



AI

The  
Founders At Work

Summit

Scale Smarter. Lead Braver.  
Thrive in the Age of AI.

**FOUNDERS**  
at work

In partnership with



ART OF  
**SCALE**

The **Founders at Work Summit**, in partnership with FNB and Art of Scale, brings together South Africa's most ambitious founders, CEOs and scale-up leaders for a day designed to inspire, equip, and connect those building the next generation of businesses.

Across keynotes, live panels and founder case studies, world-class speakers and seasoned entrepreneurs will unpack how to lead, adapt, and scale in this new era — from rethinking your operating system to reinventing your business model. You'll gain practical tools, real-world insights, and the network to help you lead braver, scale smarter, and thrive in the age of AI.

Welcome to a community of founders building the future — together.



The  
**Founders At Work**  
2025 Summit

# P R O G R A M M E

Session	Speakers	Time
Opening Address	Jason Goldberg, Heather Lowe	9:00
Keynote + Live Q&A: The AI Wave is Here	Stafford Masie	9:15
Keynote: How to Lead the Future: Tools to Anticipate and Exploit Disruption	Dr. Craig Wing	10:05
Tea/Coffee Break		10:50
<i>Live poll</i>		<i>11:10</i>
Panel: Founder case studies: Founder Models for Building in the AI Era	Rapelang Rabana; Nic Klopper, Ashley Anthony, Kyle Torrington, Jason Krause (moderator)	11:15
Keynote: AI-Era Scaling: The New Rules of Growth	Jason Goldberg	12:00
Networking Lunch		12:45
Keynote: From Bottleneck to Multiplier: The Adaptability Code to 10X Yourself with AI	Mushambi Mutuma	13:25
<i>Live poll</i>		<i>13:55</i>
10X Your Team with AI: Embedding Adoption Across Your Org	Andrew Davies	14:00
Unlocking People Potential: challenges and emerging best practice for levelling up your people in the age of AI	Tanye ver Loren van Themaat; Andrew Davies (moderator)	14:30
<i>Live poll</i>		<i>14:50</i>
Founder Demo + Hotseat: Under the hood: Demo and case study on leveraging GenAI to innovate your product	Kyle Torrington	14:55
Panel: AI-Powered Ops: Automate Without Breaking Everything	Kutlwano Ngwarati; Graham Rowe; Muhammad Simjee; Keshav Mohabir (moderator)	15:25
Tea / Reset		15:50
Keynote: Reinventing Your Business Model for the AI Economy	Valter Adão	16:10
Keynote: Getting to work: Free tools, resources, events, roadmap	Jason Goldberg	16:45
Closing Address	Jason Goldberg & Heather Lowe	17:10
Networking: Founder Sundowners	All	17:15



## Stafford Masie

Pioneering African tech entrepreneur; formerly led Google's South Africa launch as Country Manager.

**I'm speaking on:** The AI Wave is Here  
**Time:** 9:15am

Stafford kicks off the summit with a powerful wake-up call for founders. He reveals why AI is this generation's "electricity moment," what's at stake for scaling businesses, and how visionary leaders can seize the advantage now.



## Dr Craig Wing

Futurist and global keynote speaker; former Head of Small Business Marketing at Google South Africa; CEO at WhatTheForesight.

**I'm speaking on:** How to Lead the Future: Tools to Anticipate and Exploit Disruption  
**Time:** 10:05am

Craig helps founders think like futurists — to read signals of change, spot disruption early, and act with clarity instead of fear. Expect mind-shifting tools to see what's coming and lead your business into the AI-driven future.



## Jason Goldberg

Author of The Art of Scale; Co-founder of Edge Growth and the Vumela Fund; Co-founder of Art of Scale.

**I'm speaking on:** AI-Era Scaling: The New Rules of Growth  
**Time:** 12:00pm

Jason shares the new playbook for scaling in the AI era — revealing how founders can rethink growth, leadership, and leverage to build smarter, faster-moving businesses that thrive in a world reshaped by intelligent technology.



## Ashley Anthony

Co-founder and CEO of Isazi Consulting, a South African AI and advanced analytics firm.

**I'm speaking on:** Founder case studies: 4 Founder Models for Building in the AI Era (panel)

**Time:** 11:15am

Ash shares how his startup harnesses AI to solve real customer problems and unlock new growth for African SMEs—showing that innovation with AI is accessible, practical, and already transforming local businesses.



## Nic Klopper

Co-founder and former CEO of hearX Group, Africa's fastest growing startup; Co-founded Lexie Hearing; Award-recognized healthtech leader.

**I'm speaking on:** Founder case studies: 4 Founder Models for Building in the AI Era (panel)

**Time:** 11:15am

Nic shares how hearX leveraged AI to transform hearing healthcare globally. His story shows how African founders can turn deep tech into scalable, purpose-driven impact — proving innovation and inclusion can grow together.



## Mushambi Mutuma

Speaker; Author; and Tech Leader helping global brands harness innovation, AI, and future-proof strategies to thrive in disruption.

**I'm speaking on:** From Bottleneck to Multiplier: The Adaptability Code to 10X Yourself with AI

**Time:** 13:25

Mushambi reveals how founders can unlock exponential personal leverage through AI — shifting from overworked bottlenecks to adaptive, high-impact leaders ready to 10X their productivity and growth.



## Rapelang Rabana

Renowned tech entrepreneur; Founder of Rekindle Learning; Earlier co-founded Yeigo; Currently Co-CEO, Imagine Worldwide.

**I'm speaking on:** Founder case studies: 4 Founder Models for Building in the AI Era (panel)  
**Time:** 11:15

Rapelang shares how she's using AI to transform learning and enterprise growth in Africa. Her story shows that AI innovation isn't distant or elite — it's already empowering local founders to solve real business challenges.



## Andrew Davies

Founder & AI Strategy Expert; Led ventures across Africa, Singapore and the US with multiple successful exits.

**I'm speaking on:** 10X Your Team with AI: Embedding Adoption Across Your Org (keynote)  
**Time:** 14:00

Andrew explores how AI can elevate human performance — sharing lessons and best practices for founders to build adaptive, future-ready teams that thrive alongside intelligent technology.



## Valter Adão

Innovation strategist; Former Deloitte Africa Chief Digital & Innovation Officer and leader at Monitor Deloitte/Deloitte Digital; Now CEO, Cadena Growth Partners.

**I'm speaking on:** Reinventing Your Business Model for the AI Economy  
**Time:** 16:10

Discover how to rethink your business model for the AI era — even with limited time, capital, or tech. Valter shares pragmatic frameworks, African examples, and quick-win steps to help founders stay competitive and future-ready.



## Kutlwano Ngwarati

AI strategist; Founder & CEO of High Risers (AI workforce intelligence); Keynote speaker.

**I'm speaking on:** AI-Powered Ops: Automate Without Breaking Everything (panel)

**Time:** 15:25

Kutlwano shares candid lessons from real-world AI automation — what's worked, what's failed, and how to scale operations using GenAI without derailing your team or systems.



## Kyle Torrington

Attorney and legal-tech entrepreneur; CEO & Co-Founder at AirCounsel.

**I'm speaking on:** AI Your Product: Under the Hood (live demo + hotseat)

**Time:** 14:55

In this live demo, Kyle reveals how AirCounsel built an AI-powered product that transforms customer value. Expect practical lessons, honest reflections, and proof that GenAI innovation is within every founder's reach.



## Keshav Mohabir

AI engineer at Art of Scale; Former management consultant and startup founder.

**I'm speaking on:** AI-Powered Ops: Automate Without Breaking Everything (panel moderator)

**Time:** 15:25

Keshav leads a sharp, founder-focused discussion on using AI to automate operations without chaos. Expect real stories, lessons, and success factors that help you adopt automation smartly and sustainably.



## Muhammad Simjee

Entrepreneur; Engineer; Tech Builder; and Co-Founder of A2D24 — recognised by AWS, Cisco and FNB for world-class innovation.

**I'm speaking on:** AI-Powered Ops: Automate Without Breaking Everything (panel)

**Time:** 15:25

Muhammad brings founder-tested insight on automating with AI — highlighting real wins, pitfalls, and principles that help scaling businesses use GenAI tools without breaking what already works.



## Tanye ver Loren van Themaat

Founder; Human-First, AI-Forward Strategist & Capability Builder; Founder of Thundamental

**I'm speaking on:** Fireside Chat: Challenges and emerging best practice for levelling up your people in the age of AI.

**Time:** 14:30

Tanye shares practical lessons on implementing AI by starting with AI fluency, to 10x your people's quality and efficiency. They are best positioned to identify high-impact AI use cases, and reimagine workflows from the ground up.



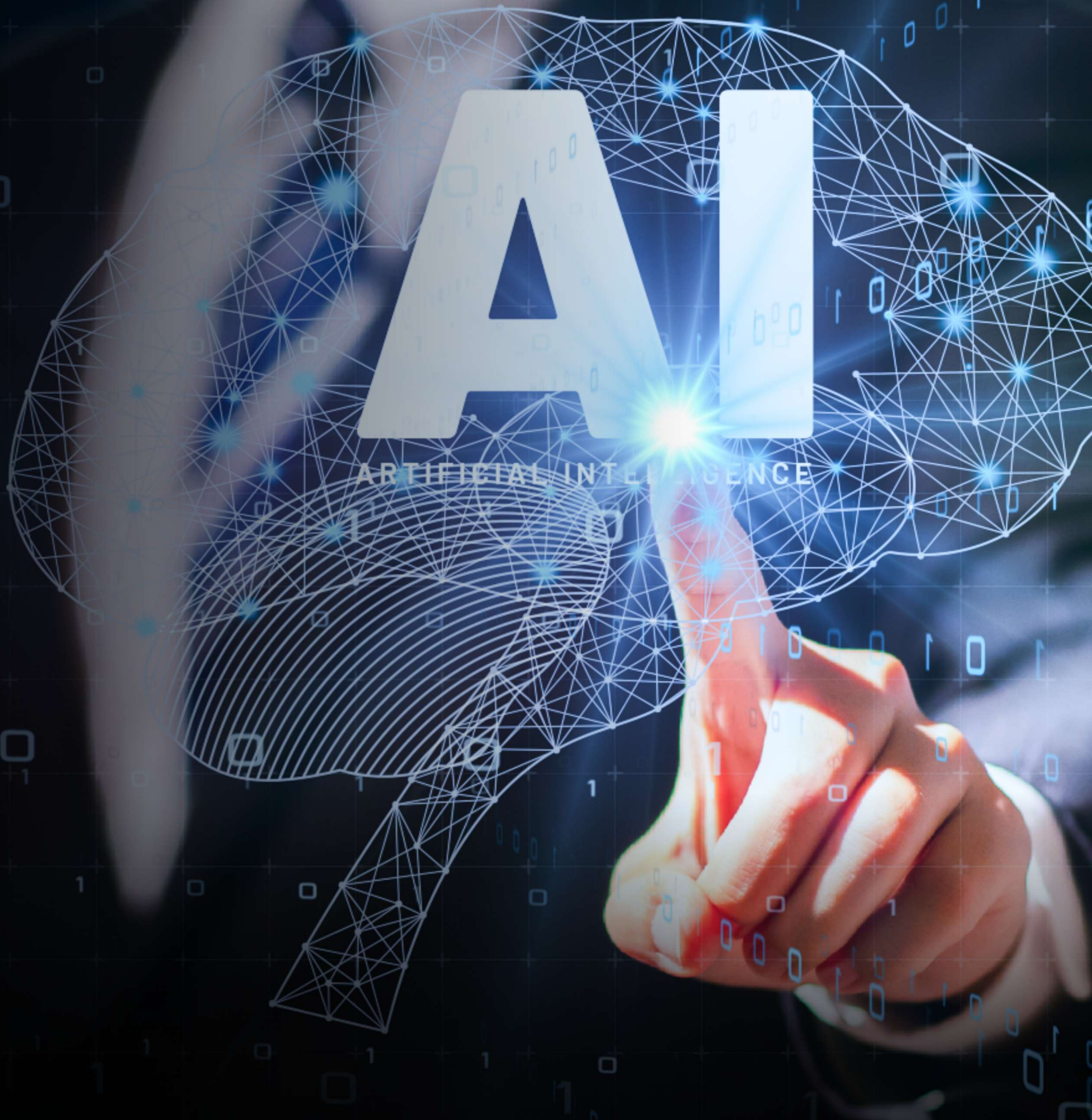
## Graham Rowe

Scientist, Entrepreneur, and AI Advisor — Former CEO & Co-Founder of Guidepost

**I'm speaking on:** AI-Powered Ops: Automate Without Breaking Everything (panel)

**Time:** 15:25

Graham shares real lessons from automating operations with AI — what works, what fails, and how to avoid costly mistakes. Expect grounded insights on scaling efficiency without chaos or burnout.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

**FOUNDERS**  
at work

In partnership with



ART OF  
**SCALE**