

Conference Agenda

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

6:30PM-7:30PM

Welcome Cocktail Reception

Jennifer Granholm, Former Governor, Michigan

Philip Levine, Mayor, Miami Beach

Magnolia Courtyard

7:30PM-9:00PM

DINNER

Remarks by Keith Olbermann, host of GQ.com's, *The Resistance*

Magnolia Courtyard

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20

7:30AM-8:30AM

BREAKFAST

Ballroom South Foyer

8:30AM-9:00AM

Welcome & Introductory Remarks

David Brock, Founder, Media Matters, American Bridge, Shareblue

Ballroom III

9:00AM-10:00AM

What the Hell Just Happened?

Top progressive strategists look back at the 2016 election, discuss what led to the shocking results, and look ahead at how Democrats can set themselves up to win elections moving forward.

James Carville, Veteran Democratic Operative

Jon Cowan, President, Third Way

Ilyse Hogue, President, NARAL Pro-Choice America

Mike Podhorzer, Chair, Analyst Institute; Political Director, AFL-CIO

Ballroom III

10:00AM-10:15AM

BREAK

10:15AM-11:15AM

Breakouts (*CHOOSE ONE*)

Option 1) Learning from 2016: Democratic Messages That Win

We will discuss the key lessons from 2016, and how we can craft a Democratic message that can help us build a big tent coalition to win.

Harold Ford, Jr., Former US Representative & Political Pundit for MSNBC and CNBC

Doug Hattaway, President, Hattaway Communications

John Neffinger, President, Franklin Forum; Author of NYT best-seller *Compelling People*

Stephanie Schriock, President, EMILY's List

Ballroom I

Option 2) Learning from 2016: Leveraging Tools and Tactics to Win

From polling, digital strategies, field operations, advertising, and other tactical elements, we will look at what went wrong and what went right to inform future campaigns.

Jill Alper, Principal, Dewey Square Group

John Anzalone, Partner, Anzalone Lizst Grove

Donnie Fowler, CEO, Tech4America

Tim Lim, Partner, Bully Pulpit Interactive

Ballroom II

11:15PM-12:00PM

The Road to Fascism?

Donald Trump's ties to Russia, his public criticism of his opposition, and his constant bullying of the press suggest the tactics of a fascist leader. What can we learn from looking at other countries with strongman leaders and what factors led to American voters electing such a leader?

Masha Gessen, Journalist, author, and activist noted for her opposition to Vladimir Putin

Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Former Lieutenant Governor, Maryland

Gara LaMarche, President, Democracy Alliance

Yascha Mounk, Lecturer at Harvard University focused on the crisis of liberal democracy

Ballroom III

12:00PM-12:30PM

BREAK (Guests go through lunch buffet)

Ballroom South Foyer

12:30PM-1:45PM

LUNCH: **Trump's First 100 Days**

After winning the Electoral College, Trump has the legal authority, but his opposition has the moral authority—and the moral responsibility—to resist his policies, corrupt deals and bad actor nominees at every turn. We will look at the actions that Trump may take in his first 100 days in office and how we can resist these regressive and dangerous policies at every turn.

[Rahm Emanuel, Mayor, Chicago; Former Chief of Staff to President Obama](#)
[Maya Harris, Senior Policy Advisor, Hillary for America; Former Vice President for Democracy, Rights, and Justice, Ford Foundation](#)
[Ron Klain, Former Chief of Staff to Vice President Biden and Vice President Gore](#)
[Jessica Mackler, President, American Bridge](#)

Jessica Mackler discusses American Bridge Strategic Plan

Ballroom III

1:45PM-2:00PM

BREAK

2:00PM-3:15PM

Impact Litigation, Ethics and Holding Trump Accountable Through the Courts

The Trump administration is on track for unprecedented conflicts of interest and unethical and possibly illegal behavior. We will discuss how the right-wing organization Judicial Watch operated successfully as a thorn in the side of the Obama administration and the Clinton campaign, and how the Trump administration presents opportunities for impact litigation to hold the President accountable to the law.

[Noah Bookbinder, Executive Director, CREW](#)
[Norm Eisen, Chairman of the Board, CREW, Fmr. Ambassador to the Czech Republic, and Special Counsel for Ethics Reform to Obama Administration](#)
[Roberta Kaplan, Partner, Paul, Weiss, argued *United States v. Windsor*, landmark case in fight for marriage equality](#)
[Brina Milikowsky, Chief Strategy Officer, Everytown for Gun Safety](#)

Norm Eisen discusses CREW Strategic Plan

Ballroom III

3:15PM-3:30PM

BREAK

3:30PM-4:30PM

Winning Women & Winning Elections

Hillary Clinton nearly shattered the highest glass ceiling to become the first female president of the United States. Yet her campaign was plagued with pervasive strains of misogyny, including in how it was covered by the media. Donald Trump ran the most hateful, anti-woman campaign in modern history and his presidency poses a clear and present danger to women's overall empowerment, including their economic freedom and reproductive health. This did not keep voters, including women, from voting for Trump—many stating that while his comments were distasteful, they weren't disqualifying. What needs to happen to get voters to care about preserving women's rights at the ballot? How should reproductive rights and women's empowerment be used as a wedge in the upcoming issue and confirmation fights? What can be done to address the unique challenges that women candidates face?

[Wade Davis, Former NFL Player, thoughtleader on gender, race & orientation equality](#)
[Alexis McGill Johnson, Executive Director & Co-Founder, The Perception Institute](#)
[Maria Teresa Kumar, Executive Director, Voto Latino](#)
[Barbara Lee, Founder & President of the Barbara Lee Political Office and Barbara Lee Family Foundation](#)
[Cecile Richards, President, Planned Parenthood Federation of America](#)
[Tracy Weitz, Director, US Programs, Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation](#)

Ballroom III

4:30PM-7:00PM

BREAK

7:00PM-8:00PM

Cocktails
Bourbon Steak

8:00PM-9:30PM

DINNER: **States Stand Up**
Republicans control all levels of federal power and 33 governor's mansions across the country. However, progressive champions in Democratic controlled states are standing up for our values and vowing to fight back against Trump's regressive agenda. Over dinner, we will hear from three attorneys general as to how they are ensuring that their states remain bastions of equality and inclusivity, and how we can use these examples as models to emulate throughout the country.

[Hector Balderas, Attorney General of New Mexico](#)
[Maura Healey, Attorney General of Massachusetts](#)
[Jennifer Granholm, Former Governor, Michigan](#)
[Eric Schneiderman, Attorney General of New York](#)
Bourbon Steak

9:30PM-11:00PM

Dance Party!
Bourbon Steak

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

7:30AM-8:30AM

BREAKFAST
Ballroom South Foyer

8:30AM-9:15 AM

A View from the Hill: A Conversation with Senator Merkley
As Donald Trump and Republican leaders in Congress prepare to roll back progressive policies, install a corrupt cabinet, and rework the federal judiciary, Democrats are organizing to fight. We will get perspective from the Democratic opposition in the Senate about the work they are doing to stand up to the Trump agenda.
[Jeff Merkley, US Senator, Oregon](#)
Ballroom III

9:15AM-9:40AM

Fake News: The Human Impact
[James Alefantis, chef owner Comet Ping Pong and target of "Pizzagate"](#)
[Fake News Conspiracy](#)
Ballroom III

9:40AM-10:00AM

BREAK

10:00AM-10:45AM

Breakouts (*CHOOSE ONE*)

Option 1) **Fake News: What Is It? What Can We Do About It?**

The right-wing has led a decades-long campaign to discredit the mainstream media and push disinformation on the American public. Now, with an increasingly fragmented media and new tools to promote falsehoods quickly and directly to the public, Fake News has become a very real problem. We will discuss the origins of Fake News, its implications in fomenting anger and violence, and how we can stop its dissemination in a world where the media is no longer a trusted entity.

[Angelo Carusone, President, Media Matters](#)
[Todd Gitlin, Chair, Ph.D. Program at Columbia Journalism School](#)
[Jonathan Taplin, Director Emeritus, Annenberg Innovation Lab at USC's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism](#)
Ballroom I

Option 2) **Covering Trump, What the Press Got Wrong and How to Get it Right**

It cannot be denied that the media helped give rise to Donald Trump, giving him over \$1 billion dollars in free air time and refusing to hold him to the same standard as previous candidates. Now it appears that Trump, with the bully pulpit of the White House, may circumvent traditional media altogether through social media, stonewalling, and bullying. We will discuss how media can hold the Trump administration accountable and keep citizens informed.

[David Cay Johnston, Pulitzer Prize winning investigative journalist](#)

[Katie Paris, Senior Advisor, Shareblue](#)

[Michael Tomasky, Editor in Chief, Democracy, Special Correspondent, Newsweek, The Daily Beast](#)

Ballroom II

10:45AM-11:00AM

BREAK

11:00AM-11:30AM

How We Fight Fake News and Hold the Press Accountable

Angelo Carusone discusses Media Matters Strategic Plan

Ballroom III

11:30AM-12:15PM

Disruptive Technology and How to Apply Them to Politics

Two technology innovators will show how Democrats can utilize technology to build platforms to bring people together around key issues. They will discuss how disruptive technologies can be used to engage communities online, the unexpected consequences of building these platforms, and what it can mean for future electoral and issue campaigns.

[Reid Hoffman, Partner, Greylock Partners, Co-Founder of LinkedIn](#)

[Mark Pincus, Chairman and CEO, Zynga](#)

Ballroom III

12:15PM-12:45PM

BREAK (Guests go through lunch buffet)

12:45PM-1:15PM

LUNCH: Winning in the States: A Conversation with Attorney General Eric Holder and Governor Steve Bullock

We will discuss how Democrats can build momentum from the ground up, starting in the states, to advance progressive policy and defend voting rights. We will look at legislative opportunities in governors races in 2018 and how we can impact the big prize of redistricting in 2020.

[Steve Bullock, Governor, Montana](#)

[Jennifer Granholm, Former Governor, Michigan](#)

[Eric Holder, Former Attorney General of the United States](#)

Ballroom III

1:15PM-2:30 PM

A Vision for the Future: Forum with DNC Chair Candidates

[Charlie Baker, President & Co-Founder of Dewey Square Group](#)

[David Brock, Founder, Media Matters, American Bridge, Shareblue](#)

Andrew Gillum will lead a conversation about the future of the Democratic Party and the progressive movement with the announced candidates for DNC Chair.

[Ray Buckley, Chair, New Hampshire Democratic Party](#)

[Keith Ellison, Congressman, Minnesota](#)

[Andrew Gillum, Mayor, Tallahassee, Florida](#)

[Jaime Harrison, Chair, South Carolina Democratic Party](#)

[Tom Perez, Former Secretary of Labor](#)

Ballroom III

2:30PM-3:00PM

Our Challenge—And Yours

[Mary Pat Bonner, President, Bonner Group](#)

[David Brock, Founder, Media Matters, American Bridge, Shareblue](#)

Ballroom III

4:00PM-6:00PM

Community Building