MONTHLY MBE OUTREACH

April 11, 2024 - 11:00AM CST Virtual

Stay tuned for our upcoming Half Past Six:
A networking happy hour event featuring
artists from across the region!

March 28, 2024
SOUTHEASTERN DIVERSITY & LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

APRIL 4-5, 2024

STRONG LEADERS CREATING STRONGER SOLUTIONS
Biloxi, MS

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

CHRIS WOMACK

STEDMAN GRAHAM

PANELISTS AND SPEAKERS

DR. LINDA WILEY BING
DR. ALEXANDRA WHITE
TINA SHAH PAIKEDAY
AUGUSTUS L. COLLINS
DR. SAMUEL JONES

DR. THERESA R. HORNE
DOTTIE LI
DR. SERELDA L. HERBIN
MARIA MARUKIAN
ALVIN-O WILLIAMS
JAMES D. ROLLINS

JEANNETTE MILLS
KASSI RUSHING
DR. CANDACE WARNER
FELICIA LAMAR
DOROTHY WILSON
MITCH WAYCASTER

CAMILLE S. YOUNG
KIM WASHINGTON
WILLIE JONES
CANDIE L SIMMONS
TAMARA J. WYRE
LOUISE DUNCAN

SOUTHEASTERN DIVERSITY CONFERENCE.COM

click here to learn more and to register
CURRENT BID OPPORTUNITIES

NEW ORLEANS SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD - HEALTHCARE PLAN CONSULTANT
DEADLINE: MARCH 22, 2024

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION - HVAC WATER TREATMENT SERVICES
DEADLINE: MARCH 25, 2024

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER AND RECEIVE THE PULSE BIDS IN YOUR INBOX ON THE 1ST AND 15TH OF EVERY MONTH!

We welcome all of your important news and events! To have your info included in The Pulse, email mhairston@SRMSDC.org.

Lead time for our Corporate/MBE members to have their event/RFP listed in The Pulse is 2 weeks prior to the publishing date.

(psst ... we print on Fridays)
Dear Contractors,

The Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center Authority invites qualified construction contractors to participate in the prequalification process for bidding on the BJCC Amphitheater General Construction Package project. Our organization is committed to selecting competent and experienced contractors to ensure the successful completion of this project. The prequalification process will help us evaluate your company’s capabilities and determine your eligibility to submit a bid. Please provide the information in the order listed.

Project Overview:
The General Construction Package aims to provide the general construction of the Performance Platform, Production/Back of House, VIP building and entry, Kitchen/Concessions, Main Entry, Vending, Bowl, Bowl Restrooms/Concessions and Artist building. The work will include concrete foundations/walls, concrete slabs on grade, masonry, structural steel, metal wall panels, handrails, roofing, aluminum storefronts, bleachers/seating, finishes, kitchen equipment, fire protection, plumbing, HVAC, electrical, audio visual, telecommunications, curb and gutter, asphalt paving, concrete paving, hardscapes, landscaping, ornamental fencing, installation of domestic/fire water, power service to the site. Completion of the work will be under an aggressive schedule.

This construction endeavor demands high-level expertise in the described scope of work, adherence to safety standards, and efficient project management. We seek contractors with a proven track record of delivering quality workmanship, adhering to schedules, and maintaining strict budgetary controls.

Important Dates:
- Pre-qualification Submission Deadline: March 26, 2024, 2:00 pm
- Notification of Qualified Contractors: March 28, 2024, 2:00 pm
- Mandatory Pre-bid meeting: April 4, 2024, 10:00 am
- Bid opening: April 26, 2024, 10:00 am
- Anticipated award date: May 3, 2024

(Click for Contractor’s Pre-Qualification Statement)
As we progress, we aim to empower our stakeholders with valuable information to enhance market share and growth. In the upcoming months, we will introduce a new “Did You Know?” section and a Blog. The “Did You Know?” segment will deliver research findings, market insights, and regulatory updates to keep our stakeholders well-informed for effective growth strategies. This information will be sourced from policymakers and regulatory bodies, ensuring everyone stays updated on the evolving market landscape. The Blog will feature discussions on climate change, sustainability, DEI, and economic development policies that could impact your organizations.

Whether you are an MBE, Resource Partner, or Corporate Member, these new additions will offer valuable insights and support.

Check out "The Role of Circularity in Fortune 5000" (Part 1/3)
by our President/CEO Alvino Williams!

MatchMaker365 is a tool leveraging technology for a streamlined process for you and your buyers. MatchMaker365 connects buyers, with actual sourcing opportunities, to suppliers that provide the goods or services needed.

As a Minority Business Enterprise registered with the Southern Region Minority Supplier Development Council, we have already imported your Company's Profile into Matchmaker 365. This allows you to start using the site and positioning yourself to be found by corporate buyers. Connect today!

Click below for Matchmaker 365 resources:

Video  Webpage  Training
PBS News Hour: Why diversity initiatives at colleges and companies are facing political backlash

by John Yang, Karina Cuevas

Utah’s Spencer Cox is the latest governor to sign a new law banning any state funding for programs dedicated to promoting diversity, including at state colleges and universities. Utah joins five other states, Florida, Texas, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Tennessee. They all have laws on the books restricting or banning DEI.

Lawmakers in 25 states have introduced more than 70 bills targeting DEI efforts at public institutions. The issue has flared up in the wake of the October 7 attacks in Israel and the war against Hamas. It sparked debates over tolerance, inclusion and academic freedom.

What is lost when these offices are closed?

An institution loses its fidelity to its mission. There are nearly 5,000 colleges and universities across the United States. Most of them include some language in their missions about preparing students for citizenship in a diverse democracy and other commitments to offering and assuring an inclusive learning environment for all students.

That is lost as institutions walk back their commitments to DEI. What’s also lost is our ultimate contribution to the defense of our democracy. It is dangerous to send millions of college-educated people into the world and into our professions underprepared to deal with the inequities that have long disadvantaged our democracy.

(Read the entire transcript)
To be nobody but yourself in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else - means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight; and never stop fighting.

- e.e. cummings
Small Business Sustainability Plan and Ideas

By Eric Czerwonka (for BuddyPunch.com)

What's the importance of having a small business sustainability plan?
Small businesses need to focus on sustainability because they can do things that help the environment and ensure their long-term survival, no matter how small they are. When small businesses use sustainable practices, they help reduce pollution, conserve natural resources, and produce less waste.

Top 5 Steps to Attain Sustainability for a Small Business

Step 1: Educating Yourself and Your Team About Sustainability
Step 2: Identify Areas Where Sustainability Improvements Are Needed
Step 3: Potential Opportunities To Enhance Sustainability In Business
Step 4: Clear Vision and Set Specific Sustainability Goals
Step 5: Implement The Changes Outlined In Your Sustainability Vision

Sustainability Ideas For Businesses | Top 5

1. Go Paperless
2. Choose Recycled Products
3. Control Electronics
4. Manage Utilities
5. Involve Your Team

(read the complete article)
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**TYPO ENGAGEMENT CONTEST**

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!**
VISIT US ONLINE AT: WWW.SRMSDC.ORG, OR CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @SRMSDC