

TED's new chapter begins!

☰ Summary

The article describes the appointment of Sal Khan as TED's new Vision Steward and Logan McClure Davda as TED's new CEO. The article highlights Sal Khan's vision for TED's future, including his belief in the power of technology and AI to enhance the learning experience. The article also mentions the appointment of Logan McClure Davda as TED's new CEO, highlighting her experience and commitment to TED's mission.

☰ Table of Contents

1. [Why this moment matters](#)
2. [Meet TED's new Vision Steward... Sal Khan!](#)
3. [Introducing TED's new CEO](#)
4. [What happens next — and how you can be part of it](#)

[Chris Anderson](#)

October 15, 2025 at 12:30 pm EDT

Today I'm sharing a momentous announcement. After a nine-month global search, we have found a beautiful answer to the question of who will carry TED forward into the future.

Why this moment matters

When we [announced](#) this process back in February, our guiding question was simple: Who can best take on TED's unique blend of offerings and values — not just for the next few years, but for the coming decades? Our advisers, LionTree, heard from nearly 100 thoughtful and passionate groups — spanning individuals,

foundations, media organizations, technology platforms, investor groups, and universities. (We even received generous offers to purchase TED outright.) The breadth, ambition, and imagination of what was offered were truly inspiring.

But for me — and for everyone on TED’s leadership team — the answers weren’t just about capital or scale. They were about stewardship, values, and a shared belief in giving ideas away, trusting community, preserving independence, and amplifying human possibility.

From that landscape of offers, we made a decision grounded in the guardrails we set in the original blog post announcing the search:

- **Ambition for transformation, not just incrementalism** — the next steward must have a truly compelling vision for how TED can scale up its impact.
- **Protection of all that people hold dear about TED:** the powerful experience of our main conference, our free TED Talk videos, our cherished communities of volunteers, and our determined optimism that a better future can be built.
- **An open tent, diverse voices, global reach, nonpartisanship** — those are nonnegotiable.
- **Editorial and intellectual integrity** must be protected against any conflicts of interest or agenda.
- **TED must never be sold out to commercial interests**, either now or down the line.

We seriously considered for-profit joint ventures that could allow TED’s rapid growth and infuse TED with significant capital. But the more we thought through the possibilities and reminded ourselves of the extraordinary culture of generosity that infuses this community, the harder it was to picture a scenario where TED’s ultimate

controllers might one day prioritize profits over mission.

So we made a key decision...

- **TED's Nonprofit status must endure** — TED will stay a nonprofit, independent of external commercial control. We will proudly continue our transparent mission of providing knowledge, insights and inspiration freely to anyone in the world.

And now you will understand why I am so excited at where we ended up....

Meet TED's new Vision Steward... Sal Khan!



Sal Khan and Chris Anderson at TED2023 in Vancouver, BC, Canada. (Photo: Gilberto Tadday / TED)

It is my delight to introduce **Sal Khan**, founder and CEO of the incredible nonprofit Khan Academy. Sal will join TED's board as

TED's new **Vision Steward**, while continuing his full-time role leading Khan Academy. Sal understands, in his bones, what it means to build a global educational platform rooted in the power of what technology and AI can enable in our connected world. Sal's story is well known: starting with math videos and software to help his cousins, he grew Khan Academy into a trusted, free learning resource for students — and a valued partner for schools and districts — with over 170 million registered users in over 50 languages. He has blended pedagogical rigor, technology (including the powerful use of AI), and ingenuity in service of learners everywhere. He has attracted and retained an extraordinary team. He has partnered with the world's most thoughtful philanthropists and recruited one of the most powerful boards in the nonprofit space. Perhaps most importantly, he's won the respect and gratitude of countless numbers of educators, parents, and students worldwide.

What makes Sal especially compelling for TED is that he's shown he can craft a vision that's both breathtakingly ambitious *and* achievable in today's technological landscape. And he's done so inside a nonprofit culture. Add to this his lifelong dance with the power of curiosity, his hunger for crosscutting ideas, and his belief that bridging divides is not a side project, but a mission. Well, you can see why I'm excited.

Khan Academy and TED will continue to operate independently of each other, but Sal has already shared with me electrifying sketches of how TED could find new ways of empowering humanity by tackling lifelong learning. He also sees how TED could play a meaningful role in helping address the world's growing division and social isolation. We're not announcing any details today. But watch this space... It's about to get seriously exciting.

While Sal will serve as a guiding steward for vision, the day-to-day

execution will fall to a new CEO. For the past 12 years Jay Herratti has given sterling service to TED, initially as head of TEDx, and for the past five years as CEO, where he heroically turned my often wild ideas into effective operational reality. During that time he brilliantly dealt with the challenges of a pandemic and a brutally unstable media landscape. Jay has already given many more years to TED than he initially intended, and is now ready for *his* next chapter in which he intends to focus on board-level work.

Introducing TED's new CEO



Logan McClure Davda at TED Countdown Summit 2025 in Nairobi, Kenya. (Photo: Humphrey Gateri / TED)

We're therefore proud to announce a new CEO for TED: **Logan McClure Davda**.

Logan is not an outsider or newcomer — she is a leader forged within

our org. From co-founding our Fellows program to her current role as Head of Impact, she has earned deep respect across the organization and among our community. She knows our culture, our strengths and constraints; she has fought to extend TED's reach, and she is a believer in Sal's vision for the future.

Our conviction is that this combination — a visionary steward plus an exceptional, trusted internal leader — gives us the best of both worlds: fresh imagination and operational firepower. This conviction has been strengthened by meaningful indications of financial support from exciting new philanthropic partners. (More to come on this.)

Meanwhile, Jay and I remain deeply committed to TED. Jay is joining TED's board and will be available as a resource to Logan. I'll be on the board too and I'll proudly continue to cheer-lead, fundraise, and carry the torch for TED's values. I'll also play a leading role at the upcoming TED2026 in Vancouver. That is going to be one epic celebration of all that this community stands for, and a thrilling chance for me to officially pass the torch to Sal and Logan.

What happens next — and how you can be part of it

- Logan, Jay, and I will join Sal in co-hosting a community conversation by the end of this year to invite feedback, questions, and ideas.
- We'll be transparent about the governance structure, board composition, and how decisions will be made.
- We'll begin recruiting (with input from the community) an *Ideas Council*, an exciting braintrust that will work with our head of media and curation Helen Walters and her exceptional team of curators to guide TED's pursuit of the ideas that matter.
- And yes — when the new leadership team is ready to unveil its

plans, I'll join them in an ambitious fund-raise to match the scope of our ambition for this next chapter.

To TED's community — our speakers, TEDx organizers, educators, translators, Fellows, volunteers, donors, staff, and viewers around the world: this moment is for you. You have given TED its wings. Now let's give it a future worthy of that trust.

I'm deeply grateful to everyone who engaged in the search, submitted proposals, raised questions, and stayed with us in the tension of the unknown. I remain, as always, an ardent believer in TED — and I'm excited for this moment of passing the torch, and leaning into what's next.

Sal and Logan... Congratulations! And thank you! This is going to be beautiful.

— Chris Anderson

Watch the special event that took place on Wednesday, October 15, to announce these exciting changes:

56:53

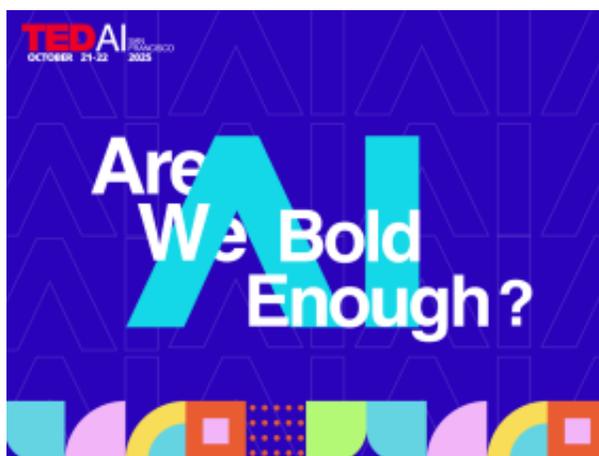
Want to hear even more about how the new steward was selected? Listen to [Chris' exclusive conversation with Manoush Zomorodi](#) on a special edition of NPR's TED Radio Hour.

For press inquiries, contact press@ted.com.



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equally daunting questions. At TEDAI San Francisco 2025, taking place October 21–22, we're bringing those questions front and center. Are We Bold Enough? This one question, with infinite futures, will guide our theme for 2025. [\[...\]](#)