Leading on the Edge to World-Class Excellence

The AME 2019 International Conference in Chicago is the world’s largest lean conference. With outstanding keynotes, daily practitioner presentations, must-see benchmarking tours, and pre- and post-conference workshops, the learning experience is like no other. World-class, highly successful continuous improvement practitioners provide a source of knowledge that you can rely on to confidently make the changes needed to accelerate growth.

Learn from distinguished keynote speakers

Andrew Au
Digital transformation, AI and modern leadership expert

Col. Arthur J. Athens
Naval Academy’s 1st Distinguished Military Professor of Leadership (Ret.)

Chris McChesney
Global Practice Leader of Execution for FranklinCovey Co.

Grace Wakulchik
President and CEO of Akron Children’s Hospital

John Sweeney
Owner and Director of Brave New Workshop; Author, The Innovative Mindset

Nigel Thurlow
Chief of Agile at Toyota Connected

Richard Sheridan
CEO, Chief Storyteller and Co-Founder of Menlo Innovations; Author, Joy, Inc. – How We Built a Workplace People Love

Senta Taylor
Vice President, Operations & Strategic Planning at RBC

Tom Peters
Author, The Excellence Dividend; Co-Author, In Search of Excellence: Lessons from America’s Best-Run Companies

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AME Chicago 2019 brings researcher and author Mike Rother to its 35th annual International Conference for a new version of his always-in-demand Kata in the Classroom (KiC) workshop. In this expanded, hands-on Kata training, participants will gain a deep understanding of how to experiment their way forward instead of blindly deciding a pathway forward.

Scientific thinking is a basis for creativity and successfully pursuing seemingly unattainable goals. The KiC exercise has participants go through each step of the Improvement Kata pattern—a four-step scientific pattern that is practiced in many business organizations—while completing two hands-on activities. Participants follow the Improvement Kata pattern to (1) face a challenge, (2) grasp the current condition and measure where they are, (3) establish the next goal and (4) experiment toward that goal.

After attending this workshop, participants will:

- Have the ability to run the Kata in the Classroom exercise at their own organization.
- Gain a deeper understanding of the scientific Improvement Kata pattern through hands-on participation.
- Share the Kata in the Classroom exercise with education partners with whom they’ve pre-arranged to train-the-trainer so the Improvement Kata method may be shared with K-12 students.

About Mike Rother

Mike Rother is an engineer, a researcher, teacher and speaker on the subjects of management, leadership, improvement, adaptiveness, and change in human organizations. He has been a member of the Industrial Technology Institute (Ann Arbor), the University of Michigan College of Engineering, the Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation (Stuttgart), and the Technical University Dortmund. He has written several books including “Toyota Kata: Managing People for Improvement, Adaptiveness and Superior Results” and “The Toyota Kata Practice Guide.”

For more information and resources visit the Kata in the Classroom website at www.katatogrow.com