

AGENDA*

Harold Pratt House / 58 East 68th Street / New York, NY 10065

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024

1:00 P.M. *Opening Networking Reception (Powered by Gap International)*

Light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

2:00 *Welcome*

Dennis Carey – Founder, CEO Academy

Christopher Lopez – Director, CEO Academy

Michael Useem – Faculty Director, Leadership Center & McNulty Leadership Program,
The Wharton School

2:15 *Beyond Boundaries: Leading with Radical Courage in a World that Won't Slow Down*

In today's complex business landscape, courage is more than a virtue; it's a strategic advantage. During this session, Margie Warrell challenges the status quo by exploring how CEOs and board leaders can bridge the "courage gap" to fuel transformative leadership. Through proven frameworks and powerful insights, this session will equip leaders to defy risk aversion, cultivate a culture of courage, and redefine what's possible for their organizations.

Speaker: **Margie Warrell** – Leadership Advisor, Speaker, & Author

3:00 *Navigating Business in a Post-Election Landscape: Insights from Former U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland*

In this timely session, former U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland provides an insider's view on navigating the political and economic uncertainties that accompany major elections. With the 2024 U.S. presidential election behind us, Sondland will share balanced insights on what businesses should anticipate. Drawing on his experience in diplomacy and international business, Sondland will explore how political shifts may impact markets and regulations as he offers valuable perspectives on how leaders can navigate uncertain political landscapes and consider strategic approaches for long-term success.

Speaker: **Gordon D. Sondland** – Founder & Chairman, Provenance Hotels; Former U.S. Ambassador to the European Union

Moderator: **Mike Aitken** – Executive Vice President, HR Professional Solutions and former Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, SHRM

3:45 *Shareholder Activism: Trends and Implications for CEO and C-Suite Stability*

In an era where shareholder activism continues to evolve, its influence on corporate leadership and strategy has become both powerful and complex. Join PJT Camberview's Erica Lukoski and Adrienne Monley as they delve into current trends in shareholder activism and their implications for CEOs, boards, and C-suite executives. The speakers will explore the drivers behind activist campaigns, the strategies used to influence corporate change, and the impact on executive turnover.

Speakers: **Erica Lukoski** – Managing Director, PJT Camberview

Adrienne Monley – Managing Director, PJT Camberview

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4:15 *Break*

4:30 *Navigating the Economic Crossroads: Strategic Imperatives for Senior Leaders in an Uncertain World*

As economic conditions continue to evolve, understanding the current landscape and anticipating future trends is crucial for CEOs aiming to navigate their organizations through both opportunities and challenges. In this insightful session, a representative from Bank of America will provide an in-depth economic update tailored specifically for CEOs and senior executives. Attendees will gain valuable insights into the economic forces shaping the business environment and receive strategic recommendations on how to position their organizations for sustained success.

Speaker: **Aditya Bhawe** — Interim Head of U.S. Economics, Bank of America

5:30 *The Power Duo: Why Every CEO Needs a Strategic HR Leader at Their Side*

In today's business landscape, the discussion about the partnership between HR leaders and CEOs is more relevant than ever before. This session will feature three prominent Chief Human Resource Officers/Chief People Officers discussing their perspectives on the interplay between CHROs/CPOs and CEOs. We will explore company culture, performance objectives, and executive team alignment, as well as examine the limitations and possibilities of the CEO-CHRO/CPO partnership.

Speakers: **John Ferguson** — Chief Human Resources Officer, NASCAR; Board Member, SHRM Foundation
Michael Fraccaro — Chief People Officer, Mastercard
Beth Grous — Chief People Officer, Generate:Biomedicines

Moderator: **Robert Rothman** — President, Gap International

6:30 *Networking & Cocktails*

7:00 *(DINNER) Leading Through Change: A Conversation with Milind Pant*

In this fireside chat, Milind Pant, former CEO of Amway and president of Pizza Hut International, reflects on his leadership journey through some of the most challenging moments in his career. From leading Yum! China and subsequently Pizza Hut's international operations through competitive pressures and digital disruption to navigating Amway's strategic transformation during a global pandemic, Pant will share insights that demonstrate adaptability and strategic foresight. The discussion will offer actionable insights into change management, turning challenges into opportunities, and fostering sustainable growth, even in times of uncertainty.

Speaker: **Milind Pant** — Former CEO, Amway; Vice Chair, USIBC; Board Member, U.S.-China Business Council; Former President, Pizza Hut International and Yum! China

Moderator: **Michael Useem** — Faculty Director, Leadership Center & McNulty Leadership Program, The Wharton School

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7:30 A.M. *Informal Breakfast*

8:00 *AI 2030: The Ultimate Game Changer for Business Transformation*

In this groundbreaking session, renowned Wharton professor and AI expert Ethan Mollick reveals the game-changing potential of artificial intelligence. Drawing from his extensive research and deep knowledge, Mollick will uncover how AI is set to revolutionize business sustainability and efficiency. Explore the hidden benefits and brace for the unforeseen repercussions as Mollick provides a visionary road map for leveraging AI. Dive into the future of AI and learn to harness its power to stay ahead in the ever-evolving business landscape.

Speaker: **Ethan Mollick** — Ralph J. Roberts Distinguished Faculty Scholar, Associate Professor of Management, Co-Director, Generative AI Lab, and Rowan Fellow, The Wharton School

9:00 *The Anatomy of Greatness: Decoding the DNA of Top CEOs*

What truly separates exceptional CEOs from the rest? In an era where the stakes are higher than ever, the role of a CEO is under immense pressure—yet only a select few rise above the fray to lead their organizations to unprecedented success. This session will explore the mindsets and actions that define the world's best CEOs.

Speaker: **Carolyn Dewar** — Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company; Co-Author, *CEO Excellence: The Six Mindsets That Distinguish the Best Leaders from the Rest*

Moderator: **John Zhang** — Tsai Wan-Tsai Professor, Professor of Marketing, and Director of Penn Wharton China Center, The Wharton School

10:00 *Break*

10:15 *Winning in the New World of Disorder: The Convergence of Technology, Politics, Supply Chain, and Talent*

This session will highlight the convergence of external forces, including changing technology, artificial intelligence, supply chain disruptions, and impacts from global elections, as well as China's excess capacity being sold at unreasonable prices, that are all creating a new order and disorder. Participants will engage in a conversation about what it means to win in this highly volatile, uncertain, and rapidly changing external landscape.

Speaker: **Ram Charan** — Bestselling Author; Business Advisor; Board Director, ReNew Energy, MUYUAN, and Nexii

11:15 *The Art of Mergers and Acquisitions: Transformative Strategies and Insider Secrets*

In this session, Raj Gupta, former chairman and CEO of Rohm and Haas, shares his profound insights on mergers and acquisitions. With a career marked by strategic acumen, Gupta will delve into the intricacies of M&A, offering invaluable lessons on navigating complex deals, integrating diverse corporate cultures, and driving sustainable growth. This session is essential for understanding the art of successful mergers and acquisitions in today's competitive business landscape.

Speaker: **Raj Gupta** — Former Chairman & CEO, Rohm and Haas

Moderator: **Michael Useem** — Faculty Director, Leadership Center & McNulty Leadership Program, The Wharton School

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12:15 P.M.

(LUNCH) Leadership Master Class with Frank Blake

Join us for an intimate fireside chat with Frank Blake, the visionary leader behind one of America's most iconic brands: The Home Depot. In this session, Blake will share his invaluable insights on shaping a strong corporate culture, developing your own leadership style, discovering the secrets to investing in talent within your organization, and building a resilient, people-focused business.

Speaker: Frank Blake — Former Chairman & CEO, The Home Depot

Moderator: Nick Schacht — Chief Commercial Officer, SHRM

1:30

Navigating CEO-Board Dynamics

Drawing from her extensive leadership experience, including her roles as CEO of Nutrisystem and board chair of The Hain Celestial Group, Dawn Zier provides an insider's perspective on fostering effective communication and collaboration between the CEO and the board. With a career that spans several industries and leadership roles, Zier will explore the intricacies of CEO-board dynamics, offer insights into succession planning, and highlight the critical skills required for CEOs to manage board expectations and create alignment, coupled with the board's role to provide both critical oversight and support to drive shareholder value.

Speaker: Dawn Zier — Chair of the Board, The Hain Celestial Group;
Former CEO, Nutrisystem

2:30

Key Takeaways & Certificate Presentation

Dennis Carey — Founder, CEO Academy

Christopher Lopez — Director, CEO Academy

Michael Useem — Faculty Director, Leadership Center & McNulty Leadership Program,
The Wharton School

2:45

End of Program