reflect. connect. rejuvenate.

the deeply personal, even spiritual, part of public work.
welcomes to the 12th annual Harwood Summit. We come together during highly troubling and confusing times. Our political discourse is more polarized today than even a year ago. Grievances abound. Many people feel at loose ends and are losing hope. Americans wonder: Can we move forward, together?

This year’s Summit is being held at Lincoln’s Cottage. It’s the first time the Summit is being held in the same place in back-to-back years. Gathering here, we are reminded of what it means to live in divided times, to confront the stains on our history, and to renew our commitment to basic ideals.

The nation is at a critical inflection point. And all inflection points present a choice. Today, will we choose to succumb to despair and frustration, or will we fight to find a more hopeful path forward?

The Summit is a safe space for us to have an in-depth, serious and provocative conversation about what it will take for us to move forward, together.

As always, a main thread in all our conversations is how each of us brings ourselves into the world to engage others and make a difference. What is our orientation and purpose? What choices do we make? Who do we—as individuals and collectively—seek to become?

There are no speeches, presentations or PowerPoints at this event—the Summit is a carefully crafted, rolling conversation intended for you to think hard about current topics, wrestle with implications for your professional and personal life, and authentically engage with a diverse group of people. Our hope is that you’ll rejuvenate and return home with a renewed sense of possibility and hope. We’ll do this through:

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS
You will find a description of the small group discussion topics on Page 6. So that you can participate in more than one of these topics, each session will be held twice. Then, on Saturday morning, our small group discussions will focus on President Lincoln’s words on Page 10.

COMMON SESSIONS
At different points in the Summit, we’ll come together as a large group to discuss key issues and questions. Some topics will emerge from our conversations. Others will be introduced, such as in our opening session on Thursday evening and then again on Friday afternoon.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS
At each meal, a different group of Summit participants has been asked to offer one or two minutes of personal reflections (the topics are listed in the agenda under “Personal Reflections”). In years past, these comments have run the gamut from serious to funny, deeply moving to satirical—but in all cases, they always add to the depth and spirit of our time together.

We have a wonderful group of people coming to the Summit this year. Some of you are new to the Summit, while others are returning once more. As with previous Summits, we have limited the number of participants to ensure that a good and robust conversation takes place and that each of you has the opportunity to get to know one another.

I’m delighted that you are joining us.
**Agenda**

**Friday, October 12**

- 7:30: Bus Departs
- 8:00-9:00: Breakfast and Reflections
- 9:00-10:00: Small Group Discussions
- 10:00-10:15: Break
- 10:15-11:15: Small Group Discussions
- 11:15-12:00: Common Session
- 12:00-1:00: Lunch
- Personal Reflections: “To be whole means...”

- 1:00-3:00: Special Common Session: Restoring Our Civic Faith
  - Reflections from Rich Harwood
- 3:00-6:30: Free Time
- 6:30-9:00: Cocktails/Dinner
- Personal Reflections: “My most important memory is...”

**Thursday, October 11**

- 3:30: Bus Departs
- 4:00-5:45: Pre-Summit Session: The Harwood Approach
- 6:00-7:00: Reception
- 7:00-9:00: Dinner
- Personal Reflections: “We are here because...”
- Discussion: Hope

**Saturday, October 13**

- 7:30: Bus Departs
- 8:00-9:00: Breakfast and Reflections
- 9:00-10:15: With Malice Toward None?
- 10:15-10:45: Personal Covenant
- 10:45-11:30: On Our Way Home
- Personal Reflections: “I’m going home thinking...”
- 11:30-12:30: Time with Colleagues & Boxed Lunch

**Ground Rules**

To have a productive conversation we need a few ground rules for our conversations.

Have a “kitchen table” conversation. Everyone participates; no one dominates.

There are no “right” answers. Draw on your own experiences, views and beliefs. You do not need to be an expert.

Keep an open mind. Listen carefully and try hard to understand the views of those who disagree with you.

Focus on constructive ideas and solutions, not on complaining or placing blame on others.

Help keep the discussions on track. Stick to the issue at hand; try not to ramble.

It is okay to disagree, but don’t be disagreeable. Respond to others how you would like them to respond to you.

Have fun!
PLAUSIBLE COUNTER-NARRATIVE
For many people, the dominant narrative of the country is that we are helplessly polarized and heading in the wrong direction. But is there a plausible counter-narrative? One grounded in authentic hope and imagination—a projection of what is truly possible. Given what’s happening today—the good, the bad and the ugly—what do you think is a plausible counter-narrative for the nation?

INNATE CAPACITIES
It is often said that people have innate capacities to shape their own lives and our shared lives. Is this still something we believe? Is it truly embedded in how we do our work? What orientation would we need in order to bring this idea to life? In a world where we categorize and label people so quickly—where we make knee-jerk assumptions about others—how would we need to see and hear people?

WHERE DO I MAKE A DENT?
The challenges today can seem big and overwhelming. At times, it’s hard to imagine where any of us can really make a difference that matters. Do you sometimes feel this way? Do you wonder what your own small steps can amount to? Given where we each sit, how can we make a dent in the world and feel like we’re making a real contribution?

LOCALISM
The idea of “localism” is on the rise. New articles and books tout the importance of innovating and taking action in local communities and then spreading change from there. To what extent do you share this view? And will such action be enough to help put the nation on a more positive, hopeful trajectory? If not, what’s missing?

STAINS ON OUR CIVIC FABRIC
The ideals of the promise of America have always been tainted by the existence of stains on our history and civic fabric. These stains have taken different forms, and in different ways often persist. What does it mean to productively deal with such stains today? What would it take—not only collectively, but from each of us? What kind of courage and humility are called for?

BEYOND THE FIGHT
Everyone, and every group, seems to be fighting today. Grievances and heated arguments abound. Organizing to win is part of the American tradition. But where do bonds of mutual affection find their place in this environment? Amid all the fighting, arguing and noise, just what does it mean to awaken our human spirit?
WHAT’S NEAR YOUR HOTEL
The historic Washington Hilton is located in the Dupont Circle neighborhood in Washington, D.C.

“Dupont Circle offers a little something for everyone. With a famous traffic circle and fountain at its center, the neighborhood has been a vital DC community since the late 19th century, and continues to be a hot spot for residents and visitors of all ages. An array of unique shops and exciting restaurants along Connecticut Avenue, one of the busy streets in the neighborhood, is exciting enough to keep you going all day. You’ll also discover dozens of bistro, bars, boutiques and museums throughout this exciting neighborhood.” (Source: https://washington.org/visit-dc/things-see-and-do.dupont-circle)

DC TRANSPORTATION
There are many ways to get around Washington, D.C. One of the most popular ways to explore is via public transportation. This includes the Metro system and public buses. You can find out more information about how these systems work by visiting www.wmata.com.

Another way to get around D.C. is via taxi or a car sharing service. All taxis in D.C. have been required to be painted red and silver, and accept Credit Card. Taxis based in Maryland and Virginia do not follow these requirements. There are many car sharing services that exist in D.C. These include: Uber, Lyft, and Via. You can utilize these services by downloading their respective Apps and setting up a profile. (Uber will be utilized as a means of official transportation for Summit, so please make sure to set up an account with them). Frequently, car sharing services have proven less expensive than taxis.

Bike sharing is also a popular way to get around. You can utilize bike sharing around D.C. via Capital Bikeshare.

MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS
The many monuments and memorials throughout the city are a main attraction of the Nation’s Capital. Many of these attractions are based around the National Mall. The Mall is easily accessible via the Metro. The monuments are spread apart, so if you are planning on walking to each of them be sure to wear comfortable shoes. An insider’s note: The Capitol is further away from the main area of the Mall than it seems. A fun way to experience the monuments is by night. They tend to be much less crowded and the excellent lighting provides a different perspective than during the daytime.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
One of the greatest benefits in the Washington, D.C. area is Smithsonian Institution. The Smithsonian Institution is the world’s largest museum, education, and research complex. It offers eleven museums and galleries on the National Mall, in addition to six other museums and the National Zoo in the greater National Capital Area. Entry to all Smithsonian-affiliated museums are free of charge to the public.

Note: The very popular African American Museum still requires timed passes for entry. Please visit www.si.edu/museums for more information regarding entry.
Abraham Lincoln’s second inaugural address, presented on March 4, 1865, could have been written today. Speaking solemnly to a nation ravaged by civil war, he said:

“With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation’s wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.”

On Saturday morning, we will come together to talk about President Lincoln’s word and their meaning for each of us in our own work and lives. We’ll focus on these three lines and the questions they raise:

“With malice toward none, with charity for all…”
Real differences exist in our country. Today, what does it mean—and what will it take—for you to truly see and hear others, especially those who are different from ourselves?

“...let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation’s wounds...”
How would you describe the unfinished work that you can contribute to? And how will it help to bind up our nation’s wounds?

“...to do all that may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace...”
In a noisy and combative time, what is the nature of a just and lasting peace that we can, or should, strive for? What does it require of you personally?
The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation equips people, organizations, communities and networks with the tools to bridge divides, build capacity, and tackle shared challenges. Our practice of Turning Outward is rooted in an orientation—a mindset, a stance—of using the community as your reference point for creating change, and not your conference room. Turning Outward provides the frameworks and tools to make more intentional choices and judgments to produce greater impact and relevance in your community.

This year, we’re commemorating 30 years of the Harwood Institute. The past 30 years of our history is proof that we can get things done together. We know what it takes, in practical ways, to create a more hopeful society and turn communities into a collective force for change.

We envision a world where community is a common and enduring enterprise – where everyone can come together amid their differences to tackle shared challenges.

Mobilize & Inspire your Community - Build local capacity for change
If you want to inspire and mobilize people in your community or group to take a new perspective on how we can get things done together, then consider bringing Rich Harwood to speak and meet with your key stakeholders. Rich’s experience working on the ground to build capacity and coalitions for change gives him a unique, powerful insight on bridging divides.

Access Training & Coaching - Turn Outward to accelerate your impact
Our training and coaching, distilled from 30 years of work, will allow you to build stronger relationships with your community and create relevant strategies that deliver impact. Through our training and coaching, you will learn the mindset, behaviors and practical skills to Turn Outward and apply them to your own context.

Join Provocative Conversations - Challenge conventional wisdom on critical issues
The Annual Harwood Summit is an opportunity for leaders to work through critical issues that sit at the intersection of their professional and personal lives. In 2019, we will be convening a Faith Leaders Summit, where leaders from across all faiths and denominations can bring their insights, wisdom and credibility to explore how to re-invigorate civic faith in our country and take action in their local communities and nationwide.

Create Customized Solutions - Innovate on the toughest challenges facing communities
Each year, Rich Harwood chooses a few, select efforts to lead personally. These projects allow the Institute to be on the front lines of innovation and help solve some of the most challenging issues for organizations and communities. For example, Rich is currently developing a roadmap for the United Way of Greater Toronto for how to scale their work regionally while remaining fiercely local.

Rich Harwood Speaking Tour - Finding Dignity, Hope and Community in America Today
People are looking for a trusted voice who can provide a clear path for how to channel their frustrations, energies and aspirations to get on a more hopeful trajectory. Rich Harwood is launching a multi-city tour to speak about how we can get on that more hopeful path. We invite you to host a tour stop and bring this important message to your community.

If you would like more info, please visit: www.theharwoodinstitute.org

Work With Us: