



WITA

The International Trade Association

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them; a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly by all the foregoing history, the people have suffered the most signal and long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same arbitrary and oppressive course, to subvert them under various pretenses, for which they have a right to complain to the Supreme Being as a duty of injured persons, and look to the Almighty for redress. The history of the present United States is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct or indirect purpose the establishment of a tyrannical Government. The history of the present United States is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct or indirect purpose the establishment of a tyrannical Government.

2026 WITA Annual Dinner



WEDNESDAY, JULY 22 & 5:30 PM TO 11:00 PM

ATRIUM AND ATRIUM HALL

RONALD REAGAN BUILDING AND
INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW ☆ Washington, DC

Hosted by the Washington International Trade Foundation

PAST HONOREES & SPEAKERS AT THE WITA ANNUAL DINNER

2025

Senator Mike Crapo, Congressional Leadership Award
Special remarks by Ambassador Carla Hills, remembering Frederick W. Smith, founder of FedEx
Senator Michael Bennet, Congressional Leadership Award
Mike Dankler, WITA Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Kelly Ann Shaw

2024

Senator Chris Coons, Congressional Leadership Award
Congressman Darin LaHood, Congressional Leadership Award
Ana Swanson, Lighthouse Award
Doug Palmer, Lighthouse Award
Masters of Ceremonies: Kaitlin Sighinolfi & Nasim Fussell

2023

Congressman Adrian Smith, Congressional Leadership Award
Senator Tom Carper, American Leadership Award
Deputy Director-General Angela Ellard, Lifetime Achievement Award
Monica H. Whaley, Lighthouse Award
Masters of Ceremonies: Stacy J. Ettinger & Vanessa Sciarra

2022

Congressman Ron Kind, Distinguished Service Award
Senator Pat Toomey, Distinguished Service Award
Ambassador Carla Hills, Lifetime Achievement Award
Jennifer A. Hillman, Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Ambassador Rufus Yerxa

2021

Congressman Richard Neal, Congressional Leadership Award
Congressman Kevin Brady, Lifetime Achievement Award
Ambassador Rufus Yerxa, Lifetime Achievement Award
Florizelle Liser, Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Ambassador Susan Schwab

2019

Senator Chuck Grassley, The American Leadership Award
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene, Congressional Leadership Award
Congresswoman Jackie Walorski, Congressional Leadership Award
Women in International Trade (WIIT), Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: John Veroneau

2018

Senator Ben Cardin, Congressional Leadership Award
Senator Pat Roberts, Congressional Leadership Award
Secretary Sonny Perdue, American Leadership Award
Laura Baughman, Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Nicole Bivens Collinson

2017

Congressman Rick Larsen, Congressional Leadership Award
Senator Jeff Flake, Congressional Leadership Award
Meredith Broadbent, Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Kellie Meiman Hock

2016

Secretary Penny Pritzker, Global Leadership Award
Congressman Earl Blumenauer, Congressional Leadership Award
Congressman David Reichert, Congressional Leadership Award
Bill Lane, Lighthouse Award
William Reinsch, Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Nicole Venable

2015

Congressman Paul Ryan, Congressional Leadership Award
Senator Orrin Hatch, Congressional Leadership Award
Senator Ron Wyden, Congressional Leadership Award
Ambassador Mike Moore, Lifetime Achievement Award
Everett Eissenstat, Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Nicole Venable

2014

Congressman Charles Boustany Jr. MD, Congressional Leadership Award
Congressman Ron Kind, Congressional Leadership Award
Ambassador Michael Punke, Distinguished Service Award
Ambassador Clayton Yeutter, Lifetime Achievement Award
Wendy Cutler, Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Ambassador Peter Allgeier

2013

Chairman Dave Camp, Distinguished Leadership in International Trade
United States Trade Representative Michael Froman, Distinguished Leadership in International Trade
Congressman Gregory Meeks, Distinguished Leadership in International Trade
Ed Gresser, Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Ambassador Peter Allgeier

2012

United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk, Distinguished Service Award
Congressman David Dreier, Lifetime Achievement Award
Jutta Hennig, Lighthouse Award
Master of Ceremonies: Grant Aldonas

2011

Senator Rob Portman, Distinguished Service Award
Senator John Kerry, Distinguished Service Award
Angela Ellard & Viji Rangaswami, Lighthouse Award
Keynote address by United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk
Master of Ceremonies: Frusina Harsanyi

2010

Senator Max Baucus, Lifetime Achievement Award
Ambassador Jon Huntsman, Distinguished Service Award
R. Scott Miller, Lighthouse Award
Keynote address by former United States Trade Representative Susan Schwab
Master of Ceremonies: Dan Glickman

2009

Congressman Kevin Brady, Distinguished Service Award
Congressman Joe Crowley, Distinguished Service Award
Frank & Regina Vargo, Lighthouse Award
Keynote address by Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke
Master of Ceremonies: Jim Kolbe

2008

United States Trade Representative Susan Schwab, Distinguished Service Award
R.K. "Judge" Morris, Lighthouse Award
Keynote address by former United States Trade Representative Rob Portman
Master of Ceremonies: Cal Dooley

2007

WITA's 25th Anniversary: Celebrating a Quarter Century of Trade Leadership
Keynote address by Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez
Master of Ceremonies: John Castellani

2006

Congressman Charles Rangel, Distinguished Service Award
Congressman Jim Kolbe, Lifetime Achievement Award
Keynote address by Senator Hillary Clinton
Master of Ceremonies: Bill Lane

2005

Congressman William Thomas, Distinguished Service Award
Congressman Robert Matsui, Lifetime Achievement Award
Keynote address by Congressman Jim Kolbe

2004

Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade Grant Aldonas, Distinguished Service Award
Deputy United States Trade Representative Peter Allgeier, Distinguished Service Award
Keynote address by Congressman Cal Dooley
Master of Ceremonies: Bill Lane

2003

United States Trade Representative Robert Zoellick, Distinguished Service Award
Keynote address by Jack Valenti

2002

Congressman Amo Houghton, Lifetime Achievement Award
Congressman William Jefferson, Distinguished Service Award
Congressman John Tanner, Distinguished Service Award

2001

Congressman Phil Crane, Lifetime Achievement Award
Senator Charles Grassley, Distinguished Service Award
Congressman Sander Levin, Distinguished Service Award

2000

Secretary of Commerce William Daley, Lifetime Achievement Award
Congressman Calvin Dooley, Distinguished Service Award
Congressman David Dreier, Distinguished Service Award

1999

Senator Max Baucus, Distinguished Service Award
Senator Chuck Hagel, Distinguished Service Award

1998

Secretary of Treasury Robert E. Rubin, Distinguished Service Award
Senator William V. Roth, Distinguished Service Award

1997

United States Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, Distinguished Service Award
Congressman William Archer, Distinguished Service Award

1996

Congressman Sam Gibbons, Lifetime Achievement Award
Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade Stuart Eizenstat, Distinguished Service Award

1995

Congressman James Kolbe, Distinguished Service Award
Congressman Robert Matsui, Distinguished Service Award



WITA - The International Trade Association
Washington International Trade Foundation



Welcome you to the

2026 WITA

Annual Dinner



Each year we honor individuals who have provided
leadership and vision in the advancement of
international trade and economic policy.

Thank you for joining us this evening as we honor

Senator Maria Cantwell

United States Congress

Senator Todd Young

United States Congress



Welcome to the WITA & Foundation Dinner!

On behalf of the Boards of WITA and the Foundation, welcome. We are delighted you can join us for a special Annual Dinner celebrating America's 250th and our nation's founding principles. We are especially grateful to our sponsors, whose support makes this evening and all our programming possible. Thank you all!

That support has enabled WITA to convene and connect the Washington, DC trade community with the global trade community through our in-person and online events. In the past twelve months, 12,375 people from 56 different countries have attended our webinars, seminars and in-person events. Among those were nearly 1,000 U.S. government officials and 385 officials from governments outside the United States. In just the past year, WITA's membership has grown by 11% to over 7,300 members, more than double our membership of 2020.

We're grateful to be seen by so many leaders and decision-makers as a trusted platform for informed dialogue on international trade. We're also thrilled that the next generation of trade leaders is engaging with WITA through the WITA Academy, with 450 students from 128 universities participating in our events. In 2025, we also launched WITA's Friday Exchange podcast and video, featuring former trade negotiators and policy experts discussing the week's most important trade developments. In its first year, the podcast has reached 13,300 listeners around the world - be sure to subscribe on YouTube, Spotify, or Apple Podcasts!

Through WITA International, we are creating new opportunities for dialogue, collaboration, and relationship-building both in Washington and around the world. This year, we hosted Trade Salon Dinners in London and Brussels, featuring senior trade officials, business leaders, and policy experts from both sides of the Atlantic in the same spirit of community that defines tonight's Annual Dinner. In the months to come, we look forward to hosting events during the WTO Public Forum in Geneva, and in Dublin and Brussels later in the fall. As we grow WITA's international presence in Europe, we are laying the foundation for future engagement in Latin America, Asia-Pacific, and Africa, and building on our first India Intensive Trade Seminar, held this spring.

Tonight, we are honored to recognize Senators Maria Cantwell and Todd Young, whose leadership has helped advance America's global competitiveness and expand opportunities for American workers, businesses, and farmers through trade. As trade policy continues to evolve, WITA remains committed to providing a trusted platform where policymakers, business leaders, academics, and trade professionals from around the world can engage in informed, constructive dialogue.

Thank you for being here to celebrate our honorees and the extraordinary global trade community that defines WITA. Thanks as well to our special guests from Signature Theater who will be helping us celebrate this evening.

Have a wonderful evening,

Nasim Fussell

Nasim Fussell

Chair of the Board

Washington International Trade Association

Ted Austell

Ted Austell

Chair of the Board

Washington International Trade Foundation

WITA is a non-partisan, non-profit membership organization providing a neutral forum for the open and robust discussion of international trade and economic policy. The Washington International Trade Foundation is the 501(c)(3) organization that hosts the Annual Dinner and supports the educational mission of WITA, the WITA Academy and WITA International.

Evening Schedule



5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Registration & Cocktails

Atrium

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Dinner & Awards Program

Atrium Hall

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Post Dinner Reception

Atrium



You are invited to pick up a gift bag as you exit tonight's event.
Floral centerpieces may also be taken as souvenirs.



Welcome



Kenneth I. Levinson

WITA Chief Executive Officer

Nasim Fussell

WITA Board Chair, Business Roundtable



Awards Program

Nasim Fussell

Presenting Awards to

Senator Todd Young

Congressional Leadership Award

&

Senator Maria Cantwell

Congressional Leadership Award

"Tiny Desk" America 250 Performance by
Alumni of Signature Theatre's Education Programs

Introduced by

Arun Venkataraman

Presentation of 2026 Lighthouse Award by
Stephanie Lester & Sarah Thorn



Menu

PASSED HORS D'OEUVRES

Slab Bacon Skewer
with Jack Daniel's Brown Sugar

Mac & Cheese Popper

Dutch Oven Pot Roast Puffs

**Southern
Shrimp & Grits Fritter**

Roasted Root Vegetable Skewer

FIRST COURSE

Selina's Joy

Swiss Mâche, Mandarin Orange, Craisins, Crumble Farmhouse Cheese,
Toasted Walnuts, Citrus Vinaigrette

ENTRÉE

Dutch Oven Braised Short Rib

Sweet Potato Cake, Green Beans and Peppers, Whiskey Demi Reduction

DESSERT

Pecan Molasses Tart

Butter Crust, Fresh Cranberry Apple Compote, Brandy Cream

POST-DINNER DELIGHTS

Mini Swiss Chocolate Tart

Whipped Mango Mousse, Chocolate Soil, Candied Hazelnuts

If you requested the vegetarian, vegan, or gluten-free options, please notify your server.

Beverages

The Boards of WITA and the Foundation thank the Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S. and the Coca-Cola Company for providing beverages and spirits for tonight's Annual Dinner receptions.



THE *Coca-Cola* COMPANY



The Boards of WITA and the Foundation gratefully acknowledge the generous donations of wine, beer, and refreshments from the following embassies and organizations:

Embassy of Australia

Yalumba Y Series Shiraz

British Embassy

Boddingtons Pub Ale

Strongbow Cider

Wrexham Lager

Samuel Smith Old Brewery

Amstel

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La Cavea Prosecco Spumante Brut

Embassy of Japan

Sapporo Premium

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Heineken Original Beer

Heineken 0.0

Embassy of New Zealand

Nautilus Sauvignon Blanc

Embassy of Switzerland

Chiar di Luna Merlot del Ticino

The Boards of WITA and the Foundation are grateful to the Wine Institute for their generous contribution of wine to tonight's dinner!





Sponsors

DIAMOND SPONSORS

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Consumer Technology Association	Polsinelli
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Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S.	Toyota
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Google	World Trade Center, Washington DC
Hogan Lovells Cadwalader	Ronald Reagan Building and
King & Spalding LLP	International Trade Center

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Corn Refiners Association	SEMI
Covington	Semiconductor Industry Association
Danone U.S.A.	(SIA)
DLA Piper LLP	SK
Eli Lilly and Company	Squire Patton Boggs
Friedrich Naumann Foundation	The Council on American Steel Trade
General Motors	Torrey Advisory Group
Holland & Knight	U.S. Chamber of Commerce
HP Inc	Visa
Hyundai Motor Group	WilmerHale
Kelley Drye & Warren LLP	

Sponsors



GOLD SPONSORS

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National Electrical Manufacturers
Association

Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A.



Board Members



WITA OFFICERS

Nasim Fussell	WITA Chair, Business Roundtable
Stephanie Lester	WITA Vice Chair, Gap Inc.
Paul H. DeLaney, III	WITA Treasurer
Sarah Stewart	WITA Secretary, Silverado Policy Accelerator

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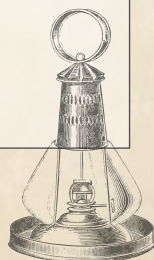
Foundation Board & Staff

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ted Austell.....	Foundation Chair
Bill Lane	Foundation Vice Chair
Andrea Durkin.....	National Association of Manufacturers
John Murphy	U.S. Chamber of Commerce (former)
Kaitlin Sighinolfi	International Paper
Dontai Smalls	UPS
Sarah Thorn	Walmart
Nicole Venable	Invariant
Christopher Wenk.....	Mercedes-Benz North America Corporation

WITA STAFF

Kenneth I. Levinson.....	Chief Executive Officer
Diego Añez	Managing Director, WITA and Executive Director, WITA Academy
Maya Ghazi	Associate Director
Lorenzo Etchevehere	WITA Academy Fellow
Tarang Mishra.....	WITA Academy Fellow
Ethan Zen.....	WITA Academy Fellow
William Dunham	Intern, B.A. International Relations; Pomona College
Juliet Traver-Kazemba.....	Intern, B.S. Business Law; University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Julia Widding	Intern, B.A. International Relations; Lehigh University
Stephen Zaken.....	Intern, B.A. Political Science; University of Kansas



Dinner Committee

and Special Thanks



2026 Annual Dinner Committee

Ted Austell	Foundation Chair
Bill Lane	Foundation Vice Chair, Trade for America
Kenneth I. Levinson	WITA Chief Executive Officer
Diego Añez	Managing Director, WITA and Executive Director, WITA Academy
Selina Jackson	Procter & Gamble
Stephanie Lester	Gap Inc.
Sarah Thorn	Walmart

Thank You!

An extra special thank you to **Allyson Browne McKitthen** and **Maureen Pace** for your support through the World Trade Centers.

We're also deeply grateful to:

Nimal Aluthgama
Erin Taylor
Monica Howell
J. Phillip Gambrell
Dennis Burns
Houman Gohary
Tyler Donahue

... and the entire staff of the
Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
for your tireless and ongoing support of WITA throughout the year.

Special Thanks



Thank you to the following groups and individuals for their dedication, energy, creativity, and tireless enthusiasm:

West Art & Design**Anne West**

Printing Productions, Inc.**Jim Davis**

Ampa Events.....**Ted Rubis**

Herman Farrer Photography.....**Herman Farrer**

MultiFlor**Dinesh Balchandani, Carol Inskeep**

Wine Institute**Jamie Ferman, Susan Gregory**

WindRose Media.....**David Corsino, Andrew Goldblatt**

Signature Theatre.....**David Zobell, Matthew Strote, Ashleigh King,
Marika Countouris**

Washington Nationals.....**Hannah Bourquardez**

Alumni of Signature Theatre's

Education Programs.....**Darren Badley, Sydney "Sunday" Coleman,
Steven Nicolás Franco, Tziah McNair,
Derrick D. Truby Jr., Skylar Jade Wilson**



WITA is proud to be a Supporting Partner of America250!



Senator Maria Cantwell

Maria Cantwell currently serves as a United States Senator for the State of Washington. As a respected leader – both in public service and in the private sector – Maria has always embraced the values she first learned growing up in a strong working-class family. With the help of Pell Grants, Maria was the first member of her family to graduate college. Later, a successful businesswoman in Washington's hi-tech industry, she helped build a company that created hundreds of high-paying jobs from the ground up.

Maria was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2000, 2006, 2012, and again in 2018, pledging to honor the hard work, aspirations and faith of the people of Washington state. She is working to create affordable opportunities for consumers, businesses and families, to make our nation more secure today, to foster innovation for tomorrow, and to stand with parents as they educate and care for their children.

Maria gets results. She cut taxes for the middle-class by ensuring that Washington taxpayers can deduct state and local taxes from their federal returns. She fought attempts by the Bush Administration to raise local electricity rates. When bankrupt Enron officials tried to charge Washington ratepayers for millions of dollars in undelivered electricity, Maria led the effort that successfully stopped them. Maria has protected countless jobs in Washington's aerospace industry by cracking down on foreign companies' unfair trade practices and has worked to create still more well-paying jobs through effective investments in new technology and valuable job training. Maria is leading efforts in the Senate to make America more energy independent. She has been a proud advocate for better educational opportunities for our children and less expensive, more accessible health care for our families. Maria continues to build new growth and strong partnerships, insisting on responsibility and making life more affordable for all of Washington's families.

Senator Todd Young



Since joining the Senate in 2017, Todd Young has developed a reputation as a conservative problem solver. On issues like outcompeting the Chinese Communist Party, securing the border, growing the economy, expanding affordable housing options for all Hoosiers, supporting Indiana's veterans, and harnessing the potential of artificial intelligence, Todd has offered conservative solutions to many of the biggest issues facing Hoosier families.

In 2022, the CHIPS and Science Act, his landmark legislation to outcompete China and create more high tech jobs in the Heartland, became law. Vital to America's economic and national security, the law is bringing semiconductor production back to the United States to shore up our supply chain and ensure America is never dependent on China for critical chips.

Todd's path to the Senate went through the United States Marine Corps. After graduating high school, Todd attended the United States Naval Academy, where he played varsity soccer and was elected a class officer. Todd graduated with honors in 1995 and accepted a commission in the U.S. Marine Corps. After training as a rifle platoon commander, Todd served as an intelligence officer, spending time on the U.S. southern border.

After serving a decade in the military, in 2000 Todd was honorably discharged as a Captain. He then spent a year in England, where he wrote a thesis on the economic history of Midwestern agriculture and earned an MA from the School of Advanced Study in London. Upon returning to the United States, he accepted a position at the Heritage Foundation and later worked as a legislative assistant in the U.S. Senate.

In 2003, Todd returned home to Indiana. He worked as a management consultant, advising public and private organizations on how they could implement business practices to provide their constituents and customers with more value, often by investing fewer resources.

In 2010, Todd ran his first campaign for Congress, defeating a strong Democrat incumbent to represent Indiana's 9th Congressional District. He served three terms in the House before running for Senate in 2016.

He serves on the U.S. Senate Committees on Finance; Commerce, Science & Transportation; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Thank you to all our sponsors!

AkinSM

Akin proudly supports Trade Prom and warmly congratulates this year's esteemed honorees.

AMERICAN
**APPAREL &
FOOTWEAR**
ASSOCIATION

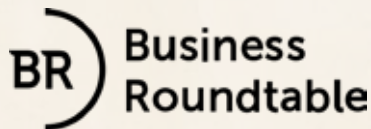
Success is always in fashion, and you all wear it well. Congratulations!



American Chemistry Council is proud to join WITA in recognizing this outstanding achievement. Congratulations to the honorees for their leadership, vision, and commitment to strengthening international trade.

Arnold & Porter

Arnold & Porter congratulates the 2026 WITA honorees, including Senators Maria Cantwell and Todd Young, and proudly supports WITA's mission of fostering open and robust discussion of international trade policy.



Business Roundtable congratulates this year's honorees and commends their leadership on advancing trade policies that strengthen U.S. competitiveness and support economic growth.



Congratulations to Senator Cantwell and Senator Young and all of tonight's honorees for your enduring support for smart and effective U.S. trade policy. Your efforts strengthen U.S. technology and trade leadership and global competitiveness!



We understand what it takes to deliver when it counts.
We are proud to show our support for this year's award winners. Congratulations!



FGS Global congratulates Senator Maria Cantwell and Senator Todd Young for their well-deserved recognition of their leadership and focus on shaping international trade policy. Thank you WITA for acknowledging their achievements!

Gap Inc.



BANANA REPUBLIC



ATHLETA

Congratulations to Senator Maria Cantwell and Senator Todd Young!
Thank you both for your leadership and commitment to advancing strategic, forward-looking
U.S. trade policy.



GILEAD

Congratulations to this year's honorees and
thank you for your tireless efforts to champion robust trade policy.



HOGAN LOVELLS
CADWALADER 

Hogan Lovells Cadwalader congratulates tonight's honorees and speakers
for their exceptional leadership and enduring contributions to international trade, trade policy,
and the advancement of global economic opportunity.



K I T A

KITA applauds Senator Cantwell and Senator Young for their visionary leadership in
international trade. We are proud to stand with WITA in celebrating their
well-deserved achievements.

MAYER BROWN

Mayer Brown LLP congratulates this year's honorees,
Senator Maria Cantwell and Senator Todd Young.



Congratulations on the amazing Annual Dinner!



As a proud WITA supporter, PCPC congratulates Senators Cantwell and Young
on this recognition. Trade fuels our industry's success,
including over \$15 billion in U.S. personal care exports in 2025.



Polsinelli congratulates the honorees of the 2026 WITA Annual Dinner
on their well-deserved recognition!

World Trade Center, Washington DC congratulates the honorees for their service and dedication to advancing international trade and to WITA for offering timely and informative programming on trade policy.



Skadden

Skadden joins WITA/WITF in congratulating this year's honorees on their well-deserved recognition for outstanding contributions to the global trade landscape.



Thank you for bringing together such an accomplished community of global trade leaders. We're grateful for WITA's leadership in advancing trade dialogue, including a thoughtful USMCA Review Series.



Trade Data Monitor (TDM) congratulates this year's attendees for their dedication and contributions to the international trade community. Congratulations!

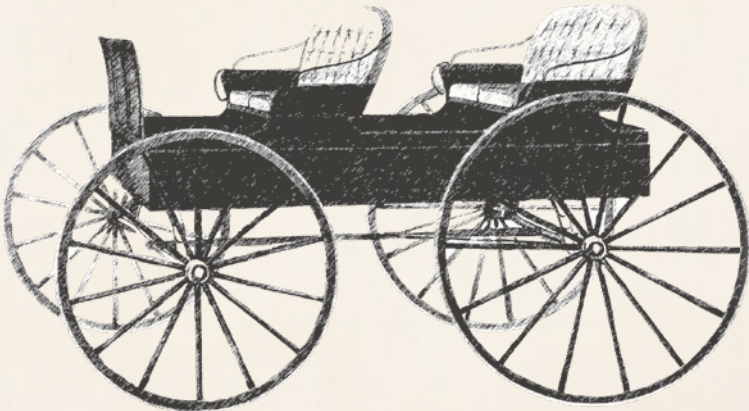


Congratulations to Senator Maria Cantwell and Senator Todd Young for their outstanding contributions to advancing international trade.



young trade
professionals
A PROGRAM OF WITA

The Young Trade Professionals thank Senator Cantwell and Senator Young for their work in inspiring the next generation of trade professionals!





The Boeing Company salutes Senator Maria Cantwell and Senator Todd Young for their exemplary leadership in the advancement of international trade.



Cassidy Levy Kent is proud to support WITA and congratulates the organization, its members, and the broader international trade community on another successful event.



Caterpillar proudly recognizes this year's honorees for their outstanding leadership and service.



The Corn Refiners Association congratulates Senators Maria Cantwell and Todd Young on this well-deserved recognition and celebrates their leadership in advancing trade, innovation, and North American economic competitiveness.



Covington congratulates this year's WITA honorees and applauds their leadership on international trade. Our thanks to WITA for its role in convening this community amid the fast-changing trade environment.



DLA Piper is honored to congratulate the recipients of this year's award ceremony. Your leadership and contributions continue to advance the international trade community and inspire excellence across our profession.





Lilly extends its congratulations to
Senator Cantwell
and our home-state Senator Todd Young
for this well-deserved recognition.
We appreciate both Senators for their inspired
leadership on international trade, which is
essential for American businesses to thrive.



Hyundai Motor Group congratulates
Senators Cantwell and Young and recognizes
their commitment to policies that support
innovation, investment, and long-term
economic growth.



Kelley Drye & Warren congratulates all of
this year's award winners!



Mehlman Consulting is a proud sponsor of
WITA, which plays a key role in promoting
thoughtful and meaningful discussions
regarding trade, tariff and supply chain policy.



Mercedes-Benz

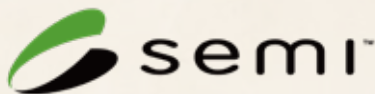
Congratulations to Senator Todd Young (R-IN)
and Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA).
Thank you for your contributions
to the trade community.



Congratulations to the Washington
International Trade Association and award
winners on another outstanding
Annual Dinner celebrating the importance of
global trade.



Pfizer congratulates Senators Todd Young and Maria Cantwell on being honored by the Washington International Trade Association. We appreciate their steadfast support for pro-trade policies that help drive innovation and economic growth in the United States.



SEMI is proud to partner with Senators Todd Young and Maria Cantwell in supporting CHIPS programs and the semiconductor industry to advance U.S. technological leadership. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor!



SIA congratulates the honorees for their service and commitment to advancing U.S. leadership in international trade and WITA for organizing another successful trade prom!



Silverado Policy Accelerator is proud to support WITA and the trade community



Huzzah to WITA: for the past year, it has fought bravely against the tyranny of muddled trade analysis, delivering clear, concise guidance worthy of the revolutionary cause.



Squire Patton Boggs is proud to support WITA/WITF. Congratulations to all of tonight's honorees.



Torrey Advisory Group congratulates the 2026 WITA Foundation honorees and expresses our sincere appreciation for their leadership, vision, and lasting contributions to the international trade community.



U.S. Chamber of Commerce

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce congratulates Senator Todd Young and Senator Maria Cantwell for their tireless leadership on trade.



The Council on American Steel Trade (CAST) recognizes the critical work and contributions of trade leaders in Congress and the Executive Branch. Thank you for your support of American manufacturing.

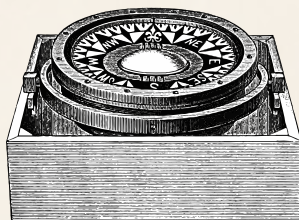


WILMER CUTLER PICKERING HALE AND DORR LLP LLP

WilmerHale congratulates the 2026 WITA honorees on their outstanding contributions to international trade and their leadership in shaping policies, partnerships and innovations that strengthen the global trading system and promote economic opportunity worldwide.



Visa is proud to support WITA and celebrate the achievements of this year's distinguished awardees.



Thank you
TO OUR WITA ACADEMY SPONSORS!



Cristena Bach Yeutter
Charitable Trust



Thank you
TO OUR WITA INTERNATIONAL SPONSORS!



2026 Critical Minerals Series

Thank you to Silverado Policy Accelerator
for their generous sponsorship of
WITA's Critical Minerals Series!



USMCA Series

THANK YOU TO THE GENEROSITY OF
WITA'S USMCA REVIEW SERIES SPONSORS!



2026 Washington International Trade Conference

THANK YOU TO OUR WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL
TRADE CONFERENCE SPONSORS



Trade & Tech Summit

THANK YOU TO OUR TRADE & TECH SUMMIT SPONSORS



Sponsorship Opportunities



With thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, we've expanded our reach across the U.S. and around the world. Through **WITA International**, the **WITA Academy**, large-scale events such as our **Annual Dinner** and the **Washington International Trade Conference**, and initiatives such as the **USMCA Review Series** and **Trade & Tech Summit**, WITA's impact is being felt in Washington, DC, at universities across the U.S., and in capitals around the world.

WITA and the Washington International Trade Foundation—a 501(c)(3) supporting WITA's educational mission—offer opportunities to sponsor events, series, and programs that shape today's trade dialogue.

- **WITA International** - Working with partners around the world, WITA International is extending our role as a trusted platform for trade policy dialogue beyond Washington through in-person and virtual programming, including our Embassy & Ministry Network briefings, international webinars, and events held outside the United States.
- **WITA International Trade Reception & Panel** - Held during the WTO Public Forum in Geneva, Switzerland on September 15, 2026, this high-level networking event brings together diplomats, WTO officials, and international trade leaders.
- **WITA Academy™** - The Academy supports students, early career professionals, and trade practitioners through career development and trade capacity building programs.
- **Trade & Tech Summit** - This December 9th, WITA will hold its second annual tech & trade summit, exploring how emerging technologies are reshaping trade, innovation, and global economic policy.
- **Washington International Trade Conference** - Returning March 1-2, 2027, our flagship hybrid event brings together top policymakers and experts to discuss major global trade issues.
- **USMCA Review Series** - An on-going series exploring the future of North American trade as the U.S., Mexico, and Canada review the 6-year old agreement.
- **WITA Event Series Sponsorship** - Collaborate with WITA to develop a multi-part event series. Recent examples include the USMCA Review Series and the Critical Mineral Series.
- **Individual WITA Events** - Support standalone WITA events and gain high-visibility recognition through outreach to our network of 30,000+ trade professionals worldwide.
- **Affiliated Groups** - Opportunities to support WITA's Young Trade Professionals, WITA Alumni Networks, and other community-building initiatives.

Please contact Ken Levinson or Diego Añez if you wish to discuss these and other opportunities, at KLevinson@wita.org or DAnez@wita.org

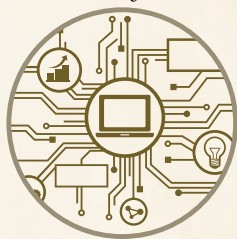


To learn more about sponsorship opportunities at WITA, scan the QR code

2026 Trade & Tech Summit

Please join WITA at the 2nd Annual Trade & Technology Summit on **December 9, 2026** bringing together leaders from the public and private sectors to explore the nexus between trade, innovation, national security, competitiveness, and geopolitics.

This half-day Summit will highlight how the conversation on trade and technology is shifting as governments engage each other on key technology issues shaping the global economy, including cutting-edge manufacturing, non-tariff barriers, digital regulations, taxation, and governance of emerging technologies like AI.



This Hybrid event will be streamed, with in-person sessions and luncheon to be held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center | 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC

2027 Washington International Trade Conference

The Washington International Trade Conference brings together leaders in international trade from across the U.S. and around the world to explore the trade landscape and look toward the future of trade.

The 2027 Washington International Trade Conference will be held virtually **March 1, 2027** and in person in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center **March 2, 2027**. In-person sessions will also be available to watch on Zoom.

If you're interested in supporting the 2026 Trade & Tech Summit or the 2027 International Trade Conference, please contact Diego Añez at danez@wita.org or call 202-312-1600.





As WITA expands our global trade community, WITA International is extending our role as a trusted platform for trade policy dialogue beyond Washington.

WITA International was created to foster meaningful conversations in an interconnected world of trade policy between Washington and trading partners across the globe. Our international events feature the same mix of trade officials, business leaders, and policy experts our membership has come to expect from WITA in the U.S., with the same spirit of community that defines all our events.

Building on WITA's long-standing regional programming—including Intensive Trade Seminars on the European Union, China, Africa, and Korea—WITA International launched our first Intensive Trade Seminar on India this year. This fall, WITA will host the first Spanish-language Intensive Trade Seminar focused on Latin America, with plans to expand regional programming to Asia next year.

WITA International also introduced a new series of Trade Salon Dinners to host off-the-record discussions in major trade capitals. Together with WITA's International Trade Receptions, Embassy & Ministry Network, and International Webinars, these programs continue to strengthen WITA's global community and create opportunities for dialogue, collaboration, and relationship-building around the world.

WITA International Programming:

- **International Trade Receptions** - Networking receptions held during the WTO Public Forum in Geneva, EU Trade Policy Day in Brussels, and future global trade events, connecting WITA's international community of government officials, business leaders, and trade professionals.
- **Trade Salon Dinners** - Invitation-only, off-the-record policy dinners that convene senior government officials, business leaders, academics, and trade experts in major trade capitals and alongside leading global trade events.
- **Embassy & Ministry Network** - Quarterly off-the-record briefings connecting Washington-based diplomats, trade ministries, and senior U.S. government officials.
- **International Webinars** - Global virtual programs featuring leading policymakers and trade experts, reaching audiences in more than 100 countries.
- **International Policy & Professional Development** - Executive education, intensive trade seminars, and in-person policy programs delivered in partnership with organizations around the world.

Upcoming WITA International EU Trade Reception

Join WITA International for an evening reception in Brussels following the 2026 EU Trade Policy Day on Wednesday, October 14. The reception will bring together trade professionals from across Europe and around the world with our global network.

Whether you attend EU Trade Policy Day or are simply part of Brussels' international trade policy community, this reception offers an opportunity to expand your network, reconnect with colleagues, exchange ideas, and continue the conversations shaping global trade.

If you or a colleague will be in Brussels and would like to join us, please reach out to Diego Afnez at danez@wita.org.

Please join WITA at the WTO Public Forum!

WITA International Trade Reception
September 15, 2026 | WTO Headquarters, Geneva



Monday, September 14 **Private Trade Salon Dinner**

- *Following World Trade e3 Tech Day* - An invitation-only, off-the-record Trade Salon Dinner bringing together senior government officials, industry leaders, and trade experts to discuss plurilateral approaches to trade, technology, and the future of international economic cooperation.

Tuesday, September 15 **WITA International Trade Reception**

WTO Headquarters | Geneva

- Returning for its second year, the WITA International Trade Reception brings together participants from across the WTO Public Forum and WITA's global network for an evening of networking and dialogue at WTO Headquarters.

WTO Public Forum Panel

Powering the Future: AI and the Servicification of Trade

- WITA will convene government officials, industry leaders, and trade experts to examine how artificial intelligence and the growing role of services are transforming global trade, competitiveness, and economic development.

Wednesday, September 16

Sponsor Trade Salon Dinner

- An exclusive, invitation-only dinner for WITA International sponsors, WTO officials, and invited leaders from government, industry, and academia focused on the future of Most-Favored-Nation (MFN) treatment and the evolving architecture of the multilateral trading system.

Thank you to our WITA International sponsors: Coupang, Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), Mondelez International, National Foreign Trade Council, National Pork Producers Council, Personal Care Products Council, Silverado Policy Accelerator, Trade Data Monitor, US Council for International Business, Visa

Support WITA International

- Benefactor – \$25,000 ■ Executive – \$10,000 ■ Global Leader – \$5,000

(WITA International Reception Sponsor at the WTO)

Benefactor and Executive sponsorships include recognition across WITA International programming which includes WITA's International Trade Receptions, Embassy & Ministry Network, and International Webinars.



Expanding Access to Trade Education and Careers

The WITA Academy™ is a joint initiative of WITA and the Washington International Trade Foundation, dedicated to making trade education and career opportunities more accessible across the United States and around the world. The Academy engages students, early career professionals, and practitioners through a range of programs designed to build knowledge, strengthen skills, and connect individuals with leaders in the field:

- **Pathways to Opportunity in Trade** – introducing students and early career professionals to careers in trade.
- **Trade & Law Series** – connecting law students with trade lawyers and policy experts.
- **Intensive Trade Seminars** – in depth training seminars to build capacity for trade policy professionals, students, and the public in the U.S. and around the world. Programs can be crafted around specific topics or regions. These seminars are also a core feature of WITA International, where global programming helps connect the D.C. trade community with counterparts around the world.
- **WITA Academy Fellowship** – supporting a recent graduate in a full-time, one-year role at WITA.

Thanks to the generous support of our WITA Academy sponsors, all students who participate in WITA Academy programs receive a complimentary WITA membership, providing ongoing access to events, resources, and the broader trade policy community.

Upcoming: 2026 Virtual Intensive Trade Seminar

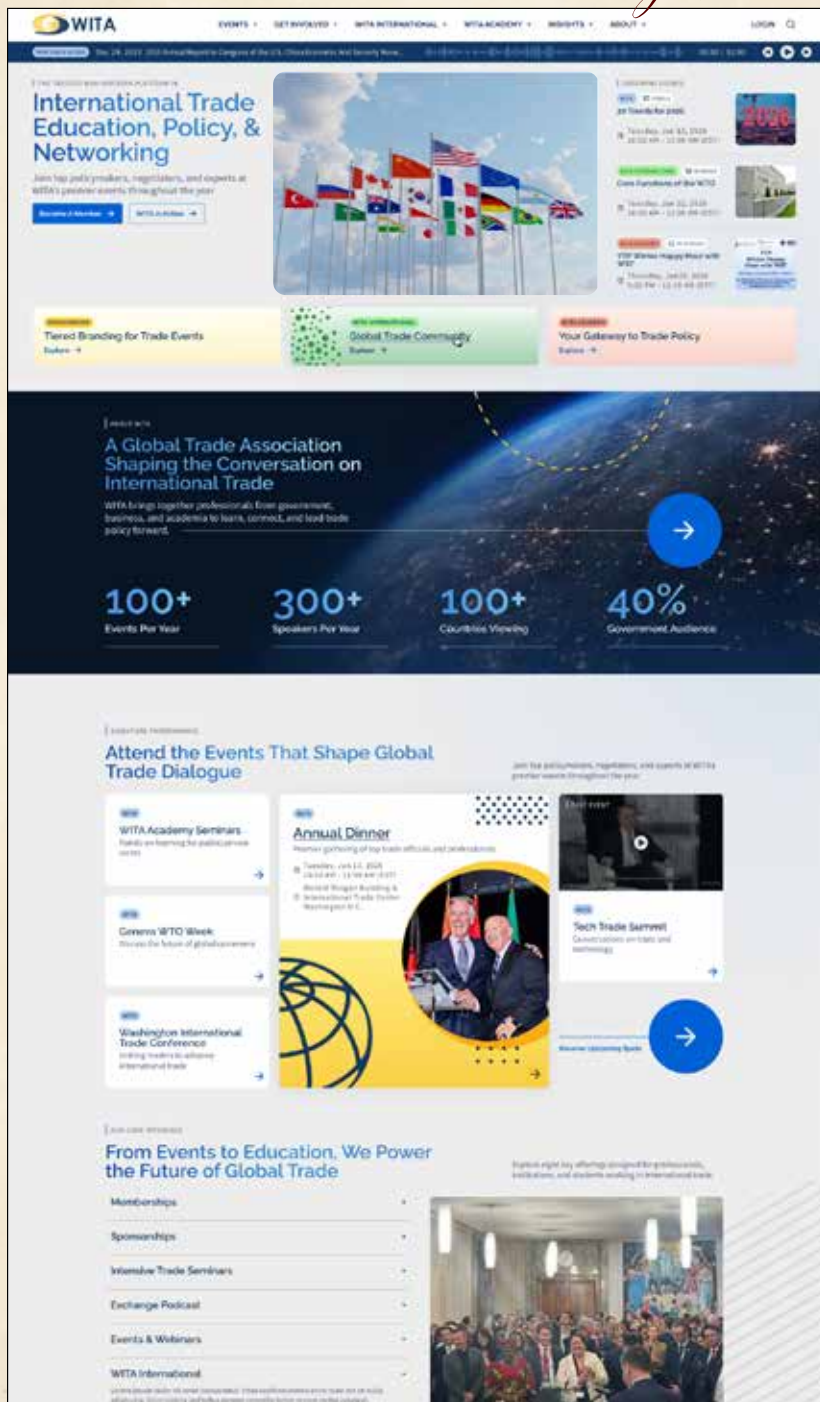
Friday, October 2 / Monday, October 5 / Tuesday, October 6

Over three days, speakers will help attendees increase their professional knowledge by learning the nuts and bolts of different aspects of U.S. and international trade law and policy.

Attendees will learn directly from career trade policy professionals from across government, industry, and law.

Curriculum and Speakers to be Announced!

New WITA Website Coming Soon!



Thank you to our Speakers

Since the 2025 Annual Dinner

Joshua Aikens,
Zonos

Padideh Ala'i,
American University Washington
College of Law

Robert Atkinson,
Information Technology &
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Matt Blunt,
American Automotive Policy
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John Bode,
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Ambassador Sung-Yo Choi,
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Alice Slayton Clark,
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Council on Foreign Relations

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Association

Paul McCarthy,
MEMA – the Vehicle Suppliers
Association

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Allie Renison,
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Altan Yurdakul,
Trade Data Monitor

Maria Zieba,
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Council

Ricardo Zuniga,
Dinámica America



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Mastercard

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Siddharth Aryan,
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US-India Business Council

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International Studies

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Cassidy Levy Kent

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Wiley Rein LLP

John Pickel,
UPS

Brian Pomper,
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Marin Weaver,
U.S. International Trade
Commission

Alexandra Whittaker,
U.S. House Committee on
Ways and Means

Ian Widman,
Cassidy Levy Kent

Dan Wielechowski,
U.S. Department of State

Lauren Wilk,
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Kevin Wolf,
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WITA's Friday Exchange



No one understands the dynamics with key U.S. trading partners better than the people who led these kinds of difficult trade negotiations for the United States. Panelists update our viewers weekly on the trade policy announcements, what remains undone; and the expected next steps in these trade negotiations.

Available on YouTube, Spotify and Apply Podcasts.

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52 Episodes | 30,000+ Overall Plays | 75 Countries Reached

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Nicole Bivens Collinson,
Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg,
P.A.

Wendy Cutler,
Asia Society Policy Institute

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Center for Strategic and
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Bloomberg

Everett Eissenstat,
Inter-American
Development Bank

Ignacio Garcia Bercero,
Bruegel

Ed Gresser,
Progressive Policy Institute

Blake Harden,
Washington Council Ernst
& Young

Peter Harrell,
Georgetown Institute for
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Tailwind Global Strategies

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Kellie Meiman Hock,
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Daniel Mullaney,
Atlantic Council

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Penny Naas,
German Marshall Fund of
the United States

Chris Padilla,
Brunswick Group

Maria Pagan,
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Sara Schuman,
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Michael Smart,
Rock Creek Global Advisors

Ana Swanson,
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Do an it is an ever used mark

That looks so desperate and is not

38 is the star to every man's eye

Whose worth is unknown although

Love's not time's fool though

Within his bending sickle's compass

Love alters not with his brief hours and days

Love alters not with his brief hours and days

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OCTOBER 20 - DECEMBER 20, 2026

THE SECRET GARDEN

DECEMBER 8, 2026 -
FEBRUARY 21, 2027

THE MONSTERS

FEBRUARY 2 - MARCH 21, 2027

A MOUNTAIN FOR ELODIE

MARCH 23 -
APRIL 25, 2027

LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS

APRIL 27 - JUNE 13, 2027

URINETOWN

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 8, 2027

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