

Conference Program

Panel Descriptions

9:00 Welcome and Opening

9:15 - Panel I - **How did we get here? The social, political and historical elements of divisiveness**

Panelists: *Nicol Rae* - Dean, College of Letters and Science, Montana State University
Chuck Johnson - Politics Reporter, Helena IR/AP (Ret.)
Daniel Kemmis - Principal, Daniel Kemmis Consulting, Author, *Community and the Politics of Place*
Bob Brown - Former Montana Secretary of State and State Senate President

10:45 - Panel II - **Finding Ways Forward: A conversation with the next generation of politicians and activists**

Panelists: *Dan Zolnikov* - Rep. HD 47, Billings (R)
Jenny Eck - Rep. HD 79, Helena (D)
Chuck Tooley - Principal, Tooley Communications, Former Mayor, Billings, MT
Rachel Huff-Doria - Executive Director, Forward Montana
Chase Sick - Montana Field Director, Turning Point USA

12:00 - Lunch and Keynote Speaker - **Pat Williams**

1:30 - Interactive Afternoon Session - **A facilitated discussion of opportunities and mechanisms of engagement**

Facilitated small group/table top discussions engaging attendees and panelists in an exploration of the opportunities and processes available to build effective engagement. The results of these discussions will be compiled into a conference summary white paper.

4:30 - Closing Session - **Summary, Call to Action and Next Steps**



Pat Williams

Congressman Pat Williams' career has been dedicated to strengthening America's education system, making schools safer for our children, fighting for the underprivileged and protecting his home state of Montana's special places for future generations. Starting as a teacher in Butte, as a state legislator, then as Montana's Congressman and as a faculty member at the University of Montana, Pat has remained devoted to serving the people of Montana and making it a better place for future generations.

Information about the event, registration and other details can be found at:

www.wheelercenter.org

or

http://divisiveness_in_democracy.eventbrite.com



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For the Exploration of Montana Issues