



BOSTON GLOBAL FORUM

MAY 1, 2026

America at 250

A Beacon for the AI Age



AIWS TRUST INFRASTRUCTURE · AIWS LUMINA



PROGRAM AGENDA

Harvard University · Loeb House
17 Quincy Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts
May 1, 2026 · 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM



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America at 250: A Beacon for the AI Age

CELEBRATING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Honor Presentations and Recognition of America 250: AI Pioneers

8:15 – 8:30 AM

Registration and Welcome Coffee

8:30 – 8:40 AM

Opening Remarks

Thomas E. Patterson

8:40 – 8:50 AM

Presentation of the Book

America at 250: A Beacon for the AI Age

Introduction to AIWS Trust Infrastructure & AIWS Lumina

Nguyen Anh Tuan

Vision, framework, and implementation pathway for trust in the AI Age

8:50 – 9:10 AM

Presentation of the 2026 World Leader for Peace and Security Award

Honoring the Leaders of the United States and the American People

Remarks by: Governor Michael S. Dukakis · Nguyen Anh Tuan · Thomas E. Patterson

Remarks delivered by Thomas E. Patterson on behalf of Governor Michael S. Dukakis, Nguyen Anh Tuan, and Thomas E. Patterson.

Symbolic Representatives Receiving the Award

Jason Carter — representing the moral leadership legacy of America through President Jimmy Carter.



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Vint Cerf — representing the creativity, innovation, and civic spirit of the American people in the digital age.

Special Remarks

Jason Carter — *America as a Moral Beacon: Continuing the Carter Legacy of Peace, Human Rights, and Trusted Innovation in the Age of AI*

Vint Cerf (by video) — *Building Information Trust for the AI Age*

9:10 – 9:30 AM

Recognition of America 250: AI Pioneers

Presented by Nguyen Anh Tuan

Recipients in Person

Cynthia Dwork · Alex Pentland · Regina Barzilay · Cynthia Breazeal · Herbert Lin

Acceptance Speech by Cynthia Dwork

On behalf of the Honorees of America 250: AI Pioneers

From Differential Privacy to Trust Infrastructure: Building Trustworthy AI for Democracy

MAIN PANEL

9:30 – 11:00 AM

AIWS Trust Infrastructure for the AI Age

Co-Moderators: Thomas E. Patterson · Alex Pentland

Alex Pentland · AI Pioneers — *Building Human-Centered Trust Infrastructure for the AI Age*

Herbert Lin · AI Pioneers — *From Influence Operations to Information Trust: Building Resilience in the AI Age*

Regina Barzilay · AI Pioneers — *Trustworthy AI in Healthcare and High-Stakes Human Systems*

Cynthia Breazeal · AI Pioneers — *Human-Centered AI and Social Trust in the Age of Intelligent Systems*

Daphne Koller · AI Pioneers (by video) — *From Probabilistic AI to Trusted Information Ecosystems*

Q & A



11:00 – 11:15 AM

Coffee Break

BEACON DECLARATION AND BEACON PROCESS

11:15 – 11:55 AM

Beacon Declaration and Beacon Process

Founding AIWS Trust Infrastructure and AIWS Lumina

Presented by Ramu Damodaran

Commitments to Accompany and Implement the Beacon Declaration

Yasuhide Nakayama (by video) — Member of the National Diet of Japan; Director, LDP Global South

Vu Dang Vinh (by video) — Vietnam Report

Roland Schatz — Media Tenor

Bui Ngoc Duc — Dat Xanh

Commitments to Accompany and Advance AIWS Lumina

Le Hoa (by video) — Cao Tra Muc Nhan

Special Video from Nha Trang in Tribute to America 250

Thu Pham

11:55 AM – 12:00 PM

Concluding Remarks

Nguyen Anh Tuan

LUNCHEON DIALOGUE

12:30 – 2:00 PM

Storytelling, Democracy, and America at 250

Hollywood, Civic Imagination, and the Future of Freedom in the AI Age



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Venue: Harvard Faculty Club

Moderator: Gita Pullapilly

Panelists: Jason Carter · Don Lee

This special luncheon dialogue will explore how storytelling, film, and cultural leadership can sustain democratic values, deepen civic imagination, and strengthen public trust in an era shaped by artificial intelligence. The discussion will also explore the emerging concept and criteria of *Films for Humanity in the Age of AI* within the vision of AIWS Film Park, including the kinds of films and storytelling that should be encouraged in the AI Age: works that affirm human dignity, strengthen empathy, promote truth and responsibility, inspire reconciliation, and contribute to the cultural foundations of freedom and democratic life.



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C O N C E P T N O T E

America at 250: A Beacon for the AI Age

On the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the United States of America, the Boston Global Forum will convene the conference *America at 250: A Beacon for the AI Age* at Harvard University's Loeb House on May 1, 2026. The conference honors the enduring ideals of America — liberty, democracy, innovation, peace, security, and service to humanity — while looking ahead to how America can continue to serve as a beacon of trusted, human-centered leadership in the Age of Artificial Intelligence.

Grounded in the spirit of the book *America at 250: A Beacon for the AI Age*, co-authored by Governor Michael S. Dukakis and Nguyen Anh Tuan, the conference brings together honor presentations, AI pioneer recognition, expert discussion, the Beacon Declaration and Beacon Process, and a luncheon dialogue on storytelling and democratic culture. It advances two important pillars for the AI Age: **AIWS Trust Infrastructure** and **AIWS Lumina**.

The conference has five main purposes:

- I. to celebrate America at 250 through the ideas and vision of the book;
- II. to present AIWS Trust Infrastructure as a practical framework for trust in the AI Age;
- III. to honor the leaders of the United States, the American people, and America 250: AI Pioneers;
- IV. to launch a call to action and an implementation pathway through the Beacon Declaration and Beacon Process;
- V. to highlight the role of storytelling, culture, and AIWS Lumina in sustaining democratic civilization in the AI Age.

A central feature of the conference is the presentation of the **2026 World Leader for Peace and Security Award**, offered in honor of the leaders of the United States and the American people. The award will be received by Jason Carter and Vint Cerf as symbolic representatives. The conference will also recognize **America 250: AI Pioneers**, honoring distinguished pioneers whose work has helped shape the AI Age in service of humanity.

The main panel, *AIWS Trust Infrastructure for the AI Age*, co-moderated by Thomas E. Patterson and Alex Pentland, will feature leading honorees of America 250: AI Pioneers and explore trustworthy AI systems, trusted information, institutional resilience, healthcare, and human-centered design. The morning program will culminate in the *Beacon Declaration and Beacon Process: Founding AIWS Trust*



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Infrastructure and AIWS Lumina, followed by commitments from key partners to accompany and implement the vision.

A special luncheon dialogue on *Storytelling, Democracy, and America at 250* will explore how film, narrative, and cultural leadership can strengthen freedom, dignity, empathy, and public trust in an era shaped by AI. In this way, the conference serves both as a tribute and as a call to action: to help shape a future in which trust, culture, and human responsibility remain at the center of the AI Age.



Trust Infrastructure for institutions.

Lumina for civilization.

A future of trust. A future of light.



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