

# SREcon18 Americas

## March 27–29, 2018 • Santa Clara, CA, USA

Sponsored by USENIX, the Advanced Computing Systems Association



### Important Dates

- Proposals for talks and workshops due: **Wednesday, November 29, 2017, 11:59 pm PDT**
- Notification to presenters: **Monday, January 8, 2018**

### Conference Organizers

#### Program Co-Chairs

Kurt Andersen, *LinkedIn*

Betsy Beyer, *Google*

#### Program Committee

John Allspaw

Lauri Apple, *Zalando*

Blake Bisset, *Google*

William Bonnell, *The Home Depot*

Tammy Butow

Paul Cowan, *Google*

Carol Dmello, *LinkedIn*

Liz Fong-Jones, *Google*

Sriram Gollapalli, *Agilent*

Jonah Horowitz, *Stripe*

Nora Jones, *Netflix*

Bridget Kromhout, *Pivotal*

Xiao Li, *LinkedIn*

JP Marcos, *SignifAI*

Nina Mushiana, *LinkedIn*

Laura Nolan, *Google*

Tameika Reed, *Women in Linux*

Mike Rembetsy, *Bloomberg*

Casey Rosenthal, *Netflix*

Matheus Rossato, *Resultados Digitais*

Perry Statham, *IBM*

Emil Stolarsky, *Shopify*

Murali Suriar, *Google*

Salim Virji, *Google*

### Overview

This year, SREcon Americas will focus on the leading edge of SRE. We'll pursue this theme across the technical landscape, foundational principles, culture and values, and organizational aspects of the profession.

SREcon attendees want to discuss robust solutions to system engineering problems, particularly in high-stakes environments. Beyond simply presenting new approaches and solutions, explain your reasoning behind them—what principles did you work from? How did those principles guide and shape the solution? If you're presenting a case study, how did you learn and improve from your experience? The best talks share a team's take on new idea, or inspire the audience to think beyond the challenges they know. We also welcome sessions about SRE philosophy, and this year we're also offering hands-on workshops, which will range from introductory to advanced topics.

Please join us in creating an excellent program for our fifth year of SREcon Americas, which will be the ninth SREcon event globally. Last year, we had over 600 attendees from over 100 companies, with backgrounds ranging from small startups, through tech giants with tens of thousands of employees, to finance and enterprise sector companies adopting or expanding SRE in their organizations. Approaches and issues related to security education.

### Proposals

We are looking for proposals in the following formats:

**Talks:** Talks should be submitted via the web submission form linked from the SREcon18 website.

- 15-minute talks with 5 minutes for Q&A
- 30-minute talks with 10 minutes for Q&A

**Workshops:** Workshop proposals should be submitted via the web submission form linked from the SREcon18 website.

- Hands-on opportunities to deep dive and interact with topics or technologies. The duration is flexible.

The conference will also have slots for **5-minute lightning talks**. You can submit proposals for lightning talks in January (at which time we'll provide more details about submission parameters).

The deadline for talk and workshop proposals is **November 29, 2017**. We'll evaluate all submissions and get back to you by January 8, 2018. Accepted speakers will be required to confirm their plan to present along with their presentation information by January 19, 2018.

We will be scheduling practice sessions for all presenters, regardless of experience, because they improve the experience for attendees. Along with confirming their plan to present, speakers agree to participate in the practice sessions (details will be included in the acceptance notices).

Both presenters and organizers may withdraw or decline proposals for any reason, even after initial acceptance. Speakers must submit their own proposals; third-party submissions, even if authorized, will be rejected.



If you have a topic suggestion or request for a particular speaker you'd really like to see at the conference, feel free to drop us a message at [srecon18americas\\_chairs@usenix.org](mailto:srecon18americas_chairs@usenix.org).

### **Suggested Topics**

- Fundamentals
  - Mapping values to SRE practices (and how tools are a manifestation of these values, not goals in themselves)
  - Architectural patterns for reliability: Technical, process, and organizational
  - Measuring and systematically fixing risk, including both technical and non-technical components
- Engineering resilience against random failure (chaos) and sentient attackers
- The role of ML in reliable, resilient systems
- Culture/people
  - Leveraging diversity to enhance reliability and responsiveness
  - How to cultivate, recruit, and retain SREs
  - Catalyzing great SRE teams with a mixture of roles, including TPM, Tech Writer, UX design, and others
- SRE across platforms
  - Migrations & monitoring: When to outsource parts of your stack, and when/how to monitor and debug end to end
  - Cross-cloud & "serverless" strategies (working on multiple providers): How do people achieve this in the real world?
- Extending SRE culture to networking, security, privacy, and other facets of technology