

**SEPTEMBER 25–26, 2026**  
Salt Lake City, Utah

THE INAUGURAL NATIONAL FEDERALISM SUMMIT:

# REBALANCING THE STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONSHIP

**#STRUCTURENOTPOLITICS**



NATIONAL  
FEDERALISM  
INITIATIVE



Center for  
CONSTITUTIONAL  
STUDIES



GARY R. HERBERT  
INSTITUTE for PUBLIC POLICY

## #STRUCTURENOTPOLITICS

In a free nation, politics will always be competitive. What keeps this competition healthy are the structural protections of our Constitution—particularly federalism.

The structure of American federalism was created to foster unity and self-government—a unity that joins the people and their states in a limited national government to address common problems while reserving local self-government over most aspects of our daily lives. Federalism reinvigorated, we believe, holds the promise of addressing our most bitter partisan disputes and provides the framework for innovative 21st century policy solutions.

The increasing centralization of governing power is unsustainable; national debt threatens grants and aid to state and local governments, competing presidential executive orders create societal “whiplash,” and top-down mandates ignore local priorities and obscure accountability.

Could states hold the power to correct this course? The Supreme Court has expressed, “The independent power of the States also serves as a check on the power of the Federal Government.” Our Constitution depends on states maintaining appropriate roles and responsibilities in this governing partnership. The safeguards of federalism were intended to enhance accountability, protect local diversity and innovation, and magnify the people’s governing voice.

At this time of extreme political and public stress, we again face the fundamental questions of American politics: “How can liberty be preserved in a large republic?” “How do we reconcile unity with diversity?” And, “How can government remain accountable to the people?” Our future, and the future of our nation, depends in no small part on the answers to these questions.

This summit convenes a bipartisan coalition of state leaders in an effort to lower the political temperature in our nation by returning governing focus to structure over politics; a first step in reviving the structural safeguards of federalism that do reconcile diversity with unity over a vast, self-governing nation. We invite you to join in rebalancing the State-Federal partnership that is central to our liberty now, and for the next 250 years.

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

See maps on p. 5

## THURSDAY, SEPT 25

- 4:30 PM** • **Registration / Reception**  
Envoy room at the Grand America Hotel
- 5:15 PM** • **Welcome Dinner & Evening Program**  
Location: Savoy room at the Grand America Hotel  
  
*MC: Senator Keven Stratton, Senate Chair Utah Federalism Commission*  
*Presentation of the Colors*  
*Prayer: Representative Kay Christofferson (UT Dist. 53)*  
*Pledge of Allegiance: TBA*
- 6:00 PM** • **Jennifer Daily-Provost, UT House Minority Whip, & Ken Ivory, UT Federalism Commission House Chair**
- 6:15 PM** • **Spencer J. Cox, Utah Governor**
- 6:30 PM** • **Professor Troy Smith, UVU Constitutional Federalism Initiative**
- 6:40 PM** • **Mike Schultz, Utah Speaker of the House**
- 7:00 PM** • **Evening Entertainment**  
Shuttles start at the Grand America 600 South Porte Cochere  
  
Shuttles to the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square and the Edison House Social Club. Shuttles will loop throughout the three locations, returning everyone to the Grand America at evening's end. Lodging at the Grand America Hotel.
- 10:30 PM** • **Entertainment Ends**

## FRIDAY, SEPT 26

- 7:45 AM** • **Breakfast / Load Bus**  
Please be at the Grand America's 600 South Porte Cochere where you will be given a box breakfast and board the buses for Snowbird Resort (bring your luggage).
- 7:50 AM** • **Travel to Snowbird Resort**  
Upon arrival, check-in or check your luggage
- 9:10 AM** • **Welcome**  
*MC: Representative Ken Ivory, House Chair Utah Federalism Commission*  
*Speaker: Congressman Kennedy (UT Dist. 3)*  
*Prayer: TBA*  
*Pledge of Allegiance: Representative Cal Roberts (UT Dist. 46)*
- 9:15 AM** • **Session 1: Integrating Federalism into Utah's Government**  
Location: Twin Peaks Room, level 10, Snowbird Cliff Lodge  
  
*Speaker: Dr. Jim Moss, Utah Federalism Commission*
- 9:50 AM** • **Session 2: Can Federalism Help Overcome Polarization?**  
Location: Twin Peaks Room, level 10, Snowbird Cliff Lodge  
  
*Dr. Jenna Bednar, Professor of Public Policy & Political Science at the University of Michigan*  
*Moderator: Senator Ron Winterton (UT Dist. 20)*
- 10:50 AM** • **Break**
- 11:05 AM** • **What to Expect in 2026**  
Location: Twin Peaks Room, level 10, Snowbird Cliff Lodge  
  
*Speakers: UT Speaker of the House Mike Schultz & Minority Whip Jennifer Dailey-Provost*
- 11:15 AM** • **Session 3: The Past and Future of State Coordination**  
Location: Twin Peaks Room, level 10, Snowbird Cliff Lodge  
  
*Speaker: Dr. John Dinan, Professor at Wake Forest University*  
*Moderator: Representative Jeff Burton (UT Dist. 64)*

12:15 PM	•	<b>Break</b>
12:30 PM	•	<b>Lunch</b>
12:45 PM	•	<b>Better Together</b> Location: Twin Peaks Room, level 10, Snowbird Cliff Lodge  <i>Speaker: Utah Attorney General Derek Brown (UT Dist. 3)</i> <i>Moderators: Representative Jason Thompson and Kael Weston, Federalism Commission</i>
1:15 PM	•	<b>Re-Balancing the Governing Partnership Together</b> Location: Twin Peaks Room, level 10, Snowbird Cliff Lodge  <i>Speakers: Senate Majority Leader Kirk Cullimore and Senate Minority Whip Karen Kwan</i>
1:25 PM	•	<b>Farewell</b> <i>Senator Keven Stratton and Representative Ken Ivory</i>
1:30 PM	•	<b>Summit Ends</b>

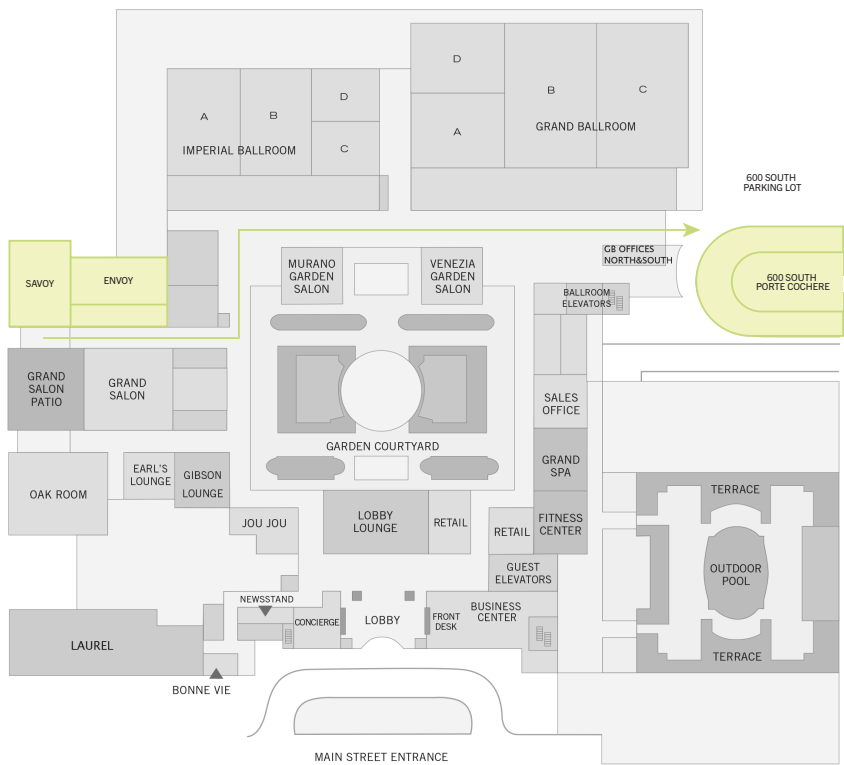
**SUBMIT EXIT SURVEY:**

To improve future events, please let us know your thoughts/comments regarding the summit, as well your interest in assisting with future events using this QR code:



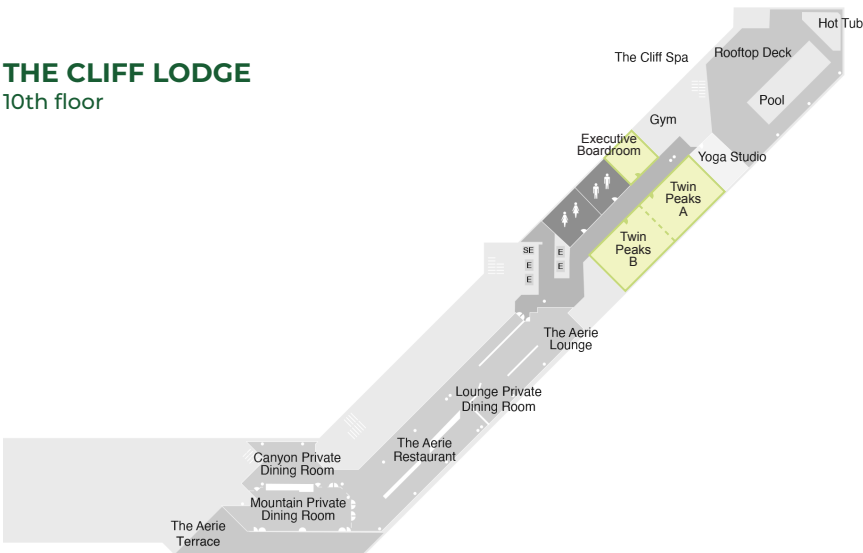
# THE GRAND AMERICA HOTEL

1st floor



# THE CLIFF LODGE

10th floor



## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

### NOVEMBER 20, 2025

2025 Summit Debrief Webinar for state leaders, think tanks, civic and grassroots leaders

### AUGUST 11 – 12, 2026

2026 National Federalism Summit

## UTAH FEDERALISM COMMISSION MEMBERS

### Legislative members

Sen. Keven J. Stratton (R), Senate Chair  
Rep. Ken Ivory (R), House Chair  
Sen. David P. Hinkins (R)  
Sen. Karen Kwan (D)  
Sen. Derrin R. Owens (R)  
Sen. Ronald M. Winterton (R)  
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht (R)  
Rep. Jefferson S. Burton (R)  
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson (R)  
Rep. Jennifer Dailey-Provost (D)  
Rep. Rosalba Dominguez (D)  
Rep. Michael J. Petersen (R)  
Rep. Calvin Roberts (R)  
Rep. Jason E. Thompson (R)

### Commissioners (non-legislators)

Justin Anthony  
Rob Bishop  
Jennifer Brown  
Jason Chaffetz  
Lorie Fowlke  
Ben McAdams  
Jim Moss  
Lisa Roskelley  
Casey Saxton  
Mike Smith  
Chris Stewart  
Jerry Taylor  
Kael Weston  
Kyle Wilson

## RESOURCES

National Federalism Initiative – (<https://nationalfederalisminitiative.com/>)

Center for Constitutional Studies at Utah Valley University (<https://www.uvu.edu/ccs/>)

The Center for the Study of Federalism – (<https://federalism.org/>)

Utah Federalism Commission – (<https://le.utah.gov/committee/committee.jsp?year=2025&com=SPEFED>)

## QUESTIONS AND HELP

If you require any assistance or have any problems during the conference, please call or text (801) 368-2378 or (801) 558-9371. You may also reach us at [federalism@uvu.edu](mailto:federalism@uvu.edu).

# THINGS TO DO

## If You Decide to Extend Your Stay in Northern Utah!

### Temple Square (Salt Lake City)

- Spiritual and historical heart of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- See the Tabernacle, Assembly Hall, gardens, and take free tours

### Utah State Capitol

- Beautiful neoclassical building with panoramic city views
- Free guided or self-guided tours available

### Natural History Museum of Utah

- Stunning architecture and exhibits on dinosaurs, geology, and Indigenous cultures

### Great Salt Lake + Antelope Island

- Largest island with bison, hiking, sunsets, and summer kayaking/float tours

### Provo Canyon + Bridal Veil Falls

- Scenic drive or bike ride with dramatic cliffs and a tall, easy-to-access waterfall

### Sundance Mountain Resort

- Year-round outdoor activities: hiking, biking, ziplining, skiing
- Founded by Robert Redford with great dining and art programs

### Thanksgiving Point (Lehi)

- Dinosaur Museum, Butterfly Biosphere, gardens, and farm
- Great for kids and nature lovers

### This Is The Place Heritage Park (Salt Lake City)

- Living history village with pioneer activities, train rides, gold panning, and more

### Utah's Hogle Zoo (Salt Lake City)

- Over 800 animals including lions, elephants, tigers, and red pandas
- Family-friendly with splash pads, train rides, and carousel

### Park City, UT

- Utah Olympic Park and Historic Main Street for shopping and dining

### Timpanogos Cave National Monument

- Hike to the cave entrance, then take a guided tour of stunning formations

### Kennecott Copper Mine (Bingham Canyon Mine)

- One of the largest open-pit copper mines in the world
- Visitor Center open seasonally with interactive exhibits



### **Church History Museum**

- Interactive exhibits on early pioneers and LDS heritage
- Free admission and engaging for all ages

### **Heber Valley Artisan Cheese (near Utah County)**

- Tours and tastings of delicious local cheeses in a beautiful mountain setting

### **Rockwell Ice Cream (Provo & Salt Lake City)**

- Famous local favorite with unique flavors like Honeycomb and Biscoff
- A must-try for ice cream lovers

### **Lake Taffy Town (Salt City)**

- Legendary saltwater taffy made in Utah for over 100 years

### **Mrs. Cavanaugh's Chocolates (North Salt Lake)**

- Fun and informative—learn how their hand-dipped chocolates and caramel apples are made

### **This Is The Place Heritage Park**

- A living history village recreating pioneer life in Utah
- Ride the train, pan for gold, visit a blacksmith, print shop, and old-fashioned schoolhouse

### **Clark Planetarium (Salt Lake City)**

- Free space-themed exhibits and paid dome shows on astronomy and science
- Great indoor option with hands-on fun for all ages

### **Loveland Living Planet Aquarium (Draper)**

- Explore ecosystems from oceans to rainforests—penguins, sharks, and otters included

The National Federalism Summit, commissioned and funded by the State of Utah, is organized by the [Center for Constitutional Studies](#) and co-sponsored by the [Center for the Study of Federalism](#) under the direction of the Utah Federalism Commission's National Federalism Initiative and with the support of the [Herbert Institute for Public Policy](#).