

NFTE Student Prep Guide

Own It Summit: Unleash Your Future



What's the goal of this summit?

This summit focuses on helping you:

1. Gain insights about professional journeys from various and diverse volunteers
2. Practice and improve networking skills through engaging and interactive sessions
3. Broaden your knowledge of your chosen topic

During this summit, you will be able to connect and learn in an interactive and engaging manner with real life professionals and entrepreneurs that have similar experiences of what you are going through right now. This summit will allow you to see varied representations in the workforce, hear about real-life experiences, and ask questions to help you as your own your future!

Who are the volunteers?

The volunteers for this session will be professionals and entrepreneurs from various cities, states, industries, race, and gender. All these volunteers are excited about meeting you virtually and diving deeper into their professional journey. They will ask you questions, and you will ask them questions: it will be a real conversation, not a session will you are lectured to or "talked at".

Please Note: You **WILL NOT** be able to connect with the volunteers/professionals on social media, email, or phone after the session. Communication must always be streamlined through NFTE staff members or your teacher.

How is the Own It Summit structured?

The Summit will last **75 minutes**:

- Welcome + Expectations + Warm Up Activity (10 mins)
- Breakout Rooms based on Topic: 2 rotations (55 mins total)
 - Check out the topics [here](#).
 - Breakout Room Agenda
 - Volunteers will share "My Professional Journey" in 5 mins or less
 - (3 significant moments that led volunteers to where they are today)
 - Student/Question Answer Portion
- Wrap Up/Debrief/Raffle (10 mins)

What is your role?

1. **Be open-minded and willing to ask questions.** The volunteers want to get to know you and learn about your life, but they also want to share some professional wisdom with you. If you have any questions, these professionals and entrepreneurs will be your best resource for you and/or your business, so ask away!
2. **Do your research** on the professionals or entrepreneurs you want to talk with. You will be given a list of topics to check out before the event. Choose 2 that you really want to get to learn about!
3. **Be present.** These busy professionals and entrepreneurs are taking the time out of their day and sharing their business expertise with you. To show respect, all you need to do is actively listen. I know it could be hard, especially in a virtual setting!

Sample Question Bank to ask volunteers:

- What has been your greatest professional accomplishment in the last year?
- What has been your biggest personal or professional failure? What did you learn from it and what have you changed because of that failure?
- What does success look like to you? What does it feel like?
- What trait(s) do you think are most important to have at your company or business?
- What's the best advice you can give to a budding entrepreneur, like myself?
- Knowing what you know now, is there anything you would do differently in high school?