

SANS Security West 2026

May 11–16, 2026
San Diego, CA



PROGRAM GUIDE

SANS SECURITY WEST 2026

Welcome Reception

Monday, May 11 | 6:30–8:00 PM
Coronado Foyer (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

Kick off your Security West 2026 experience in style at the Welcome Reception! This high-energy, can't-miss event is your first opportunity to connect with fellow cybersecurity professionals, renowned SANS faculty, and industry peers from around the globe. Spark meaningful conversations about today's most pressing cybersecurity trends, expand your professional network, and start shaping your training goals for the week ahead—or simply unwind and enjoy the moment.

Develop and practice real-world skills
to be prepared to defend your environment.



Thursday, May 14 & Friday, May 15 | 6:30–9:30 PM
Coronado D/E (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)



Thursday, May 14 & Friday, May 15 | 6:30–9:30 PM
Coronado A (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

All In-Person students who registered to attend a course at Security West 2026 are eligible to play NetWars for FREE. Space is limited. Please register for NetWars through your SANS Account Dashboard.

You've Unlocked Extended Training— for Free!

SANS ▶ II
OnDemand

OnDemand Extended Access
to your course will be in your
SANS account following this event.

**\$999
Value!**

What's included in OnDemand Extended Access?

- Four months of additional time to review course material via the SANS OnDemand platform.
- Practice quizzes, labs, and lecture archives
- Subject-matter-expert support to help you increase your retention of course material

**Course access will be available 7-10 days
after the final day of training—no action required.**

sans.org/ondemand/extendedaccess

Validate Your Training

GIAC
CERTIFICATIONS

Add a GIAC Certification attempt to your course.

Get Certified with GIAC Certifications

- Distinguish yourself as an information security leader
- 30+ GIAC cybersecurity certifications available
- Two practice exams included
- Four months of access to complete the attempt

GIAC Certifications Bundle price: \$999

giac.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Venue

Manchester Grand Hyatt

1 Market Place | San Diego, CA 92101

Event Check-In | Badge & Courseware Distribution

Location: Coronado Foyer (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

Sunday, May 10 4:00–6:00 PM

Monday, May 11 7:00–8:30 AM

Registration Support

Location: Nautical (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

Monday, May 11–Friday, May 15 8:00 AM–5:30 PM

Saturday, May 16 8:00 AM–2:00 PM

Course Breaks

Morning Coffee 7:00–9:00 AM

Morning Break* 10:30–10:50 AM

Lunch (ON YOUR OWN) 12:15–1:30 PM

Afternoon Break* 3:00–3:20 PM

*Snack and coffee to be provided during these break times.

Wear Your Badge

To confirm you are in the right place, SANS Work-Study participants will be checking your badge for each course and event you enter. For your convenience, please wear your badge at all times.

Photography Notice

SANS may take photos of classroom activities for marketing purposes. Security West 2026 attendees grant SANS all rights for such use without compensation, unless prohibited by law.

Parking*

Self-parking is available for \$55 per day at the Manchester Grand Hyatt.*

SANS recommends using parking apps like SpotHero to find more affordable options nearby.

*Parking rates are subject to change.

Feedback Forms and Course Evaluations

SANS is committed to offering the best information security training, and that means continuous course improvement. Your student feedback is a critical input to our course development and improvement efforts. Please take a moment to complete the electronic evaluation posted in your class Slack channel each day.

Bootcamp Sessions and Extended Hours

The following classes have evening bootcamp sessions or extended hours. For specific times, please refer to pages 4–6.

Bootcamps (Attendance Mandatory)

LDR414: SANS Training Program for CISSP® Certification

SEC401: Security Essentials: Network, Endpoint, and Cloud

SEC503: Network Monitoring and Threat Detection In-Depth

SEC510: Cloud Security Engineering and Controls

SEC540: Cloud Native Security and DevSecOps Automation

SEC660: Advanced Penetration Testing, Exploit Writing, and Ethical Hacking

Extended Hours:

SEC504: Hacker Tools, Techniques, and Incident Handling

COURSE SCHEDULE

Time: 9:00 AM–5:00 PM (Unless otherwise noted)

NOTE: All classes begin at 8:30 AM on Day 1

Classes starting Monday, May 11

FOR500 Windows Forensic Analysis (6-DAY COURSE)
Ovie Carroll Cortez Hill A (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

FOR508 Advanced Incident Response, Threat Hunting, and Digital Forensics (6-DAY COURSE)
Carlos Cajigas Cortez Hill C (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

FOR572 Advanced Network Forensics: Threat Hunting, Analysis, and Incident Response (6-DAY COURSE)
Brian Olson Torrey Hills A (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

FOR577 Linux Incident Response & Threat Hunting (6-DAY COURSE)
Jim Clausing Cortez Hill B (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

FOR589 Cybercrime Investigations (5-DAY COURSE)
Conan Beach Hillcrest A (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

FOR610 Reverse-Engineering Malware: Malware Analysis Tools and Techniques (6-DAY COURSE)
Lenny Zeltser Ocean Beach (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

ICS410 ICS/SCADA Security Essentials (6-DAY COURSE)
Justin Searle Coronado Ballroom E (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

ICS515 ICS Visibility, Detection, and Response (6-DAY COURSE)
Dean Parsons America’s Cup A (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

ICS612 ICS Cybersecurity In-Depth (5-DAY COURSE)
Larry Grate Coronado Ballroom B (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

ICS613 ICS/OT Penetration Testing & Assessments (5-DAY COURSE)
Don C. Weber America’s Cup D (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

LDR414 SANS Training Program for CISSP® Certification (6-DAY COURSE)
Eric Conrad Solana Beach A (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)
Hours: 8:30 AM–7:00 PM (Day 1); 8:00 AM–7:00 PM (Days 2–5);
8:00 AM–5:00 PM (Day 6)

LDR512 Security Leadership Essentials for Managers (5-DAY COURSE)
Kevin Garvey Regatta A (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

LDR514 Security Strategic Planning, Policy, and Leadership (5-DAY COURSE)
Frank Kim Regatta B (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

LDR519 Cybersecurity Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) (5-DAY COURSE)
James Tarala Mission Beach A/B (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

LDR553 Cyber Incident Management (5-DAY COURSE)
Steve Armstrong-Godwin America’s Cup C (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

SEC301 Introduction to Cyber Security (5-DAY COURSE)
Rich Greene Boardwalk (LOBBY LEVEL)

SEC401 Security Essentials: Network, Endpoint and Cloud (6-DAY COURSE)
Bryan Simon Solana Beach B (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)
Hours: 8:30 AM–7:00 PM (Day 1); 9:00 AM–7:00 PM (Days 2–5)

SEC497 Practical Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) (6-DAY COURSE)
Matt Edmondson Coronado Ballroom D (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

SEC503 Network Monitoring and Threat Detection In-Depth (6-DAY COURSE)
Benjamin Barnes Torrey Hills B (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)
Hours: 8:30 AM–7:00 PM (Day 1); 9:00 AM–7:00 PM (Days 2–5)

SEC504 Hacker Tools, Techniques & Incident Handling (6-DAY COURSE)
Mick Douglas Cove (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)
Hours: 8:30 AM–7:15 PM (Day 1)

SEC510 Cloud Security Engineering and Controls (5-DAY COURSE)
Brandon Evans Hillcrest C (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)
Hours: 8:30 AM–7:00 PM (Day 1); 9:00 AM–7:00 PM (Days 2–4)

SEC522 Application Security: Securing Web Applications, APIs, and Microservices (6-DAY COURSE)
Dr. Johannes Ullrich Golden Hill B (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

SEC530 Defensible Security Architecture and Engineering: Implementing Zero Trust for the Hybrid Enterprise (6-DAY COURSE)
Greg Scheidel Bankers Hill (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

SEC540 Cloud Native Security and DevSecOps Automation (5-DAY COURSE)
David Hazar Hillcrest D (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)
Hours: 8:30 AM–7:00 PM (Day 1); 9:00 AM–7:00 PM (Days 2–4)

SEC545 GenAI and LLM Application Security (5-DAY COURSE)
Ahmed Abugharbia Promenade B (LEVEL 3 – HARBOR)

SEC542 Web App Penetration Testing and Ethical Hacking (6-DAY COURSE)
Timothy McKenzie Golden Hill A (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)

SEC560 Enterprise Penetration Testing (6-DAY COURSE)
Jeff McJunkin Promenade A (LEVEL 3 – HARBOR)

SEC573 AI-Powered Security Automation: Building Tools with Python, LLMs, and MCP (6-DAY COURSE)
Joshua Barone America’s Cup B (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

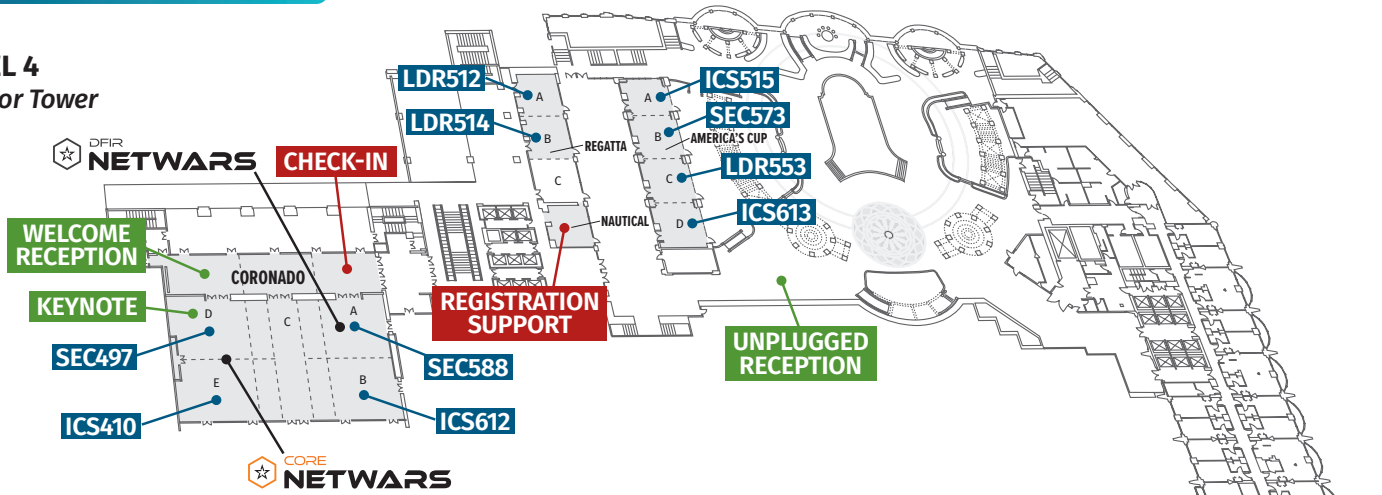
SEC588 Cloud Penetration Testing (6-DAY COURSE)
Moses Frost Coronado Ballroom A (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

SEC595 Applied Data Science and AI/Machine Learning for Cybersecurity Professionals (6-DAY COURSE)
Nik Alleyne Pier (LEVEL 3 – HARBOR)

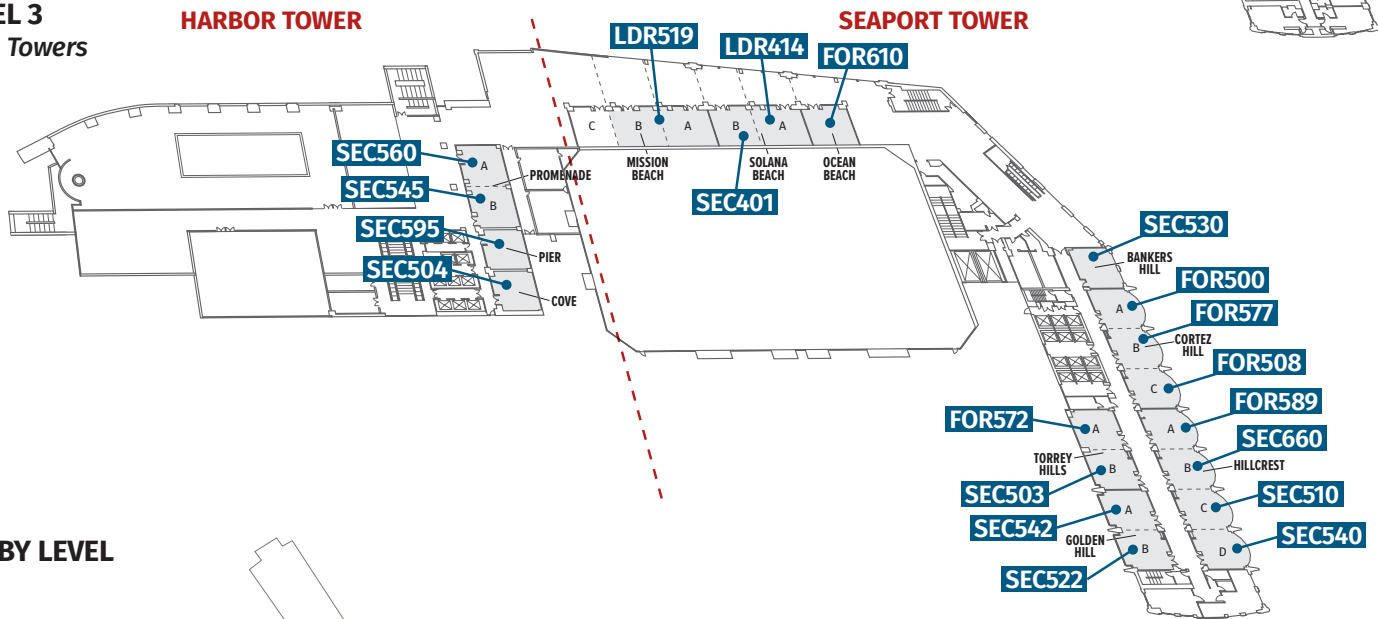
SEC660 Advanced Penetration Testing, Exploit Writing, and Ethical Hacking (6-DAY COURSE)
Doug McKee Hillcrest B (LEVEL 3 – SEAPORT)
Hours: 8:30 AM–7:00 PM (Day 1); 9:00 AM–7:00 PM (Days 2–5)

HOTEL FLOOR PLAN

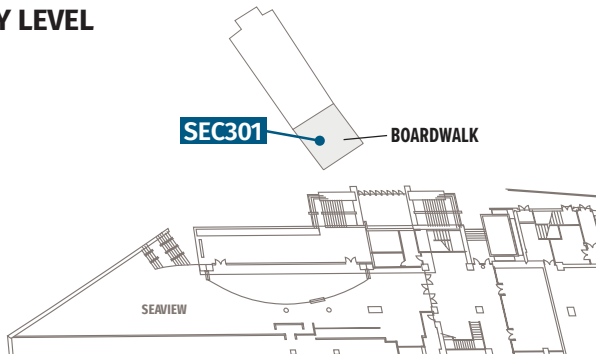
LEVEL 4 Harbor Tower



LEVEL 3 Both Towers



LOBBY LEVEL



BONUS SESSIONS

Enrich Your SANS Experience!

Talks by our faculty and selected subject-matter experts help you broaden your knowledge, get the most for your training dollar, and hear from the voices that matter in network and computer security.

RECEPTION

Security West 2026 Welcome Reception

DATE/TIME: **Monday, May 11 | 6:30–8:00 PM**

LOCATION: **Coronado Foyer** (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

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RECEPTION

Pre Keynote Reception

DATE/TIME: **Tuesday, May 12 | 5:15–6:00 PM**

LOCATION: **Coronado Foyer** (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

Join your classmates and instructors to gather and network before settling into the evening's exciting Keynote. Appetizers and adult beverages will be provided.

SPECIAL EVENT

Wellness Wednesday: Embarcadero Trail 5K Walk/Run

DATE/TIME: **Wednesday, May 13 | 6:45–8:00 AM**

LOCATION: **Meet in Lobby** (HARBOR TOWER)

Seize the day and get your steps in before class! SANS invites you to join for a morning walk or run along the Embarcadero Trail. We will meet at 6:45am in the hotel lobby at the Grand Hyatt (Harbor Tower) and head north along the trail to the B Street Pier along the beautiful North San Diego Bay. You are welcome to stay with a group or move at your own pace. Refreshments will be provided afterwards.

FEATURED KEYNOTE

Securing AI in an AI-Focused World

DATE: **Tuesday, May 12**

TIME: **6:00–7:00 PM**

LOCATION: **Coronado D**
(LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)

SPEAKER: **Nik Alleyne,**
SANS Principal Instructor



AI is a major topic of discussion today—and rightfully so. But for those of us in cybersecurity, it's crucial not only to understand how to use AI for security, but also to recognize the threats targeting AI models, their ecosystems, and how to defend and secure them effectively.

SANS@NIGHT

The Changing Role of a Security Leader and What It Means to You

DATE/TIME: **Wednesday, May 13 | 6:00–7:00 PM**

LOCATION: **Coronado A (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)**

SPEAKER: **Lenny Zeltser, Faculty Fellow**



As the world of information technology continues to change, so does the role of the security leader. Whether you're a CISO, Director of Security, or someone aspiring for such a position, you should consider how the current trends in IT and business affect your professional journey. Does your current approach to security leadership set you up for success?

Attend this session to learn how experienced CISOs:

- Align their security strategy to the business it aims to support
- Ask the right questions to excel in challenging situations
- Gain support of their efforts from non-security stakeholders

Use technical and communication skills to their advantage Those of us whose professional roots are grounded in technology often look at enterprise defenses from the perspective of the threats. While understanding the relationship between attacks and defenses is important, it's no longer sufficient. Attend this session to learn how to think about the role of a modern security leader to succeed in today's environment.

WORKSHOP

Threat Hunting and Criminal Infrastructure Analysis

DATE/TIME: **Wednesday, May 13 | 6:30–8:30 PM**

LOCATION: **Coronado D (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)**

SPEAKER: **Conan Beach, Certified Instructor Candidate**



This hands-on session will take you through a detailed FOR589 lab focusing on the complexities of cybercrime infrastructure. You will delve into the critical types of infrastructure indicators—Atomic, Behavioral, and Computed—and their roles in detecting and understanding cybercrime activities.

Learn about the pivotal role that domains, IP addresses, and email accounts play as Atomic Indicators, and understand how Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) helps in identifying the ownership of these indicators. The workshop includes practical exercises where you will use advanced fingerprinting techniques not only to identify but also to predict cybercrime behaviors. This approach will enhance your skills in analyzing and countering cyber threats.

RECEPTION

SANS Unplugged

DATE/TIME: **Thursday, May 14 | 5:00–6:00 PM**

LOCATION: **America's Cup Terrace (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)**

A relaxed evening reception designed to bring together OnDemand students, SANS instructors, course authors, and staff—for real conversation, shared stories, and new professional connections. It's where solo study becomes shared community.

Enjoy light bites, drinks, and open access to:

- Meaningful networking with peers, mentors, and industry leaders
- Exclusive NetWars tournament access and SANS@Night Talks
- A special 20% discount on your next SANS course—OnDemand, In-Person, or Live Online

We can't wait to welcome you to SANS Unplugged.

SANS@NIGHT

Deception at Scale: Exploring the SANS Internet Storm Center

DATE/TIME: **Thursday, May 14 | 6:00–7:00 PM**

LOCATION: **Promenade A (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)**

SPEAKER: **Dr. Johannes Ullrich, Faculty Fellow**



Ever wondered how the SANS Internet Storm Center will help you protect your network? For over 20 years, the SANS ISC has provided up-to-date threat intel and tools to make this threat intel actionable. Sources from volunteer contributors and practitioners, the ISC offers what you need to know to protect your network today.

This talk will not use PowerPoint but instead offer an engaging walk-through of recent events, how they manifested themselves in the ISC's data, how our different data feeds work, and more. A talk not just for packet connoisseurs but for everybody interested in a good story.

BONUS SESSIONS

SPECIAL EVENT

Tournament: Core NetWars



DATE/TIME: **Thursday, May 14 & Friday, May 15 | 6:30–9:30 PM**

LOCATION: **Coronado D/E (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)**

The most comprehensive of the NetWars ranges, this ultimate multi-disciplinary cyber range powers up the most diverse cyber skills. This range is ideal for advancing your cybersecurity prowess in today's dynamic threat landscape. The winning team and the top five solo players from every Core NetWars tournament throughout the year are offered a chance to compete in the annual SANS Core NetWars Tournament of Champions.

All students who register for a 4–6 day course will be eligible to play NetWars for free. Registration for this event will be through your SANS Account Dashboard the week of the event.

SPECIAL EVENT

Tournament: DFIR NetWars



DATE/TIME: **Thursday, May 14 & Friday, May 15 | 6:30–9:30 PM**

LOCATION: **Coronado A (LEVEL 4 – HARBOR)**

Focused on digital forensics, incident response, threat hunting, and malware analysis, this tool-agnostic approach covers everything from low-level artifacts to high-level behavioral observations.

All students who register for a 4–6 day course will be eligible to play NetWars for free. Registration for this event will be through your SANS Account Dashboard the week of the event.



FREE RESOURCES

Newsletters

NewsBites

Twice-weekly, high-level executive summaries of the most important news relevant to cybersecurity professionals.

OUCH!

The world's leading monthly free security awareness newsletter designed for the common computer user.

@RISK: The Consensus Security Alert

A reliable weekly summary of newly discovered attack vectors, vulnerabilities with active new exploits, how recent attacks worked, and other valuable data.

Virtual Events, Research & Webcasts

Analyst Program: Research & Content

Reports on emerging and mission-critical topics. Solution providers drive topic awareness to a qualified audience of decision-makers and influencers through insightful educational content and help security teams tackle today's threats.

Ask The Expert Webcasts

SANS Experts bring current and timely information on relevant topics in IT security. These are the go-to online format to obtain actionable information to help you in your security goals.

Solutions Forums & Summit Tracks

In partnership with a SANS subject-matter expert, invited speakers showcase their products and solutions to high-level security practitioners and cybersecurity decision-makers.

Many Other Free Resources

(SANS.org account not required)

- InfoSec Reading Room
- Top 25 Software Errors
- 20 Critical Controls
- Security Policies
- Intrusion Detection FAQs
- Tip of the Day
- Security Posters
- 20 Coolest Careers
- Security Glossary
- SCORE (Security Consensus Operational Readiness Evaluation)

Sign into your SANS account to enjoy these free resources at www.sans.org/account

SAVE THE DATE

SANS Security West 2027 is returning to San Diego **May 10–15, 2027**

Upcoming SANS Training Events

DC Metro June	Arlington, VA	Hybrid	Jun 1–6
Chicago	Chicago, IL	Hybrid	Jun 8–13
Austin	Austin, TX	Hybrid	Jun 22–27
SANSFIRE	Washington, DC	Hybrid	Jul 13–18
Nashville Summer	Nashville, TN	Hybrid	Jul 27–Aug 1
New York	New York, NY	Hybrid	Aug 10–15
San Antonio	San Antonio, TX	Hybrid	Aug 17–22
Virginia Beach	Virginia Beach, VA	Hybrid	Aug 24–Sep 4
Network Security	Las Vegas, NV	Hybrid	Sep 21–26
DC Metro September	Bethesda, MD	Hybrid	Sep 28–Oct 3
Miami	Coral Gables, FL	Hybrid	Oct 26–31
San Francisco	San Francisco, CA	Hybrid	Nov 2–7
Dallas	Dallas, TX	Hybrid	Dec 7–12
Cyber Defense Initiative®	Washington, DC	Hybrid	Dec 14–19
SANS 2027	Orlando, FL	Hybrid	Apr 12–17
Security West 2027	San Diego, CA	Hybrid	May 10–15
SANSFIRE 2027	Washington, DC	Hybrid	Jul 12–17
Network Security 2027	Las Vegas, NV	Hybrid	Sep 27–Oct 2