

Mid-Level Managers' SYMPOSIUM

VIRTUAL SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29		
Time	Event	Description
9:30-10:30AM	The Power of Presence: Leading from the Inside Out	In this session, leadership strategist, executive coach and bestselling author L. Michelle Smith reframes what it means to lead with presence, beginning with self mastery when the stakes are high, tapping into instincts when connecting with others, and finding your voice in fast-paced, complex environments Drawing on emotional intelligence, relationship dynamics, and cultural fluency, participants will explore how they show up and leave with renewed intention and something they can put to work immediately."
10:30-11:00 AM	Break	
11:00-12:00 PM	Breakout Sessions 1	Choose Your Path: Breakout Sessions led by ELC Members and Senior Leaders operating at the highest levels of the Fortune 500
12:00-2:00 PM	Lunch	
2:00-3:00 PM	Breakout Sessions 2	Choose Your Path: Breakout Sessions led by ELC Members and Senior Leaders operating at the highest levels of the Fortune 500
3:00-3:30 PM	Break	
3:30-4:30 PM	Breakout Sessions 3	Choose Your Path: Breakout Sessions led by ELC Members and Senior Leaders operating at the highest levels of the Fortune 500
4:30-5:00 PM	Break	
5:00-6:30 PM	Life Lessons Disguised as a Fireside Chat with Roy Wood Jr.	Drawing on the humor, storytelling, and layered life lessons from his book <i>Man of Many Fathers: Life Lessons Disguised as a Memoir</i>, Roy Wood Jr. explores how diverse influences shape our leadership lens. Through the metaphor of "many fathers" — mentors, critics, culture, and lived experience — this session challenges MLMS leaders to expand their definition of guidance, embrace unconventional wisdom, and lead with greater empathy and accountability. You will leave with a sharper awareness of how identity, upbringing, and perspective influence decision-making — and how to intentionally curate the voices that shape your leadership journey going forward.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

Time	Event	Description
7:30-9:00 AM	Breakfast	
9:00-10:10 AM	The Price of Nice with Amira Barger	Inspired by her best-selling book <i>The Price of Nice</i> , Amira Barger shares the hidden trade-offs of prioritizing likability over leadership. This session explores the cultural and professional conditioning that drives “niceness,” and offers a reframed approach rooted in clarity and conviction. You’ll learn how to communicate with directness without losing trust, navigate conflict productively, and shift from being agreeable to being impactful.
10:10-10:30 AM	Break	
10:30-11:30 AM	Breakout Session 4	Choose Your Path: Breakout Sessions led by ELC Members and Senior Leaders operating at the highest levels of the Fortune 500
11:30-1:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00-2:00 PM	Betting on Yourself: Building Influence, Opportunity, and Wealth in Uncertain Times Featuring Rodney Williams	In today’s rapidly changing workplace, career growth belongs to leaders who can recognize opportunity before others do, take calculated risks, and create value in unexpected ways. As an entrepreneur, investor, and founder of one of the nation’s leading fintech platforms, Rodney Williams has built a career by challenging conventional thinking and turning bold ideas into transformative businesses. In this candid conversation, Rodney will share lessons from his journey — from launching groundbreaking ventures to leading through disruption and scaling innovation.
2:00-2:30 PM	Break	
2:30-3:30 PM	Lessons from 40 Years: Leadership Then, Now, and Next with Carla Harris	As we celebrate the Executive Leadership Council’s 40th anniversary, join Carla Harris for a fireside chat exploring how the workplace has evolved — and what leadership may require in the future. Designed for mid-level managers navigating today’s rapidly changing workplace, this conversation will examine how the role of the manager has shifted, and will continue to. Carla Harris will share lessons learned from leading through change and building impact across generations.
3:30-3:50 PM	Program Close	