

OFFICIAL CHAPTER NEWSLETTER • Q1 2026

ATD ST. LOUIS

BIG VIBES. REAL LEARNING.

80 YEARS STRONG. 

Networking • Learning • Community • Growth

 [Explore Events →](#)



Nikki Thompson

CHAPTER PRESIDENT

"This isn't just a chapter — it's a community of people shaping the future of learning."

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Hey, ATD Fam! 🖐️

Let's be real — 2026 is going to be something special. We're turning 80 this year, and we are NOT quietly celebrating. We're going big.

We're bringing you events that are actually worth your time, partnerships that open real doors, and a conference that's going to blow your mind. But more than anything — we want this to be your chapter. Show up. Connect. Grow.

- Create meaningful, engaging experiences for members
- Strengthen our community and connections
- Evolve how we learn, lead, and grow together

"If you haven't joined us at an event yet this year, this is your sign. There is so much ahead!"

— Nikki Thompson, President



Meet the Humans Behind the Magic 🙌

These are the people making it all happen. Say hi when you see them!

Nikki Thompson

President

in



Jamil Bridges

President-Elect

in



Jazmin Webster

Past President

in



Josh Higgins

VP of Membership

in



Sarah Garner

VP of Community
Engagement

in



Tina Powell

VP of Finance

in



Lee Frazier

Director of Finance

in



Tyra Austell-Jones

VP of Professional Dev.

in



Kelli Callihan

Dir. of Programming
Logistics

in



David Kolmer

Director of Technology

in



Erin Magner

Director of Partnerships

in



PD

Paige Daniels

Chapter Administrator

in

Here's the Game Plan

Making ATD St. Louis the chapter you brag about to your coworkers.

2026: Legacy to Revolution

01

Member Experience First

More events you actually want to attend.
Interactive, valuable, worth your
afternoon.

02

Community & Partnerships

Growing our network of sponsors and
local orgs so we can do even more for
you.

03

Future of Learning

AI, workplace trends, modern learning —
we're staying ahead so you can too.

04

Intentional Programming

Sessions mapped to real needs and the
ATD Capability Model. No filler here.

The Numbers Don't Lie

Every new member brings fresh energy, ideas & perspective to our community.

165

TOTAL MEMBERS

15

NEW MEMBERS IN Q1



 [Learn More About Your Membership](#)

Okay But Did You SEE Q1?! 🤯

🏆 COMMUNITY EVENT

Chicken N Pickle Networking Night

High energy. Great turnout. Real connections built on and off the court.

“One of the most fun ATD events I’ve been to!”

— ATD St. Louis Member



🌟 ALSO IN Q1

More Good Stuff

- National recognition through the SOS (Sharing Our Success) program — we're kind of a big deal 🏆
- Member Appreciation Month brought some serious good vibes 🎉
- New initiatives launching across programming & member experience — stay tuned! 🚀



Mark Your Calendars!

These are the events you're going to be bummed you missed. Don't miss them.

FEATURED EVENT

**APR
1**

A FULL YEAR of building clarity, capability & confidence as a learning pro.

SIG PROGRAM

Instructional Designer Growth Series (SIG)



A year-long journey designed for IDs who want to level up — fast. From tools to confidence to community.

[Grab your spot →](#)

VIRTUAL EVENT

**APR
14**

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

T.E.A.M Talk: Unlocking the Secrets of Effective Communication

Learn to connect with people who think differently than you.

[Save your seat →](#)

DON'T MISS WHAT'S NEXT

View all upcoming events:
atdstl.org/events →



 80TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE



YEARS OF GROWING, LEARNING & SHOWING UP

80 Years of Growth: From Legacy to Learning Revolution



September 17, 2026



AI & Technology



How Learning Evolves



Growing Today



Keynote Speaker Reveal Coming Soon! 



You're Kind of a Big Deal ★

Amy Jones, Ed.D.

[LinkedIn Profile](#)

Nice to meet you! I'm Dr. Amy Jones, an Assistant Professor of Practice at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and the University of West Florida, where I teach organizational development, human-centered design, and instructional design. I also run an online vintage and designer recommerce boutique.

I hold an Ed.D. in Instructional and Performance Technology, along with degrees in Instructional Design and Journalism. I'm Lean Six Sigma certified and an active member of ISPI and ATD.

A U.S. Army veteran and military spouse, I live in St. Louis with my family. I also serve on the Board of The Women's Safe House and enjoy podcasts, live music, and lifelong learning.

"I joined ATD St. Louis last year as I experienced an unexpected shift in my career. I felt immediately welcomed and included in the chapter and have truly enjoyed getting to know fellow members. The programming is great, too -- I always walk away from events with useful knowledge and new connections! I'm grateful for such an awesome community of local talent development colleagues!"

This isn't just a chapter.

It's a community of people shaping the future of learning.

And we're just getting started. 🚀



WEBSITE

atdstl.org



EVENTS

atdstl.org/events



MEMBERSHIP

atdstl.org/membership



LINKEDIN

[ATD St. Louis Page](#)

Questions? Reach out to Nikki Thompson, Chapter President
president@atdstl.org

Thank You to Our Sponsors

We couldn't do this without you.

Your partnership fuels **learning, connection, and growth** across the ATD St. Louis community. Because of your support, we're able to create meaningful, engaging experiences for learning professionals at every stage.

♥ **Thank you for believing in our mission and investing in our members.**

