



## Whoopi Goldberg Surprises Attendees at CWCBE expo

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Today the [CWCBE expo](#) launched the first of its Surprise Speaker Series, sponsored by the [National Hemp Association](#). The goal of the Surprise Speaker Series, and CWCBE expo NY educational program, is to elevate the conversation about the benefits of cannabis, debunk negative stigma, and provide information, tools and resources for businesses to succeed in the industry.

Each of our Guests today had a few things in common -

They have never appeared at a Cannabis Conference

They are trailblazers in their own right

Their experiences are diverse as they all come from different industries

They all want to use their experiences to educate and legalize Cannabis



## Whoopi Goldberg



Our Surprise Guest which was only revealed on stage, was born here in New York. She is an American actress, comedian, author, and television host. She has been nominated for 13 [Emmy Awards](#) and is one of the [few entertainers](#) to have won an Emmy Award, a [Grammy Award](#), an [Academy Award](#), and a [Tony Award](#). She's speaks openly about her support of cannabis and is the inspiration behind one of the leading cannabis products for women. She brought the story of young Charlotte Figi and our Coalition for Access Now to national prominence.

## Governor Bill Weld



Bill Weld was elected Governor of Massachusetts in 1990 and reelected in 1994. During his term, he succeeded in reducing taxes and unemployment. His pro-business policies are widely considered to have a positive impact on the state. He served as Assistant U.S. Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division of the Justice Department and was the Vice-Presidential candidate. He was the first republican Governor to speak in favor of legalizing cannabis and today is one of the industries' s most powerful voices. He sits on the Board of Directors of Acreage Holdings,

## Mike James



Mike James is a trailblazer for medical marijuana use as an alternative to opioids and is the first active NFL player to file for a therapeutic use exemption for cannabis. He recently was featured on the CNN's "WEED 4, Pot vs. Pills" that has brought his use of cannabis for pain relief to the national spotlight.

## **Axel Bernabe**



Our first guest has significant influence in what happens in the Cannabis Space in New York State being the counsel to Governor Cuomo for Health Policy. He is originally from Canada. As Counsel, he oversees, among other things, the current expansion of the State's Medical Marijuana program, the rollout of the State's hemp CBD program, as well as the potential impact of a regulated adult use program in New York State.

### **About the National Hemp Association:**

**NHA** is a non-profit corporation, based in Washington D.C. with more than 50,000 supporters and members, is dedicated to the development of the domestic hemp industry. This goal will be attained by coordinating legislation, agricultural organizations, farmers, processors, manufacturers, and retailers. The promotion of the hemp industry is congruent with the desire to improve the environment through production and utilization of hemp farming and products. We see a direct relationship between the products we use and stewardship of the land. [www.nationalhempassociation.org](http://www.nationalhempassociation.org)

### **About Cannabis World Congress & Business Expositions (CWCBEexpo)**

The Cannabis World Congress & Business Expositions (CWCBEexpo) are business-to-business events for the legalized cannabis industry and are held 3 times per year in the largest media, financial and business markets. The CWCBEexpos are held in New York, Los Angeles and Boston, and are the leading forums for dispensary owners, growers, suppliers, investors, medical professionals, government regulators, legal counsel, and entrepreneurs looking to achieve business success and identify new areas of growth in this dynamic and fast-growing industry. CWCBEexpo is produced by Leading Edge Expositions in partnership with the International Cannabis Association (ICA). To learn more about the coast-to-coast CWCBEexpos in New York, Los Angeles and Boston, go to [www.cwcbexpo.com](http://www.cwcbexpo.com). Connect on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn: @cwcbexpo.

**For more information contact:**

**National Hemp Association**

**Erica McBride, Executive Director**

**(202-706-3911)**

[erica@nationalhempassociation.org](mailto:erica@nationalhempassociation.org)

**Geoff Whaling, Chairman**

**[Geoff@nationalhempassociation.org](mailto:Geoff@nationalhempassociation.org)**

**610-554-6929**