

About the SAGE Citizen Project

The Citizen Project addresses challenging trends in America that show we are growing increasingly divided along political and other lines and more hostile toward people who hold different views. We are concerned that as these trends persist, it will become harder for people to work together to find solutions to the challenges faced by younger and future generations in our communities.

What we do:

- Each year, we aim to reach 500+ Oregonians through Citizen Project events hosted by individuals and groups interested in promoting better listening and bridging political and other divides. At our events, we collect and share examples of actions that bring people together across differences to solve problems.
- We offer meaningful volunteer opportunities with SAGE and our democracy partners in Oregon who promote better listening, civics education, civil dialogue and service, and local problem-solving. You can learn more about our partners and their work at our website WeAreSage.org/CitizenProject.
- We host an annual convening to help local and statewide organizations better connect and collaborate on shared initiatives that bring people together across differences to solve problems. We strongly endorse opportunities for communities and organizations to work together through better networking, coordination, and partnership.

Help Build a Bridge. Host a Citizen Project Event.

You can help us reach new audiences by hosting or co-hosting a Citizen Project event. We offer many no-cost events. We can facilitate or co-facilitate with your group, and we can help defray costs for venues or refreshments.

Each event has its own energy and pace. We work with event hosts to ensure the event meets an organization's needs. The event can range from 30 minutes to 2 hours, and it can be offered online, in-person, and hybrid. Here are examples of offerings:

- **Bridging Divides: What Can You Do to Bring People Together Across Differences?**

This presentation is often offered to civic-minded and involved organizations and groups. Together, we discuss the cause and degree of the current state of political polarization and how it creates policy gridlock, undermines democratic institutions, and sabotages



Citizen Project
BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER
ACROSS DIFFERENCES

Learn more:
WeAreSage.org/citizenproject

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The Citizen Project is sponsored by SAGE, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and nonpartisan organization that inspires people over fifty to give forward so that future generations can thrive. We also welcome opportunities to support intergenerational initiatives and conversations.

personal relationships. We then outline the social science research that suggests what individuals and organizations can do to work across differences so communities can move forward in a productive way and solve problems. This 20-minute presentation can easily be paired with a 30-minute discussion. Materials provided.

- **Youth & Opportunity: What Should We Do for Future Generations To Thrive?**

Many young people think the United States is on the wrong track and fear that decisions by today's leaders are robbing them of a better future. Distrust in political parties and concerns about inequality are inspiring protests—many led by children and young adults—and fueling grassroots efforts to challenge the status quo. During this event, participants discuss and deliberate three options for creating a better future for all young Americans. We rely on a [facilitation guide](#) produced by the National Issues Forum. Facilitated discussion is 90 to 120 minutes. Materials provided.