

AGENDA

The Future of CMO

CMO Think Tank

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October 08, 2026

Central Time

Registration

8:30 AM-9:00 AM

Morning Networking

9:00 AM-9:30 AM

Opening Remarks

9:30 AM-9:40 AM

VISION VOICES KEYNOTE

The New York Effect: Why the Global Marketing Agenda Is Still Written in NYC

9:40 AM-10:05 AM

New York continues to shape global marketing through its unique convergence of media, culture, capital, and creative talent. This session explores why NYC remains a strategic center of influence and how CMOs—regardless of location—can leverage its ecosystem, mindset, and networks to stay ahead in an increasingly fragmented attention economy.

KEYNOTE

From Brand Awareness to Brand Authority

10:10 AM-10:35 AM

In saturated markets, visibility is no longer enough. Brands win by becoming trusted authorities. This session explores how CMOs move beyond awareness to build credibility, relevance, and influence through consistent positioning, thought leadership, and values-driven strategy. The discussion focuses on why brand authority has become one of the most defensible assets in modern

Coffee Break

10:35 AM-10:55 AM

PANEL

The CMO as Chief Narrative Architect

10:55 AM-11:40 AM

Organizations rarely fail due to lack of strategy—they fail when their story fragments. In moments of transformation, uncertainty, or disruption, narrative coherence becomes a strategic asset. This session positions the CMO as the executive responsible for designing, aligning, and safeguarding the organization’s narrative across customers, employees, investors, and partners. The discussion explores how narrative functions as a leadership system that drives alignment, trust, and execution.

VISION VOICES

Proving ROI When the Metrics No Longer Tell the Story

11:45 AM-12:15 PM

For years, marketing performance has been evaluated through metrics that reward immediacy rather than impact. Clicks, impressions, and short-term attribution models offer apparent clarity, yet increasingly fail to explain how brands actually create value, influence behavior, and drive durable growth. As markets become more saturated and customer trust harder to earn, CMOs are being challenged to justify strategic investments with tools designed for a reality that no longer exists. This session explores how leading CMOs are redefining ROI in an environment where brand strength, reputation, customer lifetime value, and experience play a decisive role in financial performance. The discussion examines alternative measurement frameworks that move beyond isolated KPIs to connect marketing activity with revenue quality, growth sustainability, and long-term enterprise value. Participants will explore how to balance quantitative rigor with strategic judgment, integrating data, insight, and narrative to tell a more truthful story of marketing impact.

Lunch & Networking

12:15 PM-1:15 PM

FIRESIDE CHAT

Marketing as a Growth Engine: Aligning Brand, Demand, and Revenue

1:15 PM-1:45 PM

As pressure mounts to demonstrate measurable impact, CMOs are increasingly responsible for aligning brand strategy with revenue outcomes. This session explores how marketing leaders connect brand, demand generation, and growth strategy without sacrificing long-term positioning. The conversation focuses on marketing’s role as a core growth engine and its partnership with sales, finance, and executive leadership.

DISRUPTOR

Marketing Leadership in an Era of Permanent Uncertainty

1:50 PM-2:15 PM

Volatility is no longer the exception—it is the operating environment. This session examines how CMOs lead through constant disruption, balancing short-term pressures with long-term brand integrity. Topics include decision-making under ambiguity, adaptive strategy design, and how marketing leaders anchor organizations through purpose, narrative, and clarity when certainty disappears.

VISION VOICES

The Future of Digital Strategy in a Rapidly

2:20 PM-2:55 PM

Evolving Landscape

The future of digital strategy in a rapidly evolving landscape is poised to be both dynamic and transformative. As technology continues to advance at an unprecedented pace, organizations must adapt their digital strategies to stay competitive and relevant. Data-driven decision-making, AI and machine learning integration, and a seamless user experience will be at the forefront. With the growing importance of sustainability and ethical considerations, digital strategies will also need to incorporate responsible practices. Furthermore, the rise of new platforms and communication channels, such as virtual reality and augmented reality, will require businesses to be agile and innovative in their approach. Success in this evolving landscape will depend on a proactive and flexible approach to digital strategy, ensuring that organizations can not only keep up with change but also lead in shaping the digital future.

Networking Break

2:55 PM-3:10 PM

DISRUPTOR

AI Did Not Kill Creativity. It Exposed Weak Strategy

3:10 PM-3:30 PM

Generative AI has dramatically lowered the cost and time required to produce content, flooding markets with volume but not necessarily with meaning. In this environment, creativity has not disappeared. It has been stress tested. The real differentiator is no longer execution speed, but strategic clarity. Without strong foundations, AI amplifies inconsistency, weak positioning, and shallow narratives.

This session reframes AI not as a threat to creativity, but as a strategic mirror that exposes the strength or fragility of a brand's thinking. The discussion examines how clear brand architecture, disciplined narrative frameworks, and human judgment determine whether AI becomes a force multiplier or a reputational risk. Participants will explore where automation creates efficiency and where human insight remains irreplaceable.

The conversation also addresses leadership in an AI accelerated world. How CMOs set guardrails, govern creative use cases, and elevate standards rather than chase volume. How creativity shifts from production to direction, from output to intent. And why the future of marketing leadership depends less on mastering tools and more on mastering strategy, taste, and decision making.

PANEL

Reimagining the Marketing Operating Model in the Age of GenAI

3:35 PM-4:20 PM

As GenAI reshapes how marketing work gets done, CMOs are rethinking talent models, team structures, and workflows. This fireside chat explores how leaders are redesigning marketing organizations to scale intelligently—balancing automation with human judgment, creativity, and accountability.

Closing Remarks & Raffle Giveaway

4:20 PM-4:30 PM

Cocktail Reception

4:30 PM-5:30 PM

PARTNERS

We are currently accepting partnership opportunities for this event.