

2026 AI SUMMIT SCHEDULE

Check In is from 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. in the lobby of the UW Conference Center

Time	Program	Salon C/D	Salon A	Salon B
8:15-9:15 a.m.	Keynote & Breakfast	Keynote Speaker: Joshua Sternfeld		
9:30-10:20 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions 1	The Glass Vault: Balancing AI Innovation with User Privacy in Cultural Heritage	AI and Intellectual Property in the United States	78 Sold-Out Cowboys Stadiums: Defeating the "Blank Page" and Turning Data into Stories with AI
10:30-11:20 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions 2	Beyond the Hype: A Practical AI Toolkit for Libraries, Archives, and Museums	AI as Mirror for an Adaptive Identity: Scaling Mission and Growth through AI-Assisted Development	From Dial-Up to Deepfakes: A Millennial Librarian's Perspective on Cultivating Critical AI Literacy
11:30-12:20 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions 3	First-Year College Student Perspectives on Generative AI Tools	Agentic AI: How it is Changing and How to Think About Governance	Are You Smarter than an AI?: A Gameshow Approach to Introducing AI Literacy During New Student Orientation
12:20-1:30 p.m.	Lunch	Lunch		

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Time	Program	Salon C/D	Salon A	Salon B
1:30-2:20 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions 4	AI Safety & Libraries - Fundamental Concepts, and Forecasting Our Trajectory - Part I	AI and Wyoming Digital Newspapers	The Wyoming Zine Exchange: A Sneak Peek, No Algorithms Required
2:30-3:20 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions 5	AI Safety & Libraries - Fundamental Concepts, and Forecasting Our Trajectory - Part II	Viewfinder: Navigating AI's Wild West Era One Conversation at a Time	Making Digital Accessibility Accessible
3:20-3:35 p.m.	Break			
3:40-4:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions 6			
4:30-5:00 p.m.	Trivia & Networking	Are You Smarter Than an AI?		

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS 9:30-10:20 AM

The Glass Vault: Balancing AI Innovation with User Privacy in Cultural Heritage Presented by Steven Priest | Location: Salon C/D

Artificial Intelligence promises to revolutionize how we organize collections, transcribe historical records, and engage visitors. However, these tools are often powered by the very thing cultural heritage institutions have sworn to protect: user data. From predictive text in library catalogs to biometric analysis in museum exhibits, how do we embrace innovation without eroding the trust of our communities? Join this session for a deep dive into the intersection of AI ethics and privacy law within the cultural heritage institution sector.

AI and Intellectual Property in the United States Presented by Anne Kuipers | Location: Salon A

This session explores how U.S. intellectual property agencies are navigating the rise of AI. We will take a deep dive into the latest responses from the USPTO and the U.S. Copyright Office, comparing their strategies to international models and highlighting key shifts in U.S. policy over the past year. We'll conclude with essential security considerations for using AI in the IP space.

78 Sold-Out Cowboys Stadiums: Defeating the "Blank Page" and Turning Data into Stories with AI | Presented by Jessica Otto | Salon B

This presentation is a guide to using AI (LLMs) to decode complicated data (statistics, specifically, but can be used for any professional topics) and how to overcome the first—and sometimes most difficult!—step in data reporting and audience translation, which is...the dreaded blank screen!

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS 10:30-11:20 AM

Beyond the Hype: A Practical AI Toolkit for Libraries, Archives, and Museums Presented by Steven Priest | Location: Salon C/D

Artificial Intelligence dominates the headlines, but what does it actually mean for the daily work of an archivist, a librarian, or a museum curator? Join us for a pragmatic session designed to strip away the sci-fi speculation and equip you with a functional toolkit for today. We know that professionals are often asked to "do more with less." In this session, we will explore how AI tools can act as a force multiplier for your team—not by replacing human expertise, but by handling the repetitive tasks that keep you from the deep work of curation and community engagement.

AI as Mirror for an Adaptive Identity: Scaling Mission and Growth through AI-Assisted Development | Presented by Hanz Olson | Location: Salon A

As the Casper College Western History Center works to preserve and provide access to unique records documenting the life and mission of Casper College, Natrona County, and Wyoming history, AI has served as a strategic "mirror" to continue and advance the process of modernizing core administrative documents in an audit of legacy operations. With the aim of building a scalable framework for a more focused but adaptive identity, the practical application of AI as a partner to lower the barrier for entry while maintaining high-level services will be shared.

From Dial-Up to Deepfakes: A Millennial Librarian's Perspective on Cultivating Critical AI Literacy | Presented by Elyse Johnson | Location: Salon B

Millennials who grew up with the emergence of the internet are uniquely positioned to lead conversations on AI. This session explores how "historical memory" of tech shifts fosters a necessary skepticism regarding AI ethics, privacy, and bias. We will discuss how to leverage our professional values as librarians to advocate for a critical AI literacy that values deep human thinking over the race for rapid adoption.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS 11:30-12:20 PM

First-Year College Student Perspectives on Generative AI Tools Presented by Jessica Rardin | Salon C/D

College student perspectives on and use of Generative AI differ greatly. In 2025, I led 10 sessions on Generative AI for first-year student focused courses. The sessions focused on how the tools work, ethical considerations for AI tools, and included an activity to compare outputs between Generative AI tools and their own knowledge. To begin the class sessions, students would anonymously share their perspectives on AI tools, use, and the perceived authority of these AI tools through Padlet, an interactive virtual bulletin board tool. Students reflected on how they use generative AI tools, how their classmates and friends use generative AI, and other things, like how to prompt the tools for homework help. In this session, I will discuss some of the common themes from the session and our conversations.

Agentic AI: How it is Changing and How to Think About Governance | Presented by Steven Priest | Salon A

Agentic AI can perceive data, make decisions for specific tasks/workflows, execute a plan, and learn to adapt for future tasks. This session will talk about agentic AI, how it is changing, and how to think about governance with agentic AI in mind.

Are You Smarter than an AI?: A Gameshow Approach to Introducing AI Literacy During New Student Orientation | Presented by Kathryn Senn | Salon B

During Fall 2024 orientation week, Studio Coe, the University of Wyoming Libraries' digital media lab, hosted a game-show activity introducing digital and AI literacy. Instead of focusing solely on media creation, we challenged students to critically analyze generative AI chatbot outputs and even compete against them. This engaging event showcased our innovative design process, creative use of AI, and insights into assessment. Join us as we share our struggles, successes, and lessons learned from crafting this interactive experience to inspire critical thinking in a fun, competitive format.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS 1:30-2:20 PM

AI Safety & Libraries - Fundamental Concepts, and Forecasting Our Trajectory - Part I | Presented by Andres Ramirez | Salon C/D

Introduction to key AI safety concepts, and mental models for thinking proactively about the future of AI and its potential impact. Overview of pace of progress, while also addressing common AI concerns. The main goal of this workshop is to give patron-facing staff valuable information that they can use in day-to-day work with AI or patrons, while also identifying those interested in further training.

About the project: AI Safety Awareness Project is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit that focuses on educating the public on current and future AI risk. We strongly believe that if AI will shape all of our lives, we should all have a say in how AI affects us. We work with libraries to provide free training and patron-facing workshops to educate the public on AI.

AI and Wyoming Digital Newspapers Presented by Chad Hutchens, Katharine Teykl and Shannon Albeke | Salon A

In the summer of 2025, Chad Hutchens and Katharine Teykl received a UW School of Computing Faculty Fellows grant to build an AI chatbot trained on the data from the Wyoming Digital Newspaper Collection. This collection comprises nearly 6 million pages of digitized WY newspaper content. Working with faculty and students from the School of Computing, we'd like to discuss the project's motivation, what we've learned, what has worked, and what has not worked in building a chatbot for users of the collection.

The Wyoming Zine Exchange: A Sneak Peek, No Algorithms Required Presented by Janice Grover and Dr. Phillip Goodwin | Salon B

Looking for a break from all the AI talk? Join us for an early preview of the Wyoming Zine Exchange, a statewide project built around hyper-local, handmade zines.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS 2:30-3:20 PM

AI Safety & Libraries - Fundamental Concepts, and Forecasting Our Trajectory - Part II | Presented by Andres Ramirez | Salon C/D

Introduction to key AI safety concepts, and mental models for thinking proactively about the future of AI and its potential impact. Overview of pace of progress, while also addressing common AI concerns. The main goal of this workshop is to give patron-facing staff valuable information that they can use in day to day work with AI or patrons, while also identifying those interested in further training.

Viewfinder: Navigating AI's Wild West Era One Conversation at a Time Presented by Jordan Hemingway, Kathryn Senn and Esther Perez | Salon A

This session will guide participants through an adaptation of a toolkit for values-driven exploration of AI use cases, developed through a recent IMLA grant by Montana State University, the University of Montana, James Madison University, and Iowa State University. Attendees will work together to select a library, museum, or archive scenario for which AI use might be considered and will identify top stakeholder values that might influence decisions around implementation. The session will conclude with conversation around how to navigate different value priorities across stakeholders and ideas for adapting the toolkit to local contexts. Preview the toolkit (licensed under CC BY 4.0) here: <https://www.lib.montana.edu/responsible-ai/viewfinder/>

Making Digital Accessibility Accessible: How to Meet National Accessibility Standards On Your Website Using AI | Presented by Katelyn Wittenborn | Salon B

As of 2024, all federal, state, and local government websites have been required to meet the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA. For institutions that may be short on manpower, resources, or both, it can be a daunting task to accomplish. But with the right resources and tools, making digital resources accessible is well within reach. In this session, we will go over the WCAG standards and where to find them, and then use AI tools to locate and correct basic problems that may be found on websites and other digital resources.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS 3:40-4:30 PM

Vibe Coding - Using AI as a Programming Assistant Presented by Jarrod Kozeal | Salon A

This session will cover my journey through the world of AI programming, including both failures and successes.

Copilot and Security | Presented by Dan Durkee | Salon B

This presentation provides a comprehensive overview of artificial intelligence, its evolution, its impact on modern work, and how Microsoft Copilot enhances productivity while maintaining strong security and compliance standards.