

Visual Studio® **LIVE!**

EXPERT SOLUTIONS FOR .NET DEVELOPERS

CHICAGO
 SEPT 18-21, 2017
 MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN

ROCK YOUR CODE
 TOUR 2017



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TOPICS INCLUDE:



ALM / DevOps



Cloud Computing



Database and Analytics



Native Client



Software Practices



Visual Studio / .NET Framework



Web Client



Web Server

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

VISUAL STUDIO LIVE! 2017 IS INSPIRED BY ROCK AND ROLL, AND ALL THAT IS HAPPENING IN TECH. We want to help you master what's new, even as it rushes out of the firehose!

Software development changes almost every day, with amazing new tools and technologies in the cloud, on mobile devices, the Web at large, and on operating systems from Windows to macOS and Linux. While rapid change can feel threatening, we think there's never been a better time to be a software developer—but to be a "rock star" at your craft, you'll need to have a good educational source that builds your skills.

We think there's a great way to digest these changes and seize their collective opportunity, and that's to hear about them directly from the finest expert speakers in the business. We're Andrew Brust, Rockford Lhotka, and Brian Randell, and as Conference Co-Chairs for Visual Studio Live! Chicago, we'd like to personally invite you to do that by joining us this September at the Chicago Marriott Downtown.

We've put together an amazing lineup of sessions on: Web Server (including ASP.NET Core); Web Client (HTML5, JavaScript, Angular, and the like);

Native Client (mobile and desktop); ALM and DevOps, Database and Analytics; Azure/Cloud Computing; Software Practices; and more.

We've also got coverage on technologies like Microsoft Visual Studio 2017 / full .NET and .NET Core; Angular; TypeScript; Xamarin; PowerApps and Flow; NoSQL; Machine Learning; WebAssembly; Powershell; and XAML. You'll find ways to improve your team skills with talks on Scrum, Agile Retrospectives and team building.

Then there's our workshop content, covering Distributed Cross-Platform Application Architecture; ASP.NET DevOps with Visual Studio Team Services or Team Foundation Server; and SQL Server 2016 for Developers. These sessions and workshops drill deep into the new subjects you need to master and the fundamentals that are always important.

Microsoft and its developer technologies are poised to move into the future, and you've got to keep up with the changes. At such a pivotal time, Internet-based content isn't enough. Find a way to get to Visual Studio Live! Chicago and get live content and interaction with independent experts. Your career deserves nothing less.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! ROCK OUT!

VISUAL STUDIO LIVE! CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS



Andrew Brust
Senior Director, Market Strategy
and Intelligence, Datameer



Rockford Lhotka
CTO, Magenic



Brian A. Randell
Partner, MCW Technologies

TEN REASONS TO ATTEND Visual Studio Live! Chicago

1 WE'RE ON MISSION TO CODE. The Developer Community has trusted Visual Studio Live! for 24 years (and counting!), for the best in developer-focused education and training.



2 REGISTER EARLY AND OFTEN. Just kidding! Registering once is all you need to do, but the earlier you do it, the more you'll save!

3 VIEWS FROM EVERY OCTAVE. We feature both unbiased industry experts and Microsoft insiders, so you'll hear every side of the story on the most recent software and industry updates.

4 YOU KNOW THE OTHER REASON IT'S CALLED THE WINDY CITY? Because the politicians talk so much, not because it's actually windy. So, do your share of talking while onsite! Developers, engineers, software architects and designers will all be at the conference—take advantage of meal times and networking events to get to know your fellow attendees and speakers.



5 THIS SET LIST IS FULL OF CONTENT. The information-packed 4-day agenda offers multiple sessions in tracks such as Visual Studio .NET Framework, ASP.NET Core, Angular/JS, Xamarin, DevOps and so much more.

6 COME FOR THE LEGENDS. STAY FOR THE CODE. Hear your favorite industry speakers all in one place, including Rachel Appel, Angela Dugan, Billy Hollis, Leonard Lobel and Brian Randell—just to name a few.

7 #TRENDING. Find out what's happening now, what's new and what's next on the Microsoft and developer landscape.

8 PULL AN ALL-DAYER. Come in on Monday and attend a pre-conference workshop on Distributed Cross Platform Architecture, ASP.NET DevOps, or SQL Server 2106.

9 THE WINDS OF CHANGE. Moving to the Cloud + Embracing enterprise mobility + Opening the floodgates of open source development = You can't avoid change. Are you ready? Andrew Brust, Brian Randell and Rockford Lhotka, our conference co-chairs, are here to help you not only understand and work with the change, but master it!



10 SWEET HOME, CHICAGO! From the Magnificent Mile to the inspiring architecture to da 'za and 'dogs, we're thrilled to be back in Chicago this year!

THE FUN STUFF: VISUAL STUDIO LIVE! CHICAGO EVENTS

YOUR ATTENDANCE AT VISUAL STUDIO LIVE! (VSLIVE!™) CHICAGO is about learning from your peers as well as the experts; make the most of your time with us and add these events to your itinerary!

DINE-A-ROUND DINNER

Monday, September 18
6:45pm – 9:00pm

Join other conference attendees and speakers for a casual, no-host dinner and make a few new friends while enjoying the fun and delicious restaurants in the Chicago area. This is your opportunity to meet fellow attendees and start friendships that can last for the week or even longer. Attendees can break into smaller groups based on where everyone wants to dine and head off to dinner. Everyone is responsible for their own dinner.

WELCOME RECEPTION

Tuesday, September 19
4:15 – 5:30pm

All conference attendees are invited to celebrate the start of Visual Studio Live! Chicago at the Welcome Reception. Join us to network with fellow conference attendees and speakers, talk with the event sponsors, enjoy complimentary drinks and hors d'oeuvres, and participate in the conference raffle.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER LUNCH

Wednesday, September 20
12:00 – 1:30pm

Plumb the knowledge and experience of your colleagues, conference speakers and exhibitors by participating in one of the BoF Tables discussions. Tables will have a designated topic to help start discussions and interact with your fellow attendees. You may even learn a new trick or two or some great tips to take back to the office.

We will also have designated speaker tables— noted with the speakers' name. Join your favorite speaker for a lunchtime discussion or just to ask questions or clarify anything from their sessions.



Dine-A-Round Dinner



Welcome Reception



Birds of a Feather Lunch

VSLive!'s Windy City Sunset Cruise

Wednesday, September 20
6:30pm – 9:00pm

*Pre-registration & \$20 Confirmation
Fee Required*

Experience Chicago by water! The VSLive!™ Windy City Sunset Cruise takes you down the Chicago River, through the Harbor Lock, and onto Lake Michigan. This unique excursion includes periodic narration with stories of more than 200 years of fascinating social, cultural, and political Chicago history; and expansive views of Chicago's extraordinary 26-mile skyline. Complimentary beverages will be available.

Attendees will meet in the Marriott Lobby at 6:30pm and walk to the Trump Tower Dock as a group. The tour will depart from the Trump Tower Dock at 7:15pm and return at 9:00pm.

Space is limited and reservations will be on a first come, first serve basis.



AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE

ALM / DevOps	Cloud Computing	Database and Analytics	Native Client	Software Practices	Visual Studio / .NET Framework	Web Client	Web Server
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START TIME	END TIME	Visual Studio Live! Pre-Conference Workshops: Monday, September 18, 2017 (Separate entry fee required)					
7:30 AM	9:00 AM	Pre-Conference Workshop Registration • Coffee and Morning Pastries					
9:00 AM	6:00 PM	M01 Workshop: Distributed Cross-Platform Application Architecture - Jason Bock & Rockford Lhotka	M02 Workshop: Practical ASP.NET DevOps with VSTS or TFS - Brian Randell	M03 Workshop: SQL Server 2016 for Developers - Andrew Brust & Leonard Lobel			
6:45 PM	9:00 PM	Dine-A-Round					

START TIME	END TIME	Visual Studio Live! Day 1: Tuesday, September 19, 2017					
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Registration • Coffee and Morning Pastries					
8:00 AM	9:00 AM	KEYNOTE: To Be Announced					
9:15 AM	10:30 AM	T01 JavaScript for the C# Developer - Philip Japikse	T02 Storyboarding 101 - Billy Hollis	T03 Build Cross-Platform Apps in C# using CSLA .NET - Rockford Lhotka	T04 What's New in Visual Studio 2017 - Robert Green		
10:45 AM	12:00 PM	T05 TypeScript: The Future of Front End Web Development - Ben Hoelting	T06 Better, Faster, Automated! Windows App Deployment in Visual Studio Mobile Center - Ela Malani & Piyush Joshi	T07 Roll Your Own Dashboard in XAML - Billy Hollis	T08 What's New in C#7 - Jason Bock		
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Lunch • Visit Exhibitors					
1:00 PM	1:30 PM	Dessert Break • Visit Exhibitors					
1:30 PM	2:45 PM	T09 ASP.NET Core MVC—What You Need to Know - Philip Japikse	T10 Professional Scrum Development Using Visual Studio 2017 - Richard Hundhausen	T11 What's New for Developers in SQL Server 2016 - Leonard Lobel	T12 To Be Announced		
3:00 PM	4:15 PM	T13 User Authentication for ASP.NET Core MVC Applications - Brock Allen	T14 PowerShell for Developers - Brian Randell	T15 What's New in Azure IaaS v2 - Eric D. Boyd	T16 To Be Announced		
4:15 PM	5:30 PM	Welcome Reception					

AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE (continued)

ALM / DevOps	Cloud Computing	Database and Analytics	Native Client	Software Practices	Visual Studio / .NET Framework	Web Client	Web Server
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START TIME	END TIME	Visual Studio Live! Day 2: Wednesday, September 20, 2017					
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Registration • Coffee and Morning Pastries					
8:00 AM	9:15 AM	W01 Securing Web APIs in ASP.NET Core - Brock Allen	W02 Professional Software Testing Using Visual Studio 2017 - Richard Hundhausen	W03 Cloud Oriented Programming - Vishwas Lele	W04 Database Development with SQL Server Data Tools - Leonard Lobel		
9:30 AM	10:45 AM	W05 Assembling the Web— A Tour of WebAssembly - Jason Bock	W06 Get Started with Git and GitHub - Robert Green	W07 Building Modern Web Apps with Azure - Eric D. Boyd	W08 Tactical DevOps for SQL Server - Brian Randell		
11:00 AM	12:00 PM	GENERAL SESSION: To Be Announced					
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Birds-of-a-Feather Lunch • Visit Exhibitors					
1:00 PM	1:30 PM	Dessert Break • Visit Exhibitors • Exhibitor Raffle @ 1:15pm (Must be present to win)					
1:30 PM	2:45 PM	W09 Tools for Modern Web Development Dev Ops - Ben Hoelting	W10 Go Mobile with C#, Visual Studio, and Xamarin - James Montemagno	W11 Build Awesome AF Apps! - Rachel Appel	W12 Power BI: Analytics for Desktop, Mobile and Cloud - Andrew Brust		
3:00 PM	4:15 PM	W13 Get Rid of HTML Tables for Better Mobile Web Applications - Paul Sheriff	W14 Continuous Integration & Deployment for Mobile Apps - James Montemagno	W15 Microservices with Azure Container Service & Service Fabric - Vishwas Lele	W16 Power BI: Beyond the Basics - Andrew Brust		
4:30 PM	5:45 PM	W17 Use HTML5/Bootstrap to Build Business UI - Paul Sheriff	W18 Mobilizing your Existing Enterprise Applications - Nick Landry	W19 Busy Developer's Guide to the Google Cloud Platform - Ted Neward	W20 Big Data Solutions in Azure - David Giard		
6:30 PM	9:00 PM	VSLive!™ Windy City Sunset Cruise					

AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE (continued)

ALM / DevOps	Cloud Computing	Database and Analytics	Native Client	Software Practices	Visual Studio / .NET Framework	Web Client	Web Server
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START TIME	END TIME	Visual Studio Live! Day 3: Thursday, September 21, 2017					
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Registration • Coffee and Morning Pastries					
8:00 AM	9:15 AM	TH01 I Just Met You, and "This" is Crazy, But Here's My NaN, So Call(Me), Maybe? - Rachel Appel	TH02 PowerApps, Flow, and Common Data Service: Empowering Businesses with the Microsoft Business Application Platform - Archana Nair	TH03 Lessons Learned from Real World Xamarin.Forms Projects - Nick Landry	TH04 Busy Developer's Guide to NoSQL - Ted Neward		
9:30 AM	10:45 AM	TH05 Build Object-Oriented Enterprise Apps in JavaScript with TypeScript - Rachel Appel	TH06 PowerApps and Flow Part II: Package, Embed, and Extend Your Applications - Anousha Mesbah & Pratap Ladhani	TH07 Improve Your Retrospective Outcomes with Agile Kaizen - Angela Dugan	TH08 Building Applications with DocumentDb—New Features and Best Practices - Raj Krishnan		
11:00 AM	12:15 PM	TH09 What's New in TypeScript? - Doris Chen	TH10 Getting Started with Entity Framework Core - Jim Wooley	TH11 Open Source for Microsoft Developers - Rockford Lhotka	TH12 Introduction to Machine Learning with R - Raj Krishnan		
12:15 PM	1:15 PM	Lunch					
1:15 PM	2:30 PM	TH13 Practical Performance Tips and Tricks to Make Your HTML/JavaScript Faster - Doris Chen	TH14 Getting Your Agile Team Unstuck! Tips and Tricks for Blasting Through Common Setbacks - Angela Dugan	TH15 DI Why? Getting a Grip on Dependency Injection - Jeremy Clark	TH16 The Rise of the Machines—Machine Learning for Developers - Adam Tuliper		
2:45 PM	4:00 PM	TH17 Building Powerful Applications with AngularJS 2 and TypeScript - David Giard	TH18 Improving Code Quality with Roslyn Code Analyzers - Jim Wooley	TH19 Unit Testing Makes Me Faster: Convincing Your Boss, Your Co-Workers, and Yourself - Jeremy Clark	TH20 I'm Emotional—Using Microsoft Cognitive Services to Understand the World Around You - Adam Tuliper		

Sessions and speakers subject to change.

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

MONDAY, SEPT 18, 9:00am – 6:00pm

Choose from a range of content and topics by expert presenters with Visual Studio Live! Chicago's Pre-Conference full day workshops.

M01 Workshop: Distributed Cross-Platform Application Architecture

Intermediate

JASON BOCK & ROCKFORD LHOTKA

When it comes to software architecture and development, distributed computing is both a pressing development concern and age-old concept. It can still be confusing and intimidating to work with systems that span multiple machines and platforms, especially with the myriad cloud-based and on-premises technologies available today. You have numerous resources at your disposal to make your distributed systems scalable, reliable, and maintainable. This workshop will cover the fundamentals of distributed computing, along with tools and frameworks you can use to build and deploy your application. You'll learn how to apply technologies such as Azure Functions, Azure Service Fabric, Signal-R, RESTful services, and so on.

"MY FAVORITE PART IS THIS IS NOT A SALES PITCH, LIKE OTHER CONFERENCES I HAVE ATTENDED. MOST PRESENTERS ARE ACTUAL DEVELOPERS, WORKING IN THE FIELD—I FELT THE CLASSES WERE GEARED MORE TOWARDS ME AS A RESULT!"

- Jon Plater, Kantar Retail

M02 Workshop: Practical ASP.NET DevOps with VSTS or TFS

Intermediate

BRIAN RANDELL

DevOps is the union of people, process, and product coming together to provide continuous delivery of value. Implementing a DevOps practice in your organization is a complex multi-step process. Assuming you get organizational buy-in and your team is ready to go, how can you practically implement DevOps if you're committed to building high quality ASP.NET applications? How can you use either Visual Studio Team Services (VSTS) or Team Foundation Server (TFS) 2017 to create an effective release pipeline?

This workshop will show you how to use Visual Studio 2017, ASP.NET, either VSTS or TFS 2017 create an effective, automated pipeline. The day will be broken down into five sections:

- Level Set
- Plan & Track
- Develop & Test
- Release
- Monitor & Learn

The workshop starts by level-setting everyone on terms and technology. Then you'll explore four phases where development and operations can come together around the process of getting—and keeping—an ASP.NET application running smoothly. By the end of the day, you'll have seen how to start with just code and end up with a fully functioning continuous delivery pipeline running either on a local TFS installation or in the cloud with VSTS.

You will learn:

- How choose VSTS or TFS for your team's toolset
- How to use the tools to increase cross-team communication
- How to build quality into every phase of your pipeline

M03 Workshop: SQL Server 2016 for Developers

Intermediate

ANDREW BRUST & LEONARD LOBEL

This full-day workshop will get you up to speed on powerful features for developers in SQL Server 2016. You'll rip through the most important SQL Server features for developers in this intensive demo-packed tour. You'll begin with the many enhancements made to T-SQL, starting with SQL Server's powerful windowing features. You'll learn how to leverage windowing with the OVER clause to calculate running and sliding aggregations, row lookups, and percentiles based on rank. You'll also explore other T-SQL enhancements, including new functions (all 22 of them), improved error handling with THROW, server-side paging with OFFSET/FETCH NEXT, sequence generators, and metadata discovery techniques.

This workshop will also cover the latest features added in SQL Server 2016, including new security features such as dynamic data masking, row-level security, and always encrypted. Other innovative capabilities include "stretch" database (which lets select tables in an on-premises database be transparently relocated in Azure SQL Database), temporal data (which allows for "time travel" to access data as it existed at any point in time), and integrated JSON support. You'll also learn

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS (continued)

MONDAY, SEPT 18, 9:00am – 6:00pm

about QueryStore (to maintain query plan history and performance data) and R integration (an open source data science language).

Then you'll look at the Big Data and analytics capabilities of SQL Server and the Microsoft data stack. You'll see how columnstore indexers can make a huge difference in your data warehouse-style queries, and how to ensure columnstore indexes are being invoked when you intend. You'll learn about Apache Hadoop, HDInsight and the PolyBase technology in SQL Server 2016 that lets you query Hadoop using T-SQL. The workshop will also cover basic data warehouse concepts, the fundamentals of Power BI, and the capabilities of SQL Server components like Integration Services, Analysis Services, Master Data Services, Data Quality Services, and Analytics Platform System (APS), and you'll see what's new in SQL Server 2016 Reporting Services.

To wrap up, you'll examine the "beyond relational" features that will get you thinking outside the box with respect to the types of data that can be managed by a relational database system. Learn how to use the hierarchyid data type to cast a hierarchical structure over any relational table. Dig into FILESTREAM and FileTable and learn how you can finally enjoy the native ability to store large binary objects in the file system transparently, and with full transactional capabilities. The geospatial data types enable you to integrate location-intelligence into the database, and you'll finish up by building several location-aware applications on top of these new data types.

You will learn:

- About windowing, other T-SQL programming enhancements, and the latest new features in SQL Server 2016
- About the Big Data and analytics capabilities in SQL Server, Power BI and HDInsight, including enhancements to Reporting Services
- About unstructured data storage, including native file streaming, and the hierarchical and geospatial data types



"THE SPEAKERS WERE CLEARLY EXPERTS. NICE BREADTH OF TOPICS. GREAT HOTEL; GREAT LOCATION."

- Fred Kauber, Tranzact

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK

ALM / DevOps



Shipping high quality software may be a team sport, but doing so requires nothing short of herding cats. From process management to the mechanics

of automation, you need to get people, process, and tools working in harmony. Good Application Lifecycle Management practices are a challenge. Add to that business demanding more from teams and more quickly, and it's clear that we as an industry need to evolve. DevOps is the hot buzzword, but what does it mean and how do you bring it to your organization?

In this track, we have a range of sessions to help you build greater quality software for continuous delivery. You'll find coverage of:

- SCRUM development with Visual Studio 2017
- Software testing using Visual Studio 2017
- Using Git and GitHub
- Agile development tips and tricks
- PowerShell for Developers

T06 Better, Faster, Automated! Windows App Deployment in Visual Studio Mobile Center

Intermediate

ELA MALANI & PIYUSH JOSHI

Tuesday, September 19, 10:45am – 12:00pm

Within the last three years, Microsoft has acquired and built some of the fastest growing developer tools for continuous delivery and monitoring "DevOps" services

like HockeyApp, Xamarin Test Cloud, Mobile Engagement, and CodePush. This year, Microsoft is combining those businesses into a new service called Visual Studio Mobile Center.

Learn how as a Windows developer, you can leverage Mobile Center to fully automate your release pipeline, builds, tests, and beta distribution. You'll also explore how to integrate the Mobile Center SDK to measure user engagement and product health in the wild.

You will learn:

- How to build your apps automatically with every pull request
- How to automatically distribute passing builds to beta testers
- How to monitor production apps for crashes and bugs to prioritize fixes
- How to collect mobile analytics and understand your users

T10 Professional Scrum Development Using Visual Studio 2017

Intermediate

RICHARD HUNDHAUSEN

Tuesday, September 19, 1:30 – 2:45pm

More than 80 percent of agile projects are using Scrum—are you? Instead of using sticky notes, cards, or a third party product to plan and track your next Scrum project, consider using Visual Studio. Team Foundation Server and Visual Studio Team Services offer a great Scrum process template and related tools. From the Product Backlog to the Sprint Backlog; from the task board to the burndown, it's obvious Microsoft really knows how to build tools to support Scrum teams. In this session, you will learn how to implement Scrum and perform release planning, sprint planning, forecasting, and tracking work. You will use Visual Studio to refine a product backlog, forecast work, plan and manage a sprint, and achieve the definition of "done" all using Visual Studio Team Services.

You will learn:

- How to use Visual Studio Team Services to create and refine a product backlog
- How to use Visual Studio Team Services to perform release and sprint planning
- How to use Visual Studio Team Services to track work during a sprint

T14 PowerShell for Developers

Introductory

BRIAN RANDELL

Tuesday, September 19, 3:00 – 4:15pm

PowerShell is the lingua franca of DevOps on Windows and Azure. Yes, there's that word again—DevOps. Like or it or not, automated configuration and management is the key to success in the modern enterprise—whether on-premises, in the cloud, or in a hybrid environment. Whether you're a native programmer using C++, a managed developer using .NET, or even someone who's already embraced scripting, PowerShell is an invaluable tool in your DevOps toolbox. This session will work from the ground up to using advanced features, including Interop and Desired State Configuration.

You will learn:

- How to configure your PowerShell environment
- How to use PowerShell quickly and efficiently
- All about the PowerShell "gotchas"

W02 Professional Software Testing Using Visual Studio 2017

Intermediate

RICHARD HUNDHAUSEN

Wednesday, September 20, 8:00 – 9:15am

Development, acceptance, and exploratory testing are all required in order to deliver a quality software product. Fortunately, Visual Studio 2017 provides corresponding testing tools and capabilities for a team to perform such a

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

broad spectrum of testing. These tools show Microsoft is a leader in integrated software quality management and testing, as confirmed in Gartner's Magic Quadrant report.

In this session, you will see how to use Visual Studio Team Services to plan and track quality in an agile software development effort. You will also see the different tools and practices for creating and running the various types of tests.

- Development tests: unit tests, integration tests, code coverage, TDD, CodeLens, live unit testing, NCrunch, and IntelliTest
- Acceptance tests: automated and manual UI tests, and load tests
- Exploratory tests: browser-based exploratory testing extension and tours

You will learn:

- How to plan and track the testing effort to ensure a quality software product
- How to create and use development tests in order to build the thing right
- How to create and use acceptance tests in order to build the right thing
- How to find bugs and gather feedback using exploratory tests

W06 Get Started with Git and GitHub

Introductory / Intermediate

ROBERT GREEN

Wednesday, September 20, 9:30 – 10:45am

Git is a free, open source distributed version control system. It has become wildly popular as a way to not only manage source code, but also share code with others. This session will cover the basics of using Git. You will become familiar with repos, committing changes, branching and merging. You'll see how to work with both new and existing projects, how to store your code in both GitHub and Visual Studio Team Services and how to work with Git in Visual Studio and Visual Studio Code.

You will learn:

- What Git is and how to get started using it
- The basics of Git, including repos, committing changes, branching and merging
- How to use Git with GitHub, VSTS, Visual Studio and Visual Studio Code

TH14 Getting Your Agile Team Unstuck! Tips and Tricks for Blasting Through Common Setbacks

Intermediate

ANGELA DUGAN

Thursday, September 21, 1:15 – 2:30pm

Whether you've been working on an agile team for 6 months, or 6 years, the same obstacles tend to rise up. Maybe your retrospectives feel more like a death march and no one is participating any more, or your daily stand-ups have bloated into 25 team member status meetings, or you have a QA team that can't keep up with your fast-paced development team. These are the kinds of situations you'll encounter time after time. They lower team morale, lead to abandoned transformation initiatives, and ultimately your product and customers suffer because of it. There is a better way.

This session will help you learn how to stop the bleeding, mature their process, and grow into high functioning agile machines. You'll hear what succeeds and what fails, and how to keep your teams from getting "stuck."

You will learn:

- How to recognize when your process, product, or people have gone off the agile rails
- What every team member can do to help the team get "unstuck"
- About tools your teams can leverage when they need a cognitive reset to get them back on track

Cloud Computing



The future of application development is service-based and in the cloud. Cloud computing offers flexible scalability and can provide a less expensive way to host

many applications. Even if you're not ready for Microsoft Azure yet, you owe it to yourself to become familiar with cloud computing and the services approach to development.

This track includes coverage of the following:

- What's New in Azure IaaS v2
- Microservices with Azure Container Service & Service Fabric
- Azure Functions
- Build modern web apps with Azure
- Cloud-Oriented Programming
- Introduction to the Google Cloud Platform
- PowerApps: the new productivity developer tool

T15 What's New in Azure IaaS v2

Introductory / Intermediate

ERIC D. BOYD

Tuesday, September 19, 3:00 – 4:15pm

If you've been working with Azure Infrastructure Services for a while, you're probably familiar with virtual machines running within the boundary of a cloud service. You're probably using Affinity Groups and the imperative Service Management API—whether you call it directly, use the Classic Azure Management Portal, or PowerShell. However, there's a new Azure in town with a new Management Portal. This new Azure has different management APIs powered by Azure Resource Manager and a new set of Infrastructure Services known as IaaS v2.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

This session will introduce you to what's new in Azure IaaS v2, from the new service architecture, new resources and capabilities to the Azure Resource Manager. You'll also learn how to migrate your existing IaaS v1 resources and some of the transition challenges you may encounter.

You will learn:

- All about Azure IaaS v2
- How to work with IaaS v2 using ARM
- Migration strategies and transition challenges

W03 Cloud Oriented Programming

Intermediate

VISHWAS LELE

Wednesday, September 20, 8:00 – 9:15am

The public cloud is tomorrow's IT backbone. As cloud vendors introduce new capabilities, the application-building process is going through a profound transformation. The cloud is based on the key tenets of commodity hardware, usage-based billing, scale-out, and automation—all on a global scale. So how does the cloud affect what you do as a developer every day? What do you need to do at the code level that aligns with the aforementioned tenets? This session will go over tips and tricks designed to help you make more effective use of the cloud.

You will learn:

- About the tenets of cloud development: global scale, commodity hardware, usage-based billing, scale-out, and automation
- How the cloud impacts what you do as a programmer every day
- What you need to do at a program level that aligns you with those tenets

W07 Building Modern Web Apps with Azure

Introductory / Intermediate

ERIC D. BOYD

Wednesday, September 20, 9:30 – 10:45am

Modern web apps typically consist of web APIs, web front-ends and background jobs. These modern web apps typically store data in multiple data services including relational databases like SQL Server, NoSql JSON document databases, NoSql key-value stores, files, and distributed caches. And we want to provide a great experience and great performance for users using edge services for routing requests and caching data.

Azure can sometimes be confusing with the many options available to solve a given problem. For example:

- Should you store data in Blob Storage, Table Storage, SQL Database, DocumentDB or yet another service?
- Should you host your applications in a Virtual Machine, Cloud Service, App Service or Service Fabric?
- Should you do messaging with Queues, Service Bus, Event Hubs or IoT Hubs?
- Should you do background processing in a Virtual Machine, Cloud Service, WebJob or Function?

In this session, you will learn how to build robust web apps and business solutions using the Azure PaaS services. Eric will walkthrough design scenarios and explain the strengths and weaknesses of the services in each scenario to empower you make good design decisions.

Throughout the session, you will see how to develop with several Azure services that complement each other and will ultimately form a robust web app.

If you are building modern web applications, you will not want to miss this session.

You will learn:

- Overview of modern web app capabilities in Azure
- When to use each Azure service in your solutions
- How to develop robust solutions using Azure services

W11 Build Awesome AF Apps!

Introductory / Intermediate

RACHEL APPEL

Wednesday, September 20, 1:30 – 2:45pm

Azure functions help you host and run chunks of code in the cloud, without needing to create and maintain the infrastructure around that code, such as solutions and projects, as you do when developing web sites. They are event driven, serverless, compute-on-demand experiences you can write in just about any language, from JavaScript to C# to Python, Ruby, and PHP. Azure functions can enable integrated backend operations for an array of scenarios including web and apps, IoT, and more. With Azure functions, you can immediately get your code up and running, which is essential in today's ever changing technology world. In this session, you'll learn how to architect and build Azure functions apps and microservices for a variety of scenarios.

You will learn:

- About Azure Functions
- About Microservices and serverless computing
- About Cloud enabled scenarios

W15 Microservices with Azure Container Service & Service Fabric

Intermediate

VISHWAS LELE

Wednesday, September 20, 3:00 – 4:15pm

Many are increasingly seeing microservices as the architectural style of choice, especially when it comes to building cloud-based applications. This session will look at key tenets of microservices. Then you'll switch to practically applying these concepts to two related Azure Services, Azure Container Service and Azure Service Fabric.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

W19 Busy Developer's Guide to the Google Cloud Platform

Introductory / Intermediate

TED NEWARD

Wednesday, September 20, 4:30 – 5:45pm

The Google Cloud Platform is the third of the “Big Three” of the cloud providers (along with AWS and Azure). Like the other two, Google provides some interesting features in their offering. This session will take a whirlwind pass through GCP, how to get started with it, and when you might consider it over the other two.

“I REALLY APPRECIATED THE TRACK FORMAT AND VARIETY OF TOPICS, SPEAKERS AND CONTENT. THE PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP WAS GREAT; AND I ESPECIALLY LIKED THE EXPERIENCE AND PRESENTATION SKILL OF THE SPEAKERS.”

- Scott Johnson, Racardo Technology

Database and Analytics



SQL Server 2016 is here, but NoSQL databases are here as well. Then there's Big Data and data lakes. And machine learning and artificial intelligence are on the rise. When it comes to data, Visual Studio Live! helps you keep up with the old and the new; the traditional and the disruptive, with coverage including:

- Database development with SQL Server Data Tools
- Two talks on Power BI to get you fully up to speed
- Tactical DevOps for SQL Server
- A Busy Developer's Guide to NoSQL
- Big Data solutions in Azure
- Machine learning
- Microsoft Cognitive Services
- DocumentDb

T11 What's New for Developers in SQL Server 2016

Introductory / Intermediate

LEONARD LOBEL

Tuesday, September 19, 1:30 – 2:45pm

SQL Server 2016 has many powerful new features, and you'll learn about them in this demo-packed session. Discover new security features such as dynamic data masking, row-level security, and always encrypted. Other innovative capabilities include stretch database (which allows select tables in an on-premises database to be transparently relocated in Azure SQL Database), temporal data (which allows “time travel” to access data as it existed

at any point in time), and integrated JSON support. Attend this session and get ready for SQL Server 2016.

You will learn:

- About the new security features in SQL Server 2016, including dynamic data masking, row-level security, and always encrypted
- About stretch database and temporal data support added in SQL Server 2016
- How Store, retrieve, and manipulate JSON data in SQL Server

W04 Database Development with SQL Server Data Tools

Introductory / Intermediate

LEONARD LOBEL

Wednesday, September 20, 8:00 – 9:15am

SQL Server Data Tools (SSDT) is a powerful integrated development environment for designing, testing, and deploying SQL Server databases from within Visual Studio; whether you're working locally or remotely, connected or offline, or within the Microsoft Azure cloud. While SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) continues to serve as your primary tool, SSDT plugs in to Visual Studio as a special database project type.

This session will describe the various difficulties you face, and demonstrate how SSDT can remedy those pain points. You will learn how to use features such as code navigation, IntelliSense, and refactoring with your database model—indispensable tools traditionally available only for application development in Visual Studio. You'll also cover the declarative model that lets you design databases offline and under source control right from within solution in Visual Studio, as well as how to deploy to SQL Database on Microsoft Azure. Don't miss out on this demo-centric information-packed session on the current generation of database tools.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

You will learn:

- The benefits of database development with SSDT's declarative model-based architecture
- The various SSDT features and capabilities (explorer, designers, schema compare, local database runtime, language services, debugging, and buffered editing)
- See live demonstrations of how to design, test, and deploy on-premises data-bases, offline database projects, and Microsoft Azure SQL databases in the cloud all from inside Visual Studio

W08 Tactical DevOps for SQL Server

Intermediate

BRIAN RANDELL

Wednesday, September 20, 9:30 – 10:45am

DevOps is hot, but all too often the database is the missing link. How do you manage the changes needed to support your applications? How do you track these changes and follow a change from development to test to production? You need an effective database lifecycle management plan. In this session, you'll learn where the SQL Server database fits in to DevOps, and how you can use tools to extend your infrastructure to make the database a first class citizen, just like your source code. You'll see how to track changes with version control, create update packages, and deploy to multiple environments like development, test, UAT, and production with complete automation. You'll basically bring things under control with Database Lifecycle Management. You'll learn the process as well as see examples using the Visual Studio SQL Server Database Tools, Team Foundation Server Team Build, Release Management, as well as custom tools from Redgate.

You will learn:

- Why you need DevOps for your database
- How to define a good Database Lifecycle Management (DLM) process
- How to use Microsoft and Redgate tools to implement the DLM process

W12 Power BI: Analytics for Desktop, Mobile, and Cloud

Intermediate

ANDREW BRUST

Wednesday, September 20, 1:30 – 2:45pm

Power BI has become a powerhouse in the Microsoft Data Platform and a juggernaut across the industry. It offers a free cloud service, along with a professional subscription for \$10 a month. Power BI Desktop provides massive analytics power right on your PC. And mobile devices, including those running iOS and Android, have access to Power BI cloud assets as well as on-premises SQL Server 2016 Mobile Reports. Microsoft updates Power BI every few weeks, so there's a lot to consider. This session will bring you up-to-date on what Power BI has to offer. You'll walk out with expertise and readiness to take it all on.

W16 Power BI: Beyond the Basics

Intermediate

ANDREW BRUST

Wednesday, September 20, 3:00 – 4:15pm

It's one thing to get Power BI connected to your data and use it to build reports and dashboards. It's quite another to have intimacy with many of the powerful new features to it each month. Features like R visuals and R scripting, KPIs and Quick measures, PivotTable-like functionality with the matrix visual, column-by-example, DirectQuery and using the Power BI service as a data source make the product shine and can't be covered in an intro session. Come to this session to get the intermediate and advanced knowledge you need to use Power BI to the fullest.

You will learn:

- How to use new visuals and Query Editor techniques
- How to do enterprise data modeling with Measures and KPIs
- How to eliminate data latency with DirectQuery and Direct Connect
- How to use Power BI and R together

W20 Big Data Solutions in Azure

Intermediate

DAVID GIARD

Wednesday, September 20, 4:30 – 5:45pm

Analyzing big data is a challenge, requiring lots of processing power and storage. Cloud Computing is an ideal platform to tackle this problem. HD Insight on Microsoft Azure deploys Hadoop and other open source big data tools to the cloud, making it easier to take advantage of the high scalability of this platform. In this session, you will learn what tools are available in HD Insight and how to use them to store, process, and analyze large amounts of data.

You will learn:

- About managing big data on Azure
- Why the cloud is ideal for processing big data
- How to create and configure Hadoop clusters on Azure

TH04 Busy Developer's Guide to NoSQL

Intermediate

TED NEWARD

Thursday, September 21, 8:00 – 9:15am

The world seemed to come alive with a slew of "alternative" approaches to data persistence with the introduction of CouchDB. It's collectively called NoSQL and offers a slightly to radically different view of data storage and retrieval. It has left a few developers scratching their heads, trying to figure out when to use a NoSQL database instead of a regular database, much less which NoSQL

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

database to use. This session will examine the NoSQL ecosystem, look at the major players, how they compare and contrast, and what sort of architectural implications they have for software systems in general.

You will learn:

- What a “NoSQL” is (and why the name is just terrible)
- Why the RDBMS isn’t always the answer to our data storage problems
- Explore a few NoSQLs at a high conceptual level

TH08 Building Applications with DocumentDb—New Features and Best Practices

Intermediate / Advanced

RAJ KRISHNAN

Thursday, September 21, 9:30 – 10:45am

DocumentDb is a powerful NoSQL offering from Microsoft and continues to evolve rapidly. This session will discuss some of the new capabilities like DocumentDb Emulator, multi-region replication, global read / write, enhanced security, support for change data, connectors and integration with Big Data and other Cloud services. It will also cover best practices based on Azure DocumentDb product group experiences from active customers using DocumentDb globally.

You will learn:

- About DocumentDb as a NoSQL database
- About the new Features and Capabilities that are useful to build scalable and connected applications
- Best practices for designing, developing and monitoring applications with DocumentDb as the NoSQL database backend

TH12 Introduction to Machine Learning with R

Introductory / Intermediate

RAJ KRISHNAN

Thursday, September 21, 11:00am – 12:15pm

Based on the April 2017 TIOBE rating, R is one of the top 15 programming languages and continues to grow. It is among the top 3 languages used in Data Science. In this session we will review some of the basic statistical concepts before we introduce R for data analysis. We will discuss the fundamental concepts needed to work with R and use IDE to work with R commands. We will demonstrate the use of R for data analysis using publicly available data. A demonstration of R tools for Visual Studio and use of Microsoft R server will be part of this presentation.

You will learn:

- A basic understanding of Machine Learning with R as the language
- How to use the tools to build models to predict outcome based on data observations
- How to leverage cloud for R projects

TH16 The Rise of the Machines—Machine Learning for Developers

Introductory

ADAM TULIPER

Thursday, September 21, 1:15 – 2:30pm

Machine Learning is an amazing technology that uses pattern recognition and computational learning theory in AI. So what does that mean to the normal developer? This session will take you through the basics of what machine learning is and understanding its uses. Real world examples will help you learn what data sets work best for prediction as well as which pre-canned algorithms to use for different data types.

You’ll learn how to hit the ground running with setting up your own machine learning experiments to predict information. This session will use real world data to predict outcomes. If you know little to nothing about ML, this session is for you.

You will learn:

- What R is
- How to immediately get using Machine Learning and the environments available to you
- The difference between common algorithms and when to apply them

TH20 I’m Emotional—Using Microsoft Cognitive Services to Understand the World Around You

Introductory

ADAM TULIPER

Thursday, September 21, 2:45 – 4:00pm

Getting meaningful information from media has been reserved for specialized companies and federal agencies for a long time, yet many applications can benefit from such a technology. You can now make your apps incredibly smarter and eliminate “I’m sorry Dave, I can’t do that.” The Cognitive Services from Microsoft let your applications use advanced algorithms easily to extract information from images and videos to understand what is in a picture, what emotions are being conveyed by the people, and more.

You will learn:

- How to analyze faces and emotions
- How to understand content in images with computer vision
- To gain insight into what information is comprised in a video

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

Native Client



Native applications—whether they're on Windows, iOS or Android—are of utmost importance. Mobile apps are becoming a common vehicle to help

people interact with each other, their organizations and their business applications. In the desktop arena, it can be easy to forget there are more than a billion Windows PCs in the world. Windows remains the dominant OS. This track is focused on building native mobile apps with tools like Xamarin and Windows apps using XAML and other technologies. This track includes coverage of the following:

- Building a custom dashboard in XAML
- Xamarin and Xamarin Forms
- Mobilizing your existing enterprise apps
- PowerApps: the new productivity developer tool

T03 Build Cross-Platform Apps in C# Using CSLA .NET

Intermediate

ROCKFORD LHOTKA

Tuesday, September 19, 9:15 – 10:30am

In today's world, you may write your smart client app in UWP, Xamarin, WPF, or even Windows Forms. In each case, your app probably calls back-end services and needs to interact with app servers. Some or all of your business logic may run on the client, the app server, or both. That's ideal for the balance between user interactivity, performance, scalability, and security. The widely-used open source CSLA .NET framework helps you create a reusable, scalable, and cross-platform portable business layer that lets your

application run on multiple types of client devices while sharing business logic between the clients and your app server. This session is an end-to-end walkthrough of how this works and how you can benefit.

T07 Roll Your Own Dashboard in XAML

Intermediate

BILLY HOLLIS

Tuesday, September 19, 10:45am – 12:00pm

XAML is well-suited to dynamic interfaces such as dashboards. Most XAML developers are more accustomed to static user interfaces, though, and aren't experienced with creating dynamic, pluggable user interfaces. This session will present a simple architecture for a dashboard that allows for pluggable panels, with options for the user to select panels and determine their position. If your business users have been clamoring for a place to put important visual components not needed by all users, this session can help get you started.

You will learn:

- About dynamic dashboards, based on designs for a real application
- The concept of a generic dashboard control, which leverages the concept of a content control in XAML
- Basic design for a dashboard manager that allows users to select and place dashboard controls

W10 Go Mobile with C#, Visual Studio, and Xamarin

Introductory / Intermediate

JAMES MONTEMAGNO

Wednesday, September 20, 1:30 – 2:45pm

The mobile landscape continues to evolve at a rapid pace. Users expect great native experiences in the palm of their hands on each and every platform. The separate programming languages and tools to learn and maintain for each platform are a major hurdle. Even if you tackle the

burden of learning Objective-C, Swift, or Java, you'll still have to manage multiple code bases. This is a nightmare for any development team. It doesn't have to be this way. You can create Android, iOS, Windows Phone, and Windows Store apps leveraging the .NET framework and everything you love about C#.

This session will teach you about Xamarin and how it can help you leverage a shared C# code base across all mobile platforms. You'll walk through developing, designing, deploying, and optimizing your first mobile apps for iOS, Android, and Windows from a single code base. You'll even see how to share more code with Xamarin.Forms, which lets you build native UIs for iOS, Android and Windows Phone from a single, shared C# codebase. You'll walk away with the knowledge to build cross platform mobile app with C# features such as LINQ, async/await, events, and delegates and inside of both Visual Studio and Xamarin Studio.

You will learn:

- How to apply C# and Visual Studio skills for mobile development
- About assessment tools for determining how much existing C# code can be mobilized
- About architectural best practices

W14 Continuous Integration & Deployment for Mobile Apps

Introductory / Intermediate

JAMES MONTEMAGNO

Wednesday, September 20, 3:00 – 4:15pm

Everyone seems to be talking about DevOps. But what exactly does DevOps mean, what benefits does it offer, and how does it relate to mobile developers and mobile apps? This session will explore the world of DevOps and what parts can easily be adopted into daily development to simplify development life. You'll also learn about a few tools available to continuously build and deploy mobile applications immediately to testers and to the app stores.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

You will learn:

- What tools are available for mobile DevOps
- How to leverage continuous integration for building and testing
- An overview of Release Management to testers and app stores

W18 Mobilizing your Existing Enterprise Applications

Intermediate / Advanced

NICK LANDRY

Wednesday, September 20, 4:30 – 5:45pm

As an enterprise developer, your task isn't just building projects from the latest and greatest technology, but also bringing your current systems into the mobile first world. This session will show you how to mobilize your existing enterprise applications without the need for a total rewrite. You'll explore how to current server components, services and databases can be exposed via a Web API, and also how you can take advantage of a hybrid cloud approach to extend your on-premises assets. You'll also discuss how to design a cross-platform mobile solution based on Xamarin to run on iOS, Android and Windows devices. This session also covers code sharing, authentication and authorization, data synchronization and offline access, and other best practices. Extend the longevity and the reach of your existing systems by transforming them with maximum reuse for the mobile first, cloud first world.

You will learn:

- The difference between public apps published to app stores and Line of Business apps published by corporations for their employees, partners and customers
- How to design mobile-friendly APIs by reusing existing enterprise systems
- How to provision corporate devices, deploy & manage LOB apps on enterprise devices

TH02 PowerApps, Flow, and Common Data Service: Empowering Businesses with the Microsoft Business Application Platform

Introductory

ARCHANA NAIR

Thursday, September 21, 8:00 – 9:15am

In today's fast paced world, it's important for business to be able to adapt and change at a rapid pace. With the Microsoft Business Application Platform, citizen developers and professional developers alike gain new ways of working and adapting more productively. PowerApps makes it easy to build rich applications without writing code. Microsoft Flow allows citizen integrators to quickly automate workflows. The Common Data Service unites information from across Dynamics, Office, and beyond in a common model and easy extensibility point. All are easily extended with building blocks based on Azure. In this session, you'll get hands on with the business application platform and see how developers are using it to dramatically increase their productivity and reach more users.

TH06 PowerApps and Flow Part II: Package, Embed, and Extend Your Applications

Intermediate / Advanced

ANOUSHA MESBAH & PRATAP LADHANI

Thursday, September 21, 9:30 – 10:45am

This session will help you learn current methods and the future roadmap for packaging assets across PowerApps, Flow, and the Common Data Service. Learn how to manage the lifecycle of projects from development to production, deliver solutions to customers in different tenants, and

market your finished solutions to other customers via AppSource. You'll also learn how to extend your own applications with the capabilities of Microsoft PowerApps and Flow. You can now have easy-to-use customizable UI right inside of your application. Moreover, you can empower anyone who uses your application to automate any aspect of their workflow. See how other application developers—notably Microsoft products like SharePoint Online—are taking advantage of these embedded capabilities to quickly deliver world-class extensibility to their own users.

"THIS CONFERENCE WAS FANTASTIC. I REALLY LIKED THE VARIETY OF TOPICS—IT GAVE A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING WITH MANY DIFFERENT DIFFICULTY LEVELS."

- Marcus Gilbert, Snapshot Design

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

Software Practices



Every developer knows there's more to software development than just code and tooling. The practices and techniques we use to understand and analyze the problem space, manage interpersonal communication and conflict, and other patterns and practices are key to success.

Topics in this track include:

- Storyboarding 101
- Real-world lessons from a Xamarin practitioner
- Agile Kaizen
- Open source for Microsoft developers
- Get a grip on dependency injection
- Justifying unit testing to your boss and your team

T02 Storyboarding 101

Introductory

BILLY HOLLIS

Tuesday, September 19, 9:15 – 10:30am

Billy's first rule for designing better UX—don't sit down at your computer first. Use paper, pencil, and other real-world tools to explore a design space of ideas. Create many low fidelity, low investment designs, and then evaluate and select the best for further design, wireframing, and prototyping. This session will get you started.

You will learn:

- The reasons that starting with paper and pencil will result in more fluid and innovative designs.
- How experimental design produces better results than the usual single-track design
- Basic techniques and options for sketching low fidelity, low investment, innovative designs and interactions

TH03 Lessons Learned from Real World Xamarin.Forms Projects

Intermediate / Advanced

NICK LANDRY

Thursday, September 21, 8:00 – 9:15am

Sometimes it's not the 101 tutorial you need to help you in your development journey but to just talk to someone who has experience in implementing that technology in the real world. What are the gotchas, things to avoid or best practices others have learned that can give you a leg up in implementing a new technology within your current architecture. This session will cover real-world considerations in Xamarin.Forms projects such as UI design considerations when sharing a user experience across iOS, Android and Windows, including navigation paradigms, styling, and supporting older versions. You will also look at code-sharing pitfalls and best practices, choosing an MVVM framework, application resource sharing, and leveraging plugins and the Dependency Service to leverage platform-specific code. You'll also cover mobile DevOps, including source control in a cross-platform environment, gathering application analytics, crash logs, and handling app flighting during development and beta testing. Come learn from a wealth of knowledge accumulated in real-world cross-platform projects, and get ready to build your own.

You will learn:

- About the key decisions that must be taken before undertaking a mobile cross-platform project
- Xamarin.Forms best practices derived from experiences on real-world business applications
- About the role of DevOps in mobile app development, and how to implement a successful mobile DevOps strategy

TH07 Improve Your Retrospective Outcomes with Agile Kaizen

Introductory / Intermediate

ANGELA DUGAN

Thursday, September 21, 9:30 – 10:45am

Continuous self-improvement of software teams is traditionally accomplished through retrospectives, a form of postmortem held at the completion of an iteration. More often than not, attendance at retrospectives begins to fizzle out, people get frustrated, and the list of action items keeps growing until teams simply succumb to business-as-usual practices. In some cases, teams eventually abandon retrospectives altogether because they feel like a waste of time.

- Do you feel like your retrospectives are a death march where no one is actively participating?
- Do the same problems seem to resurface repeatedly?
- Are your retrospectives ending prematurely or being cancelled in favor of "getting more real work done?"
- Or maybe you feel great about your agile retrospectives, but just want to learn more about Kaizen.

This is not just for teams that are already doing agile/ scrum. This interactive discussion will cover how you can use the Kaizen process to analyze and improve your team retrospectives, regardless of your team's adopted process. You'll begin with a brief review of what a retrospective is and walk through some examples of both healthy and unhealthy retrospective scenarios. You'll learn the concept of Kaizen, the Kaizen process, and how you can leverage Kaizen to turn your retrospectives back into the effective continuous improvement tools they are meant to be

You will learn:

- How to recognize when your team's retrospectives are no longer effective
- The Kaizen technique for problem solving
- How to apply Kaizen techniques in a team's agile retrospective to enhance collaboration and fast-track problem solving

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

TH11 Open Source for Microsoft Developers

Intermediate

ROCKFORD LHOTKA

Thursday, September 21, 11:00am – 12:15pm

In today's world, it has become virtually impossible to write software without using open source tools, libraries, or frameworks. Even if you avoid "third party" open source components, Microsoft is open-sourcing more and more of .NET itself, so it's practically inescapable. Should you be worried? Didn't Steve Ballmer tell us open source was bad and dangerous? Well, there are things you should know about open source in terms of licensing, maintainability, and support. Many of those things you need to think about when using any code you didn't write yourself; open source or otherwise. By the end of this session, you'll understand where open source does and doesn't differ from traditional proprietary tools, libraries, and frameworks. You might still be worried, but at least you'll understand why you are worried.

You will learn:

- About OSS licensing
- Where open source does and doesn't differ from proprietary tools, libraries, and frameworks
- To embrace open source

TH15 DI Why? Getting a Grip on Dependency Injection

Introductory / Intermediate

JEREMY CLARK

Thursday, September 21, 1:15 – 2:30pm

Many of our modern frameworks have Dependency Injection (DI) built in. But how do you use that effectively? You need to look at what DI is and why we want to use it. You'll look at the problems caused by tight coupling. Then you'll use some DI patterns such as constructor injection

and property injection to break that tight coupling. You'll see how loosely-coupled applications are easier to extend and test. With a better understanding of the basic patterns, you'll remove the magic behind DI containers so that we can use the tools appropriately in our code.

You will learn:

- The "what" and "why" of Dependency Injection
- How loose coupling helps with extensibility and testability
- How to use the constructor injection and property injection patterns in our code

TH19 Unit Testing Makes Me Faster: Convincing Your Boss, Your Co-Workers, and Yourself

Introductory

JEREMY CLARK

Thursday, September 21, 2:45 – 4:00pm

Bosses hate unit testing. They see it as code that doesn't contribute to the final product. Here's the truth though: unit testing makes you faster. You'll look at specific examples of how unit tests save time in the development process, whether you're creating UI-based applications or server-side libraries. With this in hand, you can show your boss how testing makes you faster and lets you move forward confidently and quickly.

You will learn:

- How unit tests improve the speed of development of UI-based applications—particularly workflows
- How unit tests can improve the speed of development of APIs and libraries
- That one of the benefits of unit testing is to create more maintainable code

Visual Studio / .NET Framework



Microsoft continues to deliver updates to its dev tools at a rapid pace. Quarterly updates to Visual Studio and Team Foundation Server (TFS) on-premises,

and Visual Studio Team Services (VSTS) in the cloud, continue to deliver value on a regular basis. Microsoft released Team Foundation Server 2017 in November last year and Visual Studio 2017 in March, and the Visual Studio Chicago timeframe will be filled with updates to Visual Studio Code, cross-platform .NET Core and, most likely, the first quarterly update to TFS. The 2017 wave has tons of new features, not to mention Microsoft's continued investment into open source and cross-platform development.

Topics in this track include:

- What's new in Visual Studio 2017
- What's new in C# 7
- Entity Framework Core for Enterprise Applications
- Create and use Roslyn code analyzers

T04 What's New in Visual Studio 2017

Introductory / Intermediate

ROBERT GREEN

Tuesday, September 19, 9:15 – 10:30am

Visual Studio 2017 is here. As always, the latest release of Visual Studio is packed with new goodies. This session will provide a whirlwind tour of what's new in Visual Studio, with a heavy focus on new productivity and language features, but also covering performance updates, improvements to mobile, UWP and cloud development

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

tooling and the new setup experience. Come and see why you want to upgrade to this latest release as soon as you can.

You will learn:

- About the new features in Visual Studio 2017 that increase your productivity
- About the new features in Visual Studio 2017 that help you cut down on your development time
- About the new features in Visual Studio 2017 that help you write better applications

T08 What's New in C#7

Intermediate

JASON BOCK

Tuesday, September 19, 10:45am – 12:00pm

C# is an open-source, mature object oriented language, used by millions of .NET developers, yet its evolution is still underway. This session will cover the latest features that have been added to C#7 and how they work in detail so you'll know when to use them effectively in your new .NET projects.

You will learn:

- How the new C#7 features work
- What the features provide to use them effectively
- Gain insight into the OSS world of C# and how one can be a part of future language evolution

TH10 Getting Started with Entity Framework Core

Introductory / Intermediate

JIM WOOLEY

Thursday, September 21, 11:00am – 12:15pm

With the cross-platform version of .Net, Microsoft had to rewrite many of the core components you depend on. If you include data in your applications, chances are you have used Entity Framework in the past. In this session,

you'll learn how to get started using EF Core and how to handle the changes in this version.

You will learn:

- How to use the Dotnet CLI to work with Entity Framework Core
- How to create data models to work with Entity Framework Core
- Discover some performance benefits and gotcha's with using Entity Framework Core

TH18 Improving Code Quality with Roslyn Code Analyzers

Intermediate / Advanced

JIM WOOLEY

Thursday, September 21, 2:45 – 4:00pm

The new .Net compilers in Visual Studio 2015 include the ability to expose the language services to let you build your own analyzers and code fixes/refactorings. This session will introduce you to the capabilities of the compiler platform and demonstrate how you can extend it to more proactively catch common coding smells and patterns that would have otherwise caused runtime exceptions that can be caught during compilation instead. If you've relied on third party commercial coding tools like Resharper in the past, you'll see how you can build your own tooling extensions or leverage some of the many open source solutions.

This will be a hands-on hack-type session, so bring your computers and ideas for tools you would like to build. You'll start with some introductory demonstrations, but include ample time for working through some hands-on examples.

You will learn:

- How to use code analysis tools in Visual Studio 2017
- How to customize the analyzers and code styles in Visual Studio 2017
- How to build Roslyn based code fixes to detect and fix domain specific errors that the compiler can't catch

Web Client



The browser and JavaScript provide perhaps the highest and best abstraction over every operating system, letting you build Web apps that run

across browsers, platforms and operating systems. This is possible in large part due to various JavaScript frameworks such as Angular, Aurelia, and many others. This track will arm you with the knowledge to be part of this next-generation Web app development wave based on JavaScript and HTML5:

- JavaScript for the C# Developer
- TypeScript: The future of front-end development
- A Tour of WebAssembly
- Tools for web development DevOps
- Angular 2
- HTML5 and Bootstrap
- JavaScript and HTML performance
- Getting rid of HTML tables in mobile apps

T01 JavaScript for the C# Developer

Introductory / Intermediate

PHILIP JAPIKSE

Tuesday, September 19, 9:15 – 10:30am

Yes, it has curly braces. Yes, it has semi-colons. And you can write C# like code in JavaScript; but should you? JavaScript programming has many paradigms that make it different from writing typical managed code. This session will show you, the C# programmer, what you need to know to take your JavaScript to the next level.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

You will learn:

- About the core features in JavaScript
- Important differences and similarities between JavaScript and C#
- Common pitfalls for those new to JavaScript

T05 TypeScript: The Future of Front End Web Development

Intermediate

BEN HOELTING

Tuesday, September 19, 10:45am – 12:00pm

TypeScript is the real deal. Many developers have heard of TypeScript, but most have never used it in production. Many C# developers hate JavaScript. This probably has nothing to do with JavaScript, but with the lack of tooling and language features. TypeScript is a language developed by the creators of C# that compiles to JavaScript. This session will dive into TypeScript and discuss some of the language features it provides on top of normal JavaScript. Between the IDE enhancements in VS and the language features of TypeScript, you will see that JavaScript development can be fun.

You will learn:

- About the definition of TypeScript
- About the new TypeScript Features in VS
- How to use VS and TypeScript to make production quality applications

W05 Assembling the Web— A Tour of WebAssembly

Intermediate

JASON BOCK

Wednesday, September 20, 9:30 – 10:45am

WebAssembly... what exactly is it? Is it a new VM? A way to create a binary version of JavaScript? A new standard to get everyone to code in C/C++ for the web? This session will demystify WebAssembly, demonstrate exactly what it

is, and provide insight into how this will affect JavaScript and web development in the future.

You will learn:

- What WebAssembly is all about
- About WebAssembly in action
- About this new aspect of web development

W09 Tools for Modern Web Development Dev Ops

Intermediate

BEN HOELTING

Wednesday, September 20, 1:30 – 2:45pm

The ASP.NET Core embraces open source tools and technologies, which is not a bad thing. Opening up ASP.NET will only make it stronger by enabling the ability to use best practices for modern web development. Learning these best practices and the tools and technologies to implement them will make you a more productive developer. NPM, Bower, Gulp and Webpack are only some of the things you need to master. These technologies will soon replace some of the things we've hacked and bandaged in ASP.NET over the years. This session will dive into these and other modern web development tools for your tool belt.

You will learn:

- Why ASP.NET is beginning to embrace open source
- About NPM, Bower, Gulp, Webpack and Yeoman
- Best practices associated with these tools

W13 Get Rid of HTML Tables for Better Mobile Web Applications

Intermediate

PAUL SHERIFF

Wednesday, September 20, 3:00 – 4:15pm

Using an HTML table is great for devices that have a wider footprint than smart phones. In this session, you'll learn to eliminate tables and use some alternate designs for

presenting lists of data. You'll also learn about basic device detection techniques so you can either present a table, or one of these alternate designs depending on the device the user is using.

You will learn:

- How to build alternate formats for lists of data
- Device detection techniques
- How to use CSS to create compelling lists of data

W17 Use HTML5/Bootstrap to Build Business UI

Introductory / Intermediate

PAUL SHERIFF

Wednesday, September 20, 4:30 – 5:45pm

Most of the samples for HTML5 on the internet are geared toward web site designers. However, you are a business programmer and you need to learn to create business, data-entry forms. This session will focus on HTML5 for the business application programmer. Learn the new keywords and the new attributes that make HTML5 a great addition to your web applications. This session teaches you the basics of HTML5 focusing on form layout for business applications. You will learn how to use styles and attempt to make HTML 5 generic across the widest possible collection of browsers that are out there. You will walk away with a set of samples that you can use to build your own HTML5 web forms. The samples include an about, contact us, address, credit card and user profile pages.

You will learn:

- About using HTML5 data types
- How to build several business web pages using HTML5
- About effective use of Bootstrap

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

TH01 I Just Met You, and “This” is Crazy, But Here’s My NaN, So Call(Me), Maybe?

Introductory

RACHEL APPEL

Thursday, September 21, 8:00 – 9:15am

This session will make light of JavaScript, but learn something by doing so. JavaScript can be a passive-aggressive and fickle language that frustrates you at every turn. It lets you do things like declare variables anywhere, but doesn’t tell you that it will hoist them while you’re not looking. JavaScript’s ‘this’ keyword is anything but, and eval can turn good code to evil fast. This session blends comedy and learning, and will discuss common JavaScript headaches and mistakes and fun ways to avoid them. Learn what can trick you, like JavaScript scoping, evil Eval, and the use of the ‘with’ statement (wait... what?). All that alongside those gotchas is the fact that not all equality operators are created equal, and that innocent looking parseInt—it does farce parses. Sit back and dig into the fun of JavaScript language quirks.

You will learn:

- The JavaScript language
- About JavaScript difficulties
- About functional vs procedural vs OOP development

TH05 Build Object-Oriented Enterprise Apps in JavaScript with TypeScript

Introductory / Intermediate

RACHEL APPEL

Thursday, September 21, 9:30 – 10:45am

TypeScript is JavaScript evolved, so if you’re writing in JavaScript, TypeScript is worth checking out. Come to this session and learn all about the TypeScript language from its object oriented features to its ES6-style capabilities. You also learn how to use TypeScript’s language features that

makes JavaScript application-scale and more manageable language for building websites and apps as well as how to leverage TypeScript in Visual Studio.

You will learn:

- About typescript language
- About OOP in JavaScript
- Enterprise app architecture with TypeScript

TH09 What’s New in TypeScript?

Introductory / Intermediate

DORIS CHEN

Thursday, September 21, 11:00am – 12:15pm

TypeScript, an open source project, has seen enormous growth over the past year. Today, it is used to build several key frameworks like AngularJS, Ionic, and so on. Across the board, developers are falling in love with TypeScript as they find it to be the most productive way to work with JavaScript. This session will go through how TypeScript helps you leverage features from the current and future of JavaScript while increasing the productivity of JavaScript development across the board. As ECMAScript 6 gains popularity and more browsers are implementing the standard, JavaScript developers across the board are beginning to wonder, “What’s next?” This session will cover some of the latest features of TypeScript 2.0, including future ECMAScript proposals, support for Angular and React/JSX, the state of the art type system capabilities, and how it all comes together to make working and creating things in JavaScript more productive and fun with TypeScript.

You will learn:

- Why you need to use TypeScript for your JavaScript development
- What’s new in TypeScript
- How TypeScript is working well with Angular, React, and Node in Visual Studio

TH13 Practical Performance Tips and Tricks to Make Your HTML/JavaScript Faster

Intermediate / Advanced

DORIS CHEN

Thursday, September 21, 1:15 – 2:30pm

How do you tackle real-world web platform performance problems in modern websites and apps? This session starts with a basic understanding of the web platform and then explores to a set of problem/solution pairs built from industry-standard performance guidance. You’ll see performance tips and tricks that will help you improve the performance of your apps and sites today. The session also cover network requests, speed and responsiveness, optimizing media usage, and writing fast JavaScript. These performance tips and tricks apply equally to web sites that run on standards based web browsers, as well as to modern apps.

You will learn:

- How to tackle real-world web platform performance problems in modern websites and apps
- Tips and tricks for developing faster HTML/JavaScript web apps
- The web performance tuning process

“GREAT TECHNICALS SESSION AND DEEPER CODE DIVES.”

- Eric Gordan, TIAA

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY TRACK (continued)

TH17 Building Powerful Applications with AngularJS 2 and TypeScript

Introductory / Intermediate

DAVID GIARD

Thursday, September 21, 2:45 – 4:00pm

Angular 2 is a JavaScript framework that helps you build rich, interactive Single Page Applications. This presentation will cover the basics of Angular 2 and the advantages of TypeScript—a language that adds features to JavaScript, including strong typing. You will learn about data binding, event binding, routing, and observables. Demos are a large part of this presentation.

You will learn:

- The advantages of a JavaScript framework
- The fundamentals of Angular 2
- How TypeScript provides strong data typing to improve code quality

“ALL OF THE PRESENTATIONS I ATTENDED WERE GREAT. VERY INFORMATIVE AND THE PRESENTERS SHOWED A LOT OF EXPERTISE IN THEIR PRESENTATIONS. NETWORKING EVENTS WERE ALSO VERY WELL DONE!”

- Lynden Headley, Human Kinetics

Web Server



ASP.NET has been Microsoft's core Web development platform since 2002. Starting with Web Forms at the very beginning, then morphing into MVC and

ASP.NET Web Pages, it's been quite a ride. And just when you thought you knew the ropes, along comes ASP.NET Core 1.0, which represents a change comparable in magnitude to the move from classic Active Server Pages to ASP.NET in the first place.

The Visual Studio Live! Web Server track covers all this and more. Come take in the content, to get current and stay that way, with topics including:

- Get up to speed on ASP.NET Core
- User authentication in ASP.NET Core
- Securing Web APIs in ASP.NET Core

T09 ASP.NET Core MVC—What You Need to Know

Intermediate

PHILIP JAPIKSE

Tuesday, September 19, 1:30 – 2:45pm

Core MVC has changed in “revolutionary ways.” This session will show you what you need to know to move to ASP.NET Core MVC for Web UI and RESTful services.

You will learn:

- The new MVC features such as tag helpers and view components
- About using DI with MVC
- How to create RESTful services with Core MVC

T13 User Authentication for ASP.NET Core MVC Applications

Introductory / Intermediate

BROCK ALLEN

Tuesday, September 19, 3:00 – 4:15pm

ASP.NET Core is here and this means you have a fundamentally new architecture for authenticating users in your applications. This session explores what that means for your application design. You will first look at the simple authentication scenarios such as using a traditional password for authentication and then using external social media identity providers for single sign-on. Then you'll discuss why these simple approaches are not typically sufficient and why introducing your own single sign-on provider is important to your application architecture.

You will learn:

- About authenticating users with middleware
- About supporting external authentication
- About designing for single sign-on

W01 Securing Web APIs in ASP.NET Core

Introductory / Intermediate

BROCK ALLEN

Wednesday, September 20, 8:00 – 9:15am

Traditional security for web applications involves cookies, but web APIs have a fundamentally different security model. In fact, there are security vulnerabilities when using cookies for web APIs. So what's the solution? Token-based authentication with OAuth2. Come to this session to learn about the issues, how to get and use tokens, and how ASP.NET Core helps protect your web APIs.

You will learn:

- About protecting web APIs with token-based security
- The benefits of OAuth2

CONFERENCE ADVISORY BOARD

Andrew Brust

Senior Director, Market Strategy and Intelligence, Datameer
Visual Studio Live! Conference Co-Chair



Andrew Brust is Senior Director, Market Strategy and Intelligence at Datameer and writes for ZDNet's "Big on Data" blog. Andrew is co-author of Programming Microsoft SQL Server 2012 (Microsoft Press); has several Pluralsight courses on Big Data and NoSQL, serves as Microsoft Regional Director and is a Microsoft Data Platform MVP.

Michael Desmond

Editor in Chief, MSDN Magazine



Michael Desmond is editor in chief of MSDN Magazine, Microsoft's flagship publication for software developers working with Microsoft tools and technologies. A 20-year veteran in IT and technology publishing, Desmond was an editor at PC World magazine for six years before launching an editorial consultancy that did work for leading technology firms like IBM, Intel and Sun Microsystems.

Michael Domingo

Editor in Chief, Visual Studio Magazine



Michael Domingo is Editor in Chief of Visual Studio Magazine. He's been a technology journalist for more than 20 years, covering database management systems, technology certifications, and the breadth of Microsoft development and networking tools over those years. You can find him on Twitter @domingophoto.

Rockford Lhotka

CTO, Magenic
Visual Studio Live! Conference Co-Chair



Rockford Lhotka is the CTO of Magenic, and is the creator of the widely used CSLA .NET development framework. He is the author of numerous books on software development, and regularly speaks at major conferences around the world. Rockford is a Microsoft Regional Director and MVP. Magenic (magenic.com) is a company that specializes in planning, designing, building and maintaining your enterprise's most mission critical systems. For more information, go to lhotka.net.

Lafe Low

Editor, Visual Studio Live!



Lafe Low has been a technology editor and writer for more than 25 years. Most recently, he was the editor in chief of TechNet magazine. He has also held various editorial positions with Redmond magazine, CIO magazine and InfoWorld. He also launched his own magazine entitled Explore New England, and has published four editions of his guidebook The Best in Tent Camping: New England.

Brian Randell

Partner, MCW Technologies
Visual Studio Live! Conference Co-Chair



Brian A. Randell is a Partner with MCW Technologies LLC. For more than 20 years he has been building software solutions. He educates teams on Microsoft technologies via writing and training—both in-person and on demand. He's also a consultant for companies small and large, worldwide, including Fortune 100 companies like Microsoft. Brian is a passionate software craftsman who still enjoys coding as he helps teams to improve their processes from idea to shipping to production management and monitoring. In addition, he's become obsessed over the last few years with natural user interfaces and how to create compelling user experiences regardless of platform. In early 2010, he toured the world prepping Microsoft employees and Microsoft partners for the Microsoft Visual Studio 2010 launch. In 2012, he and his team built some of the first training content and demos for Microsoft using Visual Studio 2012, Team Foundation Server 2012, and Windows 8. For the 2013 release, he continued building new ALM content for use worldwide by Microsoft. He's currently a Visual Studio ALM MVP and co-author of "Professional Application Lifecycle Management with Visual Studio 2013" from Wrox Publishing. When not working, Brian enjoys spending time with his wife and two children who enjoy making him look bad on the Xbox One (with and without Kinect).

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Brock Allen

Consultant, Thinkecture



Currently Brock is an independent consultant specializing in .NET, web development, and web-based security with 20 years of industry experience. Brock is the co-author of many security-related open source frameworks, including IdentityServer, IdentityManager, and MembershipReboot. He also frequently posts to the ASP.NET forums, is an MVP for ASP.NET/IIS, a member of ASPInsiders, and a contributor to the ASP.NET platform.

Rachel Appel

Senior Developer Evangelist, Microsoft



Rachel is a consultant, author, mentor, and Microsoft employee with over 20 years in the IT industry who speaks at top industry conferences such as Visual Studio Live!, Live! 360, and MIX. During her career, Rachel has worked on projects of all sizes from the smallest of apps to the largest enterprise systems at some of the world's leading companies. Rachel's expertise lies within developing solutions that align business and technology, focusing on In frameworks, languages, databases, software practices, and more.

Jason Bock

Practice Lead, Magenic



Jason Bock is a Practice Lead for Magenic (<http://www.magenic.com>) and a Microsoft MVP (C#). He has worked on a number of business applications using a diverse set of substrates and languages such as C#, .NET, and Java. He is the author of "Metaprogramming in .NET", "Applied .NET Attributes", and "CIL Programming: Under the Hood of .NET". He has written numerous articles on software development issues and has presented at a number of conferences and user groups. He is a leader of the Twin Cities Code Camp (<http://www.twincitiescodecamp.com>). Jason holds a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Marquette University. Visit his web site at <http://www.jasonbock.net>.

Eric D. Boyd

Founder and CEO, responsiveX



Eric D. Boyd is the Founder and CEO of responsiveX, a Windows Azure MVP, and a regular speaker at national conferences, regional code camps and local user groups. He is so passionate about apps and cloud services that he founded responsiveX (www.responsiveX.com), a management and technology consultancy that helps customers create great web, mobile and client experiences, and these apps are often powered by cloud services. Eric launched his technology career almost two decades ago with a web development startup and has served in multiple roles since including developer, consultant, technology executive and business owner. You can find Eric blogging at <http://www.EricDBoyd.com> and on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/EricDBoyd>.

Andrew Brust

*Senior Director, Market Strategy and Intelligence, Datameer
Visual Studio Live! Conference Co-Chair*



Andrew Brust is Senior Director, Market Strategy and Intelligence at Datameer and writes for ZDNet's "Big on Data" blog. Andrew is co-author of Programming Microsoft SQL Server 2012 (Microsoft Press); has several Pluralsight courses on Big Data and NoSQL, serves as Microsoft Regional Director and is a Microsoft Data Platform MVP.

Doris Chen

Senior Developer Evangelist, Microsoft



Doris has over 18 years of experience in the software industry working in several open source web tier technologies, Java platform, .NET and distributed computing technologies. She speaks at numerous international conferences and user groups including OSCON, Fluent, Dev Nexus, PHP, WebVisions, JavaOne, SD Forum, and worldwide User Groups. Doris

works very closely to create and foster the open source community around Java, NetBeans, Glassfish, and related technologies. Before joining Microsoft, Doris Chen was a Technology Evangelist at Sun Microsystems.

Doris received her Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in computer engineering, specializing in medical informatics.

Jeremy Clark

Consultant, Speaker & Mentor, JeremyBytes.com



Jeremy Clark makes developers better. By drawing on over 15 years of experience in application development, he helps developers take a step up in their skillset with a focus on making complex topics approachable regardless of skill level. He is a Microsoft MVP for .NET, and he has authored seven courses for Pluralsight, including "C# Interfaces", a course aimed at giving developers a clear understanding of abstraction. Jeremy lives in Southern California with 2 cats and a banjo. For more information, visit www.jeremybytes.com.

Angela Dugan

Principal Consultant and ALM Practice Manager, Polaris Solutions



Angela Dugan is a Principal Consultant and Practice Manager for Polaris Solutions, a software technology and process consulting firm based in Chicago. Her focus as Practice Manager is supporting clients through training and coaching as they work together to increase their agility and improve their DevOps practices. Angela has been in the industry since 1999, and spent over 5 years as a technology evangelist with Microsoft. Angela is an active technology community member in Chicago and organizes several local conferences including Chicago Code Camp,

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS (continued)

ThatConference, and St. Louis DevUp. She is a Microsoft ALM MVP, a Certified Scrum master, and a SAFe Program Consultant.

Outside of wrangling TFS, Angela is an avid board gamer, an aspiring runner, and a Twitter addict. She is constantly working on her 1910 house in Oak Park with her husband David, where they raise two ornery chickens named Betsy and Gertrude, and a rambunctious puppy named Sadie.

David Giard

Technical Evangelist, Microsoft



David Giard is a former accountant and a former biochemist, who has been developing solutions using Microsoft technologies for over 2 decades. Currently, David helps people build solutions in his role as a Microsoft Technical Evangelist. David has been very active in the developer community, speaking at numerous major conferences, code camps, and user groups; helping to lead user groups; and helping to organize conferences and other geek events. He is the host and producer of the mildly popular online TV show Technology and Friends. He is the co-author of the Wrox book Real World .NET, C#, and Silverlight. You can read his latest thoughts at www.DavidGiard.com. His hobbies include video, photography, sports, and embarrassing his sons.

Robert Green

Technical Evangelist, Microsoft



Robert Green is a Technical Evangelist in the Developer & Platform Evangelism (DPE) group at Microsoft. He focuses on Visual Studio and Windows 8 enterprise development. Robert is the host of the Visual Studio Toolbox show on Channel 9. This is his second stint at Microsoft. From 2005 to 2010 he was a Sr. Consultant with MCW Technologies, focused on developer training. He authored or co-authored a number of Visual Studio and .NET courses for AppDev. Prior to that, in his first stint at Microsoft, he worked in Developer Tools marketing and then as the Community Lead on the Visual Basic team.

Ben Hoelting

Director of Technology, Aspenware



Director of Technology for Aspenware, C# MVP and Telerik Insider. He graduated from Colorado State University in 1997 with a BS in Computer Information Systems and a Minor in Computer Science. Ben joined the IT industry in 1996 as an intern and has worked with .NET since its inception back in 2002. Over the last few years he has done some work for the Department of Defense. He left the government world and now works for Aspenware in Denver. His most recent projects include a XAML line of business application that uses the ADO.NET Entity Framework to access the backend data store. He also is working on an MS Office automation project as well as geospatial ASP.NET MVC website. Ben is a Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist (MCTS) for Web and Windows .NET 4.0. His blog is at <http://www.benhblog.com> and his twitter stream is at <http://twitter.com/benhnet>. Finally, Ben is very involved in the local .NET community and is the leader of the South Colorado .NET User Group.

Billy Hollis

Next Version Systems



Billy Hollis is an author and software developer from Nashville, Tennessee. Billy is co-author of the first book ever published on Visual Basic .NET, VB .NET Programming on the Public Beta. He has written many articles, and is a frequent speaker at conferences. He is the Regional Director of Developer Relations in Nashville for Microsoft, and runs a consulting company focusing on Microsoft.NET. You can visit his website at: www.billyhollis.com.

Richard Hundhausen

Consultant / Trainer, Accentient



Richard has over 30 years of software development experience and over 20 years of training experience. Richard is a Microsoft Regional Director, a Visual Studio ALM MVP, a certified Professional Scrum Trainer, and author of several software development books including Professional Scrum Development with Microsoft Visual Studio 2012 by Microsoft Press.

Philip Japikse

Principal Software Engineer, Strategic Data Systems, Inc.



A Principal Software Engineer with Strategic Data Systems (<http://www.sds-consulting.com>), international speaker, Microsoft MVP, ASPInsider, MCSD, CSM, and CSP, and a passionate member of the developer community, Phil Japikse has been working with .NET since the first betas, developing software for over 30 years, and heavily involved in the agile community since 2005. Phil is the Lead Director for the Cincinnati .NET User's Group (www.cinnug.org) and the Cincinnati Software Architect Group, co-hosts the Hallway Conversations podcast (www.hallwayconversations.com), founded the Cincinnati Day of Agile (www.dayofagile.org), and volunteers for the National Ski Patrol. Phil enjoys to continuously learn new tech and is always striving to improve his craft. You can follow Phil on twitter via www.twitter.com/skimedic and read his blog at www.skimedic.com/blog.

Piyush Joshi

Senior Program Manager, Mobile Center, Microsoft



Piyush is a Senior Program Manager for Mobile Center, owning the product portal and the developer outreach for Mobile Center. He's well-versed in cloud technologies and adept at improving the customer experience, previously holding several roles on both the Azure Mobile Engagement and Azure Notification Hubs teams. Before joining Microsoft, Piyush worked as a software engineer and IT consultant for

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS (continued)

several banking and utility firms. In his free time, Piyush likes to spend time in the outdoors running and hiking the trails.

Raj Krishnan

Technology Architect, Microsoft



Raj Krishnan has been with Microsoft over 14 years during which he has worked as a Technology Evangelist in Healthcare and as an Architect at Microsoft Technology Center. Currently he works as the Azure Cloud Solution Architect helping customers build and deploy web applications in Azure. He has deep and diverse experience in most of the technologies including .NET, JavaScript development, SharePoint, Azure and Analytics. Prior to joining Microsoft, he has worked for Fortune 500 companies, Big Five Consulting and start-ups. He is also an adjunct professor in Illinois where he teaches web application development. Raj has been focusing, on Big Data projects for the last two years, teaches Data Warehouse at IIT Chicago as an adjunct professor, and presents on Data Science topics at Microsoft.

Pratap Ladhani

Sr. Program Manager, Microsoft



Pratap is a Sr. Program Manager in the Business Application Platform and Insights (BAPI) team in Cloud and Enterprise (C+E) Group in Microsoft focusing on Customer & Partner success for PowerApps and Microsoft Flow. Previously he was working in Microsoft Services. He has been working with Microsoft for more than 13 years.

Nick Landry

Senior Technical Evangelist, Microsoft



Nick Landry (@ActiveNick) is a mobility pioneer specializing in the design and production of mobile applications for consumers and the enterprise using diverse cross-platform technologies including Windows Phone, Windows 8, iOS, Android, Mobile Web, Xamarin and PhoneGap. Nick works at Microsoft as a Senior Technical Evangelist in the New York Metro area and engages with developers, students and IT pros to help them learn, adopt and use the Microsoft developer platform to design and build the next generation of apps for Windows Phone, Windows 8 and Windows Azure. Nick is also a Nokia Developer Ambassador whose mandate is to educate and support Windows Phone developers to maximize their success. Prior to joining Microsoft, Nick spent almost two years as a Senior Product Manager for mobile, data visualization and geospatial developer tools across multiple technologies and platforms. He previously spent most his career in IT consulting and services organizations across various technical and business roles, designing, building, managing and selling innovative software solutions for some of the world's top brands and Fortune 500 companies. Known for his dynamic and engaging style, he is a frequent speaker at major software development conferences worldwide like Visual Studio Live!, CodePalousa, Prairie DevCon, HDC, DevTeach, Xamarin Evolve, TechEd, and others. Nick was a 10-year Microsoft MVP awarded on Windows Phone Development, and is a Nokia Developer Champion. With over 20 years of professional experience, Nick is a developer and software architect by trade and specializes in Cross-Platform Mobility, Location Intelligence & Geospatial development, Data Visualization, Cloud Computing and Mobile Game Development. He authored multiple technical magazine articles, white papers, and mobility courses, has been a technical editor for IT books, and holds several professional certifications. Blog: www.AgeofMobility.com – LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/activenick

Vishwas Lele

Chief Technology Officer, AIS



Vishwas Lele is an AIS Chief Technology Officer and is responsible for the company vision and execution of creating business solutions using .NET technologies. Vishwas brings close to 20 years of experience and thought leadership to his position, and has been at AIS for 13 years. A noted industry speaker and author, Vishwas is the Microsoft Regional Director for the Washington, D.C. area and a member of the Connected Systems Division Advisors group. Additionally, Vishwas has received an MVP (Most Valuable Professional) for Solution Architecture award for 2009.

Rockford Lhotka

CTO, Magenic

Visual Studio Live! Conference Co-Chair



Rockford Lhotka is the CTO of Magenic, and is the creator of the widely used CSLA .NET development framework. He is the author of numerous books on software development, and regularly speaks at major conferences around the world. Rockford is a Microsoft Regional Director and MVP. Magenic (magenic.com) is a company that specializes in planning, designing, building and maintaining your enterprise's most mission critical systems. For more information, go to lhotka.net.

Leonard Lobel

CTO, Sleek Technologies, Inc.



Leonard Lobel is the chief technology officer (CTO) and co-founder of Sleek Technologies, Inc., a New York-based development shop with an early adopter philosophy toward new technologies that services organizations ranging from small shops to high-profile clients. He is also a principal consultant at Tallan, Inc., a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner. Programming since 1979, Lenni specializes in Microsoft-based solutions, with experience that spans a variety of business domains, including publishing, financial, wholesale/retail, health

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS (continued)

care, and e-commerce. Lenni is also a Microsoft MVP for SQL Server, lead author of the MS Press book "Programming Microsoft SQL Server 2008" (currently being updated for SQL Server 2012), consultant, trainer, and frequent speaker at local user group meetings, Visual Studio Live!, SQL PASS, and other industry conferences. He can be reached at lenni.lobel@sleektech.com.

Ela Malani

Program Manager, Microsoft



Ela is a Program Manager for Mobile Center, channeling her love for open source and creating better developer experiences into Mobile Center's SDK and CLI. She started her career as a web application developer for an automation company, and first joined Microsoft as a Software Engineer (Office 365 Extensibility Features team) before focusing on the mobile space.

Anousha Mesbah

Senior Software Engineering Manager, PowerApps, Microsoft

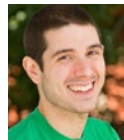


I have been working at Microsoft for nearly 5 years. I joined Microsoft right after graduating from college. I worked with Windows Phone team for a while and then my path changed after being introduced to PowerApps. My team at Microsoft manages the backend service for authoring Apps that require no programming skills. We use multiple technologies to enable this, from Azure cloud services to Service Fabric. My goal is to enable everyone to create apps without knowing any programming skills. My passion in life, is to advocate for human and women's rights in this planet and encourage more women to study science and engineering. In my free time, I play soccer, and I love summer and winter activities.

Prior to Microsoft, I was studying for my master degree at the University of Georgia, focusing on localization and mapping with multiple robots. I then joined Microsoft as an intern, and liked the industry aspect of Computer Science.

James Montemagno

Principal Program Manager – Xamarin, Microsoft



James Montemagno is a Principal Program Manager on the Xamarin team at Microsoft. He has been a .NET developer since 2005 working in a wide range of industries including game development, printer software, and web services. Prior to becoming a Principal Program Manager, James was a professional mobile developer and has now been crafting apps since 2011 with Xamarin. In his spare time he is most likely cycling around Seattle or guzzling gallons of coffee at a local coffee shop. He can be found on Twitter @JamesMontemagno and blogs code regularly on his personal blog <http://www.MotzCod.es>.

Archana Nair

Senior Program Manager, PowerApps Team, Microsoft



Archana Nair is a Senior Program Manager on the PowerApps team at Microsoft. She is an experienced technical program/product manager with over 10 years of experience in the technology industry. Having worked in both in the consumer and enterprise space at companies like Microsoft and Amazon, Archana is passionate about delivering great end to end experiences for customers. Archana has a Master's degree from University of Florida, where she graduated with major in multimedia processing. She also has a Product Management certification from University of Washington. In the past, Archana has worked on a range of products from Windows, Windows Phone, Windows Media Player to Amazon Video. Archana is currently responsible for driving the vision, roadmap and design to deliver the best functional, performant and usable SaaS and on-premises data connection and pro-developer integration experiences for PowerApps.

Ted Neward

Director, Developer Relations, Smartsheet.com



Ted Neward is a programming language, virtual machine, and enterprise-scale architect. He has written a dozen books and hundreds of articles on .NET, Java, enterprise systems, mobile development, and programming languages. He resides in the Pacific Northwest, and can be found on the Internet at www.tedneward.com, www.itrellis.com, @tedneward on Twitter, and blogs at blogs.tedneward.com.

Brian Randell

*Partner, MCW Technologies
Visual Studio Live! Conference Co-Chair*



Brian A. Randell is a Partner with MCW Technologies LLC. For more than 20 years he has been building software solutions. He educates teams on Microsoft technologies via writing and training—both in-person and on demand. He's also a consultant for companies small and large, worldwide, including Fortune 100 companies like Microsoft. Brian is a passionate software craftsman who still enjoys coding as he helps teams to improve their processes from idea to shipping to production management and monitoring. In addition, he's become obsessed over the last few years with natural user interfaces and how to create compelling user experiences regardless of platform. In early 2010, he toured the world prepping Microsoft employees and Microsoft partners for the Microsoft Visual Studio 2010 launch. In 2012, he and his team built some of the first training content and demos for Microsoft using Visual Studio 2012, Team Foundation Server 2012, and Windows 8. For the 2013 release, he continued building new ALM content for use worldwide by Microsoft. He's currently a Visual Studio ALM MVP and co-author of "Professional Application Lifecycle Management with Visual Studio 2013" from Wrox Publishing. When not working, Brian enjoys spending time with his wife and two children who enjoy making him look bad on the Xbox One (with and without Kinect).

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS (continued)

Paul Sheriff

Business Solutions Architect, Fairway Technologies, Inc.



Paul has over thirty years of experience architecting information systems and his expertise is in much demand from companies such as Kawasaki, Sunkist, Microsoft, Rockwell, American Express, J.D. Powers & Associates and many others. Paul helps companies architect .NET and Web applications, and create application frameworks.

Over the years, Paul has written over 305 articles and authored 14 books. Paul covers development topics ranging from C#, Angular, SQL Server, and many .NET technologies. Paul has been a popular speaker at many different conferences and user groups around the world for over 25 years. Reach Paul via email at PSheriff@fairwaytech.com. Follow Paul at [@pdsainc](https://twitter.com/pdsainc) and facebook.com/PDSAinc.

Adam Tuliper

Principal Software Engineer, DX, Microsoft



Adam is a Principal Software Engineer for Microsoft's Developer Experience division (DX). Adam lives in Southern California and helps others realize their technical vision across the web, gaming, cloud, phone, console, and desktop platforms. He is heavily addicted to his HoloLens, .NET Core, bots, Unity, and most .NET based technologies. He co-runs the Orange County Unity meetup. Prior to Microsoft he worked as a software architect in defense, finance, pharma, manufacturing, technology, and public sector fields over a span of 20+ years. He presents nationwide at conferences such as //build & GDC, loves speaking at user groups and universities, is a pluralsight.com author and an MSDN Magazine author. Catch him on twitter [@AdamTuliper](https://twitter.com/AdamTuliper)

Jim Wooley

Solution Architect, Slalom



By day, Jim Wooley is a Solution Architect for Slalom Consulting. In his free time, Jim is a frequent speaker, MVP, and author of "LINQ in Action". He is always striving to stay at the forefront of technology and enjoys the thrill of a new challenge. He has been active evangelizing LINQ since its announcement in 2005. In addition, he attempts to pass on the insights he has gained by being active in the community, including organizing and speaking at code camps and regional events, including MIX, Visual Studio Live!, CodeMash, KCDC, That Conference, DevWeek, and CodeStock.

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www.meetup.com/windowsdevug/

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The .NET Developers Association is an Eastside community oriented group aimed at furthering the education of .NET developers. www.meetup.com/.NET-Developers-Association/



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Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile

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Special attendee rate: \$259*

Book by: August 28, 2017

Book your room online; or call Reservations at 877-303-0104 and ask for the Visual Studio Live! Room Block. The offer is subject to room availability, so make sure to book early.

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Choose from 2 major airports to get the rate that works for you:

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AVIS RENT-A-CAR is offering a discount on car rental for Visual Studio Live! Chicago attendees. To receive the discounted rates, call Avis at 800.331.1600 and use the Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number D005872.

PARKING AT THE CHICAGO MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN MAGNIFICENT MILE

Self-parking: \$46.00; Valet parking: \$61.00

AIRPORT SHUTTLE

GO Airport Express offers airport shuttle services between Chicago area locations and O'Hare and Midway Airports. The shuttles depart from O'Hare and Midway Airports every 15 minutes for Chicago downtown and many suburban locations. Book travel now at airportexpress.com.

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Exploring a city can be an exciting adventure. Visit the Official Chicago Tourism site to start planning your trip today!

*Rooms are subject to availability and applicable state, local and occupancy taxes. The room rate is \$258 plus a \$1 in-room internet fee.

REGISTRATION PACKAGES

SIGN UP for the conference package that best meets your schedule and needs!

Register now at www.vslive.com/chicago

Signing up 3 or more?

Group Discounts are available! See page 36 for details.

Are you a Visual Studio Live! or Live! 360 alumnus?

Alumni discounts are available! See page 37 for details.

VISUAL STUDIO LIVE! 4-DAY CONFERENCE PACKAGE

The Visual Studio Live! Chicago 4-Day Package is your four day all-access pass to every keynote, session, workshop and event September 18-21, 2017.

VISUAL STUDIO LIVE! 4-DAY PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- All Sessions and Keynotes
- Pre-conference workshops
- Reception
- Networking Events
- Lunch (September 18-21)
- Laptop Computer Bag
- T-shirt with Completed Survey
- Online access to all course notes and sample code

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4-Day Hotel Package: \$1,250

REGISTRATION PACKAGES (continued)

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The Visual Studio Live! Chicago 3-Day Hotel Package includes three nights at the Chicago Marriott Downtown—*available Monday night (September 18) through Wednesday night (September 20), departing Thursday (September 21).*

3-Day Hotel Package: \$950

WORKSHOP PASS (1 DAY)

The Visual Studio Live! Chicago Workshop Pass grants you access to one full-day workshop on Monday, September 18, 2017.

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REGISTRATION PACKAGES (continued)

GROUP DISCOUNTS FOR YOU + 2

For questions or to register your group, please call 972.304.5380

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VISUAL STUDIO LIVE! 4-DAY GROUP PACKAGE

The Visual Studio Live! Chicago 4-Day Group Package is for groups of 3 or more attendees from the same company registering for the 4-Day Conference Package.

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- All Sessions and Keynotes
- Pre-conference workshops
- Reception
- Networking Events
- Lunch (September 18-21)
- Laptop Computer Bag
- T-shirt with Completed Survey
- Online access to all course notes and sample code

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Save \$500 off
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The Visual Studio Live! Chicago 4-Day Hotel Package includes four nights at the Chicago Marriott Downtown—available Sunday night (September 17) through Wednesday night (September 20), departing Thursday (September 21).

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REGISTRATION PACKAGES (continued)

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- All Sessions and Keynotes
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- Reception
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