
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

January 24, 2014

Ald. Milele A. Coggs
(414) 286-2994

MKE Business Now Summit Tackles Entrepreneurship and Job Creation

Third annual summit gets underway tomorrow at 10 a.m.

Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs will be joined by Mayor Tom Barrett as she again sponsors the **MKE Business Now** entrepreneurship summit **TOMORROW (Saturday, January 25)** to be hosted at the **Business and Economic Academy of Milwaukee, Inc., 3620 N. 18th St.**

The event begins at 10:00 a.m. as vendors and groups showcase resources. Workshops focused on growing and developing a business will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a panel discussion scheduled for 1:00 p.m.

The **MKE Business Now Entrepreneurship Mixer** – a precursor to tomorrow’s entrepreneurship summit and an excellent networking opportunity -- is scheduled for **this evening (Friday, January 24) from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at Best Friendz Klubhouse, 2722 N. MLK Dr.** Mixer attendees will have the chance to register for prizes.

The third annual summit will tackle issues such as entrepreneurship and growing a business, and a wide variety of business leaders will be coming together at the event to teach others about creating a business and how to have that business thrive.

Alderwoman Coggs said: “We have brought successful businesses and new business owners together to learn from one another. The summit has established a strong reputation and has drawn great reviews from current business owners and new entrepreneurs, as together they have been able to share information, network with one another and create an environment where new and old businesses can thrive together.”

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MKE Business Now/ADD ONE

The summit's key event is a panel discussion from 1:00-2:00 p.m. with **Kalan Haywood**, founder and president of Vanguard Group, **Dustin Bowie**, founder and partner of Ugly's Pub, **Tammy Belton-Davis**, principal/lead consultant at Athena Communications, LLC and **Montreal Cain**, CMO of Cain Enterprises. **ReDonna Rodgers**, Center of Teaching Entrepreneurship.

The panel discussion will be moderated by **James E. Causey**, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* editorial writer on urban affairs

Additionally, staff members will be on hand for questions and networking from organizations such as the **Department of Neighborhood Services, City of Milwaukee Health Department, Prism Technical Management & Marketing Services, LLC, Community Business Development Partners Milwaukee County, Wisconsin Small Business Development Center Network, Legacy Redemption Corporation, Seaway Bank and Trust Company, For Children, Milwaukee Economic Development Corp., Board of Zoning Appeals, Wisconsin Early Childhood Association, Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, Milwaukee License Division, Center for Teaching Entrepreneurship, Educators Credit Union, Milwaukee Energy Efficiency (Me2), Milwaukee Urban League, SCORE and Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corp.**

There will also be workshops available throughout the day starting at 10:30 a.m. featuring business professionals such as **Ebony Ssali** of Ssali Media Group, **Dr. Robert Biko Baker**, CEO of Festival City, Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation and SCORE.

"The summit allows new business owners to have the access to a wide variety of experts to learn from and network with while learning about how to operate a business that will thrive," Alderwoman Coggs said. "This is a great opportunity for new and older business owners of Milwaukee to join together to share business insights and help Milwaukee to continue growing its reputation as a city that values entrepreneurship and job creation."

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