

COACH TRAINING EDU



IGNITE

GLOBAL GATHERING

SCHEDULE & SPEAKERS

October 1-4, 2026 | Denver, Colorado

IGNITE

CTEDU Global Gathering 2026

Denver, Colorado | October 1-4, 2026 | Thursday Evening through Sunday Morning

WELCOME

IGNITE is CTEDU's Global Gathering, a three-day conference for coaches, practitioners, and educators who want to sharpen their craft, grow their practice, and reconnect with the broader CTEDU community. Space is limited to 150 attendees.

AT A GLANCE

Dates: October 1-4, 2026 (Thursday evening through Sunday morning)

Location: Denver, Colorado

Capacity: 150 attendees

Format: Spark Talks, Keynotes, Breakout Sessions, Networking, and Host Dinners

Meals: Breakfast and lunch provided Friday and Saturday



FULL SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

4:00 PM	Hotel Check-In and Registration	<i>Pick up your badge, schedule, and materials. Room block available.</i>
6:00 PM	Open Connection Space	<i>Informal welcome. Meet fellow attendees before the evening program begins.</i>
7:00 PM	Welcome Remarks	<i>John Andrew Williams opens IGNITE 2026.</i>
7:20 PM	Speed Networking	<i>Fast, fun, structured connections led by Brittany and Carrie.</i>
7:50 PM	Opening Keynote: Raj Anderson	<i>The Coaching Formula: Whole Human Potential.</i>
8:30 PM	Welcome Reception	<i>Drinks and light appetizers. Open networking.</i>
10:00 PM	Evening Closes	

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

8:00 AM	Coffee and Breakfast	<i>Doors open. Hotel breakfast service available.</i>
9:00 AM	Keynote: John Andrew Williams	<i>Small Flame or Blazing Fire: Marcus Aurelius, Goals, and the Spark Delta.</i>
9:45 AM	Spark Talks, Block 1	<i>Featured Talk: Janice Perkins, Click: The Importance of Chemistry in Coaching. Plus additional speakers.</i>
11:00 AM	Networking Break	<i>Connect with Spark Talk speakers and fellow coaches. Coffee service continues.</i>
11:45 AM	Spark Talks, Block 2	<i>Featured Talk: Edward Macdonald, Wired: Your Brain on Goals. Plus additional speakers.</i>
1:00 PM	Lunch	<i>Catered buffet. Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options available.</i>
2:00 PM	Breakout Session: Coaching Niche	<i>Connect with coaches working in your specialty area: Wellness, Executive, Academic, and more.</i>
3:30 PM	Networking Break	<i>Connect with Spark Talk speakers and fellow coaches.</i>
4:00 PM	The Coaching Practice Lab	<i>A live, participatory session with John Andrew Williams on the real decisions behind building a lasting practice.</i>

5:15 PM	Day Closes	<i>Evening free to explore Denver.</i>
6:30 PM	Host Dinners	<i>Join a dinner hosted by your favorite CTEDU trainer at a local Denver restaurant.</i>

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

8:00 AM	Coffee and Breakfast	<i>Doors open. Hotel breakfast service available.</i>
9:00 AM	Spark Talks, Block 3	<i>Featured Talk: Eric Bejleri, Metaphors: The Invitation Tool. Plus additional speakers.</i>
10:15 AM	Networking Break	<i>Connect with Spark Talk speakers and fellow coaches.</i>
11:00 AM	Spark Talks, Block 4	<i>Featured Talk: Dr. Danny McGuire, Hard Reset: Calm Is a State. Reliability Is a Skill. Plus additional speakers.</i>
12:15 PM	Lunch	<i>Catered buffet. Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options available.</i>
1:15 PM	Breakout Session: Business Accelerator	<i>Branding Consults. Social Media Consults. Business Referral Exchange. Podcast Guest Exchange.</i>
2:45 PM	Networking Break	<i>Connect with Spark Talk speakers and fellow coaches.</i>
3:15 PM	Top Coach Finale Watch Party	<i>The final episode releases live at IGNITE. The Top Coach Winner will be in the room.</i>
5:00 PM	Closing Remarks	<i>Final words from the CTEDU team.</i>
6:30 PM	Host Dinners	<i>Join a dinner hosted by your favorite CTEDU trainer at a local Denver restaurant.</i>

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:00 AM	Farewell Breakfast	<i>Light continental service. A final chance to connect before you head out.</i>
9:00 AM	Open Space	<i>No structured programming. Linger, connect, or begin your trip home.</i>
11:00 AM	IGNITE Concludes	<i>Check-out time. Safe travels.</i>



Keynote Speakers

THURSDAY EVENING KEYNOTE



Raj Anderson, MBA, MCC

Founder and CEO, Coachability. Master Certified Coach with 27+ years coaching leaders, CEOs, and coaches worldwide. Creator of LeadIN: Leadership from Inside Out. Co-host, Coaching to Flourish podcast with John Andrew Williams.

The Coaching Formula: Whole Human Potential

Raj Anderson opens IGNITE with her signature inside-out framework, inviting coaches to examine their own operating system before they ever consider the client's. The keynote covers self-mastery, brand, presence, and the energy a coach brings to every session.

With 27+ years of experience coaching thousands of leaders and coaches worldwide, Raj brings both rigor and warmth. This is a keynote for practitioners who take their own development as seriously as their clients' growth.

FRIDAY MORNING KEYNOTE



John Andrew Williams, MCC

Founder and CEO, CTEDU. Former Newsweek Education columnist and high school Latin teacher. 20+ years of coaching. 4,000+ coaching hours. 5,000+ coaches trained.

Small Flame or Blazing Fire: Marcus Aurelius, Goals, and the Spark Delta

John opens the conference with a keynote grounded in Marcus Aurelius's Meditations: a small flame is stifled by what is thrown on it, while a blazing fire consumes whatever is cast on it and rises higher. The observation is not about the fuel. It is about the condition of the fire.

The talk traces that insight through 35 years of behavioral science, including self-concordance theory, mental contrasting, and implementation intentions, then introduces the Spark Delta: a concept that measures not just the quality of a goal, but how a goal responds to examination. A goal that dims under scrutiny was borrowed, not owned. A goal that brightens is worth a person's full energy.

The keynote includes a live Spark Delta moment. Attendees hold one goal in mind, rate it at the open, and return to it at the close, experiencing the tool from the inside before they ever use it with a client.



Spark Talks

Spark Talks are 10-15 minute practitioner-driven presentations on the main stage, organized into blocks with a featured speaker followed by additional talks and a structured group debrief. Every talk is selected through an open proposals process. The format rewards clarity, specificity, and a single powerful idea.

FEATURED TALKS

Additional talks will be announced as we get closer to the event.



Janice Perkins, PhD, PCC

Executive Coach | Leadership Communication Scholar | Member, 100 Coaches

[Click: The Importance of Chemistry in Coaching](#)

Coaches are trained to build trust, but what if trust is not the starting point? Drawing from her doctoral research, Janice argues that what coaches call good chemistry is within their control. She reveals the relational roles that help chemistry emerge, the gates that open connection, the accelerators, and the quiet killers that shut it down.

Chemistry is not luck, skill, or personality fit. It is an interactional phenomenon that is observable, influenceable, and one of coaching's most overlooked opportunities.



Edward Macdonald, MBA, MCC

Master Certified Coach | Founder, Limitless Development | Neurofeedback-Informed Coach

[Wired: Your Brain on Goals](#)

Most goal-setting conversations happen from the neck up. Edward brings the brain itself into the room. Drawing on his neurofeedback practice and 11 years of coaching at the intersection of neuroscience and performance, he walks through what a BrainMap actually shows: real-time brainwave activity that reveals how a person's nervous system is organized for focus, regulation, and resilience.

Attendees see how dysregulation shows up in the data long before it shows up in the conversation, and what coaches can do with that information without crossing into clinical territory.



Dr. Danny McGuire

EdD, PCC (MCCCandidate) | Founder, Crosstown | Author, *Hard Reset: Reliability Under Pressure*

Hard Reset: Calm Is a State. Reliability Is a Skill.

Coaches often encourage clients to stay calm or bounce back, but those phrases describe outcomes rather than a process for returning when pressure disrupts judgment. Dr. McGuire reframes reliability as the practiced capacity to recover deliberate action even while emotion remains.

He demonstrates a live ICF-aligned coaching sequence: regulate enough to pause, separate observable evidence from interpretation, notice the pattern without shame, reconnect with responsibility and values, and choose a client-generated next action.

Calm is a state; reliability is a skill. Coaches cannot guarantee the first, but they can help clients practice the second.



Eric Bejleri

ACC, CTEDU Coach Trainer

Metaphors: The Invitation Tool

Metaphors are a coaching tool in their own right, capable of generating insight in ways that direct questioning cannot. Eric explores metaphor as a facilitator of Level 2 and Level 3 listening, a safe playground for thought, and a way to synthesize learning, being, and doing.

He covers the science behind why metaphors work, three ways they function as an invitation inside a session, and how to generate and apply them in practice. Coaches leave with a method they can use in the very next session.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Format	10-15 minutes. Main stage, full group.
Block structure	Each block opens with a Featured Talk, followed by additional Spark Talks.
Incentive	Accepted speakers receive \$100 off registration, a professional branded recording of their talk, and a feature on CTEDU social channels. Attendance required.
To apply	Submit your proposal at form.jotform.com/261674987952174
Media Kit	CTEDU will provide you a Media Kit to help promote your Spark Talk to your audience.
Questions	Email support@coachtrainingedu.com

Breakout Sessions

Each afternoon opens into concurrent breakout sessions. Attendees self-select based on interest. Sessions run approximately 75 minutes and are designed for active participation. Friday and Saturday each have a distinct theme.

BREAKOUT SESSION: COACHING NICHE

Friday, 2:00 PM

Connect with coaches working in your specialized area. Each room is organized around a coaching niche. These are peer-led conversations, not panels. Come ready to share what is working, what is hard, and what you are figuring out.

Session	Focus
Wellness Coaching	Health behavior change, habit design, and whole-person approaches to client wellbeing.
Executive Coaching	Leadership development, organizational dynamics, and coaching high-stakes clients.
Academic Coaching	Student success, college readiness, and educator-coaches in school settings.
Corporate Coaching	Coaching inside organizations: teams, culture, and institutional change.
Additional Niches	Additional rooms based on attendee interest. Topic board posted morning of.

BREAKOUT SESSION: BUSINESS ACCELERATOR

Saturday, 1:15 PM

Saturday's breakouts focus on the business side of coaching: visibility, referrals, and expanding reach. Choose the session most relevant to where your practice is right now.

Session	Focus
Branding Consults	Focused consults for coaches building their public presence. Bring your bio, website, or brand questions.
Social Media Consults	Content clarity, platform fit, and sustainable posting systems. Blank slate or established presence, both welcome.



Business Referral
Exchange

Share your ideal client profile, articulate your specialty, and leave with referral partners.

Podcast Guest
Exchange

Hosts and prospective guests match up. Leave with confirmed conversations and clear next steps.

Special Programming

TOP COACH FINALE WATCH PARTY

Saturday | 3:15 PM

The Top Coach Finale episode releases live at IGNITE. The room watches together as the season's final coaching sessions unfold, the judging concludes, and the Top Coach Winner is revealed. The winner will be present in the room.

This is one of the most anticipated moments of the Gathering: a celebration of coaching excellence from people who understand what it actually takes.

THE COACHING PRACTICE LAB

John Andrew Williams | Friday, 4:00 PM

Great coaching requires two things working together: the capacity to lead from within, and the skill to lead in the room. The Coaching Practice Lab is a live session with John Andrew Williams that works both. The first half examines the internal work: the beliefs, identity, and self-awareness that determine how a coach shows up before a single question is asked. The second half turns outward to practical skill: how to structure a practice, position a niche, and build the competencies that keep clients coming back.



Host Dinners

Host Dinners take place Friday and Saturday evenings at local Denver restaurants. Each dinner is hosted by one of the CTEDU trainers attending IGNITE. These are small-group dinners designed for real conversation with coaches you want to know better. Groups are typically 8-12 coaches per host. Each guest covers their own meal.

Host Dinner Logistics

Friday, October 2 | Departure from hotel approximately 6:30 PM

Saturday, October 3 | Departure from hotel approximately 6:30 PM

Groups: 8-12 attendees per host. Registration available in advance.

Each guest covers their own meal at a local Denver restaurant.

YOUR HOSTS



Raj Anderson

MCC, MBA

Founder and CEO of Coachability, master coach and coach trainer with 27+ years of experience coaching executives, leaders, and coaches worldwide. Creator of LeadIN: Leadership from Inside Out. Co-host of the Coaching to Flourish podcast.



Brittany Macdonald

MCC, VP of Enrollment

Master Certified Coach with 15 years of coaching expertise. Brittany is passionate about helping coaches understand the coaching industry, credentialing, and how to build a successful practice. Based in Colorado Springs with husband and fellow MCC Edward Macdonald.



Edward Macdonald

MCC, MBA

Master Certified Coach with 11 years of coaching experience and deep training in neuroscience. Founder of Limitless Development. Specializes in helping leaders evolve neurologically, emotionally, and behaviorally. Based in Colorado Springs.



Eric Bejleri

ACC

Alignment coach specializing in helping eco-conscious, purpose-driven professionals live true to their values. Background in game development and player psychology. CTEDU trainer.



Jen Torres

PCC

Academic Life Coach and PCC trainer for CTEDU's Academic, Wellness, and Executive programs. Based in Toronto. Specializes in life transitions, risk, and redefining goals. Also offers adulting workshops for young people.



Teresa Gallis

PCC, NBC-HWC

Trauma-informed executive health coach, Registered Yoga Teacher, and NBHWC assessor. Helps busy professionals prevent burnout and build sustainable whole-person wellness systems. Certified Mental Health First Aid trainer.



Timi Csontos

PCC

PCC coach, Systemic Team Coaching certificate holder, and Positive Psychology Practitioner with 10+ years in leadership development across 40+ organizations. Based in the Netherlands. Specializes in executive coaching, facilitation, and organizational culture.



Chris Garvin

PCC

Professional Certified Coach known for creating space where real thinking happens. Background in leadership development with an intuitive, empathetic style. Helps people find clarity and direction amid complexity and change.



Jantell Walker-Watkins

PCC

Certified Wellness and Relationship Coach. Founder of Romantic Expressions LLC, helping couples and individuals tap into their inner values and shift toward a more joyful life. Based in Atlanta, Georgia.



LouAnne Metzger

PCC

Experienced educator and Professional Certified Coach specializing in empowering educators and leaders to overcome challenges, prioritize wellbeing, and build purpose-driven careers. Director of Credentialing Support, local ICF chapter. 2024 Emerging Coaching Catalyst.



Kathleen Shea-Smith

CTEDU Trainer

CTEDU trainer and coach. Bio coming soon.

IGNITE 2025 | CTEDU Global Gathering | Denver, Colorado | October 1-4, 2025 | Schedule subject to final confirmation. Headshots and additional speaker announcements coming soon.

