

## SPEAKERS



### Dr. Ben Bayer

Dr. Bayer is a fellow and director of content at the Ayn Rand Institute. He teaches at Ayn Rand University and gives talks and interviews for ARI. He writes and edits for ARI's online publication, *New Ideal*. Dr. Bayer holds a PhD in philosophy and his writing focuses primarily on the application of philosophy to contemporary cultural and political controversies.



### Dr. Jason Rheins

Dr. Rheins is a scholar of ancient Greek and Roman philosophy. He has taught or held professorships at the University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore College, UNC Chapel Hill, St. John's University, and Loyola University Chicago. He has published articles and book chapters on the history of philosophy, the philosophy of science, and metaphysics. He is currently writing a monograph on Plato's theology.



### Dr. Tara Smith

Dr. Smith is a professor of philosophy at the University of Texas at Austin. She has published books on individual rights, the foundations of value, Ayn Rand's theory of egoistic virtues, and the requirements of objectivity in judicial review. Her current research focuses on psychological aspects of egoism.



### Dr. Gena Gorlin

Dr. Gorlin is a clinical associate professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Texas at Austin, a practicing licensed psychologist, and a coach for entrepreneurs and other ambitious innovators. She has published numerous academic and popular articles on her research examining the moral psychology of self-creation, and she writes a popular Substack newsletter titled *Building the Builders*.



### Dr. Gregory Salmieri

Dr. Salmieri is a senior scholar of philosophy in the Salem Center at the University of Texas at Austin. He holds the Brigham Fellowship for the Study of Objectivism and is director of the Center's Program for Objectivity in Thought, Action, and Enterprise. Dr. Salmieri is the co-editor of *A Companion to Ayn Rand* (2016), *Foundations of a Free Society* (2019), and *Aristotle and Ayn Rand* (forthcoming)



### Tal Tsfany

Mr. Tsfany is president and CEO of the Ayn Rand Institute. Previously, he was an entrepreneur, investor, and executive in the software world in Israel and the United States. He is a cofounder of the Ayn Rand Center Israel and has published a young adult book titled *Sophie*.

# AYN RAND CON

## AUSTIN

### MARCH 22–24, 2024



Scan for session descriptions



**FRIDAY** MARCH 22

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Welcoming Remarks by **Tal Tsfany** and Opening Reception

**SATURDAY** MARCH 23

9:00 – 10:30 AM

**Ben Bayer:** Understanding “For the New Intellectual”

10:30 – 11:00 AM Break

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Greg Salmieri:** Keynote: The Objectivity of Valuing

12:00 – 1:30 PM Buffet Lunch

1:30 – 2:30 PM

**Jason Rheins:** The Origins of Enlightenment: Some Lessons from the Hellenic Era

2:30 – 2:50 PM Break

2:50 – 3:50 PM

**Jason Rheins, Greg Salmieri, Tara Smith:** Panel on Reason as a Cultural Force

Dinner (To Be Confirmed)

**SUNDAY** MARCH 24

9:00 – 10:30 AM

**Ben Bayer and Jason Rheins:** What Christianity Did and Did Not Contribute to Western Civilization

9:00 – 10:30 AM

**Tara Smith:** The State of Conceptual Thinking in Contemporary Culture

10:30 – 11:00 AM Break

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

**Jason Rheins:** Congenital Frailties of the European Enlightenment: A Case Study

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

**Gena Gorlin and Greg Salmieri:** The Producer’s Mindset


12:30 – 2:00 PM Buffet Lunch / Group Photo

2:00 – 3:30 PM

**Ben Bayer, Gena Gorlin, Greg Salmieri:** Q&A Panel on Objectivism

Optional Dinner (To Be Confirmed)

- Conference Sessions
- Conference Meals
- Concurrent Sessions



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