



**THE BRONX IS BUILDING**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2023**



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Supporters,

I am delighted to present the Annual Report for 2023 on behalf of the New Bronx Chamber of Commerce. This report encapsulates our collective achievements, milestones, and the invaluable impact that our organization has had on the greater Bronx community and local businesses over the past year.

In a year characterized by both challenges and opportunities, the New Bronx Chamber of Commerce has remained a steadfast champion for the growth and prosperity of our region. Our mission to advance economic development, foster community collaboration, and advocate for our members' interests continues to be the cornerstone of our endeavors. Our efforts throughout the year have yielded unprecedented financial success, with our events contributing approximately over a quarter of a million dollars directly to support our diverse initiatives across the borough. Furthermore, we have effectively partnered with local stakeholders, community members, and our elected officials to leverage our influence and jointly develop the Bronx with a shared vision, uniting us as one powerful force rather than separate entities.

Our membership remains robust and cohesive, underscoring our commitment to engaging our existing members and attracting new businesses to our network. As highlighted in this report, we have achieved this through a multitude of avenues, including networking events, MWBE certifications, one-on-one consultations, and various other initiatives designed to empower and nurture our members.

One of our most significant achievements has been our advocacy and legislative efforts. The New Bronx Chamber of Commerce has become a respected authority on small businesses, a go-to resource for guidance and vision. We have cultivated strong relationships with our local elected officials and devised strategic plans to advocate for policies that uplift and empower not only our businesses but also our residents,



borough investors, and partners. Our presence in City Hall, Albany, Washington, D.C., and SOMOS stands as a testament to our unwavering commitment to advocating for policies critical to us and our collaborators. Rest assured; this advocacy will remain a top priority as we move forward.

I am especially excited to introduce the Bronx Prosperity Plan, a groundbreaking initiative launched in 2023. In the spirit of unity for the Bronx, the Chamber has convened some of the most innovative minds in Bronx business and community organizations from across the borough. Together, we are developing a comprehensive and robust economic and workforce strategy to drive development throughout our beloved borough.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have contributed to the remarkable success of the New Bronx Chamber of Commerce. This includes our Chairman, Anthony Mormile, our dedicated executive officers, Board members, sponsors, and, most significantly, my diligent staff. Together, we continue to raise the bar for this organization, and our collective achievements this year reflect our unwavering commitment. I encourage you to subscribe to our "Friday Extra," follow us on all our communication channels, and delve into this report to stay informed about our ongoing work. I am grateful for the privilege of leading this organization and eagerly anticipate the promising year ahead.

LISA SORIN  
President, The Bronx Chamber

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Members of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce,

As we come to the close of another year, I am taking this opportunity to reflect on the past year and to thank you all for your hard work and support.

Despite the challenges that we faced, the Bronx Chamber of Commerce had a successful year. We continued to be a leading voice for businesses in the Bronx, advocating for policies that support economic growth and job creation. We also provided our members with valuable resources and networking opportunities to help them grow their businesses.

None of this would have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our staff. I want to thank our President, Lisa Sorin, and the entire team at the Bronx Chamber of Commerce for their commitment to serving our members and making the Bronx a better place to do business.

I also want to thank our members for their support. We are a strong organization because of our members. Your commitment to the Bronx and your belief in the work that we do is essential to our success.

As we look ahead to the new year, I am excited about the future of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce. We are committed to continuing to be a leading voice for businesses in the Bronx and to helping our members grow and succeed.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,  
ANTHONY MORMILE  
Chairman of the Board



MEMBERSHIP

MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM

Dear Members,

As membership associate, I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for your ongoing commitment to our organization. It has been my pleasure meeting you all, learning about your businesses, the services you provide, and being able to assist you with your needs. It is a great honor to connect with all of you. Your membership plays an essential role in shaping the vibrant community we've built, and your continued support is invaluable. Your presence is what makes our events lively. I hope you keep connecting with other members and building business relationships. I look forward to working with you all in the year to come.

Sincerely,  
CHANEL PEREZ  
M/WBE & Membership Associate

Dear Members,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and engagement in our organization. It is truly inspiring to see the active participation and enthusiasm of our members. Although I just recently began my role here at the Chamber, I am incredibly proud to be a part of this community. Your willingness to share your insights and expertise is invaluable, and it contributes significantly to the growth and development of our organization. Thank you for believing in our mission and for playing a vital role in shaping our success. I look forward to continuing to work with you and collaborating on initiatives that make a positive impact on our community.

Sincerely,  
ALEXIS MARTINEZ  
Membership Associate

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

RICHARD ROSARIO PHOTOGRAPHY



For over Ten (10) years now, Richard Rosario Photography has been serving The Bronx Community. Richard likes to say, "You deserve to be seen." ... and Richard Rosario Photography does just that for you. If you've never had the experience of capturing your moments into priceless memories, Richard knows how to create the ambiance to bring the core of who you are into a photo that you will love and will last a lifetime. Whether it's your first time or not, Richard Rosario Photography is the family man who knows the Bronx and its residents like his own family. He has dedicated his life to expanding his business and maintaining his roots in the Bronx to offer that full photoshoot experience locally. He has worked with many Bronx businesses in his professional career supporting growth and partnership for his community while maintaining that close-knit family bond as the inspiration behind his work. Richard is a fellow lifelong Bronxite who has Lived, played, and worked all his life right here with his local everyday Bronxites, transforming them into the versions of themselves they've never seen before. Richard is your homegrown local photographer making magic in the Bronx, reminding everyone that they should "Exist in Photographs" for your children, for your family, but more importantly for yourself.... offering the red-carpet experience for his fellow residents of the Bronx and beyond.

OUR COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP/BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The primary goal of the Membership & Business Development Committee (MBD) is the formation of programs that create opportunities for growth and provide support for our members. MBD Committee members consult with the President and the Board in the areas of networking, member exposure to consumers, M/WBE Certifications, job fairs, workshops and seminars, directory resources, advocacy, and the coordination of business principles within the efforts of other Chamber committees.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is responsible for establishing the annual budget for the Board to ensure administrative continuity of the Programs and Services sponsored by the association.

EVENTS COMMITTEE

The events committee is responsible for planning the formal Annual Gala, Golf Outing, Holiday Party, Women of Distinction Scholarship Luncheon, and other events that honor distinguished individuals and companies.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The Legislative Committee works directly with the Bronx Chamber of Commerce to advocate for improved economic conditions within the borough. This group also works to enhance the interaction between Bronx Chamber Members and public officials. Advocacy has emerged as one of the most significant areas that the Chamber can provide direct services to the full spectrum of businesses in the Bronx. Through advocacy, the committee will shape the way the Chamber represents and provides value to members. The committee develops aggressive programming that combines research, as well as government and community relations.

NOMINATION/GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

The Nominating and Governance Committee is responsible for nominations to the Board of Directors and Executive Committee and for the review and recommendations of Board Committees. Additionally, this Committee is charged with a yearly review of governance documents and bylaws in consultation with the organization's General Counsel.

The Bronx Chamber has been an excellent resource for our company throughout the 18 years we've been members. Through networking and committee work, we've met many colleagues who have become clients and friends. The Chamber has helped us navigate the complicated process of applying for and renewing our MWBE certification. When COVID hit, and our company was at its lowest point, the Bronx Chamber helped us survive with daily workshops and zoom meetings filled with invaluable information on loans and grants. Their guidance and support during good times and bad are immeasurable, and we are forever grateful that we became members of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce.

— GERI SCIORTINO, THE BRONX DESIGN GROUP

NEW MEMBERS

- ADP
- Alpine Tax Service Inc.
- Ambient Mechanical Corp.
- Astound Business Solutions
- Atria Riverdale
- Baychester Payment Center
- Blessed Royalty 777
- Body Goddess
- BOSS SHOWERS
- Capital One Business Cards & Payments
- Casita Maria, Inc.
- Connections Real Estate Services, Inc
- Digital Revenue Systems
- DoorDash
- Dufour Pastry Kitchens Inc
- Elite Eagle Staffing
- ENT and Allergy Associates
- Fast Track Tax LLC
- Female Fight Club NYC, Inc.
- Gestalt Experience
- Girl Vow
- GLP & Sons, Inc.
- Goodwill Industries of Greater New York & New Jersey
- Guided Epiphany Inc
- HAC Family Services Inc.

- Hands-On Physical Therapy
- Hardwired Technologies
- Heart to Heart Charitable Auctions
- Innovo Property Group
- Kasirer
- KHP Bay Plaza LLC
- Klosed Properties
- LEAD Security Group Inc.
- Loc'd and Lit
- M4 Consulting Services, LLC
- Mainland Media LLC
- Make Me Over NYC
- Mamajuana Cafe Prime
- Mega Contracting Group
- Mensah Klu, Certified Public Accountants, P.C.
- Mitchell & Doonan, Inc.
- Muslim Media Corporation
- My Brothers Bread Today Inc
- MyDoc Urgent Care - Norwood and Jerome Park
- NY Physical Therapy & Wellness
- Owens Bros Tree Service
- P3T LIF3 Shelter Inc
- Peña & Kahn, PLLC
- Plata Books LLC
- Precision Sprinkler Services

- Pristine Automotive Wash & Detailing, Inc.
- Richard Rosario Photography
- Robert Medrano NYC Realtor: Howard Hannah | Rand
- Sankofa Haus LLC
- Seemly Environmental Services
- Sentry Management Solutions
- Skywire Networks
- Stagg Group
- Start Elevator, LLC
- Sunrise Charisma
- T Carrillo Funeral Service, LLC
- Teach Don't Tell, LLC
- The Bronx Museum
- The Bronx Parent Housing Network, Inc dba Housing
- The DREAM School
- The Parkside Group, LLC
- The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of
- Tryax Realty Management Inc.
- United Public Adjusters & Appraisers, Inc.
- Victor Castillo Architect PC
- Westech Security & Investigation Inc.
- XLa Sima Inc.

The Bronx Chamber of Commerce played a vital role in our highly successful Grand Opening Ceremony. Their team effectively leveraged their resources to elevate the UniFirst brand in the market and boost our networking capabilities.

— ROBERT CLARK, UNIFIRST



## OUR PROGRAMS



### CHAMBER ON THE GO

Chamber On-the-Go connects small business owners in neighborhoods across the Bronx with free services, including business courses, legal assistance, financing assistance, incentives awareness, navigating government, recruitment assistance, training, selling to government, Minority and Women-Owned Business Certification, Locally Based Enterprise Certification, and Emerging Business Enterprise Certification. The Bronx Chamber of Commerce conducts a free Rapid On-Site Assessment, identifying your business strength and needs. A Chamber on the Go specialist then connects you to the resources that will help your business succeed. Chamber on the Go focuses on supporting and enhancing the various activities of the Chamber. The goal of this outreach is to provide on-site assistance to business owners throughout The Bronx. The Bronx Chamber of Commerce has reached and served over 650 businesses over the course of the last year.



### M/WBE (MINORITY AND WOMEN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CERTIFICATION)

The City of New York Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) Program expands opportunities for minority and women entrepreneurs to access government contracts and grow their businesses. When eligible businesses are certified with the City, they become more visible to prospective buyers, including City agencies and private contractors seeking to purchase goods and services. The Bronx Chamber of Commerce has assisted over 100 businesses in the last 3 years, with both Certifying and Re-certifying their business.

Flexis Media recognizes the Bronx Chamber of Commerce as an invaluable asset for small businesses, offering abundant networking opportunities where entrepreneurs can connect with fellow business owners and local politicians. As a stalwart advocate for small business policy, the Chamber stands as a crucial resource, championing the interests and growth of businesses within the Bronx community.

— MIKE GABERT, FLEXIS MEDIA

## AVENUE NYC ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Avenue NYC Organizational Development Grants are specifically intended to fund nonprofit organizations to provide services and technical assistance to enhance the project and fiscal management, program execution, legal compliance, leadership, and strategic capabilities of community-based development organizations (CBDOs) implementing commercial revitalization activities benefitting low- to moderate-income communities across the five boroughs.

Throughout fiscal year 23, Avenue NYC continued to have deep business engagement and development of area marketing tools while also sharing the year 1 data that was gathered during the program's inception. Continued working with local businesses to generate foot traffic during slow months when most of the area residents are out of town by hosting community engagements such as Salsa Saturdays on Alexander Avenue to draw people to the area and community clean-up days at Graham Triangle near 138th Street.

Creating social media platforms to make locals and visitors aware of events, programming, and neighborhood live was also put into place during this timeframe. Partnering with local businesses such as The Lit Bar for their Mary J Blige book signing, or with Small Business Services for our Shop Mott Haven campaign really helped to highlight the Mott Haven area.

To end the fiscal year, Avenue NYC continued to do walkthroughs with agencies such as MOCS and SBS on walkthroughs of the area to let businesses here know about resources available to them.

The Avenue NYC Program seeks to create a business improvement district on Bruckner Blvd and a Merchant Association on the historic 138th Street to create sustainable governance structures. The Avenue NYC work has assisted 394 businesses and will continue to do so until the close of the contract in 2024.

## 138TH STREET MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

In the heart of the South Bronx, where 138th Street stretches between Alexander Avenue and St. Ann's, a community once marred by tragedy and violence is now witnessing a remarkable transformation, all thanks to the power of unity and compassion.

For years, this corridor had been plagued by the devastating consequences of drug use, leading to a series of heart-wrenching incidents. Perhaps the most poignant of them all was a fateful day when two women were shot in broad daylight, casting a shadow of fear and despair over the neighborhood.

But amidst the darkness, a beacon of hope emerged. The Bronx Chamber of Commerce, recognizing the urgent need for change, took it upon themselves to rally the local merchants. They appointed leaders with qualities of visionaries, empathy, and an unwavering commitment to advocate for a safer and more beautiful community.

Under the guidance of the BXCC (Bronx Chamber of Commerce), they embarked on a mission to bring together the area's 120 storefronts, addressing their concerns and inviting them to create a merchant's association. Their vision was to empower these businesses with the benefits of government support and collective action.

The journey was not without its challenges. At the outset, only three merchants showed up for the first meetings. Miguel and Tony, the passionate leaders of this movement, refused to be deterred. They hit the pavement daily, engaging with the merchants, listening to their concerns, and tirelessly spreading the message of community strength.

Their hard work paid off, and within weeks, they had rallied over 20 merchants to join their cause. Meetings were held in both English and Spanish, reflecting the diverse voices and cultures of the neighborhood.

And so, the 138th Street Merchants Collective Inc. was born—an association with a powerful vision. Their goals encompassed sanitation and maintenance, public safety and security, beautification and storefront improvements, and neighborhood marketing and branding.

One of their most impactful initiatives was hosting public safety meetings among the participating merchants. These gatherings provided a platform for members to express

their concerns directly to local law enforcement. The dialogues that ensued laid the foundation for a neighborhood marketing campaign aimed at encouraging residents and business owners to report petty crimes that had long gone unreported.

Colorful poster signs, with slogans such as "Public intoxication is a crime" and "Call 911 to report a crime," were created and proudly displayed by member merchants. These signs, available in both English and Spanish, sent a powerful message that the community was

taking a stand against crime and disorder.

Today, the 138th Street Merchants Association continues to evolve and grow. With plans for execution in 2024, this compassionate community-led effort is a testament to the resilience and determination of the people who call this vibrant neighborhood their home. They have proven that through unity and unwavering compassion, a brighter, safer, and more beautiful community is not just a dream—it's an achievable reality.



138TH MERCHANT MEETING



138TH CLEAN UP



# SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE NETWORK

## SERVING THE SMALL BUSINESSES THAT MAKE NEW YORK, NEW YORK

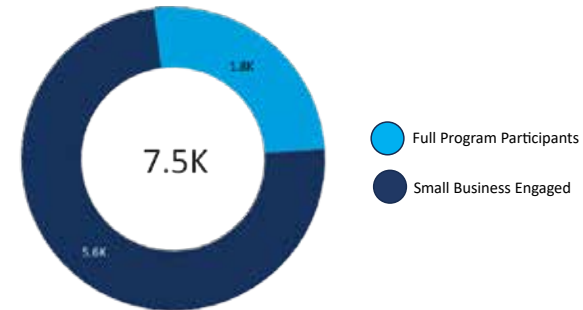
The NYC Small Business Resource Network is a comprehensive approach to strengthening New York City's economy and accelerating the recovery of small businesses — starting with personalized guidance and recovery resources.

Launched in response to the crisis facing many of the city's 230,000+ small businesses in the wake of COVID-19, they've assembled an extraordinary collaboration of New Yorkers who are committed to small business recovery in our communities.

We are leveraging our relationships with the city's corporate, financial and professional services sectors, as well as universities, philanthropies and expert volunteers to help small business owners gain access to a range of programs and services.

[smallbiz.nyc](https://smallbiz.nyc)

SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE NETWORK 2023  
BRONX TOTAL FULL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENTS



## SUCCESS STORIES

The PepsiCo Foundation created their Impacto Hispanic Business Accelerator to provide Hispanic food entrepreneurs with meaningful learning and networking opportunities. In 2023, we had two winners! Our first winner was Florentino Casilllo Fuentes, an immigrant from Mexico, who was awarded on-on-one and group coaching, event access, digital business resources, and \$10,000 grant. Businesses like his are of high value to the Hispanic community and his journey resonates with so many others. Together, we crafted his family story about the love of food, togetherness, and persistence.



Our second PepsiCo grant recipient was Tamara Espinal, who was awarded on-on-one and group coaching, event access, digital business resources, and \$10,000 grant. Her business, Fokkus Romo & Cucine was hosting the Bronx Chamber for our financial literacy young professionals' event. Tamara's eagerness to participate in the community made it clear

that we would be an ideal candidate for this grant. Fokkus Lounge has been open since pre-pandemic and is glad to be thriving today!

The DoorDash Accelerator for Local Restaurants is a program whose goal is to improve access to technical assistance and restaurant education that will help small businesses adapt, grow, and thrive. In partnership with DoorDash we identified Caridad Restaurant of Williamsbridge as the idea candidate. Henry Martes, the business owner, was able to receive an 8-week curriculum, customized business advising, \$10,000 grant, free merchandising, and marketing benefits, up to 6 months of returnable, reusable take-out food containers from Deliver Zero, and more.



- Since last year, we have interacted with over 7,000 Bronx businesses. Almost 2,000 of which have allowed us to offer them free resources including grants, low-interest loan options, and free websites and logos as part of our Open & Online program.

- The NYC Small Business Resource Network has engaged with over 24,000 New York City businesses. This proves that the outreach efforts of our specialists are continuous, and the motion to find business owners in need is only to be continued.

- Our network continues to grow with private and public partnerships and resources to provide adequate resources for each business.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS



BACK TO SCHOOL COMMUNITY EVENT WITH  
COUNCILMEMBER ALTHEA STEVENS



SECURE THE BAG - BUSINESS RESOURCE FAIR



EMERGING PROFESSIONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY  
WITH COUNCILWOMAN PIERINA SANCHEZ



GOTHAM TRIANGLE  
CLEAN UP



JEROME AVENUE CLEAN UP

## INAUGURATION OF NYPD POLICE COMMISSIONER EDWARD CABAN

The Bronx Chamber of Commerce was proud to be present as Mayor Eric Adams appointed Edward Caban as the new NYPD Police Commissioner. The ceremony took place in front of the 40th Precinct, where then Police Officer Caban served as his first assignment. Caban was born and raised in the Bronx and is the first Latino to serve as Police Commissioner in the NYPD's 178 year history.





# LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

This past year, the Bronx Chamber of Commerce has been actively involved in several key legislative initiatives. They advocated for increased funding for small businesses, supported infrastructure improvements, and pushed for policies that promote job creation and economic growth in the Bronx. Additionally, the Chamber has furthered dialogue between Bronx businesses and elected officials, strengthening relationships and ensuring the concerns of the business community are heard. These efforts have helped create more opportunities for businesses to thrive and contribute to the borough's economic prosperity.



MAYOR ERIC ADAMS SIGNS BILL



BRONX CHAMBER MEMBERS ATTEND LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST  
WITH STATE AND CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS



5 BOROUGH CHAMBER ALLIANCE BREAKFAST  
WITH SPEAKER ADAMS



BRONX CHAMBER IN WASHINGTON, DC



HISPANIC HERITAGE EVENT WITH  
NYC COMPTROLLER BRAD LANDER

# NETWORKING



B2B NETWORKING WITH  
COUNCILMEMBER ALTHEA STEVENS



B2B NETWORKING WITH  
COUNCILMEMBER MARJORIE VELAZQUEZ



EMERGING PROFESSIONALS EVENT WITH  
COUNCILMEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ



SPRING NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST



FALL NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST



GAMECHANGERS NIGHT AT YANKEE STADIUM



EXPLORING MAKERS & BREWERIES NETWORKING EVENT



SUMMER BBQ RECEPTION



# WOMEN OF DISTINCTION LUNCHEON

# JOSEPH P. KELLEHER MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS  
WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO  
AWARD 17 SCHOLARSHIPS

CON EDISON  
PONCE BANK  
SIMONE DEVELOPMENT  
MBD HOUSING CORP  
MONROE FOUNDATION  
EMPIRE CITY CASINO  
SANDRA ERICKSON REALTY  
C. JAMES PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.  
MANHATTAN PARKING GROUP  
RITECHECK  
WOODLAWN  
ORANGE BANK & TRUST  
NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
KZA REALTY GROUP INC.

**HONOREE:**  
Vivian Vazquez Irizarry  
Director of "Decade of Fire"

## THE FIRST ANNUAL JOSEPH P. KELLEHER MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

In honor of our longtime Chairman, colleague and friend, Joseph P. Kelleher, we renamed our annual golf outing. The tournament was a great success, with a record number of 183 golfers, raising over \$123,000. This year's distinguished honoree was Adolfo Carrion, Jr., Commissioner, NYC Dept. of Housing Preservation & Development.

Thank you to all the golfers and the following sponsors for coming out and enjoying a day of golf in support of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce.

Azimuth Development Group  
Simone Development  
Metro Optics Eyewear  
Lettire Construction Corp.  
Monroe College  
A&A Maintenance  
Galaxy Contractor Corp.  
Casino Development Group Inc.  
Greg Gonzalez  
DelBello Donnellan Weingarten  
Wise & Wiederkehr, LLP  
Stagg Group  
Exclusive Realty  
Manhattan Parking Group  
D-J Ambulette Services, Inc. DBA City Care  
PG Genatt

Phipps Houses  
Cappelli Development Company  
Thermal Systems Associates  
Goldfarb Properties  
Royal Waste Services  
PCI Industries  
JP Morgan Chase Bank  
Newman Design Architecture  
Kevin Plunkett  
Bill Mooney  
The Doe Fund Inc  
Capital One Business Cards & Payments  
RiteCheck Cashing  
KZA Realty Group Inc  
MGM Empire Casino





## THE BRONX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 2023 ANNUAL GALA

Through the support of our members, sponsors and the Bronx business community, The Bronx Chamber of Commerce's 2023 Annual Gala was a huge success, celebrating our resilient business members who have worked in close partnership to foster economic growth, expand our mutual networks, and create a stronger Bronx business community. This year, our awards and sponsorships highlighted individuals and organizations that have made an outstanding impact on our community and highlighted that the Bronx is building! With their support and guidance, our members are flourishing. We were proud to have over 600 guests attend.

We proudly honored Sentry Management Solutions as the Business of the Year; Galaxy Development Corp received the Developer of the Year award; MBD Community Housing was named Community Organization of the Year; and Madeline V. Marquez of Ponce Bank was awarded the Joseph Kelleher Award of Excellence.

Special thanks to all of our sponsors who helped us raise over \$160,000.

Sentry Management Solutions

Galaxy Development

MBD Housing

Ponce Bank

D-J Ambulette Services

Simone Development

DoorDash

Bally's Casino

United Public Adjusters & Appraisers Inc

Monroe College

RiteCheck

Montefiore Medical Center

Great Performances

Amazon

Lemle & Wolff Companies

Sandra Erickson Real Estate Inc.

The Woodlawn Cemetery & Conservancy

RXR 2413 Third Owner LLC

Orange Bank & Trust Company

Bank of America

Affinity by Molina Healthcare

BOEDC (The Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation)





# GRAND OPENINGS

# 2022 HOLIDAY PARTY



CHIK-FIL-A



DREAM CHARTER SCHOOL



I LOVE KICKBOXING



KPOT



RIDGEWOOD SAVINGS



PANDA EXPRESS



RXR



SYLVAN LEARNING CENTER



UNIFIRST



MAKE ME OVER





Our integrated commuter solution

Health equity does not provide legal, tax or financial advice

Key Elements

REVIEWS

**Build Trust**

- 84% of people trust online reviews as much as a personal recommendation.
- 87% of people say that a business needs a 4.5 stars before they start using them.
- 51% of users use search engines to find customers.
- 70% of people will leave a review if you ask them.

**How to Respond to Positive Reviews**

- **Give Thanks**
- **Reinforce the service you did in your response**
- **Invite customers to share their experience**
- **Share the review on your social media**

**How to Respond to Negative Reviews**

- **Acknowledge the issue**
- **Apologize**
- **Provide some explanation (if necessary)**
- **Invite the user to discuss off-line**

**How to Ask for Reviews**

- **Ask when the customer is happy**
- **Ask right after the service is completed**
- **Ask for feedback so you can help if they are unhappy**

The 5 Pillars to The Foundation

- The Importance of Your **Legal**
- How to Claim & Optimize Your **Google Business Profile** Listing.
- Why Online **Reviews** are Important!
- Your **Website**, is it **User/Mobile Friendly & Convertible?**
- How to Utilize **Google** to Increase Your Market Share!

FREE DIGITAL MARKETING WORKSHOP

## The Five (5) Critical Elements to A Powerful & Effective Online Presence

Get Simple, Valuable & Immediate Results Online

OCTOBER 24TH, 2023  
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Workshop features live examples for attendees, online tips & tricks and a live Q&A!

**TO REGISTER:**

[BRONXCHAMBER.ORG/EVENTS](https://bronxchamber.org/events)

**Residence Inn by Marriot**  
1776 Eastchester Road  
Bronx, NY

Please note that this is a hybrid event. Those who choose to participate in person will receive the chance to win a prize!

Contact [events@bronxchamber.org](mailto:events@bronxchamber.org) with any questions.

- The Importance of Your Logo
- How to Claim & Optimize Your Google 'My Business' Map Listing
- Your Website: Is it User/Mobile-Friendly?
- Why Online Reviews Are So Important
- How to Utilize Google to Increase Your Market Share

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3  
2:00PM - 3:30PM

## REIMAGINING THE BRONX COMMUTE

LEARN & SHAPE

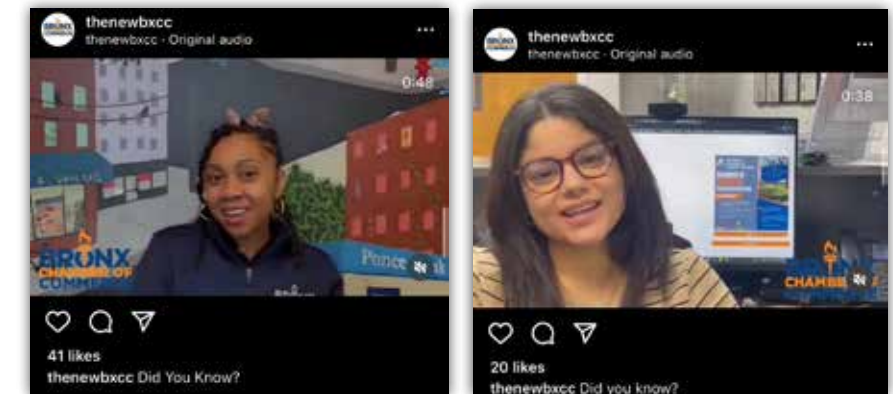
- ✓ Future of Bronx transportation
- ✓ 4 New MetroNorth Stations
- ✓ Impact of affordable micromobility
- ✓ Benefits for Bronx employers and employees

**Register**

## THE BRONX CHAMBER IN THE MEDIA



## DID YOU KNOW?



"Did you know" videos are weekly, short, and informative clips that share educational facts about various topics. These engaging videos are a great way to learn something new and interesting about the borough and the Chamber.

## FRIDAY EXTRA



"Friday Extra" are 2-5 minutue YouTube videos that inform the public about a variety of topics such as upcoming events and legislative news.





I have been profoundly inspired by the dedication and collaborative spirit displayed by our Board, partners, and the community at large. Together, we've achieved substantial growth and made significant strides in fostering economic development, promoting entrepreneurship, and supporting local businesses in the Bronx.

The Foundation's initiatives and programs have continued to empower aspiring entrepreneurs, offering invaluable resources, scholarships, and opportunities for growth. Our continued success is a direct result of the commitment and collaboration between the Bronx Chamber of Commerce, The Foundation, and our supporters. Your participation, engagement, and dedication have been instrumental in driving the Foundation's mission forward. Together, we have been able to accomplish much and create an environment where businesses can thrive, and our community can prosper.

Looking ahead, our commitment to advancing the economic prosperity and overall well-being of the Bronx remains resolute. The future holds boundless opportunities for the Foundation to continue our work, supporting the growth and vitality of the Bronx business community. We will continue to innovate, collaborate, and serve as a catalyst for positive change within our community.

The Annual Report encapsulates our collective achievements and serves as a testament to the dedication and hard work of everyone involved. I encourage you to explore the report, celebrate our accomplishments, and be inspired by the incredible impact we have made together.

Warm regards,  
**APRIL HORTON**  
Foundation Chair



MISSION STATEMENT

Provide scholarships for Bronx students to assist in their pursuit of higher educational opportunities focused on business.

Offer educational programs in support of small businesses to positively impact economic growth and job creation in the Bronx, provide businesses with training to enhance skills and meet the needs of an increasingly competitive marketplace.

Assist individuals who are interested in starting up a new business, advise and train them in the necessary basic steps such as creating a business plan, financial lending, obtaining licenses and permits, and insurance.

Work with businesses to focus on internal and external communications skills, procedures, and tools to grow and prosper.

Small Business Disaster Recovery Planning.

FOUNDATION MEMBERS

- APRIL HORTON  
*Chairperson*
- SANDRA ERICKSON  
*Vice Chairperson*
- MADELINE MARQUEZ  
*Treasurer*
- ELIZABETH FIGUEROA  
*Secretary*
- JEFF UNDERWEISER  
*Legal Counsel*
- TARYN DUFFY
- JENNIFER RIVERA
- DAISY RODRIGUEZ

As we look ahead to the upcoming year, the Bronx Chamber of Commerce is energized by the possibilities that lie ahead. We are proud of the work we have accomplished this year, and we are eager to continue building upon our successes to further strengthen the Bronx business community.

This past year has shown the most significant progress for the Bronx Chamber of Commerce. We have expanded our membership, deepened our partnerships, and amplified our advocacy efforts. We have also launched new initiatives to support Bronx businesses and entrepreneurs, and we have played a key role in shaping the economic development of the borough.

We are excited to continue this momentum in the year ahead. We will continue to be a leading voice for Bronx businesses, advocating for policies that promote economic growth and opportunity. We will also continue to provide our members with the resources and support they need to thrive.

We are grateful for the support of our members, partners, and Board of Directors. We look forward to working together to create an even brighter future for the Bronx.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WOMEN OF DISTINCTION EVENT & SCHOLARSHIP EVENT

March 29, 2024

JOSEPH P. KELLEHER MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

June 18, 2024

SUMMER BBQ RECEPTION

August 1, 2024

ANNUAL GALA

September 19, 2024



Not a Member?

Visit our website and find out how membership in the Bronx Chamber of Commerce can help your company.

“Being a member of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce has been a tremendous asset to our small-to-medium size business, giving us access to valuable resources, networking with other businesses, and giving back to the community. Thank you Bronx Chamber!”  
— BRIAN LEDONNE, PS DIGITAL MARKETING

Get Connected

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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