



GVFHRA HR Summit

Call for Speakers - Invitation to Present

The Power of People: Beyond the Bot

Building Connection in an AI-Driven World

A strategic, people-centered approach to leadership, culture, and performance in the age of AI.

As artificial intelligence, automation, and digital tools continue to reshape the workplace, organizations are discovering that their greatest competitive advantage remains unchanged: their people. The Power of People: Beyond the Bot explores how HR leaders can balance innovation with empathy, technology with trust, and efficiency with meaningful human connection.

This summit will focus on the essential human skills, leadership practices, and organizational strategies required to thrive in an increasingly automated world. Attendees will gain practical insights on how to foster engagement, strengthen culture, lead through change, and ensure ethical, inclusive, and responsible use of emerging technologies—while keeping people at the center of every decision.

Through real-world case studies, actionable frameworks, and thought-provoking conversations, this summit will empower HR professionals to elevate performance, build resilient teams, and create workplaces where both people and technology can succeed together.

Possible areas to be explored include:

- **Human-Centered Leadership in an AI World:** Explore how leaders can balance data, technology, and human connection to effectively coach, motivate, and manage teams in hybrid (people/AI agent) environments.
- **Strategic Talent Decisions in a Digital World:** Examine how organizations use data, AI, and human judgment to guide fair and effective decisions across hiring, development, and succession.
- **Building Connection, Culture, and Engagement:** Focus on strengthening relationships, fostering belonging, and sustaining trust and engagement in technology-enabled workplaces.
- **Responsible Technology and Ethical AI in HR:** Address how HR leaders can use AI and digital tools responsibly while ensuring transparency, fairness, and human oversight.
- **Developing and Retaining Future-Ready Talent:** Highlight approaches to building adaptable, skilled, and resilient workforces through learning, growth, and career development.
- **Well-Being, Total Rewards, and Sustainable Performance:** Explore practical strategies or how benefits, rewards, and workplace practices can support well-being, resilience, and long-term performance.
- **Navigating Change, Risk, and Compliance in a Digital Workplace:** Address how organizations can manage change, compliance, and workforce risk while maintaining trust and fairness.

Date: Friday, October 16, 2026 (full day)

Location: Penn State Great Valley Conference Center

RFP Due Date: Wednesday, April 01, 2026

[Access RFP](#)



Prior to submitting, please read through the following:

PROPOSAL SELECTION:

A GVFHRA Summit panel will review the presentations based on the following criteria:

- The degree to which the presentation supports one or more of SHRM's strategic, general, business or global area of HRCI and SHRM credits. Priority will be given to those sessions that would potentially qualify for Business HRCI credits.
- Thoroughness of the submitted matter and proposal.
- Quality of learning objectives.
- Level of engaging interactivity and method of diverse teaching styles.
- Quality of takeaway tools offered to conference participants.
- Appeal to a broad spectrum of attendees including students, Mid level, Sr level, and/or Exec level) and present on topics in HR including, but not limited to Organizational Development, HR Technology, Benefits, Compensation, Legal Issues, Recruitment, Retention and Leadership Development.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Applicants are limited to a maximum of two applications per individual or organization on different topics.
- If selected as a presenter, you will be required to provide your **final presentation electronically by Friday, September 25, 2026**. Prior to the final submission, we require a 1 hour virtual walk-through of the presentation.
- GVFHRA will provide microphone(s) and sound for PowerPoint presentations or video if requested two weeks in advance. If you need anything outside of this, please let us know a minimum of 2 weeks prior in advance. You will receive advance notice if we are unable to fulfill this request.
- No personal laptops will be allowed for presentations. Penn State provides all equipment and technical staff for support.
- Speaking engagements for the GVFHRA Summit are voluntary and unpaid. GVFHRA does not provide honoraria, speaker fees, or reimbursement for travel, lodging, meals, or other related expenses.
- Travel, housing and per diem costs, etc. are the sole responsibility of the speaker, not GVFHRA.
- Speakers are responsible to get permission to use copyrighted materials.
- GVFHRA will not reproduce handouts, however, if provided 2 weeks prior to the Summit, handouts will be posted on the GVHRA Summit website in advance of the program for participant download. Alternatively, speakers may provide handouts, at their own expense.

- Speakers will be eligible to attend the remainder of the Summit (maximum of two active speakers per presentation) for the entire Summit. A waived Summit fee includes access to conference sessions, HRCI and SHRM credits, lunch and breaks. Any additional guest(s) of the speakers must register and pay to attend the event.
- Due to facility location rules, no books or other materials are permitted to be sold at the HR Summit. No exceptions.
- Proposals received after April 1, 2026 will be retained for future consideration either for a GVFHRA Meeting presentation and/or seminar.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Please review the following submission guidelines/ By submitting your RFP, are agreeing to the submission guidelines

As the primary presenter for this proposed session, I have thoroughly read the submission guidelines, selection criteria, and terms for speaker compensation. I understand and agree that I will be responsible for communicating in a timely manner with the Greater Valley Forge HR Summit Committee, and co-presenter(s) regarding information about my presentation. I understand the following:

- The Greater Valley Forge HR Summit Committee has final determination of the format and length of my session.
- I am responsible for adhering to the Call for Presentation deadlines and guidelines for submission outlined in this document. If I fail to do so, the Greater Valley Forge HR Summit Committee reserves the right to remove my session from the Summit program.
- Greater Valley Forge HR Summit Committee will not produce any handouts for distribution at the Summit. I am responsible for preparing handout materials for my session attendees.
- I grant permission for GVFHRA to reproduce and distribute session handouts prior to, during and after the conference. All Summit materials will be provided on the Registrant website two weeks prior to the Summit for the attendees to download.
- GVFHRA and SHRM programs are non-commercial forums. The direct promotion of products and services is prohibited.
- I, and my co-presenter (if applicable), grant permission for my Summit presentation to be videotaped or audio-recorded.
- I am responsible for obtaining permission to reproduce my handouts if they are copyrighted.
- I agree to refrain from overt statements, harsh language, or pointed humor that disparages the dignity and social equity of any individual or group.

- To keep continuity of the GVFHRA slides and your presentation, I agree to upload my final presentation to Dropbox no later than Wednesday, October 14, 2026 to be used on the day of the presentation and I agree to bring a back-up copy of my presentation on a flash drive on the day of the Summit.
- If I am unable to present my program on the day of the Summit, I will notify GVFHRA as soon as possible and will offer a suggestion of a replacement in-person speaker that could present my materials or another program of comparable professional level and topic.

For your application to be accepted, the digital form must be completed in full to submit. Please do not submit any documents that include "TBD", "will add more at a later date", or similar.

SPEAKER PROPOSAL TIMELINE

The GVFHRA Summit Proposal will be accessible through April 1, 2026. Proposals received on or after this date will be kept for future consideration. Speakers will be chosen and notified by mid-June at the latest. We kindly request that you refrain from reaching out to inquire about the status of your presentation. Rest assured, all submitted RFPs will receive notification regarding acceptance or non-selection.