

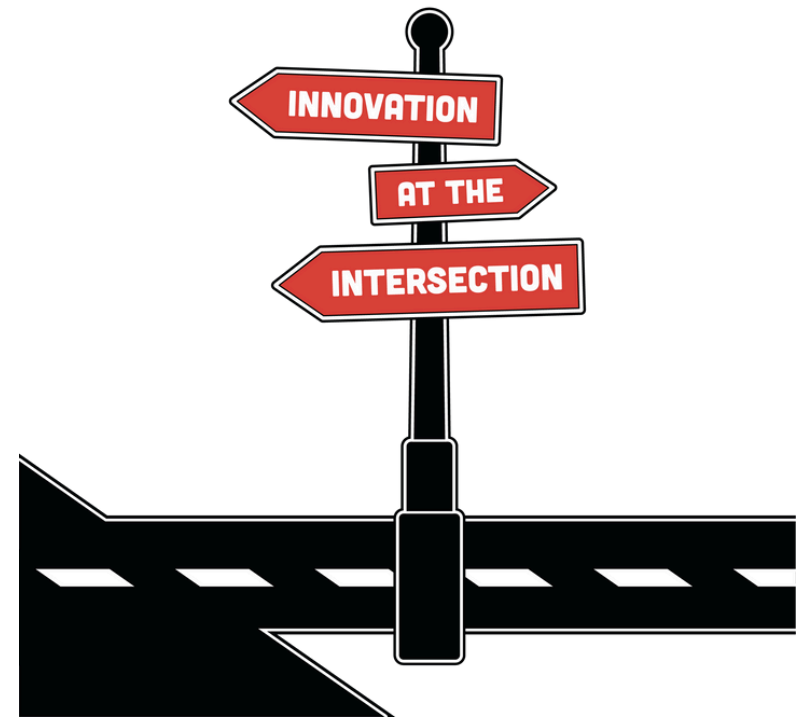
TEDx RIT

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TEDx RIT

Presents...



Ingle Auditorium | February 23rd, 2025

Program

Introduction: Chris Anderson TEDx

RIT Land Acknowledgement

Welcome and Thanks: Myren Bobryk-Ozaki

1. Chinenye Ozowalu



Chinenye Ozowalu explores the complex intersection between innovation, cultural history, and the fight for equity in a world shaped by past injustices. The concept of nonlinearity—thinking and creating outside rigid, predefined systems—is proposed by Ms. Ozowalu as essential for breaking free from oppressive narratives. She reflects on her own journey, acknowledging that true innovation comes from empowering individuals to think beyond societal constraints and collaborate to create inclusive, supportive communities.

2. Darshita Lnu

We live in a world designed for waste—where nearly 99% of what we buy is discarded within six months and where food waste alone contributes more to climate change than the aviation industry. But what if waste wasn't the problem? What if the real issue was how we design and think about the things we use? In this talk, I share insights from my research on waste, composting, and industrial ecology, exploring how nature's circular systems can inspire us to rethink sustainability. By asking better questions as consumers—like Where does this product come from? and What happens when I'm done with it?—we can challenge the throwaway culture and start shaping a future where waste isn't inevitable—it's a thing of the past.



3. Julia Resciniti



Disability shapes our lives, regardless of whether or not we personally experience it. From curb cuts to more inclusive labor practices, accommodations shape the way everyone interacts with the built world. Julia Resciniti will discuss how the inclusion of disabled professionals in the legal, medical, and architectural fields could promote innovation and inspire a more compassionate future.

Intermission: RIT Velocity

Set: Banji, Upgrade U, Commas

Music Mix: Jaharie Waterman-Jordan

Performers: AJ Franklin, Ayanna Smith, Bella Tadesse, CC Moran, Dani Eo, Emily Scheirer, J Miao, Marlynn, Morin Fagbodun, Myren Bobryk-Ozaki, Naysa Ko, Noa Spanier, Subin Park, Sydney Brien



4. Kendall Scott



Innovation at the Intersection: Indigenous Resilience, Education, and Public Health explores how Indigenous knowledge systems offer transformative solutions in education, public health, and sustainability. Drawing from personal experiences and research, this talk highlights the resilience of Indigenous students, the importance of culturally responsive mentorship, and the role of traditional ecological and health practices in shaping modern innovation. It challenges mainstream narratives by showing that true innovation isn't always about creating something new—it's about reclaiming and integrating ancestral wisdom with contemporary advancements. By embracing Indigenous perspectives, we can foster more inclusive, sustainable solutions for the future.

5. Alaina Mupparthi

CAR-T therapy is redefining what's possible in cancer treatment by using the body's own immune system to fight the disease. This talk explores how innovation at the intersection of technology and biology is turning the once-impossible dream of curing cancer into reality. It's a testament to human innovation and the power of asking, 'What if?'



Closing: Myren Bobryk-Ozaki

Crew

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Myren Bobryk-Ozaki
Ferdinand Jr Virtudes

Backstage Crew:

Mohammed Adnan
Aarushi Sharma
Igor Polotai

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Gaby Blanton
Pravina Bhalerao

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Matthew Oley
Kenzo Colon
Melissa Xie

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