



The agenda has dropped for KindCon 2026!

The full festival lineup is here. Three days.
Four tracks. Six ways to learn, connect, and leave *inspired*.
Get the full picture at kindsight.io/kindcon.

Four tracks:

- Executive & Institutional Leaders
- Advancement Systems & Operations
- Research & Analytics Specialists
- Fundraiser / Development Officers

Six session formats:

- Product training
- Lightning rounds
- Roundtables
- Deep dives
- Workshops
- Mainstage sessions



8:00 – 10:30 AM

Networking welcome

Grab your badge and kick off KindCon in Festival Row.

10:30 – 11:30 AM

PRODUCT TRAINING

- ASCEND

The future of gift processing in Ascend

How xGP Batch modernizes and unifies gift processing.

Meredith Mitchell, Kindsight
Caitlin Kawaguchi, Kindsight

- ASCEND, ADVANCEMENTRM

Bringing AI into your CRM workflows

Kindsight Intelligence at work inside your CRM.

Myles Wang, Kindsight

- IWAVE

Unlocking opportunity with full database screening

Screen your full database to surface hidden prospects.

Dan Basco, Kindsight
Lyndsay Reddick, Kindsight

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Lunch

Take a break and connect with your peers.

1:00 – 2:00 PM

PRODUCT TRAINING

- ASCEND, ADVANCEMENTRM

Donor portals & online giving best practices

Seamless online giving and donor portals with Connect.

Mandy Jones, Kindsight

- ADVANCEMENTRM

Working smarter with SmartBatch & CleanData+

Cut manual work and lift data quality every day.

Caitlin Kawaguchi, Kindsight

- IWAVE

Precision screening best practices

Learn how targeted screening can improve prospect identification.

Kyle Stinson, Kindsight
Neel Patel, Kindsight

2:00 – 2:30 PM

Networking break

Snacks, the product lounge, and Festival Row.

2:30 – 3:30 PM

PRODUCT TRAINING

- ASCEND

What's new in Ascend: innovations & enhancements

The latest Ascend updates for productivity and data quality.

Emily Gee, Kindsight

- ADVANCEMENTRM

Strategic campaign planning & prospect management

Align portfolios to campaign goals with new AdvancementRM tools.

Caitlin Kawaguchi, Kindsight

- IWAVE

Kindsight Intelligence for iWave

AI summaries and Screening Agent move research to action.

Kyle Stinson, Kindsight

MAINSTAGE SESSION

3:45 – 5:00 PM

Teamification with Rob Ferre
A networking keynote with Rob Ferre, CSP, uniting the KindCon community.

RECEPTION

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Opening reception
Food, drinks, and conversation at the Renaissance Nashville's Bridge Bar.



MAINSTAGE SESSION

9:00 – 10:30 AM

2026 Kindsight Innovation Showcase

CPO Hemant Kashyap and team unveil the next generation of Kindsight tools.

10:30 – 11:00 AM

Networking break

Snacks, the product lounge, and Festival Row.

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

LIGHTNING ROUNDS

• EXECUTIVE & INSTITUTIONAL LEADER

Executive lightning round

Punchy 15-minute client tactics, ideas, and real problem-solving.

Ed Testa, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Jill Baltz, Vanderbilt University
Linda Hartford, The University of Iowa Center for Advancement

• ADVANCEMENT SYSTEMS & OPERATIONS

Salesforce optimizations lightning round

Three practitioners, three Salesforce fixes, fifteen minutes each.

Dean Ernzen, University of Notre Dame
Todd Rheinfrank, Carnegie Mellon University
Lindsey Reinstrom, University of Tennessee Foundation
Matthew Frank, Blackthorn

• FUNDRAISER / DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

“How I Kindsight” lightning rounds

Practitioners share the strategies they're using to get the right information to the right fundraisers at the right time.

Jerry Sinning, University of Colorado Anschutz
Emily Guy, Texas Tech Foundation, Inc.
Riley Jordan, University of California, Berkeley

• RESEARCH & ANALYTICS

Research & Analytics lightning round

Researchers share ways they surface better prospects.

Mattie Snell, Texas A&M Foundation
Julie Domel, Trinity University

ALL TRACKS · ROUNDTABLES

12:00 – 1:30 PM

Lunch networking roundtables

Topic tables hosted by peers—implementation, dashboards, interims, research, gift processing, and portfolio management.

1:30 – 2:30 PM

DEEP DIVES

• EXECUTIVE & INSTITUTIONAL LEADER

The governance gap: leading through the AI era

A peer-level conversation on governing AI before it governs you.

Cherian Koshy, Kindsight
Kevin Vaughn, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Hemant Kashyap, Kindsight
Michelle Bates, Purdue for Life Foundation

• ADVANCEMENT SYSTEMS & OPERATIONS

Data automation masterclass

How two complex organizations replaced manual workflows with intelligent automation.

Alyce De La Cruz, Hoag Hospital Foundation
Rebekah Kurisu, Hoag Hospital Foundation
Beverly Bain, Washington University in St. Louis

• FUNDRAISER / DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

What's working (and not) in annual giving

The Annual Giving User Group chairs on what's moving the needle.

Adam Compton, NC State University
More speakers to be released soon

• RESEARCH & ANALYTICS

The first 90 days: resetting portfolios with iWave

A research director's blueprint for resetting inherited portfolios.

Amy Modin, U.S. Air Force Academy Association & Foundation

KindCon²⁰²⁶

Agenda subject to change.

kindsight.io/kindcon



Wednesday, September 2

3:15 - 4:15 PM

DEEP DIVES

• EXECUTIVE & INSTITUTIONAL LEADER

The golden triangle: analysts, developers & SMEs

How three roles partner to govern CRM change after go-live.

Ryan Horvath, University of Chicago Advancement Technology
K Shelton, University of Chicago, Booth School of Business
Kristine Lo, University of Chicago Advancement
Will Eschleman, University of Chicago Information Technology Services

• ADVANCEMENT SYSTEMS & OPERATIONS

Inside the gift office: tactical takeaways from the field

A candid panel on how gift offices really run their operations and drive efficiencies.

Caroline Chang, Kindsight
Laurie Pung, Michigan State University
Stephan Pearce, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Sushmita Seth, University of California, San Francisco

• FUNDRAISER / DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The human in the loop: AI that strengthens judgment

Integrate AI thoughtfully—and know when human judgment leads.

Cherian Koshy, Kindsight
More speakers to be released soon

• RESEARCH & ANALYTICS

Leaving no stone unturned: advanced research

Advanced research that goes beyond capacity scores.

Juli Nguyen, Pomona College

AWARDS

4:30 - 5:00 PM

Kindness Awards

Celebrate the heart of the community at the second annual Kindness Awards.

CELEBRATION

6:30 - 10:00 PM

KindCon 2026 Party

Live music, bowling, and a few surprises at Brooklyn Bowl.



Thursday, September 3



9:00 – 10:00 AM

INTERACTIVE ROUNDTABLES

Facilitated 60-minute networking roundtables—pick the room that meets you where you are.

- ROOM 1

Post go-live planning

Stabilization, user confidence, and what “using the CRM” really looks like.

- ROOM 2

Live, optimizing & leadership

Deepen adoption, then align CRM strategy with institutional goals.

- ROOM 3

Continuing innovation

Integrations, predictive modeling, dashboards, and AI for mature teams.

- ROOM 4

iWave & prospect development

Operationalize iWave insights and moves management for research teams.

10:00 – 10:30 AM

Networking break

Snacks and time to visit the product lounge.

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOPS

- EXECUTIVE & INSTITUTIONAL LEADER

Finding your internal champions

A repeatable framework to identify, empower, and sustain champions.

Jeff Baynham, NC State University Kyle Cadieux, Attain Partners
Joseph Calger, UCSF Kora Rea-Alexander, Attain Partners

- ADVANCEMENT SYSTEMS & OPERATIONS

Staying current: building your upgrade strategy

Build a formal upgrade policy and clear the blockers to staying current.

Cameron Aisenbrey, Iowa State University Foundation
More speakers to be released soon

- FUNDRAISER / DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The pipeline is a team sport: Shifting from reactive requests to proactive partnership

A framework for strengthening ties between advancement services, research, and your frontline team.

Caroline Chang, Kindsight
Kate Nimety, Executive Vice President, BWF Zuri

- RESEARCH & ANALYTICS

From benchmark to impact: prospect development maturity

Connect prospect development maturity to real fundraising results.

Cherian Koshy, Kindsight
Lindsey Nadeau, UNICEF USA / Apra International

Get your ticket to KindCon today!

Register now!

