



Tuesday, June 18, 2024 – The Oncenter – Syracuse, New York

**7:00 AM - 8:00 AM: EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION**

**8:00 AM - 9:00 AM: ATTENDEE REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST NETWORKING**

**9:15 AM - 9:50 AM: WELCOME**

- **Jason Myles Clark**, Executive Vice President, NYS Division of Minority and Women's Business Development
- **Julissa Gutierrez**, Chief Diversity Officer, New York State Executive Chamber

### REMARKS FROM REGIONAL CHAMPIONS I

- **Sharon F. Owens**, Deputy Mayor, City of Syracuse
- **Daniel Kolinski**, Regional Director – Central New York Region, Empire State Development

**10:00 AM – 1:00 PM: REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTATIONS & REMARKS**

**10:00 AM – 10:40 AM: Contracts Across the Regions: Exploring Projects and Contracting Opportunities to Grow and Expand Your Business**

#### Moderator

- **Andrew Obernesser**, Director of Community Investment, Center State Corporation for Economic Opportunity

#### Panelists

- **Project: Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program in Finger Lakes**
  - **Allyson McAuliffe**, MWBE/SDVOB Compliance Lead, NYS Department of Health
- **Project: Battery-NY the Foundation and Binghamton University in the Southern Tier**
  - **Ebony Hattoh**, New Energy New York, Associate Director of Equity and Justice, Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Partnerships, Binghamton University
- **Project: DOT & Kensington Expressway Projects in Western NY**
  - **Sondra Little**, Director, Office of Diversity and Opportunity, NYS Department of Transportation
- **Project: Micron in Central New York**
  - **El-Java Abdul-Qadir, Ph.D.**, Senior Program Manager – Supplier Diversity, Micron Technology, Inc.

### REMARKS FROM REGIONAL CHAMPIONS II

- **Allison Madmoune**, Regional Director - Mohawk Valley Region, Empire State Development
- **Michael Yevoli**, Regional Director - Capital District Region, Empire State Development

**10:50 AM – 11:10 AM: Fireside Chat: Accessing the Capital You Need for your Business**

- **Rafael Salaberrios**, Senior Vice President, Division of Small Business and Technology Development – Capital Access, Empire State Development
- **Christina Suave**, CEO, Cooperative Federal



## 11:20 AM – 12:00 PM: Commodities Corner: Exploring MWBE Opportunities

### Moderator

- **Me'Shae Brooks-Rolling**, Executive Director, Upstate Minority Economic Alliance (UMEA)

### Panelists

- **Kate Vaccariello**, Assistant Director, Supplier Diversity Office of System-wide Procurement, State University of New York (SUNY) or Carl Thomas, SUNY Upstate Medical Center
- **Gina Jackson**, Supplier Diversity Compliance Analyst and Program Administrator, New York Power Authority
- **Robert J. Williams**, Compliance Specialist 2, NYS Gaming Commission
- **Ashley Arnold**, Minority Business Specialist II Procurement Card Administrator Bureau of Fiscal Management- Diversity Compliance, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

## 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM: NETWORKING LUNCH & WORKSHOP

### 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM: Breaking Barriers: MWBE Strategies for Competitive Bid Pricing & RFP Responses

#### Presenter:

- **Robert Griffin**, NYS Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Regional Director, Onondaga SBDC
- **Gina Hayduk**, Government Contract Coordinator, Mohawk Valley Community College, SBDC

## 1:40 PM – 4:00 PM: REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTATIONS

### 1:45 PM - 2:25 PM: Unlocking Opportunities: MWBE Success Stories on Maximizing Your Certification

#### Moderator

- **Anthony Gaddy**, Chief Executive Officer, Upstate New York Black Chamber of Commerce

#### Panelists

- **Carley Hill**, Founder & CEO, CAHill TECH
- **Eli Smith**, CEO, SGTR LLC.
- **Barry John**, President & CEO, Bridge Builder Property Management Corp
- **Bernadette Ortensi**, President, Maple Ridge Organics LLC

### 2:35 PM – 3:15 PM: Diversifying Opportunities: Consulting and Professional Service Contracts for MWBE Growth

#### Moderator

- **Deshanna Wiggins**, Chief Executive Officer, Albany Black Chamber of Commerce and Social Club (ABCC)

#### Panelists

- **Nicholas Long**, Minority, Women, and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise Analyst, Erie County Medical Center
- **Catherine Traina**, Assistant Director, Fiscal Management, New York State Department of State
- **Yoni Bokser**, Vice President/Executive Director, Governor's Office of Motion Picture and Television Development, Empire State Development
- **Nell Brady**, Director, Contract Administration, Rate Setting, and STAC/Medicaid Units, NYS Education Department

## 3:10 PM – 4:00 PM: NETWORKING & CLOSING