



# American Economic Association

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December 2024

Dear Journalist Friends:

Welcome to the annual meeting of the American Economic Association (AEA). This gathering has always attracted interest from economics and business journalists, and this year's program includes many newsworthy panels and papers as well. In addition to the regular sessions, there will be new lightning round sessions, a series of lectures on recent developments in economics, poster sessions, networking luncheons, and much more.

Please check the ASSA [program](#) or [mobile app](#) to review more than 500 scheduled sessions and events, or visit <https://www.aeaweb.org/conference/2025-assa-spotlight> for a summary of the AEA program highlights.

I have provided some key highlights for your consideration:

**—AEA Excellence Awards and Distinguished Lecture: Friday, January 3 at 4:45pm-6:00pm (PST)**

The AEA presents several awards to recognize achievements in research and service to the economics profession. The Distinguished Lecture occurs immediately following the awards ceremony. **Sendhil Mullainathan (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)**, is presenting "Economics in the Age of Algorithms." Presiding: **Lawrence Katz (Harvard University)**

**—AEA Awards Ceremony and the Presidential Address: Saturday, January 4 at 4:40pm-6:00pm (PST)**

The star attraction of the awards ceremony is the presentation of the **John Bates Clark Medal**, awarded annually to the person under 40 who has made the most significant contribution to economics research. This year's winner is **Philipp Strack (Yale University)**. The AEA will also recognize the 2024 Distinguished Fellows, the 2024 AEA Distinguished Service Award winner, and other prestigious awards. Presiding: **Lawrence Katz (Harvard University)**

The presidential address occurs immediately following the awards ceremony. **Janet Currie (Princeton University)**, is presenting "Investing in Children to Address the Youth Mental Health Crisis." Presiding: **Lawrence Katz (Harvard University)**

**—AEA/American Finance Association Joint Luncheon-Fee event: Friday, January 3 at 12:30pm-2:15pm (PST)**

The lecture features **Emi Nakamura (University of California-Berkeley)** presenting "Being Rational about Rational Expectations." Presiding: **Lawrence Katz (Harvard University)**.

There is also a full lineup of speeches and panel discussions on current economic events, including:

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## Friday, January 3

**8:00am-10:00am (PST)**

**"Who Cares? Care, Care Work, and Family Leave Policies"**

Moderator: **Lawrence Katz (Harvard University)**. Panelists: **Richard Frank, Ai-Jen Poo, Maya Rossin-Slater, and Claudia Goldin**

**10:15am-12:15pm (PST)**

**"AI and the Future of Work"**

Moderator: **Erik Brynjolfsson (Stanford University)**. Panelists: **John Horton, Tom Mitchell, Larry Summers, and Jaime Teevan**

**2:30pm-4:30pm (PST)**

**"Frontiers for Analysis of Experiments and Clinical Trials"**

Chair: **Noam Angrist (University of Oxford)**. Discussants: **Kaspar Wuthrich, Rita Ginja, Adrienne Sabety, and Isaac Opper**

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**Saturday, January 4**


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**8:00am-10:00am (PST)**

**“Inflation and the Macroeconomy”**

Moderator: **Jason Furman (Harvard Kennedy School)**. Panelists: **Ben Bernanke, John Cochrane, Jason Furman, and Christina Romer**

**10:15am-12:15pm (PST)**

**“Remembering Robert Solow, 1924-2023”**

Moderator: **James Poterba (Massachusetts Institute of Technology and NBER)**. Panelists: **George Akerlof, Stacey Tevlin, Chad Jones, and Lawrence Katz**

**2:30pm-4:30pm (PST)**

**“Advice on Publishing in Economics and Science Journals”**

Moderator: **Nicholas Bloom (Stanford University)**. Panelists: **Mary-Elizabeth Sutherland, John List, Erzo Luttmer, and Orley Ashenfelter**

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**Sunday, January 5**


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**8:00am-10:00am (PST)**

**“Future of Higher Education”**

Moderator: **Francisca Antman (University of Colorado-Boulder)**. Panelists: **Benjamin E. Hermalin, Lara Shore-Sheppard, Jacob L. Vigdor, and Zachary Bleemer**

**10:15am-12:15pm (PST)**

**“Ben Bernanke’s Contributions to Economics”**

Moderator: **Christina Romer (University of California-Berkeley)**. Panelists: **Mark Gertler, Mary C. Daly, Emi Nakamura, and Peter Rousseau**

**1:00pm-3:00pm (PST)**

**“Is There a Core of Usable Macroeconomics We Should All Believe In?”**

Chair: **Ayşegül Şahin (Princeton University)**. Presenters: **Adrien Auclert, Martin Eichenbaum, Bart Hobijn, and Ayse Okten Imrohoroglu**

The sessions above are only a small sample of the many opportunities to attend talks about relevant and important topics. Remember to check out the program or ASSA app for a complete listing. There will be several livestream sessions available at [www.aeaweb.org/conference/livecasts/2025](http://www.aeaweb.org/conference/livecasts/2025), including those listed above.

You can find additional meeting information on the [ASSA registration](#) pages on our website or follow us @ASSAMeeting on [X \(formerly known as Twitter\)](#) and [BlueSky](#) to receive program updates and other developments before and during the meeting. For questions, send an email to [assa@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:assa@vanderbilt.edu).

Access general information about American Economic Association programs and activities via these links to the [AEA Fact Sheet](#), the [AEA Spotlight PDF](#), on the [AEA Brochures](#) page, or at the [AEA website](#).

I hope you enjoy the conference and welcome your feedback!



Peter L. Rousseau  
Secretary-Treasurer