



2016 AGENDA

FRIDAY, MARCH 25 TO SUNDAY, MARCH 27

UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

05:00 PM NETWORKING RECEPTION

- 05:00 PM Registration
- 06:00 PM Networking Mixer & Icebreakers

07:00 PM OPENING PLENARY SESSION

- 07:00 PM Introduction
- 07:25 PM A Snapshot of our Community: Research Presentation
- 07:50 PM TED-style: Ignite and Lightning Talks

08:10 PM KEYNOTE SPEECH

08:50 PM BREAKOUT BLOCK I - SKILL-BUILDING WORKSHOPS*

**Sessions will run parallel to each other*

- Build Your Brand
- Leadership
- How to Get a Job: Resume Building and Interview Skills
- The Importance of Mentorship: How to be an Effective Mentor & Mentee
- A Story of Self, A Story of Us: Public Narrative and Collective Action
- Heart of Asia, Graveyard of Empires: History of Afghanistan

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

08:00 AM OPENING PLENARY SESSION

- 08:00 AM Registration and Breakfast
- 08:30 AM Icebreaker



AFGHAN-AMERICAN C O N F E R E N C E

- 09:00 AM Introduction and Norms
- 09:35 AM Special Guest TED-style Talk
- 09:50 AM TED-style Talks: Ignite and Lightning
- 10:15 AM Special Guest TED-style Talk

10:45 AM BREAKOUT BLOCK II - PROFESSIONAL PANELS AND SKILL-BUILDING WORKSHOPS*

**Sessions will run parallel to each other*

PROFESSIONAL PANELS

- Medicine & Health
- Law & Policy
- Entertainment & Media
- Finance & Consulting
- Entrepreneurship & Innovation
- Education
- S.T.E.M.
- Nonprofit
- Mental Health: Research Implications & Where Our Community Stands

SKILL-BUILDING WORKSHOPS

- Leadership
- A Story of Self, A Story of Us: Public Narrative and Collective Action

12:15 PM LUNCH BREAK

01:10 PM BREAKOUT BLOCK III - WORKSHOPS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS*

**Sessions will run parallel to each other*

WORKSHOPS

- Poetry: Afghanistan's Rich Tradition
- Community Organizing: Activism & Social Justice

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

- What is Spirituality?



AFGHAN-AMERICAN C O N F E R E N C E

- ASA Engagement: Building a Nationwide ASA Network
- Role of Afghans in American Muslim Community
- Mental Health: Depression and Suicide
- Gender Dynamics: Misogyny & Double Standards

PANEL

- Refugees Abroad: The Lesvos Experience

02:30 PM BREAKOUT BLOCK IV - PANELS, WORKSHOPS, AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS*

**Sessions will run parallel to each other*

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

- Marrying Outside Our Culture: Non-Afghans & Mixed-Culture
- Afghan "Hyphen" American Identity
- Battling Addiction: Drug, Alcohol, and Gambling Abuse
- Standing in Solidarity: Racism in Our Community

WORKSHOPS

- Creating A Healthy Lifestyle: Afghan Edition
- How to Attan: Learning Our National Dance

PANEL

- Responsibility to Our Homeland and Motherland: America and Afghanistan

03:40 PM BREAK

04:20 PM KEYNOTE SPEECH

04:55 PM COMMUNITY TOWN HALL

The Town Hall will bring all the conference attendees together at the end of the day and will serve as a debrief. The audience will have the opportunity to share their takeaways from the day's conversations, in order to see what conference goers learned, what they liked, what criticisms they may have, etc.



AFGHAN-AMERICAN C O N F E R E N C E

07:00 PM BANQUET

- Dinner
- Networking & Icebreakers
- Bazaar
- Performances by:

Ariana Delawari and Salar Nader
Silo Mentality
Ajmal Subat
Gina & Samir Karimi

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

08:00 AM OPENING PLENARY SESSION

- 08:00 AM Breakfast and Registration
- 09:00 AM Icebreaker
- 09:40 AM Introduction

10:25 AM THE SAMOVAR NETWORK PRESENTS: A COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

11:55 AM LUNCH BREAK

1:00 PM BREAKOUT BLOCK V - ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS AND BRAVE SPACES*

**Sessions will run parallel to each other*

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

- Gender Dynamics: Masculinity & Ghayrat
- Modern Afghan-American Relationships: From Courtship to Marriage
- Growing Up Muslim in Today's America
- Shia and Sunni: Recognizing our Similarities and Embracing our Differences



AFGHAN-AMERICAN C O N F E R E N C E

BRAVE SPACES

- Domestic Violence & Sexual Abuse: The Hidden Epidemic
- Addressing Homophobia

WORKSHOPS

- The Dying Art of Afghan Etiquette

02:10 PM BREAK

02:25 PM BREAKOUT BLOCK VI - SAFE SPACE CAUCUSES*

- Female Gender Caucus
- Male Gender Caucus

Each caucus will be a designated "safe space" for each respective group. For example, only those who identify as Female will be permitted to participate in the Female Gender Caucus. Everything that is discussed in each caucus is to remain confidential, allowing open and honest conversation without fear of judgment.

04:10 PM CLOSING CEREMONY