

Future Forum 3

Futurists from different industries and parts of the world share their visions of artificial intelligence's impact on the jobs of the future and collaborate with students on jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities in their near future.



Wednesday, December 5, 2018
9:00am to 1pm
Hope High School

For the third consecutive year, the Future Forum convenes within the friendly confines of the Hope High School library for an **eyebrow raising, curiosity igniting, imagination arousing, creativity inflaming, aburrido extinguishing, collaboration rallying, and confidence building conversation** around **artificial intelligence** (AI - algorithms, computer programs, robots and other forms of modern technology) and AI's impact on careers and jobs in the global marketplace. Guest Futurists from diverse backgrounds and industries share their professional insights into AI's impact on the future of work as well as facilitating a collaboration among small groups of students to imagine an interesting job/career affected by AI in the students' future.

Melissa Cronin and **Natalie Hogan** will begin this year's Forum by sharing their insights into what our students may encounter in the job market of their near future. **Natalie** is a former "*Futurist*" at Hasbro inspiring and fostering a culture of creativity and innovation through "hackathons" and strategic, collaborative conversations to create the next generation of toys and games. Natalie presently is the Chief of Staff at DataRobot in Boston, Massachusetts. **DataRobot** is a young company that analyzes data to predict things. Financial institutions, including many top banks, use DataRobot technology to predict which prospective customers are likely to repay—or default on—their bank loans. Healthcare companies use DataRobot to figure out who is most likely to develop certain diseases like heart disease or diabetes by analyzing vast amounts of health data. Physicians use the results of DataRobot analysis to prescribe the best treatments for their patients. **Melissa** is a Managing Director at **Accenture**, a global consulting and professional services company with revenues of \$39 billion and more than 459,000 employees serving customers in more than 200 cities in 120 countries. Melissa manages a team of 850 technologists with expertise in advanced automation tools and platforms including robotics process automation, machine learning and artificial intelligence solutions. Melissa's team helps her clients use this technology to achieve their business objectives.



Mark Huang, the **Director of Economic Development for the City of Providence**, addresses last year's Forum audience on his office's mission and emerging career opportunities in numerous industries in an age of artificial intelligence. Natalie Hogan (to the right of Mark Huang in this photo), Chief of Staff at **DataRobot**, identifies examples of artificial intelligence's disruption in the workforce and new jobs being created in the process. George Ortiz (to the left of Mark Huang), Founder of **the Elisha Project**, shared his thoughts on the 'optimum' growth mindset for creating and exploiting opportunities for life time success.

Our Futurists will share their opinions about career opportunities created by AI and encourage students to focus on the job and career opportunities technology will create rather than eliminate. These Futurists will engage students, entertaining their questions and perspectives, stimulating their curiosity and creativity, encouraging their ideas and listening to their concerns. The conversation will hopefully enlighten students to **the importance of and benefits of “looking ahead”** to the future as former General Electric President, Jack Welch, encouraged his company to do. While the topic of technology will drive this conversation, it will also dovetail into several **Life Skills themes** we’ve spoken about this year which also will affect future employment opportunities: personal brand, change management, creative thinking, lifetime personal development, networking, the value of diversity in each person’s network and success strategy. Students from LaSalle Academy will be joining the Hope Life Skills class at Hope High School from their campus in Providence. This class is a follow up to a previous class when the Hope Life Skills students went to LaSalle for a conversation on “*personal brand*” and “*networking*”.

The Forum’s objectives are as follows:

- Appreciation of the evolving impact ‘Artificial Intelligence’ will have on our students’ future jobs and global markets
- Creating an environment of curiosity, questioning, creative thinking and collaboration.
- Inspiring students to be forward thinking, to be regularly “*looking around corners*” into their futures and, in the process, to bring critical thinking and a healthy, always respectful, level of skepticism to each conversation.
- Practice networking skills; continue to build networks of diverse, credible, respectful, people
- Increase empathy; greater appreciation of the perspectives of others



Arguably, the most popular segment of the Future Forum is the small group breakout session as guest ‘futurists’ ignite student curiosity and liberate their creativity for a collaboration to identify a career opportunity for their future. In this specific group led by ‘futurists’ **Nick DeCesare** (black sweater with back to the camera), New York University graphic design major and present Creative Director for Signature Printing and **Owen Johnson** (across the table from Nick), MIT computer science graduate and present CEO of Revival Brewery, and students **Laisha Mendez, Rosa Rodriguez, Francisco Gonzalez, and Allison Spitznagel** create a 21st century security company utilizing the interests and skills of each student: Allison’s design, Laisha and Rosa’s law enforcement and Francisco’s forensic skills.

Future Forum Futurists

1. **Natalie Hogan:** Chief of Staff at *DataRobot*; Rhode Island School of Design, BFA Sculpture
2. **Melissa Cronin:** Managing Director - Accenture Technology Financial Services Executive; North Carolina State University, BS Biomedical Engineering.
3. **Rabbi Elan Babchuck:** *CLAL The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership*: Director of Innovation and Rabbi; University of Massachusetts Amherst BA Economics; Zielgler School of Rabbinic Studies MA, Ordination
4. **Beecher Fritzmeir:** Vice President Product Development at *Alex & Ani*; Pratt Institute, BFA Fashion/Apparel Design
5. **Dr Roey Tzezana:** futurist and futures studies researcher. Adjunct Prof. Ahva College and visiting Prof. at Shakrim Univeristy, Kazakhstan. Co-founder and CEO of *TeleBuddy* - a robotics company. Author of "Guide to the Future" and "Rulers of the Future".
6. **Owen Johnson:** Chairman and CEO *Revival Brewery*; Massachusetts Institute of Technology, BS Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
7. **Chad Huemme,** Managing Partner *International Entrepreneurship Center*. Westminster College (PA) BA Marketing and Management; Southland University BS Mechanical Engineering Technology; Northeastern University MBA Finance.
8. **Narine Lemme:** Business Transformation Leader/Master Black Belt - *Harvard Pilgrim Health Care*; Rostov State Economic University, Russia; BS Economics and International Business Relations; University of Rhode Island, MBA
9. **Catalina Martinez:** Regional Program Manager, *NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research*; c/o University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography. University of Rhode Island BS Zoology/Animal Biology; MS Biological Oceanography; MS Marine Affairs; MBA Strategic Innovation.
10. **Matt Flanagan:** Founder and President, *Senjiva*; University at Albany SUNY, BA English/History
11. **Tino Chow:** Design Strategist - *Giant Shoulders*; Rhode Island School of Design, BFA Industrial Design
12. **Julie Leonard:** Senior Graphic Designer - *Orange Square Design*; Southern New Hampshire Univ; Graphic Design
13. **Nick DeCesare:** Creative Director, *Signature Printing*; New York University, BFA Graphic Design
14. **Soren Ryherd:** President and Co-Founder of *Working Planet*; Boston University, MA Geography/Remote Sensing
15. **Claudia Cardozo:** Community Development Manager; *Coastway Community Bank* - President of Cardozo Coaching; Roger Williams University, Community Development
16. **George Ortiz:** Founder of *The Elisha Project*; University California at Berkley, BA Business
17. **Tara Cronin:** Founder and President of *Kent Avenue Photography*; East Carolina University BS Exercise Physiology and University California at Berkley Interior Design & Interior Architecture
18. **Terri Monjar:** Senior Relationship Manager, *Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Commercial Banking Team*. University of Richmond, B.S. Mathematics; Babson College MBA
19. **Ray Nunez:** Communications and Engagement Specialist, *Communications and Engagement Specialist at Leadership Rhode Island*, Johnson & Wales University BS Graphic Design and Digital Media.
20. **Yoni Sunshine:** Development Director; *Boy Scouts of America*; Tulane University (Louisiana) BA Political Science and Government; New School University MS Urban Policy Analysis and Management
21. **Jack Templin:** Managing Partner and Chairman; *Axilis*; Middlebury College, BA Economics and Art History; New York Univ Masters Degree Interactive Telecommunications.

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Agenda

9:am - Meet/Greet and Networking:

- Students meet our guests: corporate 'Futurists' and visiting LaSalle Academy students. Students will exchange business cards and continue to build their networks in the process.

9:30am – Opening remarks

9:40am – Visions of the Future:

- Steve Cronin will interview 2 futurists about their visions of what our students will encounter when they enter an “artificially intelligent” (AI) influenced job market post 2024.

10:00am - Opening Activity - “*Don't worry about what's probable. This is about what's possible!!!*”

- Students will organize into small groups with one or two 'Futurists' for a collaboration to determine an interesting, fulfilling, potential economically successful, 'future career opportunity'. This activity will begin with each futurists taking 5 minutes to speak with students in their group about their career path and their present job. After each group's collaboration about a future job, or career pursuit, a group spokes person will answer the following questions:

1. The **service or product** the company creates and **sells**
2. The **customer** - who will buy the product or service the company sells; e.g automobile owners, aqua-farmers, space travelers, fashion retail stores, parents, adolescents, adults, everyone, etc
3. The **role artificial intelligence** will play in the company; NB - please give at least 3 examples of tasks AI will perform in the company
4. The **name** of the company the students start OR the company they will work for.
5. **Marketing channels** (newspapers, television, social media, direct mail, etc) used to reach its customers and attract new ones
6. The **geographic market** the company will serve; e.g international, just the south end of Providence; just east Asian countries; just the United States; just Europe; just Iceland; just Texas USA; intergalactic, etc
7. The **role each student will play in the company**
8. The **President of the company** - what are the qualities/attributes which make she or he the right person to lead this company.

11:15am - **Announcements** - one student from each group will present their 2025 career vision.

11:50am - **Closing comments** - Stephen Cronin

Noon - **Networking over Lunch** at Hope High School: **the mission is to sit down for a conversation over lunch with people you just met today NOT WITH A CLASSMATE.**

1pm - **Dismissal**

“Ideas are often generated in physical gathering places where people with diverse interests encounter one another serendipitously.”

Walter Isaacson, *“Leonardo Da Vinci,”* page 159

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