

LISA KAY SOLOMON

Bio



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Short

“The future doesn’t have to be something that happens to us.”

Lisa Kay Solomon designs environments, experiences and classes to help people expand their futures, adapt to complexities, and build civic fellowship. Named one of ixDA’s Women of Design 2020, her work blends imagination with possibility, building the capacity to take the long view when today’s problems seem overwhelming.

Currently a Designer in Residence at the Stanford d. school, Lisa focuses on bridging the disciplines of futures and design thinking, creating experiences like “Vote by Design: Presidential Edition” and “The Future’s Happening” to help students learn and practice the skills they don’t yet know they need.

Lisa co-authored the bestselling books [Moments of Impact that Accelerate Change](#), and [Design A Better Business](#), which has been translated into over a dozen languages. Lisa created the popular LinkedIn Learning Courses [Leading Like a Futurist](#) and [Redesigning How We Work for 2021](#), and has [written extensively](#) on helping leaders productively navigate ambiguity through teachable and learnable practices.

Long

Lisa Kay Solomon is a futures and design educator, author, and social entrepreneur focused on helping people develop the leadership skills to become active, compassionate agents of positive change. With nearly over 20 years of design, scenario-planning, and leadership work, Lisa’s work focuses on the question: How do we help leaders and learners of all ages not just prepare for the future, but help them develop the mindsets, skillsets and practices required to shape more sustainable, inclusive, robust futures?

Named to the Thinkers50 2022 Radar List, Lisa co-authored the bestselling books [Moments of Impact: How to Design Strategic Conversations that Accelerate Change](#), and [Design A Better Business: New Tools, Skills, and Mindset and Strategy for Innovation](#), which has been translated into over a dozen languages. Lisa created the popular LinkedIn Learning Courses [Leading Like a Futurist](#) and [Redesigning How We Work for 2021](#), and has [written extensively](#) on helping leaders productively navigate ambiguity through teachable and learnable practices.

Currently a Designer in Residence and Lecturer at [Stanford University’s Hasso Plattner Institute of Design](#), Lisa teaches a variety of futures-oriented classes, including one of the d.school’s most popular courses, [Inventing the Future](#), which exposes students to practices of applied imagination, strategic foresight, immersive world building, and creativity. Lisa’s course design utilizes immersive experiences like participating in 50 year future utopia and dystopia debates on emerging technology in order to move beyond questions of “can we build it?” to “should we build it?” As one student commented after the class, “I used to think that thinking about the future was a gene intrinsic to talent, and now I think I have the skills and tools to shape it myself.”

In 2021, she launched [The Futures Series](#) at the Stanford d.school, which brought diverse futures thinkers from around the world to share and democratize future-shaping practices. Guests included Dr. Lonny Brooks and Ahmed Best on Afrofutures, Meredith Hutchison and Aisha Bain on Ancestral Intelligence, Leah Zaidi on WorldBuilding, Minister Faust on Science Fiction and Pro-social competitions, and Riel Miller on UNESCO’s Future Literacy, among others. She also initiated experiential professional development programs such as [“Afro-Rhythms in Classrooms”](#) with the National Writing Project, and workshops focused on building futures literacies such as building empathy for the future and navigating time scales and polarities.

Lisa is passionate about connecting her work between boardrooms to classrooms, bringing her work with executives and leaders at multinational companies to leaders and educators in K12 schools. She recently launched a new podcast called [New View EDU](#), co-hosted with the National Association of Independent Schools, to help school leaders shift their posture and priorities to infuse K12 education with imagination, social and emotional wellbeing, and creative agency for the future.

Named one of ixDA’s Women of Design 2020, Lisa is also the founder and driving force beyond [Vote by Design](#), [Building America’s Teammates](#), and [#AllVoteNoPlay](#), a national initiative which transforms Election Day as a day “off” from official collegiate athletic activities into a day “on” for civic engagement. Working closely with college coaches, civic educational leaders and student leaders, the experiential programs reached tens of thousands of young voters, coaches, and administrators in relevant, accessible, meaningful civic learning and action. Lisa’s work in the civics arena is focused on helping next generation voters grow in their own sense of power and agency over the futures they want to inhabit. Through creating design-driven, agency-oriented programs with a bias toward changemaking action, Lisa aims to empower young people to create a more just and inclusive world.