
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

January 22, 2016

Ald. Milele A. Coggs
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5th Annual MKE Business Now Summit this weekend sparks entrepreneurship

Summit set for Saturday at Business and Economics Academy of Milwaukee

A showcase of resources available to help launch Milwaukee's next great business ventures and an opportunity to connect with established local professionals, the **MKE Business Now Entrepreneurship Summit** will take place this **Saturday, January 23** at the **Business and Economics Academy of Milwaukee, 3620 N. 18th St.**

Celebrating its milestone fifth year, the event is sponsored by **Milwaukee Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs**, and gets underway at **10:00 a.m.** as vendors and organizations showcase the resources they can provide to local entrepreneurs. **Mayor Tom Barrett** will participate in the day's activities, and 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. **All parts of the event are free and open to the public.**

"The time is now for ambitious entrepreneurs to take a hand in shaping Milwaukee's future," Alderwoman Coggs said. "Somewhere out there are people with ideas that could redefine our city, and it is my hope that the MKE Business Now summit can connect those people with the resources they need to thrive."

The summit's feature event is a panel discussion from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. moderated by community activist **Andre Lee Ellis**. Guests in the panel discussion will include **Troy Reese** of T. L. Reese Corporation, **Christopher McIntyre** of CMP Perceptions, **Derek Hawkins** of Hawkins Law Offices, LLC, **Ptosha Davis** of the Lauren Group, LLC and **Rashaad Washington** of Pro Trade Job Development.

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MKE Business Now/ADD ONE

Three workshops will fill out the midday programming: “**Understanding Business Readiness**” at 10:30 a.m.; “**Finance 101**” at 11:15 a.m.; and “**Branding & Marketing Your Business**” at noon, with presenter **Ebony Ssali** of Ssali Media Group.

Additionally, staff members will be on hand to staff booths and answer questions from organizations including:

- Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee
- Wisconsin Department of Children and Family Services
- Milwaukee Website Designs
- City of Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services
- Legacy Redevelopment Corp.
- Prism Technical Management & Marketing Services, LLC
- Service Corps of Retired Executives
- C. Renee Consulting and Management Group (CRC)
- Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation
- Historic King Drive BID #8
- Center Street Market Place BID #39
- U.S. Small Business Administration
- City of Milwaukee License Division
- Board of Zoning Appeals (BOZA)
- Seaway Bank
- Milwaukee Public Library Patents and Business Librarian
- Wisconsin Women’s Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC)
- Inner City Development Corporation
- Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee, Section 3
- Marquette University Law School Law and Entrepreneurship Clinic
- City of Milwaukee Development Center
- Scale Up Milwaukee
- City of Milwaukee Office of Small Business Development

“Like any community, Milwaukee’s business community will be at its finest when all of its members pull together to succeed,” Alderwoman Coggs said. “I’m excited to once again be able to provide our entrepreneurs with an avenue to connect with so many critical assets and sources of expertise.”