TOMORROW’S TALENT
4th Annual Workforce & Education Summit
8:30 AM  Registration and Breakfast Open  View Pointe Hall - 6th Floor

9:00 AM  Introduction and Welcome  View Pointe Hall - 6th Floor

Emcee **Renee Murphy**, Chief of Communications & Community Relations, JCPS
**Paul Costel**, Regional Manager, JPMorgan Chase
**Greg Fischer**, Mayor of Louisville
**Tracy Roberts**, Vice President of Human Resources, UPS

9:30 AM  Keynote Address  View Pointe Hall - 6th Floor

**Dr. Neeli Bendapudi**, President, University of Louisville

*The role of UofL as the city’s anchor institution of higher learning in preparing the Louisville region for the future of work*

10:15 AM  Morning Coffee Break

10:30 AM  Workforce & Education Update  View Pointe Hall - 6th Floor

**Alex Derkson**, Vice President of Global Philanthropy, JPMorgan Chase
**Kent Oyler**, Executive Director, Greater Louisville Inc.
**Michael Gritton**, Executive Director, KentuckianaWorks
**Mary Gwen Wheeler**, Executive Director, 55,000 Degrees
**Marland Cole**, Executive Director, Louisville Promise

11:30 AM  Concurrent Breakout #1  Auditorium - 2nd Floor

**Today’s Efforts Toward an Inclusive Workforce**

**Lauren Larin, PhD**, Director of Product Development, The Last Mile

*The impact of teaching software engineering to incarcerated individuals*

**Rashaad Abdur-Rahman**, Director, Office for Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods

*Violence prevention strategies and removing barriers to success*
11:30 AM  Concurrent Breakout #2  View Pointe Hall - 6th Floor

Preparing the Youth of Today for Tomorrow

Tia McLaurin Bethea, Community Engagement Manager, Google
How Google is fostering digital literacy among youth

Christy Rogers, Assistant Superintendent for Transition Readiness, JCPS
How JCPS is bringing tech skills into the classroom

Paul Diaz, Partner, Cressey & Company and Chair, SummerWorks Advisory Board
The importance of youth employment

12:10 PM  Networking Lunch  View Pointe Hall - 6th Floor

12:40 PM  Keynote Address  View Pointe Hall - 6th Floor

Heather Carroll Cox, Chief Digital Health and Analytics Officer, Humana
Humana’s investment in digital health and the importance of growing tech talent in the local workforce

1:30 PM  Lightning Talks  View Pointe Hall - 6th Floor

Dustin Doom, Junior Developer, El Toro
The journey through Code Louisville and into a tech job

Anjali Chadha, Founder, Empowered, Inc.
Teaching tech skills to young women of color

Emir Dizdarevic, Math and Computer Science teacher, North Bullitt High School
Bringing STEM curriculum to high schoolers

Nikki Thornton, Director of Program Operations, True Up
Helping youth transition from foster care to self-sufficiency

2:00 PM  Closing Remarks  View Pointe Hall - 6th Floor

Greg Fischer, Mayor of Louisville

All attendees are welcome to visit the exhibit floors following the conclusion of the Summit.
THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS FOR MAKING THIS EVENT POSSIBLE.
Renee Murphy moved to Louisville in 2003 to work for WHAS11 News as the weekend evening anchor and weekday reporter. In her 15 years at the station she worked every shift. From the 2 a.m. wakeup call to getting off work at midnight, she told the stories as they happened for Kentuckiana. Her time at the legacy station led her to stories she never thought would be possible and learn from some of the best in journalism.

During her time at WHAS11 she covered the United States Supreme Court decision about Jefferson County Public School’s Student Assignment Plan, uncovered corruption in government offices, and worked to bring awareness and change perceptions about Louisville’s West End with the award winning series the “9th Street Divide.”

Renee won awards for her work, but the best reward of all was telling people’s stories and sharing information that could help people see the world around them a little bit differently. In her current role as Chief of Communications and Community Relations, she is glad to be able to share the stories of Jefferson County Public Schools and the students making a difference. This is a personal calling for her and she is thrilled to be a part of an organization committed to the community.
Mary Gwen Wheeler is an education policy strategist and leader of organizations and initiatives that strengthen communities through educational opportunities. She currently serves as the Executive Director of 55,000 Degrees, a multi-sector public-private partnership dedicated to increasing educational attainment in the Louisville region. Previously, she served as the Mayor’s Sr. Advisor for Education and Youth for Louisville Metro Government, leading policy development and implementation of education and youth initiatives. In Jerry Abramson’s first term as Metro Mayor, she served as Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Ms. Wheeler was appointed by Governor Steve Beshear to the Kentucky Board of Education in June, 2010, and in 2017 she was elected by her peers to be Chair of the Board.

With a B.A. in American Studies and a Masters in Public and Private Management from Yale University, Ms. Wheeler also has experience in family literacy, job training, non-profit management, strategic planning, teaching and international development. This included 10 years with the National Center for Family Literacy as a project manager and vice president of planning and development, and today she serves as a director on the NCFL board.

Kent Oyler joined Greater Louisville Inc. in June 2014. He leads GLI, the metro chamber of commerce, in accelerating the regional economy; championing the entrepreneurial and start-up community; attracting, retaining and preparing a skilled and talented workforce; and driving policy efforts aimed at creating a more business-friendly environment. Prior to GLI he served as CEO of OPM Services, Inc., a financial-services and investment firm he founded in 1992. After earning business and MBA degrees, Kent embarked on career as a serial entrepreneur, launching 19 new ventures across a variety of industries. In 1997 he co-founded broadband internet provider High Speed Access Corp. which went public in a 1999 IPO that still ranks as Kentucky’s largest.

Kent has also served on the board of Leadership Louisville, Junior Achievement, Kentucky Science Center, Metro YMCA, University of Louisville, Venture Connectors, Tocqueville Society, KentuckianaWorks, Downtown Development Corp., and the Metro Police Foundation, among others. Kent has been recognized as Cashflow Magazine’s Treasurer of the Year, E&Y Master Entrepreneur, Kentucky Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame, and Business First’s Small Business Leader of the Year. He resides in Louisville with his wife Kathy and has adult daughters.
Michael Gritton has served as the Executive Director of KentuckianaWorks, the region’s Workforce Development Board, for 16 years. Leveraging federal, state and local government dollars as well as private philanthropic grants, KentuckianaWorks funds and oversees programs that build a stronger community one person at a time through the dignity of work.

Gritton’s tenure has been marked by innovations that create opportunities for individuals to improve their economic competitiveness. These include: SummerWorks, a national award-winning summer jobs effort that helped over 6,200 16-21 year olds in Louisville in 2018; a cutting-edge effort to train and place hundreds of new software coders called Code Louisville that was celebrated in April 2015 in a visit from President Barack Obama; and the national award-winning Kentucky Manufacturing Career Center that has trained and placed more than 1,400 new manufacturing workers.

Gritton is a Louisville native who spent 20 years living in New York, Boston, and elsewhere before returning home in 2000. He is a graduate of Pleasure Ridge Park High School, Duke University and Columbia Law School.

Ben Reno-Weber, Project Director for the Greater Louisville Project, is a social entrepreneur and self-proclaimed data nerd whose career has been dedicated to creating opportunities for all people to reach their full potential.

Ben has worked for the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the Boston Consulting Group, and the YMCA. He is the co-founder of MobileServe, a tech start-up focused on increasing volunteerism and community engagement.

A significant part of his work has been focused on creating economic and civic opportunities for traditionally marginalized people and groups. His passion is for creating data-driven and human-centric organizations, which include businesses, non-profits, and public-private partnerships.

Ben has a degree in international affairs from the George Washington University, an MBA from Harvard Business School, and an MPA from the Harvard Kennedy School. In his free time, he is a competitive eater, currently holding world records in both speed and volume of watermelon consumption (pre-sliced division).
Dr. Neeli Bendapudi is the 18th President of the University of Louisville. She received her Ph.D. in Marketing from the University of Kansas and has taught at The Ohio State University and Texas A&M University. She most recently served as Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor at the University of Kansas, where she had previously been Dean and H.D. Price Professor of Business at the KU School of Business. Professor Bendapudi specializes in the study of consumer behavior in service contexts. Her research deals with customers’ willingness and ability to maintain long-term relationships with firms and with the brands and employees that represent them.

Dr. Bendapudi’s research has been published in the Journal of Academic Medicine, Harvard Business Review, Journal of Marketing, Journal of Marketing Research, Journal of Retailing, Journal of Service Research and in the proceedings of various national and international conferences. Her research has been featured by popular media outlets including the New York Times, CNBC, CNN, MSNBC, WebMD and Fox News Network. She has served on the editorial board of the Journal of Marketing. Additionally, she has taught at the undergraduate, MBA, Executive MBA and Ph.D. levels, and has received numerous college, university and national teaching awards.

President Bendapudi sits on the Board of Directors of publicly-held Lancaster Colony Corporation and has sat on several non-profit organization boards, including MRIGlobal, an independent, not-for-profit research institute. President Bendapudi is a former Leadership Foundation Fellow of the International Women’s Forum, one of a select group of women selected worldwide for this prestigious honor.

Her vision is to ensure that the University of Louisville is a great place to learn, a great place to work, and a great place to invest, because it celebrates diversity, fosters equity, and strives to achieve inclusion.
Heather Carroll Cox is the Chief Digital Health and Analytics Officer for Humana. In this role, Heather is accountable for building Humana’s digital care delivery operations and leading enterprise analytics. Integrating these critical capabilities across the organization will further accelerate Humana’s move toward differentiated experiences for its health plan members at the intersection of healthcare and lifestyle, tailored especially to the needs of seniors.

Prior to joining Humana, Heather served as Chief Technology and Digital Officer at USAA, where she led the teams responsible for designing and building personalized and digitally enabled end to end experiences for USAA members. Heather has also served as CEO of Citi FinTech at Citigroup, helping the company adapt to a future dominated by mobile technology. Before that, she headed Card Operations for Capital One, reshaping customer and digital experience for Capital One cardholders.

Heather was named by American Banker magazine as the #3 Woman to Watch nationally in banking by American Banker Magazine in October 2017. She was also named to American Banker’s Women to Watch list in 2011, 2013 and 2016. In 2015, she was named one of the 10 Most Innovative CEOs in Banking by Bank Innovation, as well as Digital Banker of the Year by American Banker.

In March 2018, Heather was appointed to the NRG Energy Board of Directors. She serves on the Nominating and Governance and the Compensation committees. In addition, Heather serves on the national board of directors for LIFT, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to permanently lift people out of poverty.

Heather graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She and her husband Chris are the parents of two daughters, Lea and Victoria. Heather and Chris share a passion for boating and are avid Washington Nationals fans.
**Marland Cole** is the Executive Director of Louisville Promise, a new organization that is building on the work of Mayor Fischer’s Cradle to Career framework and 55,000 Degrees to better align community resources to ensure every child in Louisville is prepared for college, career and a successful/productive life.

Cole previously served as Assistant Vice President of Governance and Board Support for Baptist Health where she was responsible for activities related to the function, recruitment, education and engagement of the Baptist Health Board of Directors, the Baptist Health Administrative Boards and principal affiliated company boards. She has an MBA from Bellarmine University and a bachelor’s degree in communications, with emphasis in public relations, from the University of Louisville.

Cole received the Spirit of Louisville Award from the YMCA of Greater Louisville, was named to Louisville Magazine’s “Most Powerful Under 45” list, and was an honoree for Business First of Louisville’s “Forty Under Forty” list. She is a 2004 Leadership Louisville graduate. A native of Bardstown, KY, Cole and her husband Bryan have one daughter.

**Alex Derkson** is the Vice President of Global Philanthropy for JPMorgan Chase & Co. In this role, Alex manages JPMorgan Chase's philanthropic work in Kentucky and Ohio, where the firm focuses its giving in four priority areas: workforce readiness, revitalization of distressed neighborhoods, supporting diverse-owned small businesses, and financial health.

During his time, Alex has overseen a number of key moments for the firm, including a number of JPMorgan Chase’s workforce investments in Louisville with KentuckianaWorks, the SummerWorks Program, Jefferson Community & Technical College, and the Academies of Louisville, among others.

Prior to joining JPMorgan Chase, Alex practiced law at the firm Frost Brown Todd. At Frost, Alex worked on a wide range of transactions benefiting dozens of low-income communities throughout the United States with investment dollars building businesses as well as homeless shelters, grocery stores, manufacturing facilities, restaurants, and apartments for senior citizens.

Alex earned his Juris Doctor in 2013 from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and his Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from Davidson College. He serves as a member of the United Way of Central Ohio’s Key Club and as a board member for Cincinnati Works.
**Rashaad Abdur-Rahman, LCSW** is the Director of Louisville Metro Government’s Office for Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods. His prior experience comes from working in the child welfare system as a direct care provider, therapist, and program director. He earned a master’s of science in social work from the University of Louisville and a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Berea College, where he learned in an environment that emphasized service and social justice.

Rashaad believes that community solutions are in the community, and that there should be nothing for us without us. He is an advocate for anti-racism, youth voice, and the truth that we all win when we lead with equity to disrupt structures that perpetuate violence and the root causes of conflict.

**Tia McLaurin Bethea** works on the Community Engagement team with Grow with Google - a Google initiative to help create economic opportunities for Americans. In her national role, she works closely with community leaders to lean into Google’s 20-year history of building products, platforms, and services that help people grow their skills, careers, and businesses.

Tia is passionate about the success of youth in her community. She volunteers with programs and organizations like Boys & Girls Clubs, NC Central University Community Leaders Program, and the City of Raleigh’s Digital Connectors Program to ensure students have access and interest in opportunities in technology-based careers. She also serves on the Boards of Directors for multiple organizations, including Marbles Kids Museum, the Empower Dance Foundation, the Nessie Foundation, the Kenan Fellows Program for Teacher Leadership, and Youth Villages.

Tia has a BA in Sociology and MALS in Predictive Analytics from NC State. She and her husband, Rodriguis, live in Raleigh, North Carolina.
Paul Diaz is a Partner of Cressey & Company, a private investment firm headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. Cressey & Company is a healthcare-focused middle-market private equity firm with over 30 years of success investing in and helping to build high quality healthcare businesses.

Paul is also the former President and Chief Executive Officer of Kindred Healthcare, Inc., which at the time was one of the largest providers of healthcare services in the United States. For six years in a row, during his tenure as CEO, Kindred was ranked one of the Most Admired healthcare companies in the U.S. by Fortune magazine.

Modern Healthcare magazine named Paul, who is a first generation Cuban-American, one of the 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare and named him one of the top 25 Minority Executives in Healthcare for numerous years. In addition, Hispanic Magazine named Paul one of the 25 Best Latinos in Business multiple years.

Paul is an attorney, accountant, and proud Eagle Scout, who earned a bachelor’s degree in Finance and Accounting from American University and a law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. He currently lives in Louisville with his wife, Viki, and their children Alec, Jackson and Reyna. His civic activities include working on Louisville’s SummerWorks Program, Dare to Care, the West End School and the Boy Scouts Hispanic Outreach Program.

Lauren Larin is the Director of Product Development at The Last Mile (TLM), the first program in the US to provide in-prison software engineering training that now operates in 9 prisons nationally. Their goal is to prepare students for employment as developers and designers post-release.

At TLM, Dr. Larin is focused on expanding robust learning opportunities to new facilities. She has over a decade of experience creating, evaluating, and scaling highly effective programs in non-profit, workforce development, and higher education settings.

She holds a PhD in Urban Studies from Portland State University, and a BA in Peace and Conflict Studies from UC Berkeley.
**Christy Rogers** builds sustainable partnerships between business and community partners and Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) to ensure that all students are prepared for success in college, career and life. In her new role as Assistant Superintendent for Transition Readiness, Rogers has set a course to make certain every graduate is prepared with industry-recognized credentials, college credit, work experience and a seamless postsecondary plan.

Rogers is helping transform public education through the Academies of Louisville, an initiative in JCPS that is equipping students with the skills and expertise to meet the needs of a 21st Century workforce. Launched in the fall of 2017, Rogers’ work implementing the Academies of Louisville model in 14 JCPS high schools has already impacted more than 17,000 students and resulted in nearly 85 signed business partners.

Rogers has served nearly three decades in public education, and served as a business educator, principal and college and career director for Bullitt County Public Schools prior to JCPS. Rogers holds a BA from Campbellsville University, a MA from Western Kentucky University and her Instructional Leadership Rank I from the University of Louisville.
Anjali Chadha is a Senior at duPont Manual High School in the MST magnet program. She has a deep passion for innovation and has been developing a novel IoT-based 3D printed arsenic sensor for the past 2 years.

Anjali is the founder of Empowered, Inc., a nonprofit that teaches minority young women technology skills. Anjali is also an Indian classical dancer and voracious reader.

Emir Dizdarevic immigrated to the United States as a refugee from Bosnia when he was a teenager. He is a graduate of the J.B. Speed School of Engineering at the University of Louisville and also earned a degree from the School of Education at Spalding University.

Since 2011, he has taught Math and Computer Science at North Bullitt High School. His interests include math, robotics, machine learning, and education.
**Dustin Doom** believes that a life well-lived is one characterized by service that reduces, or ideally prevents, the suffering of others. This maxim was hard learned while teaching martial arts for ten years and again during his enlistment in the US Army.

After honorably serving for six years, Sergeant Doom of the 38th Ordnance Company transitioned to civilian contracting as an intelligence analyst and subject matter expert for Intelligent Software Solutions. He deployed as a civilian instructor with Raytheon Intelligence, Information and Services to teach the Afghan Army military tactics in lieu of conventional US or NATO forces before making the decision to change careers.

Today, he is a junior developer for El Toro, a local technology development company that specializes in IP tracking-based advertising. This opportunity was afforded him after completing two courses at Code Louisville, a software development training program of KentuckianaWorks. He hopes to leverage his new skill set and career to one day create software that makes environments safer for his military brothers and sisters.

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**Nikki Thornton** is the Director of Program Operations for True Up, which is a movement that empowers young people in foster care to lead self-sufficient, productive lives. Nikki began her work with foster youth in 2000 and has worked in various program areas throughout her career.

Nikki earned a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the University of Louisville in 1998. She is a member of Coalition Supporting Young Adults (CSYA), Passport’s Quality Member Access Committee (QMAC), Independent Living Coalition, KY Partners for Youth Transition, Wednesday’s Child, JumpStartKY Inc., and Compassionate Louisville. Nikki is also a Certified Youth Care Professional, Level Three.

A resident of Louisville, Nikki enjoys organizing, exercising, and spending time with her children, family, and friends.