The pulse

The Hippest Source for diversity + Business in the Gulf South

Created and Distributed by the Southern Region Minority Development Council, Inc.

VOLUME 230

EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

SRMSDC ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY
AUGUST 25

PIVOT 2022 YOUR DIVOT

SEPTEMBER 27-30

PIVOT WEEK EVENT REGISTRATION

NEW!!! PIVOT YOUR DIVOT GOLF TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! (CLICK FOR DETAILS)

NMSDC IS BACK IN
NEW ORLEANS, LA
OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 2

NMSDC
50TH ANNIVERSARY

Three days of virtual sessions, one Golf Matchmaker

PIVOT Week 2022

Sept. 27-29, 2022

Day 1: Circular Economy & ESG

Session I: "Understanding Why the Circular Economy is Pivotal to Your Business, Your Community and the Planet" *with Dr. Jamie Bracey Green*

Session II: "Think your Business is too Small to Justify Making ESG a Priority?"

Day 2: Health & Wellness

Session I: "The New Workspace: What does that mean for your business?"

Session II: "Building Teams in a Hybrid Environment"

Day 3: Money

Session I: "We Always Have to Talk About Money, but Now We Have To Talk About Money Differently"

Session II: "Leadership Agility Before, During and After a Crisis"

Session III: The Legal Lens *with Jason Harris*

Sept. 30, 2022

PIVOT Your DIVOT!

Tee off with Corporate Members of the SRMSDC and small business owners from across our four-state region for a morning round of golf and matched networking.

Not a golfer? No problem; join us for our outdoor luncheon and afternoon reception.

SRMSDC
2022 NMSDC Conference Host

50 EMSDC YEARS OF IMPACT

Register TODAY!

2022 SRMSDC LEADERSHIP AWARDS NOMINEES

You picked them, and here they are! Our 2022 Leadership Awards Nominees are listed on the next few pages in each category.

Join us on August 25, 2022 to see who we will honor as this year's winners!

MBE Award Group

Class 1

82's LLC
Adaptive Management and Engineering, LLC
African Bean Company, LLC
Atkins and Goolsby
Alexander Law, P.A.

Class 2

Agilify LLC
AE Touch Technologies
Alta Max, LLC
Brundidge Electronics Corporation

Class 3

PROJECTXYZ, Inc
Brask Inc/Industrial Equipment and Engineering
South Dade Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, Inc
Native American Solutions

Class 4

Brewster Procurement Group, Inc
Kaul Glove & Manufacturing Company
Diversity Vuteq
Systems Electro Coating
Heartland Supply
Jackson Offshore Operators
Magnolia Automotive

2022 SRMSDC LEADERSHIP AWARDS NOMINEES

Regional Automotive OEM of the Year

Toyota
Hyundai
Nissan
Volkswagen

Regional Automotive Prime Supplier of the Year

Systems Electro Coating
Georgetown Metal Processing
Diversity Vuteq
Magnolia Automotive
Horizon Services Corporation

Regional Corporation of the Year

BCBS of LA
CenterPoint
TVA
Alabama Power
Entergy
Protective Life Insurance
Ochsner Health

National Corporation of the Year

Toyota
ExxonMobil
Nissan
Shell
Chevron
BP
WalMart

Buyer of the Year

Marla Duplantis, *Entergy*

Jerry Morgan, *Alabama Power*

John Diendorf, *BP*

2022 SRMSDC LEADERSHIP AWARDS NOMINEES

Corporate Advocate of the Year

Rivers Frederick, *Entergy*

Glenda Thomas, *Alabama Power*

Donovan Casonave, *Shell*

Allyson Lyle, *ExxonMobile*

Felicia Thomas, *MAWSS*

Jessica McMahan, *Brassfield and Gorrie*

Tad Aycock, *BC/BS LA*

Cameron Boil, *Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta*

Jean-Marc Villian, *Ochsner Health*

Kyle Simnick, *Ochsner Health*

Anselmo Rodriguez, *BC/BS LA*

Leviticous Cleveland, *Center Point Energy*

Dave Feldman, *Chevron*

Marcella McCullough, *Nissan*

Matt Greene, *Toyota*

Supporting Partner of the Year

WBEC South
Birmingham Business Resource Center
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Economic Development
Small Business Administration Louisiana District Office
10KSB - New Orleans
Alabama MBDA
Louisiana MBDA
NOLA Business Alliance

2022 SRMSDC ANNUAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS
AUGUST 25, 2022

Our success is due to a large number of contributions of time, energy and effort from our corporate organizations, certified MBEs and the other agencies in the minority business eco-system.

This is the time of year when we acknowledge their support and excellence in performance! Join us on August 25th as we celebrate all of the nominees and announce the winners!

Click **here** to register for this online event!

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA) is proud to announce the **2022 Aviation Industry Day**, in partnership with the Golden Triangle Regional Airport (GTR) and Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport (GPT) on **Wednesday, August 31 from 11:00 am until 6:30 pm at the Clyde Muse Center – Hinds Community College, 515 Country Place Parkway, Pearl, MS 39208**.

Participants will engage in information pertaining to major projects at the airports, attend related breakout sessions, and hear from keynote speaker, Commissioner Willie Simmons, MS Department of Transportation. A networking and closing reception will follow the sessions to end at 6:30 pm. While this event is free, all participants must register. Exhibitor opportunities are available.

Mississippi's airports are a critical part of the nation's multi-billion-dollar aviation industry, generating over $2.5 billion annually in economic impact. The State's airports provide vital transportation links enabling businesses to function more efficiently. Aviation Industry Day serves as a networking and collaborative event connecting the business community with Mississippi's airports.

FOR MORE INFORMATION | Mary Geter, DBE Contract Compliance Specialist, MGeter@jmaa.com, 601.360.8610

EARLY BIRD PRICING ENDS SOON.

NMSDC 50th Anniversary
Conference & Exchange

Register today for the all-new, hybrid NMSDC 50th Anniversary Conference & Exchange
OCT 30 - NOV 2, 2022 **NEW ORLEANS**

Early Bird pricing closes August 15

REGISTER NOW

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN, CLICK HERE!

Four days in New Orleans turning ideas into action.
50 years of building momentum for economic equity.
$1 trillion impact in our sights.

We have arrived at a moment of pure potential, when everything is on the table. And as we gather together in person for our first hybrid national conference in two years, we are seizing this moment to reimagine the NMSDC Conference & Exchange as you know it.

It's time for a new way of doing things — a collaborative, inclusive way, befitting our mission and ethos. So we're turning to you and your unique insights, goals, and POV to help guide content selection, drive discussion across expertise and organizational boundaries, and chart the course for our next 50 years. If ever there was a time to show up, speak up, and step up, this is it.

October 30 - November 2, 2022 in New Orleans, Louisiana

CLICK TO PLAY THE CONFERENCE VIDEO.

RESOURCES

NEW BID OPPORTUNITIES

Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) Food Service on the Main Campus RFP

Louisiana

Comparative Analytics Partner RFI
BCBSLA is seeking a vendor partner that has experience analyzing the machine readable file that were required to be posted by health plans as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act/Transparency in Coverage regulations. We would like to better understand how to use this data to derive insights into our market competitiveness and to optimize provider negotiations and contracting.

*Please respond to **tad.aycock@bcbsla.com** indicating interest in participating by August 15th, 2022.*

EMAT: ExxonMobil Mentor Advocate Teach

Webinar Series

Thank you to all who attended our first three webinars!

1. DE&I Early Payment Program [December 2021] - ExxonMobil Diversity and Inclusion Early Payment Program (c2fo.com)
2. Zero Trust / Cybersecurity and seeing through the hype* [April 2022]
3. What we Buy Where* [May 2022]

*If you missed these sessions, please complete the following https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KCLVBQD to request a link when the recording is available.
We are wrapping up 2022 with the following webinars (click the link to register, you will then receive zoom information)

Friday, August 19th 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM CST	**HOW TO DO BUSINESS WITH EXXONMOBIL** Understand the bidding process, supplier engagement process, qualification process as well as the minimum requirements for doing business with ExxonMobil. https://exxonmobil.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6kusBkcFQhamwyZXuwu5HA
Wednesday, October 19th 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	**MARKET INTELLIGENCE** Identify, understand, and use public available market intelligence resources to help drive buying and sales decisions! https://exxonmobil.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IElwH2pcRxaSs-OdZ-GvXg
Friday, November 9th 11:00 AM– 12:00 PM CST	**COLLABORATING WITH COMPETITORS** Hear from a successful Woman Owned Business and Minority Owned Business on how using Strategic Alliances, Joint Ventures, Partnerships, and Collaborations can strengthen and grow your business. https://exxonmobil.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u2fRT2OYTVS7Aaktklc6-Q

ExxonMobil Supplier Diversity - Supp.div@exxonmobil.com

Diversity in Partnerships - an opportunity for diverse suppliers to apply for IT and professional services work at bp

What's happening? Diversity in Partnerships is now live!

bp is on mission to build new partnerships with organizations who bring innovative thinking, work collaboratively, and can further build our digital capabilities. That is why, on June 15 we launched a new '**Diversity in partnership' portal**, which will give diverse-owned businesses the opportunity to express their interest in working with **bp** and for us – and will grow our diverse supplier base even more. This work is aligned with our **Aim 14**, which focuses on greater equity.

The portal is available here: **innovation.bp.com/community/supplierdiversity.**

This is an opportunity for diverse suppliers to apply for work in four digital disciplines:
- Data and analytics
- Design
- Engineering, architecture and security
- Project management and business analysis

The Diversity in Partnerships opportunity is now open and *closes on August 15, 2022*.

We are committed to positive partnering to make customer experiences more inclusive, and to increase our annual expenditure with diverse suppliers to $1 billion by 2025!

What's next?
Steps to Doing Business with **bp**
1. Register in our diverse supplier portal. The portal is our main source to identify diverse-owned businesses to compete for sourcing opportunities.
2. Understand our business. Visit our homepage, begin your research and explore how you can help deliver our aims and ambitions.
3. Apply for this opportunity. Diversity in Partnerships is an example of an opportunity for diverse suppliers to provide innovative solutions to our digital challenges at bp! This 60-day campaign is open now and **closes on August 15**. Apply now!
4. Keep connected. Our friends are your friends. We encourage you to engage with our accredited partners like the certifying councils and chambers of commerce as often as possible!

NEED MORE HELP?
Send an email to the most relevant address below:
Partnership inquiries - innovationbpproc@bp.com
Supplier diversity qualification - supplierdiversity@bp.com
bp.supplierone.co technical support
support@supplier.io
Other - innovationbpproc@bp.com

MEET OUR NEWEST MBES!

- ESSNOVA
- EXT-LOGISTICS
- PORTER TECH
- SDAC RAIL

- CARMICHAELS HONEY
- DAEDALUS LAW PLLC
- MANDATORY FUEL MANAGEMENT
- OMADI LOGISTICS
- P-SQUARE & ASSOCIATES
- STRUCTURE ACE

- 7TH GENERATION RECOVERY
- IN MEMORIUM/DBA PAGES AND POSTS
- MCCOMB DIESEL

SUGGESTED WEEKLY READING

ESG benefits missed by diverse-owned small businesses without certification

By GRC World Forums

A new survey has revealed that over two thirds (67%) of small businesses are run by underrepresented groups, almost half of which are missing out on major ESG-related benefits by not being officially certified as diverse-owned.

he study, conducted by Clutch which offers and reviews platform for IT, marketing, and business service providers, polled the views of 1,003 small business owners and managers in the US.

It found that just 43% of diverse-owned businesses have certification that communicates their identities, cutting those enterprises off from sharing their story and connecting with clients that search for diverse businesses to work with.

Businesses involved in the study are owned by people from groups including: women-owned, racial and/or ethnic minority-owned, veteran-owned, LGBTQ-owned, and disability-owned. The annual report is designed to explore the state of small businesses, impact of certification, and significance of workplace diversity and inclusion.

Besides the absence of diverse-owned certification for many of the qualifying businesses, the report also revealed many of the perks associated with being officially recognised.

Read the full article here.

WORTH MENTIONING

AUGUST IS NATIONAL BLACK BUSINESS MONTH

#NATIONALBLACKBUSINESSMONTH

TikTok Announces New Support Programs for Black Business Month

As part of Black Business Month, which is celebrated in August, TikTok has announced that it's now accepting applications for the third round of its 'Support Black Businesses' accelerator program, which aims to help Black-owned businesses thrive on the platform via exclusive access to support resources, education, and networking opportunities.

Throughout August, TikTok says that it will also celebrate and highlight Black-owned businesses on the platform, via the hashtag #BlackOwnedBusiness.

Read more here.

META (Facebook) - Celebrating National Black Business Month

In honor of National Black Business Month and as part of their ongoing commitment to invest in the Black business community, Facebook will be supporting and highlighting Black-owned businesses through a month-long series of training, programming and small business spotlights.

They invite you to join them throughout August as they host virtual events, dive into topics like finance, health and fashion, and share inspiring stories of Black-owned businesses from all over the country.

Read more here.

"IT'S SO IMPORTANT TO HAVE A GENUINE HUMAN REGARD FOR THE PEOPLE WHO WORK FOR YOU.

TO BE A PERSON OF INTEGRITY, FIGHT FOR PEOPLE WHEN THEY AREN'T IN THE ROOM, AND DO WHAT YOU SAY YOU'RE GOING TO DO."

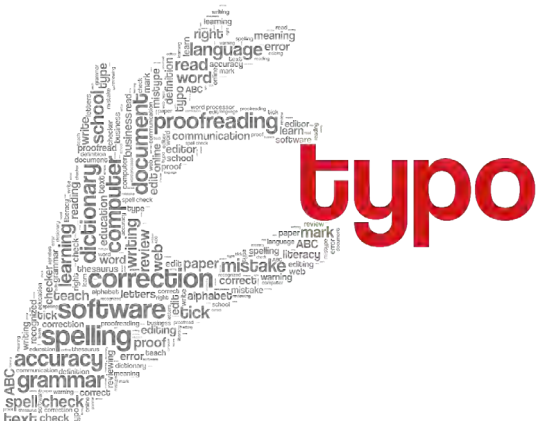
– ARA TUCKER

WORTH MENTIONING

TYPO ENGAGEMENT CONTEST

And last but not least, we are starting a new contest in our weekly Pulse called **The Weekly Typo Drawing!**

Occasionally, you may find a typo or technical error (sometimes it is on purpose and sometimes it's not). If you find one email us **here**, and in the subject line just write the word "**TYPO**." Once we receive your email your name will be automatically entered into our monthly GOLDEN TICKET drawing. We encourage you to read through our weekly communications, to support our weekly Pulse getting better, and if you find a mistake you **W!!!N BIG!**



Congratulations and many thanks to

Anselmo Rodriguez

for noting the correction to Leadership Award - Corporate Advocate of the Year nominee **Tad Aycock**'s name in last week's issue of The Pulse!

LEARN MORE ABOUT US BY VISITING SRMSDC.ORG