

2026 Summit Speaker Packet

Keynote Speaker: Cara Turano

Executive Director, Oregon Entrepreneurs Network

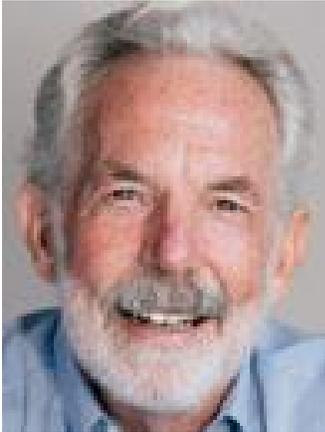


Cara Turano is passionate about entrepreneurship as a wealth-building avenue and a driver for community-building. Starting her career at a tech startup was a crash course in entrepreneurship. She learned how to scale a company, diversify a revenue portfolio, seek outside investment, and ultimately help grow a business that was acquired by a \$12B global consultancy.

In 2022, Cara joined the Oregon Entrepreneurs Network at an inflection point for the organization. Under her tenure, OEN has found its place as a statewide organization supporting entrepreneurs seeking venture capital with a focus on high-growth, innovative, traded-sector businesses. Either directly or through a partner, the OEN team is working with a founder in every county across Oregon.

Formerly COO at the TAO, she has spent over 20 years in the startup and innovation space. Cara serves on the PPS Bond Accountability Committee and is the immediate past chair, she is an advisor on the Portland Seed Fund Intrepid Oregon Fund, she is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Portland, and on the Governance Committee for the Association of Junior Leagues International. She was recognized as a PBJ 2025 Woman of Influence. In her spare time, Cara is an avid runner, skier, reader, and traveler who loves spending time with her husband, adult children, and senior chihuahua.

Legislative Update



Oregon State Senator Dick Anderson was elected to the Senate in 2020. He is the former Mayor of Lincoln City on the Oregon Coast and serves on the North Lincoln Health District Board as well as the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Board. While Mayor, Anderson served on the Lincoln County Foundation and the Oregon Coastal Zone Management Executive Committee.

Senator Anderson was raised in Wallowa County and has lived in the Northwest in several areas during his career before retiring. He worked for 35 years in the financial industry where he honed his collaborative approach to issues before moving to the Oregon coast.

Dick and his wife, Sue have been married for 50 years and have two children and 5 grandchildren. They purchased their home on the Oregon coast to retire but state and local government have become part of that equation.

Locally, Senator Anderson has also been active with the North Lincoln County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), B'nail B'rith Camp and Family Promise of Lincoln County as a volunteer, Lincoln City Chamber of Commerce and is an avid golfer.



Oregon State Representative David Gomberg is now in his sixth term representing House District 10 in the Oregon Legislature. The district stretches from Lincoln City to Junction City and from Florence to Philomath covering Lincoln County and portions of Western Lane and Benton Counties.

Representative Gomberg serves as co-vice chair of the full Ways and Means budgeting committee and co-chair of the subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development. He is a member of the Emergency Board,

the Governor’s Commission on Senior Services, the Oregon Innovation Council, the Seismic Safety Commission, and the Ocean Science Trust.

For more than 35 years, Representative Gomberg owned and operated a small business. He describes himself as a professional kite flier. His company designed and manufactured kites, produced large show kites, and operated web pages and retail stores. He has performed for Walt Disney, the Super Bowl, the London Millennium Celebration, and in 40 different countries. In 2005, he was inducted into the Kite Hall of Fame.

David is a graduate of Oregon State University where he earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science, served as student body president, and earned a Master’s in Political Science, Economics, and History. He then earned his MBA at Willamette University.

Among his “awards and accomplishments”, he lists 37 years of marriage to Susan Gomberg.

Lincoln County Data



Shaun Barrick is a Regional Economist for the Oregon Employment Department, specializing in the labor markets of Clatsop, Columbia, Lincoln, and Tillamook counties. He provides data analysis and economic advice to local businesses, business associations and government agencies to facilitate informed decision making. Before working for the Oregon Employment Department, Shaun worked in the brewing industry throughout Oregon and Alaska. He lives in Astoria and has a degree in Applied Economics from Oregon State University.



Dave Price is a vice president at Oregon Coast Community College, where he's worked for more than a decade. A Lincoln County resident for nearly 30 years, he's an entrepreneur who, along with his wife, Niki, launched a new business on the coast that will celebrate its 20th year this May. He is at his happiest boogie-boarding at Nelscott or Otter Rock, washing a car in a sunny driveway, or watching dark Scandinavian crime dramas with Niki and their coonhound, Merkel.



Paul Schuytema serves as the Executive Director of the Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County. With an MFA graduate degree in science fiction writing, nine years in higher education, fifteen years in software development and fifteen years in economic development, Paul has worked as a writer, teacher, computer game designer, serial entrepreneur, concert promoter, musician, software developer, creativity trainer and economic developer.

He has written and published over a dozen technical books, has over 200 published articles, designed computer games that have sold over a million copies, written, and administered over five-million dollars in grants, run a technology incubator, a successful blues festival and created the custom technology behind over 60 active websites.

Partnerships & Opportunity

Moderator: Jason Holland

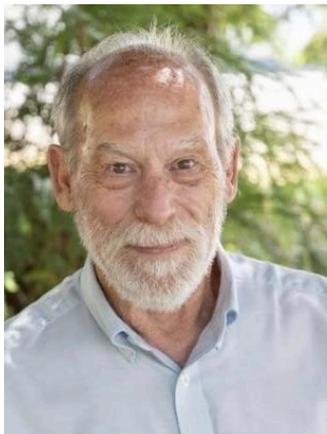
Executive Director, Oregon Coast Council for the Arts



Jason Holland has worked in the non-profit sector for 20 years with broad-based operational and programmatic leadership at both large and small arts organizations. Areas of principal responsibilities include program development, impact measurement, fundraising, staff development, artistic programming, organizational strategy, and expertise in community engagement. Jason currently sits on the Boards of EDALC, Yaquina Bay Economic Foundation, and as Chair of the Oregon Arts Commission. Artistically, Jason's background is in instrumental music and as a theatre director for twenty years.

Panelist: Jim King

Director, Central Coast Food Web



Jim King is a nonprofit and development professional with decades of experience in fund development, grant writing, strategic partnerships and strategic planning. His previous work in Napa, California involved working in permaculture, culinary programs and community gardens. He has worked to build programs around childhood development, homeless services, food banks, meals on wheels, and Latino multicultural services. He founded the If Given a Chance Foundation and worked to provide training and college opportunities for at-risk youth.

Panelist: Talaina King

Executive Director, Cape Perpetua Collaborative



Talaina King (she/her) first joined The Cape Perpetua Collaborative in 2024 as a board member and soon after transitioned to being hired as CPC's first director. Talaina is Pacific Northwest born and raised and has a deep connection to this special place. She has a background in communications & sociology and enjoys investing her time connecting people to resources for growth and community support.

Talaina enjoys traveling, adventuring with her hound dog, and creating resources for people to gather over shared interests. She cares deeply for the environment and is committed to a life of learning how to be a better steward for this beautiful planet and encouraging others to do the same.

Panelist: Alex Llumiquinga Pérez

Executive Director, Arcoíris Cultural



Alex Llumiquinga (he/él) was born in Ecuador and immigrated to the United States in 2001. A passionate musician and cultural advocate, he has long been committed to preserving and sharing the traditions of his heritage while building bridges across communities.

In 2012, Alex began working as a bilingual tutor with the Lincoln County School District, where he developed a strong dedication to educational equity through the district's ELD and Migrant Education programs. In 2018, he joined the Olalla Center and later became a certified Community Health Worker, supporting families in accessing vital resources.

Alex helped launch the program that became Arcoiris Cultural nonprofit in 2025 and now serves as its Director. He leads the organization's mission to empower Latine, Indigenous Mesoamerican, and immigrant communities in Lincoln County through resource navigation, arts, culture, and community building.

Pillars of Our Economy

Moderator: Dr. Marshall Mease Roache

President, Oregon Coast Community College



Dr. Marshall Mease Roache is the President of Oregon Coast Community College. Prior to coming to the coast, he worked for Chemeketa Community College, where he oversaw key areas including health sciences, applied technologies, apprenticeship programs, and the College's Brooks Regional Training Center. Roache is no stranger to life on the Oregon Coast, having worked in his family's business in Cannon Beach from 1994 to 2003. His background also includes serving as a patrol officer and detective before joining Chemeketa as adjunct faculty in Criminal Justice in 2011. He and his wife Leslie currently

reside in Newport.

Roache holds a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Fort Hays State University and a Bachelor's in English from the University of Oregon, where he competed as a Division I collegiate wrestler. He completed his Doctorate in Education at the University of Southern Mississippi in December 2024.

Panelist: Dan Butler

Asset & Development Manager, Housing Authority of Lincoln County



Originally from Oregon, Dan Butler has lived in Lincoln County for the past ten years. He is an Airforce veteran and an OSU graduate. For the past three years, Dan has served as the Asset and Development Manager for the Housing Authority of Lincoln County. In this role, he

manages the capital improvements and major projects at the Housing Authority's existing properties and the development of new affordable housing properties throughout Lincoln County.

Prior to joining the Housing Authority, Dan was the property manager for Oregon Coast Property Management, overseeing more than 300 residential and commercial properties in Lincoln and Tillamook Counties.

In addition to Dan's full time work with the Housing Authority, he and his wife own a small business, Stellar Co-Hosting. They provide vacation rental owners with support services such as handling the booking platforms, guest communication, property inspections, housekeeping and maintenance scheduling.

Panelist: Dr. Bruce Clemetsen

Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs, Oregon Coast Community College



Dr. Bruce Clemetsen, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at Oregon Coast Community College, has worked in higher education administration for 40+ years. Bruce completed his bachelor's degree at Willamette University, a master's degree at Michigan State University, and a doctorate at Bowling Green State University. For the last 26 years, Bruce has served in executive roles at Linn-Benton, Blue Mountain, Chemeketa, and Oregon Coast Community Colleges. His undergraduate majors were biology and economics, which have informed his work to advance the contribution of community colleges to economic development through value-added academic and student programs.

Bruce is a bit of a data nerd and brings the economics of college enrollment and labor markets to bear in college planning. Bruce was recently awarded the Oregon Council of Student Services Administrators Legacy of Impact Award, and last fall was the recipient of the Oregon Community College Association Cam Preus Award recognizing his decades of statewide impact on student access and success.

Panelist: Dr. Lesley Ogden

Vice President & Chief Executive Officer, Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital & Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital



Dr. Ogden serves as chief executive officer for Samaritan's two critical access hospitals on the central Oregon Coast. Previously, she served as chief operations officer at Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital and as interim CEO at Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital and worked clinically as an emergency and urgent care clinician.

Dr. Ogden is residency trained and board certified in emergency medicine and brings a wealth of clinical and leadership experience. She received her medical degree from Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston and completed her emergency medicine residency at Oregon Health & Science University. In addition, Dr. Ogden received her master's degree in business administration from The Citadel, South Carolina, and a bachelor's degree in marketing from Troy State University, Alabama. Dr. Ogden previously served as president of the medical staff of Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital and currently serves as a trustee on both the North Lincoln Hospital Foundation and the Pacific Communities Health District Foundation boards. She championed new replacement hospital building projects in both Lincoln City and Newport and the innovative, efficient and state-of-the-art hospital facilities opened in 2019 and 2020.

As a member of the Lincoln County coastal community, Dr. Ogden is an active Rotarian in Lincoln City and served as club President in 2016 and 2017. She serves on the board of directors of the Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County as well as the Oregon Coast Community College Foundation board.

Panelist: Bryan Steinhauser

Business Liaison, Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties



Originally from New Jersey, Bryan Steinhauser spent over a decade serving in the US Marine Corps and Army, then worked in private industry in the investigative and compliance analyst fields. He moved to Oregon with his family in 2021 and jumped at the opportunity to perform an integral service for his newly adopted community to create new child care opportunities for others like himself. As a parent of young children, Bryan knows first-hand the struggles to find affordable, quality child care. Since joining the team of the Early Learning Hub of Linn,

Benton, & Lincoln Counties in 2022, Bryan has worked diligently to expand child care in the region and to work with local employers to assist them with their child care needs.

Panelist: Dr. Majalise Tolan

Superintendent, Lincoln County School District



Dr. Majalise Tolan serves as Superintendent of the Lincoln County School District, where she leads districtwide strategy, operations, and partnerships to support student success and community engagement. She brings nearly two decades of experience in education, including roles as teacher, assistant principal, principal, and Director of Secondary Education within the district.

Beyond her district leadership, Dr. Tolan is active at the state level and was elected President of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators. She is also co-author of the book *She Leads: The Women's Guide to a Career in Educational Leadership*, which supports and inspires women pursuing leadership roles in education.

Local Entrepreneurs

Panelist: Gregory Price

Director, The Columbia Gorge SBDC and The Oregon Coast SBDC



Gregory Price is the Director of The Columbia Gorge and Oregon Coast Small Business Development Centers and is the national chair for disaster planning and recovery for America SBDC. He earned his master's in business administration from Portland State University where he was also a professor in the graduate school of business but more notable, Greg is a graduate from our very own Taft High! Greg has 25 years of business development experience.

As a serial entrepreneur, Greg has founded and operated numerous for-profit and non-profit companies from his last business, financial modeling and forecasting for the renewable energy industry, to his first enterprise at 12 years old catching and selling saltwater eels here on the Oregon Coast, proof that it is never too early to be an entrepreneur! Throughout his tenure he has consulted and advised hundreds of small businesses of all kinds. Now Greg is using his experience to be of service supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs in our community.

Panelist: Lori Ellingson, CRPC®

Founder, Agate Financial Partners



Lori Ellingson is the founder of Agate Financial Partners in Newport, Oregon. With more than 30 years of experience in financial services, she helps individuals, families, and business owners develop thoughtful strategies for retirement, investments, tax efficiency, and estate planning.

Lori is known for her practical guidance, client-first approach, and commitment to helping people build financial clarity and long-term security.

Panelist: Aaron Huang

CEO, OoNee Sea Urchin Ranch



Aaron Huang is the co-founder and CEO of OoNee, a company working on land-based sea urchin (uni) farming alongside kelp. His background spans product, operations, and finance across startups and growth-stage companies. At OoNee, Aaron focuses on turning ecological problems into practical food systems—finding ways to produce high-quality seafood while supporting coastal communities and healthier ocean ecosystems.

Panelist: Bridgette Shipley

Owner of Oceanography 101, Camp Newport, Paw Bar, and Pacific Northwest Clothing Company



Bridgette Shipley is a business owner of four unique clothing and gift stores in Lincoln County- Oceanography 101, Camp Newport, Paw Bar, and Pacific Northwest Clothing Company. She is a multi-business owner specializing in premium artisan gift and apparel concepts, with over 25 years of retail leadership experience, and seven years in Lincoln County. Prior to entrepreneurship, she spent two decades in executive and regional roles within the resort industry, overseeing retail, ski and snowboard rental operations, and licensed Starbucks food and beverage locations across the U.S. and Canada. She also contributed to ski village development initiatives and served on marketing and events boards supporting business growth. Her final corporate role was working as the Director of Retail at Mt Hood Meadows before launching her own ventures.

Panelists: Cole & Rowan Tilley

Owners, Raised by Wolves Victualing Co.



In 2000 Rowan and her ex-partner founded a landmark Newport business, Panini Bakery, that exists until this day under different ownership. It was the first artisanal bakery in Newport specializing in wild fermented sourdough breads, hand tossed pizza, soups, salads, sandwiches, and espresso. She also co-founded Mundo Café, and most recently, is known for her decade of tenure at the Sylvia Beach Hotel as executive chef. Cooking intimately for this community and its visitors for 24 years has cultivated her a huge and intensely devoted customer base.

Cole moved to the area in 2007, bringing with him an understanding of work in high volume restaurants and immediately finding placement in several landmark Newport establishments, but eventually working his way up to Sous Chef at Sorella Italian Restaurant in Nye Beach. Rowan and Cole have worked together in several establishments including Sorella, Tables of Content Restaurant, and most recently in the formation of their own catering company, Raised by Wolves Victualing Co.

Their success and efficacy as partners rely on a deep understanding of their own strengths, each chef equally proficient at cooking, but drawing from wildly different upbringings; Rowan (transcendental meditation commune) and Cole (son of a commercial fisherman). Together they can “divide and conquer” with Rowan handling branding, aesthetic, menu development, and customer service, while Cole handles systems development, equipment, volume, tech support, communications, and logistics, and daily accounting. Individually and as a team, the Tilleys are highly regarded and active members of their community.

The Economic Impact of Georgia-Pacific Toledo



Mark Carden is the Vice President/General Manager of Georgia-Pacific Toledo. He has a master's degree in chemical engineering from Georgia Tech and is a third-generation papermaker with over 38 years of experience in the industry. He and his wife, Linda, moved to Oregon in 2023 from Arkansas. Originally from South Georgia, Mark and Linda have lived across the United States with their five boys.



Andrea Formo is the Public Affairs Manager at Georgia-Pacific Toledo. She has a master's degree in communications and rhetoric from the University of Georgia and has over 10 years of experience in heavy industry including oil, gas, mining, and manufacturing. Originally from Minnesota, Andrea moved to the coast in 2023 and has been enjoying the diverse range of outdoor activities Oregon has to offer.