



 climate one

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RIGHT *Greg Dalton in his home studio, working in the new normal created by COVID-19*

COVER *Woman and girl walking on drought*

DEAR FRIENDS,

Amid all the fascinating conversations I am privileged to have with amazing thought leaders, there are many moments that deeply impact my own thinking. One from this past year, for example, was when Native American activist Sherri Mitchell—*Weh’na Ha’mu Kwasset* pointed out how the whole concept of conquest has been deeply embedded into all of our minds. It’s so foundational that it’s hard to see. “Conquest is the means by which we succeed,” she said.

This reminded me of a moment back in 2016 when environmentalist Bill McKibben leaned in to me and said, “We won the factual argument decades ago. This is about power.” The comments of Bill, Sherri and others have led us to double down on our commitment to address power dynamics in our discourse and empower conversations that deepen our audience’s understanding of the growing climate crisis.

My own relationship with power has changed over time as well. In the early days of Climate One, I thought the only people I needed to talk to were elites with financial and institutional influence. But this was a narrow view of the climate story. I have learned that the most

powerful conversations are those that include diverse perspectives, and that solutions will come from places and people we have too often excluded. Telling the whole story requires many voices, just as solving a systemic problem requires many strategies.

At Climate One, our empowering conversations connect all aspects of the climate emergency. We have been leading the climate conversation for 14 years, informing thought leaders while inspiring the next generation.

Today, people are more informed

BELOW *Greg Dalton*



and more engaged on climate than ever before. There is a growing desire, even urgency, from the public to address climate change in all its complexities.

Our conversations over the last year have led with honesty, empathy, curiosity and my own desire to dig deeper on this complicated topic. We've explored the emotional toll of enduring the climate crisis and connected the psychology of denial to inaction. We've learned how empowering women and girls across the globe is an essential climate solution. We've unpacked the relationship between poverty, oppression and climate consequences and, in so doing, learned that we cannot solve one at the expense of the other. We are all connected. We are all implicated.

I continue to learn so much through our empowering conversations, and I hope they have a similar impact on your climate journey. Thank you for listening.

Warm regards,

Greg Dalton

Executive Producer and Host

Climate One from The Commonwealth Club

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

MISSION

Climate One from The Commonwealth Club is the premier platform for the conversation about the climate emergency. Through our podcast, national radio show and live convenings for thought leaders and concerned members of the public, we create opportunities for dialogue and inspire a more complete understanding of the current crisis.

VISION

We envision a world where a clear-eyed awareness of the climate crisis shapes decisions ranging from personal behavior to public policy, and where the full spectrum of humanity's wisdom, talent and expertise is marshaled toward the well-being of all life on Earth.

VALUES

- At the forefront
- Scientifically based
- Holistic
- Independent
- Inclusive and respectful
- Inspiring

AN UPDATED EXPERIENCE



LEADERS ARE LISTENING ENGAGING WITH LONG-FORM AUDIO

At Climate One, we pursue a science-based conversation, curated for a thoughtful, intelligent audience eager to deepen their understanding of the climate emergency. We believe that podcasts and radio are the premier platforms for informative long-form journalism like ours, and we're proud to make all of our audio episodes available for free to our growing audience.

Long-form journalism is stronger than ever, and audio is one of its fastest growing forms. It is expected that 117 million people in the U.S. will be monthly podcast listeners in 2021. The podcast audience is young, engaged and highly educated. In short, they are our future leaders. The public radio audience is also highly engaged. NPR listeners are 200 percent more likely to contact a politician at any level and 269 percent more likely to engage in environmental groups than their peers.

Combining our podcast and radio show, each episode we produce reaches the ears of more than 90,000 people, an 80 percent increase from last year.

A NEW NORMAL

WHEN WE CAN MEET AGAIN

Our program was born as a special project of The Commonwealth Club of California nearly 14 years ago. We started out hosting live public forums where people came for informative conversations and stayed for convivial receptions that featured networking and wine. Even as we began producing a TV show, a radio show and eventually a podcast, this in-room experience remained our focus.

During the pandemic, we have been lucky to find success amid chaos. We pivoted from the in-room experience to remote interviews with ease. We even found it advantageous. Today we interview leaders all over the world — and without any aviation emissions. Climate change is a global issue, and now we are having a global conversation.

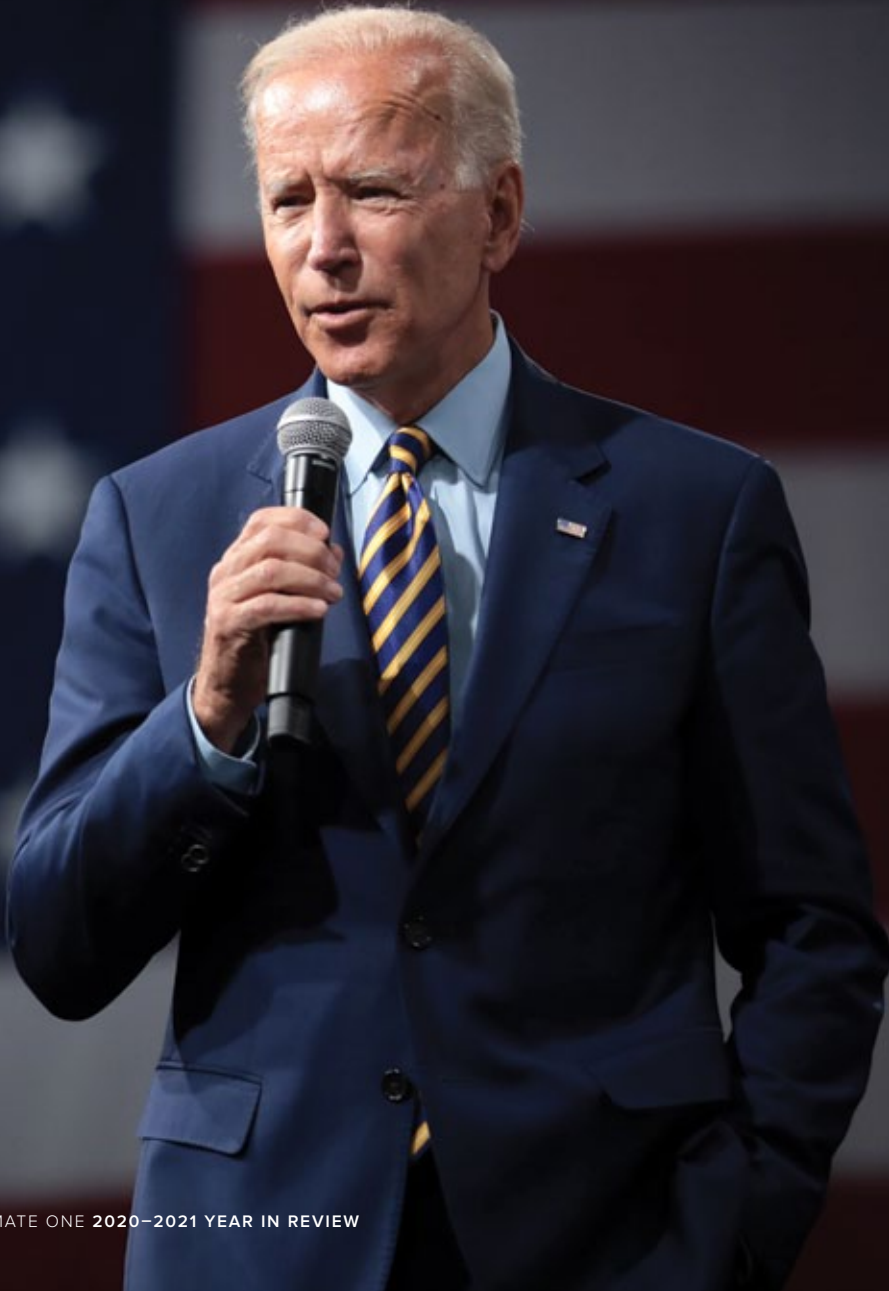
People often ask when we will return to those live events. Honestly, we don't know. Nor are we certain about what it will look like when we do. But we promise to invite you back to our home at 110 The Embarcadero as soon as it is safe to do so — and we will have wine!



A reception on the roof of the Climate One office on the waterfront in San Francisco

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Joe Biden participates in the Presidential Debate at Belmont University on October 22, 2020



EPISODES

- 18 DEC 2020 [Biden's Climate Opportunity \(Part 1\)](#)
- 15 JAN 2021 [Biden's Climate Opportunity \(Part 2\)](#)
- 12 MAR 2021 [The Political Reality of Climate Action](#)
- 30 APR 2021 [Distorted Democracy](#)

POLITICAL CLIMATE

A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

Is American democracy capable of addressing the climate emergency? “If you look at countries like the United States and Australia, you can see how climate becomes a political football, and that’s really problematic,” says Rebecca Willis, Climate One guest and author of *Too Hot to Handle? The Democratic Challenge of Climate Change*.

Despite being the world’s biggest historical contributor to global emissions, the U.S. has repeatedly failed to lead the world out of the resulting crisis. President Biden is attempting to change that with the most progressive climate agenda ever pursued by a sitting president.

This year we asked: What climate action is possible in such a difficult political environment? In the face of polarization, inequality and a barrage of misinformation, how far can Biden take the country? And how far can democracies take the world?

EPISODES

9 OCT 2020

[A Feminist Climate Renaissance](#)

30 OCT 2020

[Power Shift: Jamie Margolin and Dorceta Taylor](#)

13 NOV 2020

[Cropped Out: Land, Race and Climate](#)

12 FEB 2021

[Killer Combination: Climate, Health and Poverty](#)

9 APR 2021

[Investing in a Clean and Equitable Recovery](#)

11 JUN 2021

[Colorado River Reckoning: Drought, Climate and Equal Access](#)

INCLUSIVE CONVERSATIONS JUSTICE AS A CLIMATE SOLUTION

Climate change is not a singular threat; it is a threat multiplier, and part and parcel of all the problems facing our planet. Understanding the climate crisis requires an understanding of all the inequities facing this world. “All of them are connected,” says Adrienne Hollis, senior climate justice and health scientist at the Union of Concerned Scientists. “And the underlying cause is systemic racism.”

The insidious nature of a disrupted climate means disproportionate impacts on the marginalized communities least responsible for causing the crisis. At Climate One, we are committed to making space to not only include but prioritize these perspectives, experiences, insights and solutions. Over the last year, more than 130 people enriched our conversations; 35 percent of those guests were BIPOC, and 59 percent identified as female.

Our conversations have examined issues such as how poverty exacerbates the health impacts of climate change, how race and injustice have shaped the American farming landscape, opportunities for an equitable and just recovery post-COVID and more. A diverse range of speakers makes these conversations possible, and we are extremely grateful to all of our guests for sharing their knowledge and time with us.



Amber Tamm was a featured guest on Climate One episode Cropped Out: Land, Race and Climate

Dancer from Alonzo King
LINES Ballet



EPISODES

28 AUG 2020

[Climate Change
Through the Artist's
Eyes with Alonzo
King](#)

19 FEB 2021

[Climate Narratives
with Elizabeth
Kolbert, Kim Stanley
Robinson and Jeff
Biggers](#)

19 MAR 2021

[When Words Aren't
Enough: The Visual
Climate Story](#)

7 MAY 2021

[Climate Stories We
Tell Ourselves](#)

4 JUN 2021

[Finding the Heart to
Talk About Climate](#)

17 JUN 2021

[Shepard Fairey,
Mystic and the
Power of Art](#)

CLIMATE CONNECTION

THE ART OF CONVERSATION

Climate communications might sound like a straightforward proposition. We lean on scientific reports and white papers to understand the science of our heating planet. But living through a crisis of this magnitude can be disorienting, isolating and intimidating. When numbers and data are not enough to move us, we must rely on different strategies to connect with each other.

Over the last year, we have explored how media like art and film can make a more lasting impression on an audience than facts and figures. We have discussed the need for storytelling, both in real life and in fiction, to understand the present and imagine the future. “It’s truth; it’s intimacy. And some of it is ugly, and some of it is beautiful,” explains filmmaker Céline Cousteau.

The climate crisis may be a tragedy unfolding before our eyes, but as we write the next chapters of this story, it’s important to use all of our narrative tools to inspire, move and motivate humanity.

SCHNEIDER AWARD AT 10



ABOVE Dr. Stephen H. Schneider was a pioneering communicator of climate change science — clearly explaining the effects of climate disruption while contributing much of the foundational science through which we understand climate change today.

ABOUT THE AWARD

THE STEPHEN H. SCHNEIDER AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CLIMATE SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

In 2011, Climate One founded the annual Stephen H. Schneider Award for Outstanding Science Communication. Named in honor of Dr. Stephen H. Schneider (1945–2010), the \$15,000 award recognizes a natural or social scientist who has made extraordinary scientific contributions and communicated that knowledge to the public in a clear and compelling fashion.

Recognizing the importance of scientists sharing their knowledge of climate change with the broader public, Climate One has had the honor of elevating a cohort of science communicators over the last 10 years. We look forward to continuing the tradition into the next decade and beyond.

2020 WINNERS

DR. ANTHONY LEISEROWITZ AND DR. EDWARD MAIBACH

Anthony Leiserowitz and Edward Maibach are the lead investigators on Yale’s *Global Warming’s Six Americas*, one of the most comprehensive studies on America’s evolving attitudes toward climate change. From the dismissive to the alarmed, they have tracked individual engagement for more than 10 years, providing indispensable insights.

We are pleased to see them join this cohort of scientists stepping out of their labs and into the public discourse.

10 YEARS OF SCHNEIDER AWARD WINNERS



2020
Dr. Anthony Leiserowitz
Director and Senior Research Scientist, Yale Program on Climate Change Communication



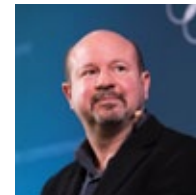
2020
Dr. Edward Maibach
Director, George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication



2019
Dr. Robert Bullard
Distinguished Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy, Texas Southern University



2018
Dr. Katharine Hayhoe
Professor and Director, Climate Center, Texas Tech University



2017
Dr. Michael Mann
Distinguished Professor of Atmospheric Science, Penn State University



2016
Dr. Naomi Oreskes
Professor of History of Science and Affiliated Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Harvard University



2015
Dr. Chris Field
Director Emeritus, Department of Global Ecology, Carnegie Institution for Science



2014
Dr. Jane Lubchenco,
Distinguished Professor, Oregon State University



2013
Dr. Nicholas Stern
Chair, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change, The London School of Economics and Political Science



2012
Dr. James Hansen
Director, NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies



2011
Dr. Richard Alley
Professor of Geosciences, Penn State University

BY THE NUMBERS

2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR CLIMATE ONE FROM THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB



Climate One fiscal year July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021
 *Due to GAAP accounting rules, the timing of multiyear grants can cause deficits or surpluses in certain fiscal years.

SUPPORTERS AND TEAM

STEWARDS

- Anonymous
- Larry Birenbaum
- Peter Boyer and Terry Gamble Boyer
- Tom Burns and Nora Machade
- Al Davis
- Bill and Kate Duhamel
- Mark Ferron
- Mike Haas
- John Hoffmeister
- Jeff Horowitz
- Mike Krautkramer
- Mark Kriss
- Dee Lawrence
- Noel Perry
- William Reilly
- Toni Rembe
- Arthur Rock
- Tony Stayner
- Pasha and Laney Thornton

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- ClimateWorks Foundation
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation
- Seed Fund Grants
- Sidney E. Frank Foundation
- Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation


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