



# AGENDA

May 25

May 26

5:30 AM - 7:00 AM PDT

Breakfast &amp; Badge Check In

7:00 AM - 7:10 AM PDT

Welcome!



Naveen Nigam  
Head of Developer  
Ecosystems -  
Americas  
Google



7:10 AM - 7:20 AM PDT

Opening Remarks



Aniedi Udo-Obong  
Regional Lead - North  
America Developer  
Ecosystem (GDG &  
GDE)  
Google



Kübra Zengin  
Regional Lead - North  
America Developer  
Ecosystem (WTM &  
GDSC)  
Google



7:20 AM - 7:30 AM PDT

Icebreaker



Carolina Castro  
Community Program  
Manager (GDG) -  
North America  
Developer Ecosystem  
Google



Aniedi Udo-Obong  
Regional Lead - North  
America Developer  
Ecosystem (GDG &  
GDE)  
Google



7:30 AM - 8:00 AM PDT

Leadership Keynote



David McLaughlin  
Director, Global  
Developer Ecosystem,  
Google Developers  
Google

8:00 AM - 8:10 AM PDT

BREAK

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8:10 AM - 8:40 AM PDT

Fireside Chat with Maru Ahues



Maru Ahues (Director, Android DevRel)

**Maru Ahues Bouza**

Director of Android  
Developer Relations  
Google

**David McLaughlin**

Director, Global  
Developer Ecosystem,  
Google Developers  
Google

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8:40 AM - 9:10 AM PDT

Community Commitment Curve

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9:10 AM - 10:30 AM PDT

LUNCH

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10:30 AM - 11:10 AM PDT

Breakout Session 1: Regional Breakouts by Geography



**Aniedi Udo-Obong**  
Regional Lead - North  
America Developer  
Ecosystem (GDG &  
GDE)  
Google



**Carolina Castro**  
Community Program  
Manager (GDG) -  
North America  
Developer Ecosystem  
Google



**Scott Stoll**  
DevAngels London,  
GDG Organizer

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11:10 AM - 11:20 AM PDT

Breakout Session 1 - Community Presentations

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11:20 AM - 11:30 AM PDT

BREAK

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11:30 AM - 12:10 PM PDT

Breakout Session 2: Cross-Program Breakouts by City-Tiers





Aniedi Udo-Obong  
Regional Lead - North  
America Developer  
Ecosystem (GDG &  
GDE)  
Google



Carolina Castro  
Community Program  
Manager (GDG) -  
North America  
Developer Ecosystem  
Google

12:10 PM - 12:20 PM PDT

### Breakout Session 2 - Community Presentations

12:20 PM - 12:40 PM PDT

### Day 1 Wrap-Up

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM PDT

### Happy Hour

## Community Talks May 26th afternoon

Welcome to the last leg of NA Connect, featuring four curated tracks to cater to diverse interests: Technology, Communication & Collaboration, Diversity & Inclusion, and Personal Development. Explore the latest in AI and software engineering, enhance your communication skills, embrace diversity, and invest in your personal growth. Mix and match sessions for a personalized experience and connect with like-minded attendees. Get ready for an inspiring and transformative journey!

### Personal Development Track

Breakout Room: The Grand Ballroom ▾

11:30 - 11:45 AM: Navigating the Tech Landscape: Successfully Switching Domains (15 mins) ▾

Join us for an informative talk on Successfully Navigating Domain Switching in Technology led by Rahatara, a Women Techmaker Ambassador. Learn how to identify motivation, assess skills, research opportunities, network effectively, and avoid common pitfalls. Plus, join in on a "Tech-Swap" icebreaker activity to develop new skills and network with others. #TechSwitch #CareerGrowth #Networking

*Speaker: Rahatara Ferdousi*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

### Technology Track

Breakout Room: ▾

11:30 - 11:45 AM: The Future of Technology: Leveraging AI/ML to Drive Community Success! (15 mins) ▾

11:50 - 12:15 PM: Building Climate Research Capacity Across South Asia's Next Generation (25 mins) ▾

12:20 - 13:30 PM: LUNCH ▾

13:30 - 13:55 PM: What is the role of Machine Learning Engineers in the time of GPT4 and BARD? (25 mins) ▾

11:50 - 12:15 PM: BYOI - Bring your own idea (25 mins) ▼

12:20 - 13:30 PM: LUNCH ▼

13:30 - 13:55 PM: Procrastination. Saving mindful and staying productive (25 mins) ^

Overcoming procrastination is a common challenge. Join my talk to explore why we face it, what science says about it, and practical tips for conquering it based on my personal experience. #procrastination #productivitytips

*Speaker: Artur Badretdinov*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

14:00 - 14:25 PM: Musings about Driving Results (25 mins) ^

Learn to drive results the right way with "Musings about Driving Results"! Join me as I share insights from 12 years of building businesses and teams, exploring topics such as alignment, understanding, and performance culture. #drivingresults #businessskills #teamwork

*Speaker: Komal Sandhu*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

14:30 - 14:55 PM: Upskilling for Software Engineers: How to Stay Ahead of the Curve (25 mins) ^

Software engineers, upskill or get left behind! Join our talk to learn why it's crucial to stay relevant in today's fast-paced tech landscape and explore ways to prepare for future career opportunities. #Upskill #SoftwareEngineering #TechTrends

*Speaker: Kyle Paul*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

15:00 - 15:40 PM: A day in the life of a Chief Developer Experience Officer (40 mins) ^

Insightful Devrel & Dev Experience AMA with board member steering enterprise towards developer focus. Learn about crucial tasks in driving success #DevCommunity #DeveloperExperience

*Speaker: Ivan Burazin*

14:00 - 14:25 PM: A picture is worth a 1000 words not a 1000Mb (25 mins) ^

Slow webpages are often caused by images, which consume time and bandwidth. In this talk, we'll cover HTML properties for customized images, content layout shifts, lazy loading, and file type comparisons to optimize image loading. #webdesign #imagedloadtime #optimization

*Speaker: Martine Dowden*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

14:30 - 14:55 PM: To the left, to the left, then slide right - The new developer dance (25 mins) ^

Combatting methodical cyber threats requires developers to shift left of left, embracing proactive security measures from the start. Stay ahead of the game with robust software built on a foundation of security. #SecurityShiftLeft #ProactiveProtection

*Speaker: Grace Francisco*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

15:00 - 15:40 PM: The Intelligent Developer's Toolkit: AI-Powered Tools for Creativity, Efficiency, and more (40 mins) ^

Explore the latest AI-powered tools and technologies in this workshop to revolutionize the way you work and live. Optimize code, create user-friendly interfaces, and tackle more challenging and creative tasks. Whether you're a seasoned developer or just starting out, join us to learn valuable insights for free! #AI #tools #workshop

*Speaker: Charmi Chokshi*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

15:45 - 16:00 PM: AI and the Future of Testing (15 mins) ^

The age of AI is officially here with Chat GPT, Bard, Bing, CoPilot, and more leading the way. But AI isn't scary - it simply combines computer science and large datasets to solve problems. Join me to learn what AI means for the future of automated testing and job security. #AI #automatedtesting #jobsecurity

*Speaker: Jordan Powell*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

15:45 - 16:15 PM: Is it possible to architect community belonging? (30 mins) 

## Communication & Collaboration Track

Breakout Room: 

11:30 - 11:50 AM: Building Your Brand - Unleashing the Power of Authentic Engagement (20 mins) 

11:50 - 12:15 PM: Lessons Learned Building Community with Hybrid Events (25 mins) 

12:20 - 13:30 PM: LUNCH 

13:30 - 13:55 PM: Power of Visual communication to create your personal User Manual (25 mins) 

Create a powerful first impression with a visual user manual! Visuals are a great way to tell your story, reduce misunderstandings, and boost information retention. Learn how to showcase your values, mission, strengths, and challenges in this presentation. #VisualUserManual  
#PersonalBranding #EffectiveCommunication

*Speaker: Vaishnavi Subramaniam*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

14:00 - 14:25 PM: Stories, Not Presentations (25 mins) 

Presentations gone wrong: Too much focus on slides, not enough on storytelling. Learn from 'The Avengers' and 'Star Wars' to captivate your audience. Make them the heroes, leaving them inspired to restore peace and freedom.  
#StorytellingMatters #EngagingPresentations

*Speaker: Jeremy Neuner*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

## Diversity & Inclusion Track

Breakout Room: 

11:30 - 11:45 PM: The Pants Paradox: Fashion, Pandemics, and Tech's Inequality Impact (15 mins) 

 From ancient times to COVID-19, clothing has symbolized social status. Join this hilarious, thought-provoking talk on pants, pandemics, and tech's impact on inequality.

#FashionSocialHierarchy #TechVsEquity

*Speaker: Michael Dowden*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

11:50 - 12:15 PM: Women in STEM RISEUP Empowered Leaders (25 mins) 

Claim your leadership role with confidence, overcoming barriers and burnout. Embrace your superpowers of influence, inspiration, and decision-making. Build collaborative relationships with compassion and trust. Work smarter, not harder, with proven leadership initiatives.  
#LeadWithPower

*Speaker: Martha Davidson*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

12:20 - 13:30 PM: LUNCH 

13:30 - 13:55 PM: Building a Diverse Network in Tech (25 mins) 

Learn how to build a diverse and inclusive network for your Google Developers chapter! Discover how Google DSC@UPenn achieved this with a top-down approach, forming a diverse leadership team and attracting members from various majors and disciplines. Tech is a platform for impactful change in all fields! #GoogleDevelopers #DEI

*Speaker: Sapphira Ching*

14:30 - 14:55 PM: Conquer Event Perils Avoid Planning Pitfalls Create Fail-Proof Virtual Events ... Every Time! (25 mins)

15:00 - 15:25 PM: Event Organization 101 (25 mins) ^

From event ideation to flawless execution, I've gained invaluable insights organizing large-scale university events for 500+ members. My guide offers practical tips on logistics, marketing, team communication, and collaboration. Perfect for students, GDG Leads, or anyone planning an event. #EventPlanningMadeEasy

*Speaker: Krish Veera*

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

15:30 - 15:45 PM: How to Build Your GDG Community (15 mins) ▼

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14:00 - 14:25 PM: Latino Startup Ecosystem Engagement (25 mins) ▼

14:30 - 14:55 PM: Navigation Support for the Visually Impaired, How Google Helped Me with My PhD (25 mins) ▼

15:00 - 15:40 PM: The Secret Sauce to Creating Tech in Underserved Communities...Collaboration + Passion = Possibilities (40 mins) ▼

15:45 - 16:15 PM: The Future of Android is Accessible (30 mins) ▼

## Speaker List:



**Ajeet Mirwani**

Head of Platform  
Google

**Aldo Socarras**

Software Engineer  
Marco Polo

**Alexis Snelling**

CEO, Founder  
WeTransact



**Alfredo Morresi**

Developer Relations Program Manager  
Google



**Anna Nerezova**

GDG Mentor | GDG NYC Organizer | WTM Ambassador

**Alice Keeler**

Founder  
Coffee Edu

**Artur Badretdinov**

Android Team Lead / Staff Software  
Engineer

**Hannes Hapke**

GDE - ML | Senior Machine Learning  
Engineer  
Digits Financial (Google Venture + Softbank  
funded)

**Charmi Chokshi**

Master's Student in Machine Learning  
MILA & University of Montreal

**Daisy Mayorga**

Co-Founder  
yuda.io

**Jordan Powell**

Senior Software Engineer  
Cypress.io

**Ivan Burazin**

Chief Developer Experience Officer  
Infobip

**Komal Sandhu**

Global Program Lead - Google Develop  
Groups  
Google

**Liza Goldberg**

Biospheric Researcher  
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

**Martha Davidson**

Founder  
Mpowering Minds Now

**Martine Dowden**

CTO  
Andromeda LLC

**Michael Dowden**

Sr Manager, Engineering  
LegalZoom

**Mike Hoff**

Senior Disaster Recovery Manager  
BlackBerry



**Roya Kandalan**

Research Scientist

**Sapphira Ching**

Penultimate Law Student at The London

Google

Flutter

Terms

Community Guidelines

DevAngels London, GDG Organizer

MS CS Cal State | GDSC Lead | Software  
Engineer  
Adobe

Software Engineer  
Electronic Arts (EA)