



TED^x
BryantU

x = independently
organized TED event

**KEYS TO THE
FUTURE**

SMITHFIELD, RI

2. 23. 2019

11 AM - 3 PM



WELCOME TO **TED^x**BryantU



Our Theme 1

About 2

Schedule 4

The Show 6

Speakers 7

Thank You 12



OUR THEME

Keys to the Future

This year's event theme is Keys to the Future, and will showcase a variety of talks and performances from students, faculty, alumni, and other community members. We live in an ever-changing world, humanity must change and adapt alongside it. Not one single idea can help create a secure and prosperous future, but instead it must be a plethora of ideas ranging across all disciplines. This year at TEDxBryantU our speakers will provoke thought about how to be our best selves moving forward. From redefining the meaning of wealth, to being vulnerable with ourselves and one another, each of 10 speakers has something valuable to present to us here today.



ABOUT:

What is TED?

Ted is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or fewer) delivered by today's leading thinkers and doers. Many of these talks are given at TED's annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, and made available, free, on TED.com. Ted speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Monica Lewinsky, Phillippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Sal Kahn, and Daniel Kahneman.

Ted's open and free initiatives for spreading ideas include TED.com, where new TED talk videos are posted daily; the Open Translation Project, which provides subtitles and interactive transcripts as well as translations from thousands of volunteers worldwide; the educational initiative of TED-Ed; the annual million-dollar TED prize, which funds exceptional individuals with a "wish" or idea to create change in the world; TEDx, which provides licenses to thousands of individuals and groups who host local, self-organized TED-style events around the world; and a TED Fellows program, which selects innovators from around the globe to amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities.

What is TEDx?

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)



What is TEDxBryantU?

Our event is called TEDxBryantU, where x = independently organized TED event. At our TEDxBryantU event, TEDTalks video and live speakers will combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group.

Schedule



Session 1



Introduction and Thank You's

11:00 AM

Session 1

11:15 AM

Robert Cocchiola

"Who's Directing Your Movie?"

Jacob Lewtan

"Blockchain: Changing the Future of Financial Reporting"

Connor Evans

"Legacy"

Craig Stevens

"Redefining Wealth"

Artvine Torossian

"Collective Significance"

Video:

"Why I Have Coffee With People Who Send Me Hate Mail"

Lunch

12:30

Schedule



Session 2

Session 2



1:30 PM

Bryant Improv Troupe

Rick Gorvett

**“Math: the Key to Understanding the World of the
Future”**

Amy Solov

“Embracing Your Inner Loser”

Justin Pasquariello

“Joy Lives in Community”

Kyle Oliveria

“Dirty Fashion”

Video:

“Power of Vulnerability”

A.J. Collette

“Stories, Stars, and Connecting with One Another”

The Show



Master of Ceremonies: Allison Butler

Associate Professor, Applied Psychology,
Bryant University

Butler earned her B.S. in Psychology and a teaching license in Elementary Education at the College of William and Mary. She earned a M.Ed. in Educational Psychology from the University of Virginia and worked as a fifth-grade teacher in Alexandria, Virginia. In 2008, she earned her Ph.D. in Applied Developmental and Educational Psychology from Boston College.



Bryant Improv Troupe

Founded four years ago, BIT seeks to increase representation of the arts on campus while also providing an outlet for creativity. All "scenes" are created on the spot based on audience suggestion and participation.

Rob Cocchiola

Robert, after graduating from Bryant, accepted an email marketing position for BankMobile in New Haven, CT. Shortly after realizing the office life was not for him, he up and left for Boston where he was offered a position as a prep cook at Little Donkey. Rob is chasing his life-long dream of opening his own restaurant. He is following in the steps of the celebrity chef that he works for, Ken Oringer.



Bryant
University
Alumni
"Who's Directing
Your Movie?"



Jake Lewtan

Jacob Lewtan earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Bryant University. Since his December 2018 Master's graduation, he has presented his research at the Hawaii Accounting Research Conference and the American Accounting Association. In his talk, Lewtan outlines his vision for the implementation of blockchain and smart contracts in the accounting profession; a practice he believes will change the future of financial reporting.



Bryant
University
Alumni
"Blockchain:
Changing the
Future of
Financial
Reporting"





Connor Evans

Connor is a senior at Bryant University. He is a Communication major with a concentration in Literary and Cultural Studies. Between acting, singing, and playing intramural sports, Connor devotes much of his time to philosophical pursuits and discussions of metaphysics.

Connor also hopes to day become a professor of Philosophy or Critical Theory.



Bryant
University
Class of 2019
"Legacy"



Craig Stevens

Craig Stevens is currently the Head of Accounting and Reporting at Swiss, Re, one of the world's leading providers of reinsurance. Stevens has even climbed to Mt. Everest base camp (17,600 ft).



Bryant
University
Alumni
"Redefining
Wealth"





Rick Gorvett



Rick is the chair of the Mathematics Department at Bryant University. He has also been a corporate and consulting actuary, including Senior VP of a large commercial insurer.

Bryant
University
Professor
"Math: the Key to
Understanding
the World of the
Future"



Artvine Torossian



Artvine has initiated a start up called KarakaLEAD, which aims to achieve and combines both Finance/Business and Humanities/Connection, which focuses on Character and Culture by Design with a touch of the eternally powerful human Spirit. Artvine speaks 4 languages and is working on learning her 5th.

Bryant
University
Alumni
"Collective
Significance"





Amy Solov

A native of Easton, Massachusetts, Amy loves to travel and has visited 14 countries. Amy aspires to transform her storytelling skills into a lifelong career to become an influential novelist and hopes to pursue her MFA in Creative Writing upon her graduation.



Bryant
University
Class of 2019
“Embracing
Your Inner
Loser”



Justin Pasquariello

Justin is Executive Director of the East Boston Social Centers, a 100-year-old multi-service organization that impacts nearly 600 individuals on a typical day. Justin also serves on the board of Silver Lining Mentoring, an organization he founded that empowers foster youth to flourish through committed mentoring relationships and developing life skills



Exec. Director
East Boston
Social Centers
“Joy Lives in
Community”





Kyle Oliveira

Kyle is 21 years young and enjoys reading, snowboarding, and spending time with family and friends. He currently is a senior at Bryant University perusing a major in Finance and concentrations in Economics and Applied Analytics. A fun fact about Kyle is that he started an eco-friendly clothing company called Luxury Leaf in order to educate people about hemp superiority compared to contemporary fabrics used in clothing.



Bryant
University
Class of 2019
"Dirty Fashion"



A.J. Collette

A.J. is currently a Technology Director at Citizens Bank. He is also a freelance photographer, avid reader, and aspiring writer. By sharing his story, he seeks to discover the unique life experiences of others.



Tech. Director,
Citizens Bank
"Stories, Stars,
and
Connecting
with One
Another"



THANK YOU'S:

- Student Government and the Student Involvement Fee Oversight Board
 - Lisa Morris
- Liz O'Neil and the entire Department of University Relations
- Robin Warde and Alumni Relations
- Jeff Chandler and the Audio Visual Department
- Dave Leduc and Scott Gauthier from Facilities Management
 - Provost Glenn Sulmasy and Academic Affairs



THANK YOU'S:

- John Saddelmire and Katie Hughes
- Edward Kairiss who served as the Organizing Team's Adviser
 - Stephen Payne
 - Our Emcee,
- Our TEDxBryantU Leadership Team, who has worked tirelessly since September
- Our 10 speakers who have worked for months to craft their amazing talks
- University President Ronald Machtly and his wife, Kati, for their ongoing support of Student Organized Events



“Success is not in
what you have, but
who you are”



-Bo Bennett