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ASTD 2012 International Conference & Exposition to be held May 6-9 in Denver *Jim Collins, bestselling author of Good to Great, to open conference.*

(Alexandria, VA), March 22, 2012 – The American Society for Training & Development announces its [International Conference & Exposition](#) will be held May 6-9 at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado. This is the premier gathering of workplace learning and development professionals and regularly attracts more than 8,000 attendees from more than 70 countries.



ASTD 2012 features the program theme “Learn Something New. Perform Something Extraordinary.” The conference is designed to focus attention on learning as a key driver for performance in organizations of every size and in every industry. Attendees will hear from the profession’s thought leaders and gain insights that will help them create cultures that develop talent, spark innovation, and contribute to growth in their own organizations.

[Keynote speakers for the conference include](#)

Jim Collins – A student and teacher of enduring great companies, Mr. Collins is the bestselling author of *Good to Great*, and the opening keynote speaker for ASTD 2012. His most recent book *Great by Choice: Uncertainty, Chaos, and Luck—Why Some Thrive Despite Them All*, focuses not just on performance but also on the type of unstable environments faced by today’s leaders. On May 7 Mr. Collins will talk about companies that create and prevail in uncertain times.

John Kao – A leading authority on innovation, organizational transformation, and emerging technologies, Mr. Kao has been dubbed “Mr. Creativity” by *The Economist*. He is the Chairman of the World Economic Forum’s Global Advisory Council on Innovation and is known for his practical approach to “getting innovation done” — which is the topic of his presentation on May 8.

Heidi Grant Halvorson – An expert on motivation and achievement, Ms. Halvorson’s research lies in understanding how people respond to setbacks and challenges and how these responses are shaped by the types of goals individuals pursue. She is the Associate Director at the Motivation Science Center and will speak on May 9 about what successful people do differently.

ASTD 2012 will also feature more than 250 educational sessions and a world-class EXPO with the latest products and services from more than 300 top suppliers.

For more information visit the conference site at www.astdconference.org.

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About ASTD

ASTD (American Society for Training & Development) is the world's largest professional association dedicated to the training and development field. In more than 100 countries, ASTD's members work in organizations of all sizes, in the private and public sectors, as independent consultants, and as suppliers. Members connect locally in more than 120 U.S. chapters and with 20 international partners. ASTD started in 1943 and in recent years has widened the profession's focus to align learning and performance to organizational results, and is a sought-after voice on critical public policy issues. For more information, visit www.astd.org.

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