



Agenda for Wednesday, May 11, 2022

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM CT RELATIONSHIP BUILDING GOLF OUTING

Bolingbrook Golf Course

For Premier and VIP attendees who elected the Relationship Building Golf Outing at [Bolingbrook Golf Course](#) during registration. Transportation has been arranged free of charge with pick up at 8:30AM at the [Le Meridien Essex Hotel](#). Breakfast and lunch are included.

4:00 – 6:30 PM CT POWER OF IMPACT COMMUNITY DAY

Boys & Girls Club

NMSDC and Bristol Myers Squibb have partnered to create the [Power of Impact](#) in historically underserved communities. The mission and vision are to assist the youth in finding their purpose in the world through entrepreneurship and philanthropy.

For Premier and VIP attendees who elected the Community Day at the [Union League Club #1, Boys & Girls Club](#) during registration.

5:30 – 7:30 PM CT VIP RECEPTION AT THE CHICAGO CLUB

The Future of Business Diversity and Economic Justice VIP Reception

For VIP attendees who elected the VIP Reception at [The Chicago Club](#) during registration.

6:30 – 8:30 PM CT PREMIER RECEPTION AT THE LIGHTHOUSE ARTSPACE

Immersive Frida Kahlo (Her Life. Her Love. Her Art) Exhibition

For all Premier attendees (you did not have to elect this during registration). Transportation for the [Immersive Frida Kahlo \(Her Life. Her Love. Her Art.\) Exhibition](#) at the [Lighthouse Artspace Chicago](#) has been arranged free of charge with pick up at 6:00PM at the [Le Meridien Essex Hotel](#).

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Agenda for Thursday, May 12, 2022

8:30 – 9:30 AM CT

SESSION I: TRILLIONS FOR BREAKFAST presented by Mastec

NMSDC Overview

For America to build a healthy, prosperous, and inclusive economy, minority businesses must have full and fair access to scalable private and public sector contracting opportunities. Pervasive racial gaps in business ownership, opportunity, and wealth restrain the potential of the U.S. economy. To bridge these gaps, it is essential to recalibrate the MBE narrative and understand the vital role that minority businesses play in the aggregate American economy, the challenges they face, and what corporations and government can do to build a fairer and equitable climate that enables minority businesses to thrive and create generational wealth in communities of color.

Welcome to NMSDC

Welcome to Chicago, the birthplace of civil and economic thought leaders in minority business since 1968. Over the last 50 years, the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) has advocated for, certified, and facilitated the inclusion and development of thousands of Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs). We are thrilled to come “home” to Chicago, where NMSDC was founded in 1972. What a fitting place to hold our inaugural Minority Business Economic Forum, a unique opportunity for us to stand alongside C-Suite Leaders, Government Officials, NMSDC Corporate Members, and the highest caliber certified MBE attendees, with an additional 2000+ Leaders in business, policy, and academia participating virtually as we discuss the bold goal to achieving \$1 trillion in MBE annual revenue generation through intentional and purposeful actions that will chart a bold, new course for minority businesses and economic equity.

Speaker(s):

Ying McGuire, CEO & President NMSDC

The Chicago Agenda: Trailblazing Beyond the Supply Chain

Supply chains must reinvent themselves to successfully meet the challenges of tomorrow. In this discussion, hear about Chicago Corporations trailblazing agenda to look beyond traditional supply chain practices, and how that will impact the broader political, social and economic landscape.

Speaker(s):

John W. Rogers, Jr., Chairman and Co-CEO, Ariel Investments

James H. Lowry, President, James H. Lowry & Associates

Implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act at the State Level

Speaker(s):

J.B. Pritzker, Governor of Illinois

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Updated as of 04/26/22

The Impact of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Acts on MBEs (Co-hosted by the National Urban League)

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is a clear massive scalable opportunity for the federal and state local government to help enable racial, economic equity and for minority businesses and communities to build for the future with direct opportunity. The global pandemic and continued economic, social, and racial health disparities in the United States aggregate more profound long-term challenges to communities of color. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act can be leveraged as an opportunity to create systemic change that can catapult progress for generations to come. While Minority Businesses are contributing to the economic vitality of communities of color and the American economy by addressing social issues in new ways, they must have the opportunity to develop capacity and entry points into the industries of tomorrow. To address the historically disproportionately low amount of federal infrastructure contracts awarded to minority-owned businesses, the infrastructure bill includes a passage that breaks up large federal contracts into smaller deals that would allow minority-owned firms tremendous opportunities.

Speaker(s):

Pete Buttigieg, United States Secretary of Transportation

Igniting MBEs

Speaker(s):

Ying McGuire, CEO & President NMSDC

Pete Buttigieg, United States Secretary of Transportation

9:30 – 10:00 AM CT

BREAK: EXCLUSIVE SPEAKER Q&A FOR VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

10:00 – 11:10 AM CT

SESSION II: PAVING THE ROAD TO \$1 TRILLION presented by VDART

Native American Leadership in the Infrastructure Plan

Speaker(s):

Chris James, President & CEO The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development

Stormy with a Chance of Equitable Access

This session will take a look at the effects that price spikes caused by the pandemic and supply chain disruptions have had on the current economy and inflation rates. What does the economic forecast look like in the future and what are the challenges small, and minority owned businesses may face.

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Speaker(s):

Austan Goolsbee, American Economist and Professor of Economics at University of Chicago's Booth School of Business.

Michelle Meyer, Chief Economist, US Mastercard Economics Institute.

Alejandra Y. Castillo, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development

Turning Digital Redlining Green

A high-speed internet connection is essential for living, working, and thriving in the nation today. In the 21st century, it's similar to indoor plumbing, electricity, and roadways in the 20th century. While many communities of color have been left behind in the internet revolution, that can change with the tools and resources available in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

In this session, hear why the Infrastructure Bill is vital to the National Urban League, the nation's largest historic civil rights and urban advocacy organization and how it could finally close the digital divide for businesses and communities of color.

Speaker(s):

Marc Morial, President and CEO, National Urban League

MBE Pivot to Electrification

This fireside chat will share how MBEs have pivoted to a high-tech future and the role they are playing in EV to generate a new era of automotive transportation.

Speaker(s):

Stephen L. Hightower, President Hightower EV Solutions, LLC

Natalie King, Esq., CEO Dunamis Clean Energy Partners, LLC

Betty Manetta, President & CEO Argent Associates

Kameale Terry, CO-Founder and CEO of Charger Help

Infrastructure in Action

Speaker(s):

Earvin Magic Johnson, Chairman & CEO, Magic Johnson Enterprises

11:10 – 11:30 AM CT

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11:30AM – 12:10PM CT

SESSION III: SUPERPOWERING THE TEAM presented by UPS

**Public/Private Partnerships Accelerating Latin-owned Businesses
(Co-hosted with the Aspen Institute)**

Latinos are essential to the recovery of the U.S. after the COVID-19 pandemic. To fully harness the economic power and global competitiveness of the nation, we must remove the barriers that prevent Latinos in America from reaching their full potential.

This panel brings together C-suite leaders across the private, public, and civic sectors to discuss game-changing pathways to advance economic mobility for Latino individuals and communities, creating a more inclusive economy and society.

Speaker(s):

Domenika Lynch, Executive Director of The Aspen Institute

Alice Rodriguez, Chairwoman of the Board, United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce,
Managing Director of JP Morgan Chase & Co

Bruce Katz, Co-Founder and Director of the Nowak Metro Finance Lab, Drexell University

Closing the Opportunity Gap for Communities of Color

This session will explore what a top government administrator is doing to close the opportunity gap for communities of color and the impact it will have.

Speaker(s):

Isabella Guzman, Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

12:10 – 2:05 PM CT

THEMATIC LUNCH

Round Table Conversations for Onsite Attendees

Virtual Workshops (12-1pm) for Virtual Attendees

Join our Minority Business Economic Forum Corporate Partners in virtual curated conversations on topics related to industry groups.

2:05 – 3:25 PM CT

SESSION IV: CROSSING THE CHASM presented by WWT

Welcome Back Remarks

Hear remarks from Acting National Director, U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency on the Minority Business Development Act of 2021.

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Speaker(s):

Miguel Estián, Acting National Director, U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency

Getting Scalable MBEs in the Game

The time is right for the formation of an investment firm that scales sustainable, minority-owned businesses by simultaneously solving two critical factors: capital and customers.

This session will discuss an innovative effort that will forge a new class of scalable Black and Latinx entrepreneurs. These companies will seek to provide differentiated, high-quality products and services to Fortune 500 customers in some of the largest areas of corporate spend. This scale—which heretofore has been largely absent among minority-owned businesses—will enable these enterprises to compete on the same footing with Tier 1 suppliers.

Speaker(s):

Leslie Brun, Co-Founder, Chairman & CEO Ariel Alternatives
Melody Hobson, President and Co-CEO of Ariel Investments

Business Diversity: The Future of Supplier Diversity

Driving more inclusive supply chains represents a massive opportunity to drive socioeconomic value. With 58 cents of every dollar spent by large corporations going to suppliers, corporations continue to have a critical role in unlocking that value. While supplier diversity is increasingly a fundamental part of companies' strategic agendas, there is a significant need to increase and accelerate efforts.

This session will provide insights into the socioeconomic impact that corporations can have by continuing to scale partnerships with diverse businesses; present a current state of diverse suppliers in the US to inform the areas of opportunity; and offer actions companies can take to accelerate and scale the impact they can have.

Speaker(s):

Shelley Stewart III, Partner, McKinsey & Company
Kenneth Yearwood, Associate Partner, McKinsey & Company

How Supply Chain Leaders are helping MBEs Scale to Solve Supply Chain Challenges presented by Bristol Myers Squibb

The COVID-19 pandemic perfectly illustrated how extreme disruptions in the supply chain have forced procurement organizations to confront the limitations of their traditional operating models and driven them to adapt.

Hear from CPOs how they are redefining supply chain models to improve ecosystems, and how they are at the forefront of social impact and cultivating MBEs to address the emerging and gap areas of corporate supply chain.

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Speaker(s):

Dr. Randal Pinkett, Chairman and CEO BCT Partners

Farryn Melton, Senior Vice President, Chief Procurement Officer, Bristol-Myers-Squibb

Shelley Stewart Jr, Chairman Billion Dollar Roundtable

Cheryl Harris, Senior Vice President, Procurement at Allstate Insurance

Carlton Oneal, President, LightSpeedEdu, Inc.

3:25 – 4:00 PM CT

BREAK: EXCLUSIVE SPEAKER Q&A FOR VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

4:00 – 5:00 PM CT

SESSION V: LEADERSHIP ON THE LINE

AAPI Closing the Wealth Gap for MBEs

Speaker(s):

Chilling Tong, President and CEO Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship (ACE)

Sidd Ahmed, President and CEO Vdart Inc.

How I Built a Multi-Billion Dollar Business.

Building a billion-dollar business is not a linear process. The path to success can be a slow climb, with lots of challenges along the way. Hear from the voices of MBE leaders on some of the biggest lessons learned.

Speaker(s):

Jose R. Mas, Chief Executive Officer, MasTec

Dave Steward, Chairman and Founder World Wide Technology

Call to Action: The Torch is Yours. The time is Now.

Speaker(s):

Ying McGuire, CEO & President NMSDC

Kristin Myers, Award Winning Journalist and Editor-in-Chief of The Balance

Performance

Performer(s):

Carlo De Antonis, Argentine opera singer; America's Got Talent, 2017

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5:00 – 7:00 PM CT
GENERAL RECEPTION AWARDS PRE-SHOW

7:00 – 8:00 PM CT
THE EQUITY HONORS AWARDS CEREMONY

The Equity Honors are presented to corporate C-Suite Officers who have been recognized by their peers as leaders at the forefront of economic equity and minority business integration. They are the bold ones, expanding dated circles of influence and opportunity to usher in talent, perspectives, and expertise that have been too long ignored. They are the visionaries, creating the conditions for minority businesses to fully realize their vast, untapped impact on the American economy and quality of life. And they are unshakable, the living blueprints for upending the status quo and making the kinds of changes that impact everything.

Emcee:

Claudia Wallace, Casting Director and Cast Consultant, The Second City

Agenda for Friday, May 13, 2022

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM CT
NMSDC BOARD MEETING

Mid-Year Board Meeting

For NMSDC Board Members and NMSDC Executive Leadership Team at the [LM Studio Chicago](#).

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