reflect. connect. rejuvenate.
Welcome to the 13th annual Harwood Summit. We’ve gathered together to address a critically important question: How do we bring people together when our society is breaking apart?

This is the central question of my new book, Stepping Forward: A Positive Practical Path to Transform Our Communities and Our Lives. I wrote it because as I travel the country, people keep telling me that they’re frustrated by the divisions, broken promises, and lack of progress on challenges that really matter to them. They believe we can do better, be better. The book sounds a call that we don’t need to accept what’s happening in the country, and that there is a more positive, practical way forward.

This year’s Summit will be diving into discussions that will help us navigate this new path. I can’t think of a better location for this Summit than the National Constitution Center. Here, we’re reminded of the principles and ideas that shaped our nation. We’re reminded of who we are, as Americans, the progress we’ve made, and the challenges that remain to create a more perfect union.

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. 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 words from our U.S. Constitution; you can find these 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 have 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.

Richard C. Harwood
President & Founder
The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation
Agenda

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

4:00-5:45  | Pre-Summit Session: The Harwood Approach  | Freedom Classroom
6:00-7:00  | Reception                        | John C. Bogel Chairman’s Room
7:00-9:00  | Dinner                           | John C. Bogel Chairman’s Room

Personal Reflections: "We are here today because...
Discussion: Awaken

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

8:00-9:00  | Breakfast and Reflections         | John C. Bogel Chairman’s Room
9:00-10:00 | Small Group Discussions           | Private Dining Room, Freedom Classroom, John C. Bogel Chairman’s Room, Terrace, and Grounds
10:00-10:30| Break                                | John C. Bogel Chairman’s Room
10:30-11:30| Small Group Discussions           | Private Dining Room, Freedom Classroom, John C. Bogel Chairman’s Room, Terrace, and Grounds
11:30-12:30| Common Session                      | John C. Bogel Chairman’s Room
12:30-1:30 | Lunch                               | John C. Bogel Chairman’s Room

Personal Reflections: “To be whole means...”

1:30-3:30  | Special Common Session: Stepping Forward Reflections from Rich Harwood | John C. Bogel Chairman’s Room
3:30-4:30  | Private Tour of the National Constitution Center | Delegate’s Cafe
4:00-6:30  | Free Time                           |
6:30-9:00  | Dinner                               |

Personal Reflections: “My most important memory is...”

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

8:00-9:00  | Breakfast and Reflections Location: Delegate’s Cafe | We the People
9:00-10:15 | Personal Covenant                      | On Our Way Home
10:15-10:45| Personal Reflections: "I'm going home thinking...” |
10:45-11:30| 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!
Our Can-Do Spirit
Throughout our country, people say that we’ve lost our can-do spirit. We’re divided, angry, even polarized. Our can-do spirit is more than a campaign promise, advertising slogan or program. It’s something that emerges from people across the country. What will it take to re-invigorate our can-do spirit? What can you do in the communities and places where you work?

Here I Am
In our daily work and lives, we each face challenges, some of which strike fear and doubt in us. We believe someone else is more equipped, prepared or articulate to do what needs to be said and done. We fear the unknown, at times the other. What do you need to do to step forward and say, “Here I am”—to be fully present, awake, visible to tackle the challenges before you?

False Hope Versus Authentic Hope
So much of what people hear nowadays is false hope—broken promises, dashed expectations, initiatives that go nowhere. Why do we keep pursuing false hope—and how does it sneak into even our own efforts? What is authentic hope to you, and what would it take to create it?

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 many 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?

Civic Memory
People can feel that they do not have the innate capacities to come together and solve shared problems—as citizens and in their work. We need to wait for some elected official, or believe we must hold certain recognized expertise. And yet lodged within our own memories are times and places where you and others have come together to make a difference. What are your strongest memories of this? And what would it take to tap into our collective memories?

Human Dignity
Our public language can veer into naming opponents as our enemy, demonizing others and looking at people as “the other.” When this happens people’s sense of dignity can be stripped away. In a nation where so many of us want to “win,” where we feel under pressure to defend ourselves, and where we can quickly divide up into political teams, what does it mean to afford each and every person human dignity? And what does this require of you, especially when you are confronted by perspectives you do not agree with, that may even offend you?

Small Group Discussions
“How do we make community a common enterprise again?”

““ How do we make community a common enterprise again?”
WHAT'S NEAR YOUR HOTEL

The following information was provided by the National Constitution Center and can be found at https://constitutioncenter.org/visit/visit-philly.

As the birthplace of American freedom, Philadelphia offers an inspiring journey through history that no other city can offer: Learn about independence at Independence Hall, salute liberty at the Liberty Bell, celebrate freedom at the National Constitution Center, and enjoy a variety of other must-see attractions.

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

The National Constitution Center is an interactive museum, national town hall, and civic education headquarters located steps from Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell in Historic Philadelphia. Step inside and be inspired by must-see exhibitions, live performances, rare artifacts, and hands-on activities that bring the Constitution to life for all ages.

INDEPENDENCE HALL

Originally known as the Pennsylvania State House, Independence Hall has hosted many historic milestones: George Washington was appointed commander in chief of the Continental Army here in 1775, the Declaration of Independence was adopted here on July 4, 1776, the design of the American flag was agreed upon here in 1777, the Articles of Confederation were adopted here in 1781, and the U.S. Constitution was drafted and signed here in 1787.

LIBERTY BELL

As the official bell of the Pennsylvania State House (today called Independence Hall), the Liberty Bell rang many times for public announcements before it cracked in the 1800s. The old State House bell was first called the “Liberty Bell” by abolitionists, who adopted it as a symbol of their cause. Inscribed with the words “Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof,” the bell serves as an icon of freedom.

INDEPENDENCE VISITOR CENTER

Independence Visitor Center helps you make the most of your visit to Philadelphia and The Countryside. Here you’ll find maps, brochures and tickets to over 50 tours and attractions. Make it your first stop for the Philadelphia region’s best event, touring, and lodging information.

MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The Museum of the American Revolution brings to life the events, people, and ideals of our nation’s founding and engages people in the history and continuing relevance of the American Revolution. Located just steps away from Independence Hall, Carpenters’ Hall, and Franklin Court, the Museum serves as a portal to the region’s many Revolutionary sites, sparking interest, providing context, and encouraging exploration. The Museum has teamed up with the National Constitution Center to offer visitors a joint ticket that includes admission to both institutions for a discounted price. Joint tickets are now available online, or in person at both museums.
We the People

The U.S. Constitution was ratified on June 17, 1787. Its words are routinely cited to make arguments about the nature of our nation. The preamble reads:

“We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

On Saturday morning, we will come together to talk about some of the key words and phrases contained in the preamble and their meaning for each of us in our own work. We’ll focus on these words and the questions they raise for us:

“We the people…”
What does “We the People” mean to you, and what do you personally struggle with in living up to this ideal?

“…of the United States…”
In a nation where people are often divided, even polarized, what does it mean to you to work to be “united” in these times?

“…in order to form a more perfect union…”
In a world of imperfection, what can you do to help create a more perfect union?
Work With Us:

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 2020s, 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.

Stepping Forward Campaign - A book tour asks you to listen. We’re asking you to step forward.
The Stepping Forward Campaign is a national call to action. Rich Harwood is embarking on a two-year campaign to speak about how we can put our communities and our country on a more hopeful path. This campaign can help you take a leading role in improving people’s lives, mobilize community leaders to take action, and build momentum towards positive, lasting change. The Stepping Forward Campaign launches on October 1, 2019. Be one of the first to host a campaign event and bring this important message to your community.

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