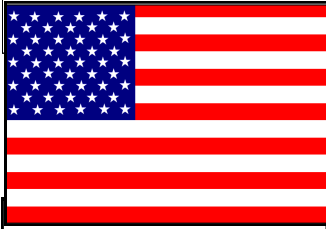


Important Dates

Mark Your Calendars

- February 7th - Business Owners Workshop
- February 15th - Members' Mixer
- February 16th - PowerBreakfast
- February 28th - AI Workshop
- Members' News & Events
- Welcome New Members



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania is to continuously improve business opportunities for African American businesses and professionals throughout the region. Guided by the core values of equity in opportunity, economic advancement, self-sufficiency and entrepreneurial excellence, we will seek to advance economic parity by ensuring full participation.

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Koppers Building Suite 2220 436 Seventh Avenue Pittsburgh, PA
 (412) 392-0610 FAX: (412) 392-0612
 Email: information@aaccwp.com Website: www.aaccwp.com
 Twitter: <https://twitter.com/aaccwp> Facebook: www.facebook.com/aaccwp

DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, CCE | CEO

February 2024

This monthly newsletter is prepared solely for Members, Supporters & Sponsors of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western PA

Your Chamber has welcomed six new members in 2024 - we're off to a great start.

CHAMBER INQUIRIES

Your Chamber's new President Barāta Bey is responsible for programming, membership, and general inquiries for the Chamber. Please direct your emails to: barata@aaccwp.com.

Thanks to Member PPG and their procurement team for a great How To Do Business virtual workshop explaining the process of building relationships with the decision makers at this Fortune 200 company. Remember; don't share the workshop information with non-members; this is your benefit;

Thank you to Member Katharine Kelleman for a great on-site PowerBreakfast meeting. We learned about future plans for PRT (Pittsburgh Regional Transit), & how their plans will affect public transportation in Allegheny County.

Thank you to David Pinkosky, Business Opportunity Specialist with Member SBA who introduced our members to resources offered by the SBA during our U.S. Small Business Administration

Workshop.

Thank you new Members for taking advantage of the the Members' Orientation to learn about your Chamber & the many benefits that come with belonging to this organized body. You also learned about the history of the Chamber & the many programs & services offered to help you access business opportunities.

How Business Owners Can Retain and Attract Key Employees

**February 7th
11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M
Virtual Workshop**

Join us and hear a presentation designed to help you attract or retain employees. Are you a business owner that wants to incentivize your key employees? Join Orlando Houston, Financial Consultant with Equitable Advisors, LLC to learn the various options to meet your needs as well as your employee's needs. This is a Members Only Event. RSVP to 412-392-0610 , or at: information@aaccwp.com

**Members' Mixer
February 15th
5:00p.m to 7:00p.m.
Koppers Building
436 Seventh Ave.**

29th Floor - Downtown
Come and join us for the Chamber's first Mixer Meeting of 2024 in the

Koppers Building. Enjoy the beauty of this 100-year-old landmark, built when Pittsburgh had become the nation's most powerful industrial metropolis. Bring a guest, your business cards & come prepared to network with your fellow Chamber members. RSVP by February 13th at 412-392-0610.

**PowerBreakfast Meeting
February 16th
7:30 A.M.**

**Rivers Club - Oxford Center
Downtown
Guest Speaker
Mayor Ed Gainey**

Join us and hear from the Honorable Mayor Ed Gainey who will update us on the economic health of the City of Pittsburgh, & share his plans for the new year. RSVP by February 14th at 412-392-0610.

Artificial Intelligence and the Impact it Can Have on Your Business

**February 28th
11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

Join us as we welcome Dr. Ashis Barad, Chief Digital Officer, Allegheny Health Network. Dr. Barad will discuss a wholistic view of the organization's digital presence, leading the organization through its digital transformation & growth on how Artificial Intelligence can have a positive impact on your business. Sponsored by Comcast. This event is for **Chamber Members Only**. RSVP by Feb. 26th at 412-392-0610.

Consider Sponsoring a Chamber Program in 2024

Members interested in sponsoring a Chamber Business Institute Program or series of programs. Learn more about this opportunity to showcase your business. For more information call us at 412-392-0610 or email your Chamber office at: information@aaccwp.com

'Good News'

Your Chamber wants to share your 'Good News'. Has there been a major development at your company, are your sales up, are you expanding? We'd like to share your good news. Email your 'Good News' to information@aaccwp.com or to barata@aaccwp.com

Members' News & Events

Heinz History Center Presents From Slavery to Freedom February 7th

The From Slavery to Freedom virtual film series kicks off 2024 with MacArthur and Guggenheim Fellow, Deborah Willis, discussing the film "Through the Lens Darkly" on at 5:30 pm. Willis is the author of 10 books & various subjects of Blackness in photography from the antebellum period to contemporary times. Her noted works include "Reflections in Black" and "Michelle Obama: The First Lady Photographs". Register to attend this virtual presentation. Go to heinzhistorycenter.org

Now Through April 26th Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

Liberty Magic presents Mr. Messado's School of Magic Every Sunday 2:00 PM

811 Liberty Ave, Downtown
Prepare for the most exciting and fun-filled kids' show in Pittsburgh - Mr. Messado's School of Magic for the Young and Young at Heart. Get your tickets now for this interactive 60-minute performance Go to:

trustarts.org

Now through April 15th Carnegie Science Center presents TITANIC: The Artifact Exhibition

Embark on a captivating voyage back in time to the era of Titanic, where the stories of passengers & crew come to life through a curated collection of more than 154 artifacts. For more information & exhibit hours visit: carnegiesciencecenter.org

The Pop District Open For Business

A new district for the people of Pittsburgh! Multi-block public art initiative, youth-focused, creative economy workforce program, flagship live event & performance venue. Treat yourself & the family to a transformation of Pittsburgh's eastern North Shore through the power of arts, creativity, & economic development — led by The Andy Warhol Museum. Learn all about it at: thepopdistrict.org & follow the Warhol: @warholmuseum

'Get In The Game' at the Heinz History Center Sports Museum Daily

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Heinz History Center
1212 Smallman St.
Strip District

The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum tells the stories of Pittsburghers who became champions and champions who became Pittsburghers. Take a look at what's happening at the History Center. Go to: heinzhistorycenter.org

August Wilson African American Cultural Center Presents Free and Open Exhibits

Gather the family & spend the afternoon enjoying The Writer's Landscape, the first-ever permanent exhibition dedicated to the life & works of Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright August Wilson. The exhibits are free & open to the public - registration is required. Learn about all the activities at the August Willson Center @ awaacc.org

FROM THE GOVERNORS OFFICE

Governor Shapiro has unveiled a new strategy to make Pennsylvania a leader in innovation and economic development – and the new economic development strategy will capitalize on the Commonwealth's strengths & reignite our economy by focusing on the Agriculture, Energy, Life Sciences, Manufacturing, Robotics and Technology sectors, where data-driven analysis reveals a significant potential for growth over the next ten years.

Precautionary tests of soil and water continue for the safety of residents and businesses in Beaver and Lawrence counties one year after the train derailment carrying dangerous chemicals near the PA/Ohio border.

DID YOU KNOW

Member PNC & PPG are adding another day to the required in-office workdays in Downtown & other locations; that brings the total number of required days to three on the companies' new hybrid schedules.

The African American Chamber Celebrates Black History Month

Pennsylvania's first chapter of Black Men In White Coats has been established; the program is dedicated to increasing the number of Black men in the medical field.

FYI

The Pittsburgh area finished 2023 with record low unemployment while the number of jobs rose. The seasonally adjusted jobless rate in the seven-county Pittsburgh Metro area was unchanged in November at a record low 3.5% for the third consecutive month. The Pittsburgh area's unemployment rate was 1 percentage point below the November 2022 level of 4.5% according to state data.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our Member Melia Tourangeau on the Outstanding

'Lift Every Voice' event, featuring Oleta Adams: well done!

County Wage Increase

The new wage structure of county employees will increase the minimum wage for full time employees to \$18/hour, & part-time employees will increase to \$15/hour.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

1Hood is seeking to fill two positions: Grant Writer, Contractor, Full-time and Donor Relations Coordinator, Part-time \$25/per hour and 25 hours per week. Learn more at 1hood.org

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is seeking State Police Cadets for Non-Civil Service Permanent Full-time positions. Learn more at: www.patrooper.com

In The News

The New Pittsburgh Courier

Teaching Art through Welding:

All-female high school student cohort at Passport Academy takes welding classes.

Welcome New Members

Regular Members

Floyd Edwards

Supreme Traffic Control Service Company LLC

Rachel Ochoa

University of Pittsburgh Center for Executive Education

Tyasia Pitts

Hand & Hand Coaching

Curtis Randle EI

Randle EI Wealth Management

Brett Walsh

Hullett Properties

JD Williams

Hill Community Development Corporation

Don't forget!

Renew Your

Chamber Membership at:
[information@aaccwp.com!](mailto:information@aaccwp.com)

Visit your Chamber at:
www.aaccwp.com

Follow us on Facebook & Twitter @aaccwp.com

