

Collision 2018

Survival Guide

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

April 30 - May 3



COLLISION

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What is Collision?

Collision is “the fastest growing tech conference in America” according to Forbes, but to us it’s a bit more than that.

For us it’s a conference that brings together people and ideas from all industries and provides a forum for discussion. Collision is a place you’ll find Al Gore and Joseph Lubin (Ethereum co-founder) under the same roof. Over the course of the week they’ll share a stage with Nina Jacobson (Hollywood producer), Anjali Sud (Vimeo CEO), and Christopher Leacock (Major Lazer). Across 12 stages our talks will cover topics ranging from AI to SaaS, from IoT to music, from marketing to analytics and everything in between. Much like the local cuisine, a variety of influences is the key here.

Collision also goes beyond the stages. It’s a conference that’s shaped by its host city, and one that doesn’t end with the final talk of the day. Blended in with Jazz Week, Collision finds New Orleans at its loudest and liveliest. Our talks, stages and speakers attracted 20,000 attendees last year, but it’s what goes on beyond the 9-5 that brings people back. We’re here to show you the best of tech and the best side of New Orleans. From there, where Collision goes is up to you.

What's new for 2018?

With this year's Collision coinciding with both Jazz Fest and NOLA's tricentennial celebrations it promises to be an incredible week. Here is what's new at Collision this year:

Key speakers

We are very excited to host Chairman of Generation Investment Management and former VP, AI Gore; President of the ACLU, Susan Herman; and President of Microsoft, Brad Smith.

Women in tech

We're committed to changing the gender ratio at our events, and empowering women across the globe by fostering networking opportunities, mentorship programmes, as well as our online global women in tech community. This year, we want to take our commitment to change even further. We've issued 10,000 special tickets for women in tech to join us at Collision. We will be hosting dedicated women in tech roundtables on May 1st.

Growth Stage

Within Collision, we're hosting Growth Summit. It's a dedicated stage that the CEOs and founders of some of the world's fastest growing later-stage companies speak on, alongside some of the most notable investors and media. You'll learn about the growth and development of some of the most exciting startups on the planet. It's a stage of inspirational content, where stories of dramatic success are told by the people who made it happen.

Recycling

Plastic waste is a hot topic issue at the moment. Recently a number of cities, states and countries worldwide have vowed to address to the

problem. In keeping with it, the team behind Collision are working to minimize and (where possible) eliminate plastic from our events.

We are urging all attendees, staff, contractors and crew not to bring water or soda bottles with them, but utilize the water coolers and paper cups available to them at the event. We are also asking that everyone plays their part in ensuring their waste is placed in the appropriate bin, all of which will be labelled. This initiative is being supported by the venue (MCCNO), who are going to be looking after the waste management of all recyclable and compostable components free of charge for the duration of the event. It is also being further supported by the catering company at the venue.

Meet the Web Summit team: Hiring stand

The team behind Collision is hiring for our HQ in Dublin, Ireland and around the world. We are builders of technology, relationships & world-class experiences. Interested in building events that resonate around the world? Web Summit is hiring. Join us!

NOLA 300th

Happy Birthday NOLA. Hailed as one of America's most diverse cities, New Orleans is celebrating its tricentenary. To mark the occasion a variety of special events, concerts, fireworks and renovations of historic sites are planned. Check out our city guide on the Collision website to see how you can make the most of your trip to the Big Easy.

Code of conduct

Collision is all about providing an enjoyable, respectful and harassment-free event experience for everyone regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, age, or religion. Sexual language and imagery is not appropriate for any conference venue, including talks.

We do not tolerate harassment of event participants in any form and we expect all participants to conduct themselves in a professional and appropriate manner.

Harassment includes verbal comments that reinforce social structures of domination related to gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, age, religion, sexual images in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention.

If a participant engages in harassing behavior, the event organizers may take any action they deem appropriate, including warning the offender or expelling them from the conference with no refund. If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact a member of conference staff immediately.

Be cool, everyone.

Let's get started:

Get the app

Want to get the most out of your time at Collision? Download our official app. Named CollisionConf on both the Play Store and App Store, we highly recommend you download the app before the event.

Where to register?

Hall D
New Orleans Morial Convention Centre
900 Convention Center Blvd,
New Orleans, LA 70130

See map [here](#)

Registration opening hours:

Date	Registration	Open	Closed
Monday, April 30	Pre-registration	12.00	20.30
Tuesday, May 1	Registration	09.00	17.00
Wednesday, May 2	Registration	09.00	17.00
Thursday, May 3	Registration	09.00	15.00

Registration ticket types

All ticket types can register at main registration at the venue, either at pre-registration on Monday or during the event.

Download the app

Your ticket to Collision can be found in the CollisionConf app. You must have downloaded the CollisionConf app to register. To make your registration as smooth as possible, please have the registration page open upon arrival to the registration area, this shows your unique QR code which is your ticket to enter Collision.

Download the CollisionConf app: [here](#)

To register you will need the following:

- Be logged into the CollisionConf app with the registration page open showing your ticket (unique QR code)
- Photo ID

Acceptable forms of photo ID: passport, driver's licence or government issued national identity card**.

**Credit cards or business cards will not be accepted*

***Must be government recognized photo identification*

Accreditation

All attendees will have to wear a wristband during the event. The wristband is void if removed from your wrist or tampered with.

We are here to help

During Collision our team is there to help. We have three information points to answer all of your questions. We have a general info point, a startup info point and a wifi help desk.

Location: when you enter the venue these will be on your left.

Parking

If you are driving to the venue, there is ample parking available at the Convention Center for a daily fee of \$15. Overnight parking is prohibited.

Walking

New Orleans is an extremely walkable city so stretch your legs, wear comfy shoes and take in the city.

First aid

Our medical point is located outside Hall E, next to the UPS store.

Guest service ambassadors

Check for the guest service ambassadors located outside our hall. They'll be here to help you with all things New Orleans.

Accessibility

Collision is dedicated to ensuring all of our attendees are accommodated for.

The Convention Center provides service ramps to entrances and elevated areas, automatic doors, an array of passenger elevators, restroom facilities for the disabled, as well as braille instructions and directional signage at strategic locations throughout the building.

Coffee

Coffee stations will be open for business in the exhibition hall from 9am - 5pm from Tuesday May 1 - Thursday May 3.

Lunch

You can purchase lunch from 11.30am – 3.30pm each open day of the event in the exhibition hall.

Venue map



Getting around Collision

One ticket gives you access to all of our conferences. Each conference has a dedicated stage, but each day these stages will change. Check out what happens at each of the tracks below.

AutoTech

May 2: The world's leading autotech conference, AutoTech focuses on autonomous vehicles, connected cars and the internet of things. AutoTech connects thousands of leading companies, engineers, developers, experts and hobbyists.

binate.io

May 2: We live in a data-driven world. binate.io is the world's leading data conference, connecting data scientists, analysts, hackers and engineers under one roof during Collision.

creatiff

May 2 - May 3: creatiff is a design conference, connecting thousands of designers and creatives.

FullSTK

May 1: FullSTK is the world's premier developer conference, connecting developers, investors, futurists, engineers and computing experts.

Growth Summit

May 1 - May 3: Growth Summit presents some of the world's fastest-growing companies live at Collision. Get the inside track on the tech leaders and industry giants of tomorrow.

MusicNotes

May 3: MusicNotes is the world's leading music and tech conference where global brands, artists, labels, marketers, investors and industry icons meet.

PandaConf

May 2 - May 3: PandaConf is the world's premier marketing conference for 5,000 marketers and technologists where industry giants, global CMOs, leading brands, investors, agencies and adtech startups meet.

Planet:tech

May 1: Planet: tech brings together the world's leading startups, business giants, influencers and thought leaders from the fields of sustainability, energy and clean tech.

Q+A

May 1 - May 3: There's no filter on the Q + A stage. Our biggest speakers give the audience a chance to ask them anything. It's one of the most open and honest stages in tech.

SaaS Monster

May 1: SaaS Monster is the world's leading SaaS conference, connecting more than 5,000 CIOs and CTOs, buyers and sellers, experts and investors, startups and established companies.

Startup University

May 3: Hear from our network of CEOs, founders, industry leaders and investors on what's going to make your startup a success. Learn from the people who've done it all before at Startup University.

TalkRobot

May 2: TalkRobot is the world's leading AI and robotics conference, gathering experts in artificial intelligence, robotics and hardware. Join thousands of leading companies, startups, investors, engineers, roboticists and researchers in New Orleans.

Roundtables

Roundtables are pre-booked, collaborative and intimate gatherings of a dozen CEOs and founders of the world's leading companies, top speakers, exciting startups and influential tech investors.

Mentor Hours

Mentor Hours are a series of pre-booked, 15-minute meetings between our high-level attendees and startups. Last year more than 1000 startups got access to top speakers, leading investors, influential media and our global partners to get one-on-one advice on starting, growing and scaling a successful business.

Media

Editors from many of the world's most influential publications, as well as market-shaping industry reporters from tech, sports, fashion, marketing and more will make their way to Collision this May.

TalkRobot

Check our website or app for the latest schedule. You can also customize your schedule within our app to plan out your day in advance.

PITCH

PITCH is Collision's startup competition that brings together the world's most promising early-stage startups for a live, on-stage pitching battle. PITCH open to any ALPHA or BETA startup attending Collision that has received under \$3 million in funding to date.

The top 70 startups that apply will be chosen to present in front of our distinguished judging panel and thousands of attendees. Following the group stages, ten startups will advance to the semi-finals where they will compete against ten preselected startups in a bid to make it as one of three finalists to compete in PITCH finals at Collision.

The PITCH competition format is as follows:

Group rounds

Tues May 1 & Wed May 2 (morning)

70 startups battle it out in the group stage of the competition.

Each startup has three minutes to pitch, followed by a three-minute Q&A with our judging panel.

Seven startups and four judges per round (10 rounds).

Semi-finals

Wed, May 2 (late afternoon)

Ten group stage winners will be joined by ten prequalified startups on Center stage.

We will have a panel of 30 esteemed judges on stage to judge the semi-finals

Each startup has three minutes to pitch (no Q&A in this round)

Three finalists will be announced later that day to compete in the final the following day.

Final

Thurs, May 3 (morning)

Collision Center stage.

Each startup has three minutes to pitch, followed by a three-minute Q&A with our judging panel.

Three judges in the final panel and the audience voting on the mobile app as the '4th' judge.

Announcement

Thurs, May 3 (afternoon)

Collision Center stage.

Head judge and Paddy Cosgrave to announce winning startup and present PITCH trophy

Night Summit

The best of Collision's legendary networking happens in the streets of New Orleans after hours. Night Summit will take over the city from 8pm every night.

Monday, April 30 - Pat O'Brien's

Night Summit kicks off in Pat O'Brien's - a New Orleans institution which has been serving thirsty travellers since the days of Prohibition. Back then the password "storm's brewin'" was required to gain entry but on Monday your Night Summit ticket is enough. Join us in the historic French Quarter for one of their famous hurricane drinks and a great night of networking.

Tuesday, May 1 - Warehouse District

Tuesday will see us take to the Warehouse District where we will spend our evening, fittingly, in a warehouse. Republic NOLA is an architecturally unique space, steeped in history, and perfect for unwinding after a day of talks. Here the first 100 guests will enjoy drinks courtesy of Kradle. For those looking to squeeze in some live jazz, The Howlin' Wolf is one of New Orleans' finest music halls having welcomed everyone from Dr. John to the Foo Fighters. It's a colourful venue you can't miss even after a few drinks. With the conversation flowing and the buzz of Jazz Week still in the air, when the night ends is up to you.

Wednesday, May 2 - Frenchmen Street

It wouldn't be a trip to New Orleans without a street party so for our final Night Summit we will take over Frenchmen Street. A favourite among the locals, the street is known for its nightlife and its variety of live music, which can be found on the street as often as inside its many clubs. We still hear people talking about last year's Frenchmen Street party, and with drink discounts for everyone with a Collision wristband you've got no reason to sit this one out.

Thursday, 3 May - Fulton Alley

Join Collision attendees for a final farewell at Collision Happy Hour from 5pm -7pm.

The best of Collision's legendary networking happens in the streets of New Orleans after hours, don't be the one left waiting for next year's Night Summit.

Checklist for the event

Here is a quick checklist curated by our team to help you get the most out of your trip to Collision.

Before

- Download the CollisionConf app on your phone.
- Explore the app to build your schedule and decide what exhibits you don't want to miss. Chat to other attendees and set up meetings with those you'd like to connect with.
- Pack your passport or government approved photo ID, this will be used to receive your accreditation. If you're coming from outside the States, be sure to get your ESTA or visa.
- Pack comfortable shoes, the dress code is smart-casual.
- April showers bring May flowers - be sure to bring a raincoat for some of the scattered Southern sun showers.
- Charge your phone and laptop. Portable battery packs can come in handy at these events too.
- Know how to access your QR code from within the app (more > QR code). Present this along with photo ID at registration.
- The Collision app allows you to scan and exchange contact details with fellow attendees. If you prefer to keep things old school, don't forget to get business cards. We get our business cards from MOO, who are offering a 20% discount for Collision attendees [here](#).
- Pack a reusable water bottle.
#hydrate

When you arrive

- Get your accreditation - join us at pre-registration on Monday, April 30 to receive your lanyard and wristband at Hall D. Be sure to bring your government approved photo ID and your QR code ready to scan in the app.
- Be sure to scan the QR codes of those you meet throughout the day to keep in touch. Fun fact: you can download a CSV file of all your contacts after the conference.
- Remember, it's May in New Orleans - keep hydrated throughout the day at one of our many water points.
- Keep an eye on #CollisionConf and share your thoughts or favorite quotes from the talks. Follow us at @CollisionConf.
- Take a picture with your colleagues in front of the Collision sign and tag us. We love to see the Collision community enjoying the conference.
- You weren't thinking of sleeping were you? Join us at Night Summit and take part in our pub crawls and other night events. The best networking happens after hours.

After

- If you missed any talks, don't worry, we will be uploading these to our Facebook.
- Avoid the post-Collision blues - [sign up for our newsletter](#) and stay up to date with the best offers and speaker announcements for 2019.
- Join us at Night Summit.

See you in

New Orleans

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