

AYN RAND CONFERENCE—ORANGE COUNTY
Reason, Purpose, Self-Esteem: Keys to a Better Life



Presented by the Ayn Rand Institute

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2020
COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT, SANTA ANA
ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

REASON, PURPOSE, SELF-ESTEEM: KEYS TO A BETTER LIFE

PROGRAM:

8:00 – 9:00 am

Registration

Check into the event and pick up your name badge, swag bag and a free book!

9:00 – 9:30 am

Welcome Remarks

by Tal Tsfany

9:30 – 10:30 am

Keynote: Reason, Purpose, Self-Esteem: Keys to a Better Life and Society

by Aaron Smith

How do you create for yourself a life of meaning and purpose and value? How can we build a better society, one that supports human flourishing and happiness? For millennia, people have sought answers in faith and sacrifice. But have these delivered a better life and a better society? In Ayn Rand's view, what's needed is an alternative moral ideal—a new vision of what makes human life and happiness possible. In Rand's philosophy, the keys to a better life are not faith, hope and charity but reason, purpose and self-esteem.

10:30 – 11:00 am

Break

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Capitalism: The System of Individual Rights

by Yaron Brook

Do citizens have a duty to serve the state? Or does government exist to protect the freedom of individuals to pursue their own lives and happiness? What are individual rights and what are they based on? Ayn Rand often describes her political views by saying that she's not a conservative but a "radical for capitalism." What is capitalism? And how does it differ from both socialism and conservatism?

12:00 – 1:30 pm

Lunch

Enjoy lunch with your fellow attendees, conference speakers and staff.

1:30 – 2:30 pm

The Virtue of Selfishness and the Evil of Altruism

by Elan Journo

Everyone knows that selfishness is evil, right? And that altruism — selfless sacrifice for the sake of others — is the essence of virtue? But what if the conventional understanding of these crucial moral concepts is completely mistaken? What if they don't really mean what people typically think they mean? And what if, as Ayn Rand argues, our whole way of thinking about morality needs to be radically rethought?

2:30 – 3:00 pm

Break

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Q&A Panel on Reason, Purpose and Self-Esteem

with Elan Journo, Keith Lockitch and Aaron Smith

After reflecting on the talks so far, here is your chance to ask any questions you have about Ayn Rand's philosophy, Objectivism. In particular, we'll focus on reason, purpose and self-esteem and why Ayn Rand calls these the "three cardinal values of the Objectivist ethics."

4:30 – 4:45 pm

Break

4:45 – 5:30 pm

Fireside Chat

with Elan Journo and Debi Ghate

In this "fireside chat," Elan Journo will interview Debi Ghate.

5:30 – 7:00 pm

Closing Reception

Location: El Dorado Lobby and Patio

Join fellow attendees, speakers and staff for the closing reception.

OBJECTIVIST SUMMER CONFERENCE 2020

June 17-21
Austin, Texas



LIVING A LIFE OF PURPOSE

Join us at OCON 2020 in Austin, Texas, June 17-21, 2020, for the largest annual gathering of Ayn Rand enthusiasts where you'll have the opportunity to:

- Hear speakers and panelists present intellectually stimulating topics, from philosophy and history to literature and finance.
- Meet and talk with other Ayn Rand fans eager to learn more about the ideas in her works.
- Take part in a variety of social activities with other event attendees.

ATTENTION STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS!

SPECIAL DISCOUNTED RATES are available for all students and for young adults age 29 and under. See ocon.aynrand.org for details.



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