

Dax Dasilva is the founder and CEO of Lightspeed, a cloud commerce platform used by retail and restaurant customers in more than one hundred countries. Its mission is to bring cities and communities to life by powering independent business. Dasilva is also the founder of Never Apart, a cultural non-profit determined to bring about positive social change and unity through original programming with global reach and impact. In May 2019, he published his first book, *Age of Union*, a compelling guide for igniting today's changemaker. Grounded in four pillars— leadership, culture, spirituality, and nature—the book advocates that the time for change is now and that our choices are the catalyst.

1. Name an innovative idea that drew your attention or that you or your organization implemented:

Lightspeed's #lightspeedlocal initiative rolled out in March 2020, engaging company employees to shop locally and support small businesses in our network. The program reimburses employees in our 14 global offices up to \$500 in local currency on purchases made from any Lightspeed retail or restaurant customer, whether through eCommerce shopping, meal takeout or delivery. A company, Slack channel, was created shortly after and it has since become a true hub as our employees exchange hundreds of hugely positive messages about their experiences. Through #Lightspeedlocal social sharing, employees are also publicly championing our retail and restaurant customers.

2. What life lesson would you like to pass along or what piece of advice would you like to give to the next generation?

We sometimes think that the world's problems are insurmountable. The reality is that all of our daily actions and choices matter.

The last pages of my book [*Age of Union: Igniting the Changemaker*](#), highlight 40 acts of union—practical advice for infusing our day-to-day with intention. This includes actions like speaking your mind or becoming a mentor to a younger person. None of the acts are greater than the other, but together they serve to inspire readers to create positive change and impact in creating and living in a better world.

3. Name an act of social solidarity that recently moved or surprised you:

I'm impressed with humanity and the population's support and respect for each other during this time. First responders and other essential workers are ensuring that we will get through these world events safely.

If we harness this mindset, we can move forward in unison, and emerge stronger and more resilient. I'm very hopeful.

And there is an extra compulsory question we are asking everybody: Which book (either fiction or non-fiction) do you consider essential reading during a crisis, or to help people emerge from a crisis?

I'd like to think that *Age of Union: Igniting the Changemaker* is more relevant than ever. Especially, that we are in this crisis because of our disconnection with nature.

It's for this reason that I decided to offer the book as a [free ebook download](#). It's the perfect time to reflect and look at how we are individually and collectively living life.