



Culturati: Summit

Report

2C
26

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Executive Summary

"I showed up ready to talk technology and left thinking about trust, vulnerability, and leading with courage."

"I found the AI focus to be both expected and appropriate - indicating significant AI productivity improvement, without job replacement. If generally true, this would be a most welcome change in the whole narrative."

-Culturati Summit 2C26 Attendees

The 11th Annual Culturati Summit, held March 29–30, 2026, at Campus on Lake Austin, convened executives, scholars, founders, and public-sector leaders for a highly curated, candid exchange. Attendees represented a cross-section of industries and geographies, with a community that continues to skew senior: 77% C-suite, including a strong concentration of CEOs and CHROs. This year's theme, **Courageous Leadership**, shaped two days of rigorous conversation around decision-making under pressure, trust as infrastructure, and the discipline required to lead through uncertainty.

Thanks to the support of our partners, sponsors, speakers, and community members, the Summit continued to deliver the kind of environment that has come to define Culturati: intimate, thoughtful, and grounded in substance. Across keynotes, breakouts, dinners, and informal conversations, leaders engaged openly, exchanged ideas candidly, and worked through real organizational and societal challenges with peers operating at a high level.

Feedback throughout the Summit reflected strong engagement, meaningful connection, and a consistent appreciation for the candid, peer-driven dialogue that distinguishes this community. The experience delivered a 4.5 overall satisfaction score, with 100% of attendees indicating they would return and 94% saying the value met or exceeded the cost—clear signals that this community continues to resonate deeply with senior leaders navigating a rapidly changing world.

SCORES AT A GLANCE



Overall Event Satisfaction: 4.5



Would Attend Again: 100%



Experience Delivered Equivalent or Greater Value Than Cost: 94%

2C26 PROGRAMMING PILLARS

Leadership Pillar: Leading with Courage, Clarity & Speed

AI Pillar: Managing, Adopting & Leading from Analog Companies to Frontier Organizations

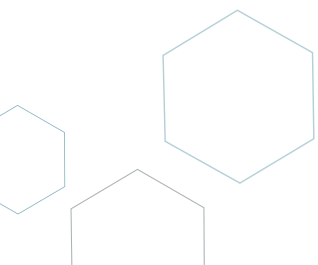
Cognitive Hospitality Pillar: Building Cultures of Agency & Trust

Geopolitical Headwinds Pillar: Managing & Monitoring the Inflection Points Through Forecasting and Scenario Planning

Scores based on: 5 = excellent. 4 = exceeded expectations. 3 = satisfied. 2 = somewhat satisfied. 1 = not satisfied.

Overall Event Satisfaction	Sunday's CEO Dinner	Campus on Lake Austin
4.5 out of 35 responses	4.6 out of 20 responses	4.6 out of 18 responses
Sprinter Transportation	Sunset Dinner Cruise	Emcee, Steven Tomlinson
4.7 out of 13 responses	3.8 out of 16 responses	4.6 out of 18 responses
Emcee, Michelle Gethers	Keynote: Courageous Leadership: Agency at the Edge	Keynote: Leading at the Frontier: Rethinking Work in the AI Era
4.4 out of 18 responses	4.0 out of 43 responses	4.3 out of 52 responses
Keynote: Leadership at the Inflection Point: Turning Transition into Momentum"	Keynote: From Broadcast to Network: A New System for Culture	Keynote: The Biology of Courage: Trust, Story, and the Future of Human Performance
4.0 out of 50 responses	3.9 out of 47 responses	3.8 out of 44 responses
Keynote: Redesign Work for the Agentic Era: What Leaders Need to Rethink Now	Keynote: AI Stewardship & Accountability	Keynote: Workforce 4.0 and The Next Frontier
4.0 out of 41 responses	4.2 out of 38 responses	4.0 out of 41 responses

Breakout 1: The New Growth Equation: Courage, Capability, and AI Agents	Breakout 1: From Broadcast to Network: Leading Culture in a Digital-First World	Breakout 1: Real AI Transformation: People, Not Just Technology
3.9 out of 7 responses	5 out of 2 responses	4.1 out of 13 responses
Breakout 1: Brave New World: Using Intelligence Methodology to Navigate Geopolitical Volatility	Breakout 1: Turning Inflection Points into Momentum: Leadership in Action	Breakout 2: Navigating Human-Centered Change at the Pace of A
3.9 out of 12 responses	4.0 out of 3 responses	3.9 out of 8 responses
Breakout 2: Forging Antifragile Confidence: The Leadership Operating System for Human Flourishing	Breakout 2: Responsible AI Is a Culture Problem, Not a Technology Problem	Breakout 2: Trust as Infrastructure: An Interactive Lab Showing That Stories Produce Neural Synchrony
4.4 out of 7 responses	4.5 out of 4 responses	4.4 out of 10 responses
Breakout 2: Build the Human-Agent Workforce: Action Planning	Would Return for Culturati: Summit 2C27	Experience Delivered Equivalent or Greater Value Than Cost
3.9 out of 16 responses	100%	94%



Demographics

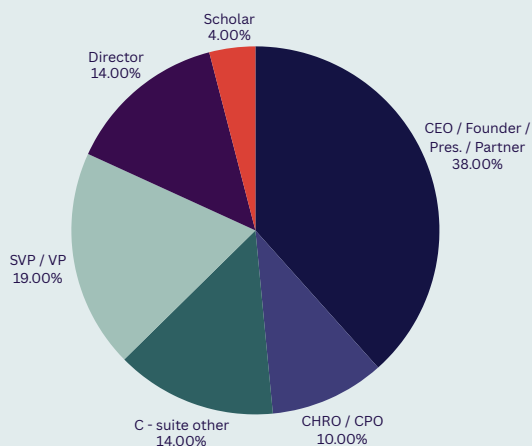
Our annual goal is 150 attendees. We purposefully cap to ensure intimacy and peer-to-peer sharing. This year we had 134 registrations.

- **Gender:** 52% were female, 46% were male, and 2% were non-binary.
- **Ethnicity:** 72% White, 10% Asian, 7% Black, 7% Latinx, 4% Multiple Races / Ethnicities / Origins, 1% Middle Eastern/North African, 1 % American Indian / Alaskan Native
- **Age Range:** 1% in their 20s, 13% in their 30s, 30% in their 40s, 33% in their 50s, 9% in their 60s, 2% in their 70s, 1%, and 12% preferred not to answer.
- **Public / Private / Nonprofit:** 33% were publicly traded companies, 54% were private, 11% nonprofit and 1% answered "N/A".

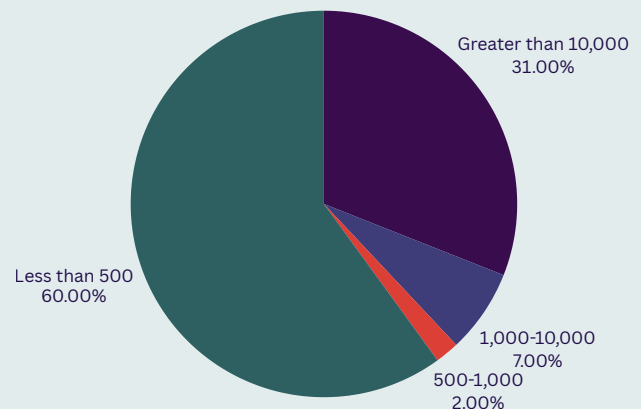
We are committed to increasing diversity while maintaining our focus on C-level attendees. 63% of our 2026 attendees were C-level, (38% of which were CEOs, Founders, Presidents or Managing partners).

93 companies **18** industries **5** countries **19** U.S. states **43** U.S. cities

Attendee Role



Company Size



What Attendees Are Saying

- 36 hours of real, purposeful connection - Culturati was a master class in how to go deep, fast - spurring deep thinking, generating practical insights, and fostering meaningful connection.
- The conversational focus this year has never been more finely targeted to the new challenges as a result of the rapidly evolving age of AI and the attendees were of the highest caliber of any summit I've attended in the last few years.
- I love Culturati's unique ability to link hard data and world-changing technologies with culture and care. I never fail to leave energized, smarter, and full of optimism!
- I enjoyed the speakers, the authentic conversations, the topics, and the space. All in all, one of my top favorite gatherings.
- This the only conference where virtues such a courage and resilience are emphasized more than skills and talent.
- I showed up ready to talk technology and left thinking about trust, vulnerability, and leading with courage.
- This is my second time attending, and so glad I came back. I met people who are so willing to learn and share and be the best version of themselves. Humble individuals that are thought leaders and role models for what leadership is, and should be. I loved my time at Culturati, and the Holdsworth Center is truly a peaceful oasis. Attending Culturati is an investment in my thought leadership, expanding my network and re-energizing my soul.
- The event has demonstrated "staying power" and continues to resonate with attendees. The venue is terrific and logistics very well done. The dinners remain a unique and quality component to the whole program.
- I continue to be impressed by the entire Culturati team and how thoughtfully the programming is put together. Such thought and care taken to have just the right blend of speakers and guests.
- Hearing neuroscientists, military veterans, and McKinsey partners all arrive at the same conclusion that trust is the foundation of everything was most validating.
- Great people who were very very generous with their time, thoughts, everything. Dinner was my favorite part!
- Small group dinners with exceptional facilitation to go beyond intros to deep and engaging discussion fast. No drawn-out sessions - compact, rich, enough to whet the appetite and provide fodder for follow-up discussions. Exceptional logistics.
- I'm not a fan of conferences. Well, more specifically, I'm not a fan of forced networking and recycled keynotes. But Culturati is not a conference. It was authentic connection. It was ~175 senior leaders in a living-room setup, having real conversations about the hardest questions in business right now.
- The conference from start to CEO dinners to full program next day is run very well, the content is relevant to current environment and uncertainties at work.
- Relevancy of topics, the applicability of the take aways, and the quality of attendees.
- Real-world relevance -- not just themes and trends.
- Bringing a variety of thought leaders across multiple topics and perspectives.
- Tying the breakouts to the keynote is such a simple and effective idea, that I wish every conference followed.
- Small size, others welcoming and friendly, valuable breakouts.
- This was my first time attending. The best thing I got from the experience was meeting some very interesting people. I appreciated how friendly everyone was; that it wasn't too big; and that there were so many knowledgeable and inspiring speakers.

Thank You

The support of our partners, sponsors, speakers, and broader community contributed meaningfully to the strength and continuity of this year's Summit. The level of participation, engagement, and return intent reflected more than a successful event—it reflected a community built with care, trust, and sustained investment from people who recognize the importance of creating spaces for candid, substantive dialogue among senior leaders.

Experiences like Culturati do not happen accidentally. They are shaped by individuals and organizations willing to support thoughtful convening, rigorous conversation, and the kind of environment where meaningful relationships and ideas can take root. That collective support helped make this year's Summit possible and reinforced the quality, integrity, and depth of the experience delivered throughout the gathering.

We are grateful to everyone who helped make Culturati: Summit 2C26 possible and have a hold April 4-6 2027, for next year's gathering at Campus on Lake Austin.



[Watch 2C26 Highlight Reel](#)

[All Event Photos](#)

[All Event Videos](#)