

# UNA-USA Global Engagement Summit Overview

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Friday, February 16, 2024 from 10:00 am 5:30 pm ET
- Held at United Nations Headquarters (in General Assembly Hall) in New York City
- Attendees must be registered UNA-USA members
- Cost: \$30 per person to attend
- https://bit.ly/2024GES

#### **EVENT OVERVIEW**

The Global Engagement Summit (GES), is a signature event held by the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA), a program of the United Nations Foundation. The event will reinforce UNA-USA's mission to INSPIRE, EDUCATE, and MOBILIZE. GES2024 will be held on Friday, February 16, 2024.

Held at UN Headquarters in New York City, GES is the largest annual gathering of UN supporters in the country, having previously filled more than 1,600 seats in the UN General Assembly Hall. With more than 20,000 members from across the country, UNA-USA brings together members, educators, community leaders, representatives from UN agencies, Members of Congress, college students, social media influencers, young professionals, and subject matter experts from across the nation. The goal for this event is to convene changemakers at all levels of society to engage in complex conversations and to take action to address local issues that have global implications.

Our theme for 2024—*PUSHING FORWARD>>>FOR PEOPLE & PLANET*—highlights the importance of empowering our advocates to take bold action in order to achieve great impact in the areas of people and planet. The event will serve as a continuation of the celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights' 75th Anniversary. In addition, the event will feature a unique Fashion Showcase to demonstrate how individuals and businesses are bolstering the push for sustainability through their products and platforms.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

As this year's event will be hybrid, in person participation will be offered to UNA-USA members while the program will be open to the public through UN Web TV. The program and speakers will attract a diverse U.S. audience including those who are interested in foreign policy, local issues with global implications, Sustainable Development Goals, and who want to take action to support a strong U.S.-UN partnership.

#### **FORMAT**

Our theme for GES2024—PUSHING FORWARD>>>FOR PEOPLE & PLANET—highlights the importance of empowering our advocates to take bold action in order to achieve great impact in the areas of people and planet. The event will serve as a continuation of the celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights' 75th Anniversary. In addition, the event will feature a unique Fashion Showcase to demonstrate how individuals and businesses are bolstering the push for sustainability through their products and platforms.

The full day event will begin at 10:00 am ET with an Opening Plenary, panel discussions at 30 minutes, fireside chat conversations at 20 minutes, multiple recorded Field Visit Videos, and a unique 45-minute Fashion Showcase.

In order to ensure that GES2024 is able to cover diverse topics, geographic hotspots, and ensure awareness and attention on situations for which we cannot dedicate time for live discussions, we will curate recorded Field Visit Videos. These 5-7 minute videos will transport our audience to view the UN's impact "out in the field."

In addition, the Summit will offer all participants—whether in person or online—the opportunity to advocate for the UN. Prior to the event in-person attendees will have access to complementary pre-Summit activities, including a UN careers session, discounted UN tours, and more.



## **FASHION SHOWCASE**

In order to address the thematic area of Planet from the event theme (Pushing Forward>>>For People & Planet), UNA-USA will host a Fashion Showcase as part of GES2024.

UNA-USA is collaborating with the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion (Alliance), which is an initiative of United Nations agencies and allied organizations designed to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals through coordinated action in the fashion sector. Specifically,

the Alliance works to support coordination between UN bodies working in fashion and promoting projects and policies that ensure that the fashion value chain contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals' targets. In particular, UNA-USA will highlight the Alliance's partners and will utilize the principles from the <u>Sustainable Fashion Communication Playbook</u> developed by UNEP and UN Climate Change.

UNA-USA will partner with companies and American fashion designers—called Fashion Showcase Contributors (Contributors)—to bring a Sustainable Fashion Showcase to the stage during GES2024. Sophia Kianni, who was the UN's youngest advisor to serve on the UN Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change and who currently serves as UNA-USA Advisor, will serve as the Fashion Showcase's host.

#### MORE INFORMATION

UNA-USA welcomes a conversation to discuss partnership options and additional opportunities.

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#### **ABOUT UNA-USA**

The United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA) is a movement of Americans dedicated to supporting the United Nations. With over 20,000 members (65% under the age of 26) and more than 200 chapters across the country, UNA-USA members are united in their commitment to global engagement and their belief that each of us can play a part in advancing the UN's mission and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. UNA-USA members advocate and champion the UN's work in their communities, on campuses, and within Congress to ensure that the UN can continue its work towards peace, dignity and equality on a healthy planet.