

## **Build My Network**

*This motivation is about developing relationships that last longer than the event.*

Is your primary goal at ATD26 to meet and connect with peers and experts? Are you hoping to grow your professional connections to build a network that will last?

By following this motivation, you'll leave with:

- 3–5 meaningful new professional connections.
- At least one follow-up conversation scheduled.
- A stronger sense of belonging in the ATD community.

## **Before You Arrive**

- Decide what kind of connections you want to make—peers, mentors, collaborators, or solution partners.
- Update your profile in the ATD26 virtual platform and mobile app, so your experience and interests are visible to others.
- Use the filter “Build My Network” to easily find sessions we’ve specifically curated to help you maximize this motivation.
- In the Agenda, make sure to schedule networking events, meetups, and sessions designed for conversation and connection. Download our [Guide for Building Your Schedule](#) to learn more.

## **During the Event**

- Be intentional about starting conversations—before sessions, during breaks, and at networking events.
- Use the app to message attendees, schedule meetups, or follow up after meaningful conversations.
- Focus on quality over quantity—strong connections matter more than a long contact list.

## **After You Leave**

- Send a quick follow-up message to people you connect with to keep the conversation going.
- Share a resource, insight, or takeaway as a way to add value.
- Nurture a few key relationships beyond the conference through LinkedIn, email, the ATD Community, or future meetups.