

ASSEMBLE@TheMax

Speaker Series

Detroit's bankruptcy is a historic first, and the world is watching to see how we respond and recover. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to come together with global thought leaders to form new partnerships and create new solutions, while repositioning Detroit as a global hub in the conversation.

ASSEMBLE@The Max is a Speaker Series that brings global thought leaders in urbanism to Detroit to engage with local leaders. Each speaking event is tied to a set of meetings with local innovators and talks are captured on video for an online archive that promotes the ASSEMBLE platform and forthcoming festival.

Key Facts

Frequency: Six to Eight talks per year, five panelists per talk.

Target Dates: February 10, April 22, June 23, August 19, October 15, and December 15

Forecasted Attendance: 400+

Topics: Developing the 21st Century City - Tech and the Future of Cities – The Middle Class City – Capital in Future Cities – The Indebted City - The Empathetic City

Producing Organizations:

Urban Social Assembly- Series Curator and Organizer A 21st Century non-profit committed to making Detroit the social innovation capital of the world. Built the social innovation umbrella organization in Detroit.

Detroit Symphony Orchestra- Venue partner and creator of @TheMax brand.

Action Inc. – Branding, viral content creation, and marketing. Action Inc. is the organizer of the Assemble festival.

Global Audience: Videos of the talks will be promoted to a global audience via online media channels as a part of the ASSEMBLE platform and forthcoming festival & events.

Local Impact: As Detroit revitalizes, the need to connect with world-class minds becomes more and more urgent. By bring in global thought leaders, we can help make Detroit's revival one that is more equitable and innovative. Leading local tech firms and Detroit's newly hired Chief Information Officer, Beth Niblock, will be in attendance.



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Technology in the Future City

For the second installment of our speakers' series we will discuss how Detroit can use technology to build a new city structure and citizen experience that is more responsive to the wants and needs of its people. While other cities are burdened with barely functional systems of the past, Detroit has the rare opportunity to create entirely new ways of doing things.

Nigel Jacob is one of the leading thinkers and practitioners living at the intersection of technology and civil society. He co-founded the Office of New Urban Mechanics – a civic innovation incubator within Boston's City Hall.

Panelists

Jerry Paffendorf is the CEO of Loveland Technologies, one of the firms responsible for the unprecedented city-wide survey of every parcel in Detroit.

Jason Vazzano is president, CEO and co-founder of Vectorform, a digital experience studio that develops digital products and experiences with a focus on mobile and emerging technology solutions.

Erica Raleigh is the Director of Data Driven Detroit. She has been with the organization for nearly its entire existence: working previously in the roles of data systems project manager and public safety analyst.

Erika Carlson is the Detroit lead for Girl Develop It, a non-profit that exists to provide affordable and accessible programs to women who want to learn software development through mentorship and hands-on instruction.



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