

# #IFElive Virtual Speaker Series Countdown to the Election



**Institute for Education**

Harnessing the power of data, innovation and soft diplomacy in the global community

**BIOS**

*Featured Speaker*



## **MARGARET BRENNAN**

*Moderator of 'Face the Nation' and senior foreign affairs correspondent for CBS News | @MargBrennan @FaceTheNation*

Margaret Brennan is moderator of CBS News' "Face the Nation" and CBS News' senior foreign affairs correspondent based in Washington, D.C. Brennan has reported on politics, international affairs, and global markets since 2002. She joined CBS News in 2012 and was named White House and senior foreign affairs in 2017. Since 2012, Brennan has been based in Washington and has reported on the Trump administration, and previously President Obama's administration, for all CBS News programs. Previously, Brennan covered the State Department for four years, where she reported on major national security stories including nuclear negotiations with Iran; restoration of diplomatic ties with Cuba; the standoff with North Korea; the conflict in Ukraine; and the accord to transfer control of Syria's chemical weapons.

Prior to joining CBS News, Brennan spent a decade covering the global financial markets. Brennan anchored and reported for Bloomberg Television globally. Previously, she was a correspondent at CNBC with a focus on the consumer during the financial crisis. She also contributed to various NBC News programs. Brennan began her career as a producer for CNBC's "Wall Street Week with Louis Rukeyser." Brennan is a member at the Council on Foreign Relations and sits on the Advisory Board for the University of Virginia School of Politics.

Brennan graduated with highest distinction from the University of Virginia in 2002, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Foreign Affairs and Middle East Studies with a minor in Arabic. As a Fulbright-Hays Scholar, she studied Arabic at Yarmouk University in Irbid, Jordan. She is also the recipient of an honorary doctor of letters degree from Niagara University. Brennan is a Connecticut native.

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Introduction



## H.E. DANIEL MULHALL

*Ambassador of Ireland to the United States | @DanMulhall @IrelandEmbUSA*

Daniel Mulhall took up duty as Ireland's 18th Ambassador to the United States in August 2017. He was born and brought up in Waterford and undertook his undergraduate and post-graduate studies at University College Cork where he specialized in modern Irish history. Ambassador Mulhall joined the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1978 and had his early diplomatic assignments in New Delhi, Vienna (OSCE), Brussels (European Union) and Edinburgh where he was Ireland's first Consul General, 1998-2001. He served as Ireland's Ambassador to Malaysia (2001-05), where he was also accredited to Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. In 2005, he was conferred with an Honorary Fellowship by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland for his work in connection with the Asian tsunami. From 2009 to 2013, he was Ireland's Ambassador to Germany. Before coming to Washington, he served as Ireland's Ambassador in London (2013-17). During his time in Britain, he was a regular speaker on political, literary and historical topics at Universities all over the country, including at Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Durham, King's College London and the London School of Economics. He also spoke at the Oxford Literary Festival, the Newbury Festival, the Liverpool Literary Festival and the Edinburgh International Book Festival. He was a regular speaker at the University of Liverpool's Institute of Irish Studies and is an Honorary Fellow at the Institute. Before departing for Washington, he was made a Freeman of the City of London in recognition of his work as Ambassador. During his diplomatic career, Ambassador Mulhall has also held a number of positions at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, including as Director-General for European Affairs, 2005-2009. He also served as a member of the Secretariat of the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation (1994-95) which was set up in 1994 in order to promote political dialogue between different political traditions in Ireland. From 1994-98, he was the Department's Press Counsellor and in that capacity was part of the Irish Government's delegation at the time of the Good Friday Agreement 1998. Ambassador Mulhall maintains a keen interest in Irish history and literature. He is the author of *A New Day Dawning: A Portrait of Ireland in 1900* (Cork, 1999) and co-editor of *The Shaping of Modern Ireland: A Centenary Assessment* (Dublin, 2016) and has made numerous contributions to books, newspapers and journals published in Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and Britain. A keen advocate of public diplomacy, Ambassador Mulhall makes regular use of social media in order to provide information on the work of the Embassy, to highlight Ireland's achievements and to engage with Irish communities and those with an interest in Ireland. During his time in Washington, he will provide daily updates on Twitter @DanMulhall and through regular blogs to be posted on the Embassy's website. Daniel Mulhall is married to Greta and they have a daughter and a son.

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Q&A Moderator



## BRIT MCCANDLESS FARMER

*Digital Producer at 60 Minutes, CBS News | @thebritfarmer @60minutes*

Brit McCandless Farmer is an award-winning journalist with a career that spans print, broadcast, and digital news. As the digital producer for 60 Minutes at CBS News, Brit interviews, writes, and produces online content to accompany the highest-rated news program in the country. In this role, she has focused on subjects such as how Section 230 has shaped the internet, the ethics of genetic engineering, and the impact of opioid abuse on families. Previously, Brit worked at the CBS Weekend Evening News and CBS This Morning, where she produced interviews with presidential candidates, elected officials, and corporate leaders. Before joining CBS, she worked at CNN, where she was a member of a producing and reporting team that won a Peabody Award. She graduated with highest honors from Carnegie Mellon University.

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Host



## COACH KATHY KEMPER

Founder and CEO, Institute for Education | @CoachKemper @InstituteForEdu

Coach Kathy Kemper is CEO and Founder of the Institute for Education (IFE), a Washington D.C.-based nonprofit committed to engaging the global community to harness the power of soft diplomacy, data, and innovation.

In 2019, Kemper was recognized, alongside Jeff Bezos, as one of *Washington Life Magazine's* "Tech 25", a prestigious honor reserved for top technology innovators and disruptors. Extolled as "D.C.'s Networker-in-Chief" by *U.S. News and World Report*, Kemper regularly convenes timely salons, forums, intimate discussions and invitation-only gatherings that draw senior White House and Congressional leaders, distinguished ambassadors and diplomats, business executives, journalists and technology innovators for debate and discussion. Past speakers have included Supreme Court Justices, a Vice President, Senators, Ambassadors, Nobel laureates, Cabinet secretaries, U.S. Chief Technology Officers, CEOs, and more.

A former professional tennis player, Coach Kemper served as head Women's Tennis Coach at Georgetown University from 1978 to 1990, and coached Georgetown's No. 1 player to the NCAA National Women's Division II title in 1983. Coach has spent more than 40 years coaching tennis for Washington's power brokers – hitting the courts with Supreme Court Justices, kings, queens, and U.S. Secretaries of State through six administrations at the White House court, Senate court and Embassy courts.

Kemper has received awards and recognition from the Swedish, Chinese, and Japanese governments for her commitment to cross-cultural dialogue. In 2017, Three U.S. CTOs awarded the Challenge Coin to Coach Kemper for her bipartisan leadership in technology. A frequent op-ed writer and columnist, her work has been featured in *The Hill*, *Roll Call*, *The Globalist*, *Huffington Post* and *USA Today*.