley LLP
#HonRobertMcDowell**

While at the FCC, Rob also worked extensively on several large and complex mergers, including: Sirius/XM; Comcast/NBC-Universal; Verizon/AllTel; AT&T/Dobson; Sprint/Clearwire; Verizon/SpectrumCO and AT&T/T-Mobile. At Cooley, he represents clients on transformative deals before the FCC, Congress and other regulatory bodies, including advising T-Mobile in its merger with Sprint and Gray in its combination with Raycom.



Duane McKnight

**Member, Board of Directors;
The Marathon Foundation,
“DC Innovation and Inclusion Fund”
#DuaneMcKnight**

Mr. McKnight is a founding member of MFP, the general partner of the DC Inclusive Innovation Fund, LP (“DCIIF”), an early stage growth equity fund focused on tech-enabled companies headed by underrepresented entrepreneurs. He is also one of the Managing Members of Syncom Venture Management Company, LLC, (“SVMC”). SVMC is an early stage investment advisory firm that most recently managed a group of media related venture capital funds that were primarily focused on investing in underrepresented entrepreneurs. SVMC managed a total of four investment funds with assets exceeding \$450 million from 1990 - 2018. Mr. McKnight served in a variety of portfolio board positions and leadership roles over his tenure with the firm and its affiliates.

Mr. McKnight joined Syncom in 1985 as the senior analyst following a three-year stint managing a corporate SBIC fund owned by Sun Company and became a principal at SVMC and partner at Syncom in 1990.

Speaker Biographies



Rosa Mendoza
President and CEO,
ALLvanza
@ALLvanza

Rosa Mendoza Dávila is the Founder, President and CEO of ALLvanza and it is her vision, experience, both personally and professionally, and knowledge of underserved communities that gave birth to the organization and set the tone for the organization's critical mission of ensuring Latinxs and other underserved communities have an equal opportunity for success in our technology-driven world. Rosa's own experience as a first generation college student incited her passion and gives her the insight to advocate for this equal opportunity.

Prior to founding ALLvanza, Rosa served as the Executive Director of the Hispanic Technology and Telecommunications Partnership (HTTP) where she informed administration officials, congressional staff, state and local representatives and other stakeholders on how telecommunications and technology policy issues impacted the Latino community. She represented HTTP at meetings, conferences, conventions and industry gatherings. Rosa expertly analyzed telecommunications and technology policy to develop advocacy briefs that brought the needs of Latinos to the forefront.



Stacy Milner
Founder,
Entertainment Industry College
Outreach Program "HBCUs in LA"
@EICOP @WHI-HBCU

Stacy Milner is an entertainment industry veteran who has served as the assistant to the chairmen of NBC and Paramount Pictures. She is the Founder of Executive Temps, one of the premiere employment agencies exclusively serving the entertainment industry for more than 30 years. Milner and her elite team are responsible for recruiting the best and brightest talent to meet the unique needs of the agency's high profile clients of major picture studios and television networks.

Her latest venture, The Entertainment Industry College Outreach Program has joined forces with The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and some of Hollywood's major studios, networks, and talent agencies in launching EICOP's signature program, HBCUs in LA Internship Program.

Speaker Biographies



Chris Nurse

**AVP Legislative & External Affairs,
AT&T
@ATT**

Based in Washington, DC, he supports AT&T's network technology operations on network, regulatory, and legislative issues. He currently focus on state External Affairs support for: Small Cell Deployment thru state legislative and federal action to streamline small cell deployment nationwide and providing close operational support on municipal approvals; Cell siting and wireless technology investment on federal lands, particularly military bases; The Connect American Fund II initiative to expand Internet access to 1.1M rural locations thru Fixed Wireless deployment across 18 states; and Network Disaster Recovery operations, from Superstorm Sandy thru recent disaster events.



Francella Ochillo

**Vice President of Policy
& General Counsel,
National Hispanic Media Coalition
@FranOchillo**

Francella Ochillo is the Vice President of Policy & General Counsel for the National Hispanic Media Coalition. She advocates for policies that encourage open and affordable communications, innovation, competition, and diversity and oversees organizational responses to regulatory proposals that threaten to widen the digital divide. Aside from leading her organization's work on privacy and platform accountability, Francella drafts public filings, coordinates meetings with policy makers, and organizes Congressional briefings to educate stakeholders on the impact of proposals for Lifeline, net neutrality, media diversity, and data sharing regulations. Working in partnership with organizational allies, she brings voices from Latino communities nationwide into Washington, DC.

Speaker Biographies



Honorable Michael O’Rielly
Commissioner,
Federal Communications Commission
@ MikeOFCC @FCC #FCC

Michael O’Rielly was nominated to the FCC by President Obama on August 1, 2013, and sworn into office on November 4, 2013. Prior to joining the FCC, Commissioner O’Rielly served for three years in the Office of the Senate Republican Whip led by U.S. Senator John Cornyn, most recently as Policy Advisor. He previously served as a Policy Analyst for the Senate Republican Policy Committee, and as Legislative Director in the Office of Senator John Sununu. Prior to his tenure as a Senate staffer, Commissioner O’Rielly served for eight years as a staff member on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.



Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman,
Federal Communications Commission
@ AjitPaiFCC @FCC #FCC

Ajit Pai is the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. He was designated Chairman by President Donald J. Trump in January 2017. He had previously served as Commissioner at the FCC, appointed by then-President Barack Obama and confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate in May 2012.

Speaker Biographies



Stephanie Phillipps

Partner,

Arnold and Porter LLP

#StephaniePhillipps @ArnoldPorter

Stephanie Phillipps is experienced in telecommunications regulatory, transactional and litigation counseling, and represents clients in administrative proceedings and litigation on telecommunications issues. Her clients have included wireline, wireless, Internet, cable television, and media companies and related service providers, as well as state and local governments and nonprofit organizations. She has advised those clients on federal rules and new policy developments on issues such as video distribution and programming, Open Internet, market entry, cable franchising and renewal, mobile health, accessibility, privacy, and consumer protection. Ms. Phillipps is an experienced advocate before the Federal Communications Commission and other regulatory agencies and public bodies. She also advises national organizations on corporate governance and policy issues.



Honorable Michael K. Powell

President and CEO,

**NCTA - The Internet & Television
Association**

@chairmanpowell

Hon. Michael K. Powell, J.D. serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of National Cable & Telecommunications Association. Hon. Powell serves as an Advisor at LaunchBox Digital. Hon. Powell served as a Senior Adviser of Providence Equity Partners LLC. He joined Providence Equity in 2005. He advised Providence Equity on technology and regulatory issues in the media, communications and information industries; on selected new investment opportunities; and on some of Providence Equity's existing investments. Hon. Powell was an Associate in the Washington, D.C. office at O'Melveny & Myers, LLP, where he focused on litigation and regulatory matters involving telecommunications, antitrust and employment law. He was appointed to the FCC by President Clinton in 1997. He serves as the Chairman of the MK Powell Group. Hon. Powell served as the FCC's Defense Chairman and was responsible for overseeing all National Security Emergency Preparedness functions for the Commission. Hon. Powell served as the Chairman and Member at Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from January 22, 2001 to January 2005, under President Bill Clinton and George W. Bush and left the agency in March 2005.

Speaker Biographies



Honorable David Redl
Assistant Secretary for Communications
and Information and Administrator,
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration, U.S.
Department of Commerce
@david_redl @NTIAgov

David J. Redl was sworn in as Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information at the Department of Commerce in November 2017. He serves as Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the Executive Branch agency that is principally responsible for advising the President on telecommunications and information policy.

Redl is a lawyer and communications policy expert with more than a decade of experience in government and the private sector. He was previously the chief counsel at the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce. In that role, he served as principal legal advisor to the chairman and members of the Energy and Commerce majority on communications and technology matters. Prior to his time with the committee, Redl was director of regulatory affairs at CTIA, a trade association that represents the U.S. wireless communications industry



Timothy Robinson
Chief Counsel, House Committee on
Energy and Commerce
#TimothyRobinson

Throughout his professional career, Timothy Robinson has worked as both an attorney and a government policy advisor. Before becoming Senior Policy Counsel and Legislative Director for Congressman Bobby L. Rush (D-IL), Robinson served as Congressman Rush's Senior Counsel on the US House Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade & Consumer Protection. Before that, Robinson worked in private practice representing a number of information technology, financial, engineering services, and pharmaceuticals clients. From 2000-2002, Mr. Robinson served as General Counsel of the DC Public Service Commission. Before 2000, Robinson was both Legislative Counsel and Executive Director – Constituency Relations for SBC Communications and Ameritech. Mr. Robinson's first federal government position was as a Senior Attorney-Advisor for the National Telecommunications & Information Administration within the US Department of Commerce, where he worked on the 1996 Telecommunications Act, early development of US privacy policy in relation to e-commerce, analog broadcast transition to high definition television, and assisted in designing the nation's first commercial spectrum auctions. Robinson started his legal career as a communications associate in the Washington, DC office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom.

Speaker Biographies



Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner,
Federal Communications Commission
@JRosenworcel @FCC

Federal Communications Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel believes that the future belongs to the connected. She works to promote greater opportunity, accessibility, and affordability in our communications services in order to ensure that all Americans get a fair shot at 21st century success. She believes strong communications markets can foster economic growth and security, enhance digital age opportunity, and enrich our civic life.

From fighting to protect net neutrality to ensuring access to the internet for students caught in the Homework Gap, Jessica has been a consistent champion for connecting all. She is a leader in spectrum policy, developing new ways to support wireless services from Wi-Fi to video and the internet of things. She also is responsible for developing policies to help expand the reach of broadband to schools, libraries, hospitals, and households across the country. Named as one of POLITICO's 50 Politicos to Watch, Jessica brings over two decades of communications policy experience and public service to the FCC. Prior to joining the agency, she served as Senior Communications Counsel for the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, under the leadership of Senator John D. Rockefeller IV and Senator Daniel Inouye. Before entering public service, Jessica practiced communications law in Washington, DC.



Vernon Ross
Associate,
Arnold & Porter LLP
@ArnoldPorter

Vernon Ross counsels communications and technology clients on policy, regulatory, and competition issues. Mr. Ross' experience includes representing AT&T in various matters before federal government agencies. Mr. Ross graduated, cum laude, from Howard University School of Law. During law school, Mr. Ross interned in the Office of Chairman Tom Wheeler and the International Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission. Additionally, he was a law clerk at CTIA, a wireless trade association. Prior to law school, Mr. Ross worked at Verizon Wireless in various roles including as a Regulatory Engineer providing regulatory expertise for cellular site network maintenance and build-outs.

Speaker Biographies



Jay Schwarz
Vice President, Public Policy,
Comcast
@dctexag

Jay A. Schwarz is Vice President – Global Public Policy at Comcast Corporation. Prior to his current role, he held positions at the Federal Communications Commission in the Chairman’s Office, the Office of Strategic Planning, the Wireline Competition Bureau, and the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. He has co-authored peer reviewed telecommunications research and received the FCC’s 2014 Excellence in Economics award. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics and a B.S. and M.Eng. in Civil Engineering.



Debra Speed
Director, Strategic Alliances,
Verizon
#DebraSpeed @VerizonPolicy @Verizon

Debra Speed serves as Executive Director for Public Policy and Strategic Alliances for Verizon Communications. In this role, Ms. Speed manages a wide ranging portfolio of national public policy issues and develops strategic partnerships with key national third-party organizations.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Speed worked in Verizon Maryland where she handled external communications for a variety of telecom and broadband issues and was speech writer for the Verizon Maryland president.

Ms. Speed began with Verizon in Pennsylvania in the Executive Development Program and has held numerous positions in marketing, sales, and advertising, pricing, and government relations.

Speaker Biographies



Charlyn Stanberry
Chief of Staff, Office of Congresswoman
Yvette D. Clarke (NY-09)
@charlyn_esq

Charlyn Stanberry serves as Chief of Staff for Rep. Yvette D. Clarke (NY-09), the Vice Chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Previously, Charlyn served as the Legislative Director and Counsel where she managed Rep. Clarke's legislative portfolio and oversaw her committee work. Prior to working for Rep. Clarke, Charlyn served as Vice President of External Affairs for a consulting firm, Counsel for the Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) and Professional Staff for the Congressional Black Caucus in the 113th Congress.

A native of Jacksonville, FL, Charlyn earned her J.D. from Florida International University's College of Law and her B.S.B.A. and M.P.A. from the University of Central Florida. In her spare time she serves as the Junior League of Washington's Leadership Institute Chair, Co-Director for New Leaders Council DC and as an Adjunct Professor at the University of the District of Columbia.



Honorable Geoffrey Starks
Commissioner,
Federal Communications Commission
@GeoffreyStarks @FCC

Geoffrey Starks was nominated to serve as a Commissioner on the Federal Communications Commission by the President and was unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate on January 2, 2019. He was sworn into office on January 30, 2019.

Commissioner Starks has a long career of public and private sector experience. These experiences inform his commitment to working to ensure that no American is left behind in this era of transformative innovation. Most recently, Commissioner Starks served as Assistant Bureau Chief in the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, where he focused on protecting consumers, promoting network security, and preserving the integrity of the Commission's Universal Service Fund programs. Previously, he served as Senior Counsel in the Office of the Deputy Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice where he provided advice on domestic and international law enforcement issues, including civil, criminal, and national security matters. At DOJ, he received the Attorney General Award for Exceptional Service—the highest award a DOJ employee can receive. Prior to his entry into federal public service, Commissioner Starks was an attorney at the law firm Williams & Connolly, clerked for the Honorable Judge Duane Benton on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit, served as a legislative staffer in the Illinois State Senate, and worked as a financial analyst.

Speaker Biographies



Marie Sylla-Dixon

**Vice President, Legislative and External
Affairs, T-Mobile
@Mrsylladixon**

Seasoned and influential government relations executive with over 15 years of public policy and public affairs experience. Innovative thought leader with a proven track record for developing and executing high-impact strategic policy initiatives that bolster and advance a company's short-term and long-term performance goals. Expert in campaign management and coalition building, and battled-tested to drive successful policy outcomes that benefit businesses and their customers alike. Extensive knowledge of federal, state, and local government regulatory process and procedures. Pioneering presence and genuinely dynamic communicator, reputable for driving cohesive, cross-functional collaboration both internally and externally with stakeholders. Effective storyteller with a passion for leveraging community partnerships to drive advocacy and social impact. Strong ability to manage, inspire and leverage teams for success. Trusted and reliable leader with ability to handle change and crisis management with emotional intelligence.



S. Jenell Trigg, CIPP/US

**Partner and Chair, Privacy and Data
Security Practice, Lerman Senter;
Member, MMTC Board of Advisors
#SJenellTrigg @LermanSenter
@MMTOnline**

A former broadcast television sales and marketing executive spanning a sixteen-year advertising career in the Chicago and Baltimore markets, S. Jenell Trigg is a Member of Lerman Senter PLLC and is the Chair of the firm's Intellectual Property and New Technology Practice Group. In addition to her varied practice in the broadcast, wireless, cable, and telecommunications industries, Ms. Trigg specializes in privacy and data security issues, as well as intellectual property concerns, and government regulation of the Internet and new technologies. She is accredited as a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP) through the International Association of Privacy Professionals. Ms. Trigg is also a recognized authority on small and minority telecommunications business issues from an industry, regulatory, and legislative perspective, and works with the FCC's Federal Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age as a subject matter expert and a member of the Funding Acquisition Taskforce. She has also been involved in the enactment and implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, including its stimulus funds for broadband, and the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) development of the National Broadband Plan as a consultant to governmental, industry, and public interest organizations, and as a panelist and/or consultant for various FCC workshops.

Speaker Biographies



Rikin Thakker, Ph.D.
**Vice President of Telecommunications
and Spectrum Policy,
Multicultural Media Telecommunications
& Internet Council**
@ RikinThakker @MMTCOnline

Dr. Rikin Thakker is the Vice President of Telecommunications and Spectrum Policy at Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC). He evaluates MMTC's policy positions and the impact of telecom policy on minorities and women. Prior to MMTC, Dr. Thakker was Research Professor at University of Maryland (UMD), where he led a cross-disciplinary research project which was funded by the NSF (National Science Foundation) under EARS (Enhancing Access to the Radio Spectrum) program. He evaluated impacts of cellular infrastructure and unlicensed spectrum on the utilization of licensed spectrum for mobile broadband. His research findings and simulation model have been well received by the FCC and the NTIA. Dr. Thakker is also one of the co-founders of RF Academics - an initiative started by a group of elite professors to cater to industry's need of quality education and consulting services at corporate speed. He has over 15 years of experience in the field of cellular and wireless communications. He has helped design, deploy and maintain cell sites with 3G and 4G technologies for major cellular operators in the United States. He also advises operators, regulators, OEMs, and vendors around the world on 5G strategies.



Honorable Deborah Taylor Tate
Former Commissioner, FCC;
**Executive Director, Tennessee Supreme
Court Office of the Courts;**
Vice Chair, MMTC Board of Directors
@momatate

As an FCC Commissioner from 2006 to 2009, Deborah Taylor Tate was a policy leader in international media, telecommunications, and broadband policy. Tate was a co-recipient of the 2009 World Telecommunications and Information Society Day Laureate award for her international work regarding the education and protection of children online. She is currently serving on the National Aspen Institute Task Force on Learning and the Internet, and is serving as a senior adjunct scholar at the Free State Foundation. In January 2015, Tate was named Director of the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts. Tate has been a Vice Chair of MMTC since 2009.

Speaker Biographies



Nicol Turner-Lee, Ph.D
Fellow, Center for Technology Innovation,
The Brookings Institute
@drturnerlee

Dr. Nicol Turner Lee is a fellow in the program's Center for Technology Innovation and a contributor to TechTank. She comes to Brookings from the Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC), a national non-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving equal opportunity and civil rights in the mass media, telecommunications, and broadband industries, where she served as vice president and chief research and policy officer. In this role, she led the design and implementation of their research, policy, and advocacy agendas. Her most recent White Papers at MMTC included, "A Lifeline to High-Speed Internet Access: An Economic Analysis of Administrative Costs and the Impact on Consumers" (March 2016), "Guarding Against Data Discrimination in the Internet of Everything" (September 2015), "Refocusing Broadband Policy: The New Opportunity Agenda for People of Color" (November 2013).



Brent A. Wilkes
Senior Vice President for Institutional
Development, Hispanic Federation;
Member, MMTC Board of Directors
@BrentWilkes @MMTCOnline

Brent A. Wilkes is the President and Founder of Wilkes Strategies a public strategy firm focused on helping good causes create change for a better world. His clients include ZVRS Purple which provides innovative solutions to help Deaf individuals communicate; Vme TV, a premiere Latino network that provides entertaining, educational and aspiring content; and the LULAC National Educational Service Centers, a non-profit organization that provides educational and leadership programs designed to help Latinos graduate from high school and get into college.

Wilkes's 30 years of experience in public policy, program development, non-profit management, and diversity and inclusion makes him one of the country's foremost experts in developing innovative strategies for companies and organizations seeking to make America stronger by creating new opportunities for all of her people.