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*Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses*

Celebrating 9 Years of Publishing

## Service from the Outside: Why I resigned as State EEO Coordinator

January 19, 2018, was my last day as the State of Ohio's Equal Employment Opportunity Coordinator. But it was not my last day of service to you. I resigned as head of the Equal Opportunity Division in the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, but not because I grew weary of its work. To the contrary, I resigned *because* I believe in the value of the division's programs. I resigned *because* I believe in the mission of the division. I resigned *to continue* serving—not from the inside out, but from the outside in.



Gregory Williams

As a member of the Kasich administration, I had the honor of leading the division when it and the state made history in the Minority Business Enterprise program by meeting its 15 percent set-aside goal for the first time since it was created in 1980. But the most meaningful aspect of this accomplishment is not how it fares in relation to years gone by, but what it makes clear about what is possible in years yet to come.

It's possible to preserve the improvements we realized in the division's certification processes into the MBE and Encouraging Diversity, Growth, and Equity programs by creating a body of administrative case law that binds the division to certain reasonable interpretations of its rules. It's possible to create more equitable access to state contracts and financial assistance for MBE- and EDGE-certified businesses that haven't yet had a fair opportunity to compete for them. And it's possible to ensure that certified businesses are afforded the full benefits of their certifications by holding other agencies accountable to administer the development aspects of these programs more robustly.

*See Williams on page 8*

*"All Great  
Achievement  
Requires  
Time."  
Maya Angelou*

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OhioMBE welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Typed letters of 200 words or less are preferred; all might be edited. Each letter must include name, home address and daytime phone number. Some letter may appear on our website.

The 912 Group is an Ohio certified Minority Owned and EDGE business. The 912 Group is a certified FBE with the City of Columbus.

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## MLK Statewide Oratorical Contest expands into three new regions

The Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission has some exciting news to share! The MLK Statewide Oratorical Contest is growing! The 2018 contest will mark the 19th anniversary of the statewide oratorical contest. This year we have expanded into three new regions, growing the number of young people who are learning about, thinking about and speaking about Dr. King and continuing his legacy. If you are in Akron, Cincinnati or Dayton, please contact our new regional coordinators listed below.

- Akron: Rosheadra Edwards and Dr. Constance Longmire (rosheadra@gmail.com; drcjlongmire@gmail.com)
- Cincinnati: Althea Barnett (althea.barnett@cincinnati-oh.gov)
- Dayton: Kristal Etter (Ketter@dps.k12.oh.us)

For more information about the statewide oratorical contest, scheduled for April 27, 2018, at the King Arts Center in Columbus, please visit us online at: [das.ohio.gov/mlk](http://das.ohio.gov/mlk)

## Ohio Invites Global Technology and Innovation Community to Advance Solutions to Curb Drug Abuse and Addiction

### *Launch of the Second Phase of Ohio Opioid Technology Challenge*

Ohio is one step closer to finding new solutions in the battle against drug abuse and addiction. The second phase of the Ohio Opioid Technology Challenge will accelerate the development of technology in four innovation Challenges. The goal is that these technology-based discoveries will help prevent and treat addiction and overdoses.

“We were thrilled by the outpouring of ideas we received in the first phase of the Technology Challenge,” said Director David Goodman, chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission. “We’re eager to move forward with this next step in developing new solutions and saving lives.”

At the request of Ohio Governor John R. Kasich, the Ohio Opioid Technology Challenge leverages \$8 million of a \$20 million commitment to advance new ideas in the battle against drug abuse and addiction. The Challenge is a multi-phase prize competition with escalating prize amounts associated with progress toward developing solutions. The Idea Phase, which concluded in December 2017, collected bold and creative ideas from hundreds of researchers, caregivers, service providers and citizens from across Ohio, the U.S. and the world.

The Challenge Phase will tap the expertise of the worldwide business and innovation community to advance technical solutions in the following areas:

- Diagnose: Technologies to rapidly identify individuals at high risk of addiction or overdose. Solutions are expected to come from a variety of disciplines including IT, artificial intelligence, and biological or genetic diagnostics.
- Prevent: Technologies to eliminate or reduce urges, cravings or symptoms of withdrawal. Solutions are likely to be pharmaceuticals or medical devices that specifically address addictive responses but may also come from other behavior modification innovations.

See Challenge on page 4

 **The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any**

- Alice Walker

## Wakanda Forever!

By Ronda Watson Barber -  
Publisher

Black Panther fever has hit the planet. The blockbuster film directed by Ryan Coogler and starring some of Hollywood's elite Black actors has topped \$700 million in ticket sales worldwide. Presently, it is the 20<sup>th</sup> all-time highest grossing movie. Folks are flocking to movie theaters, some in African garments to experience the utopian technologically advanced African country Wakanda and the power of The Black Panther. Many are celebrating a more positive, empowering portrayal of Black people from the continent of Africa.

Black people again have shown their economic power. Imagine if the same efforts were made to patronize a Disney movie were put into buying products and services from Black-owned businesses?

What would happen if the same determinations were put into registering to vote and casting a ballot on Election Day? Imagine using the same energies to become politically involved and holding elected officials accountable?

Envision the advancement of our children and collective community if the same exertions to attend a movie were made to mentor and exhibit a positive healthy lifestyle for our youth.

I continue to say our dollars and votes have power. Let's redirect our focus to create a real Wakanda.

Just my thoughts...rwb

## NAACP Membership Drive

The Columbus Branch of the NAACP is conducting a membership drive. Please consider supporting the efforts of the country's oldest and largest civil rights organization.

For more information, please call 614-382-6900 or email [greatercolumbusnaacp@gmail.com](mailto:greatercolumbusnaacp@gmail.com)

Membership is POWER!

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## Roetzel Welcomes E. Mark Young as Partner in Cleveland Office

Roetzel & Andress LPA (Roetzel) is pleased to announce that E. Mark Young has joined the firm's Cleveland office and Business & Commercial Litigation practice as a partner. Mr. Young also brings significant experience working with local legal community and civic organizations.

Mr. Young focuses his practice on complex civil litigation matters in federal and state courts. He represents companies ranging from small, local businesses to international companies and financial institutions, serving as "first chair" in multiple matters before the courts. He has also represented clients in bankruptcy cases and in administrative proceedings before a number of government agencies.

Mr. Young returns to Roetzel after having worked as an associate at the firm from February 2005 through July 2008.

"We are thrilled to welcome Mark to Roetzel and we look forward to his contributions and added leadership among our firm's highly respected group of business litigators and corporate lawyers," Roetzel Chairman Robert E. Blackham said. "Mark's deep experience in a wide range of industries and matters will be a great asset to our team."

Douglas E. Spiker, partner-in-charge of Roetzel's Cleveland office, said, "Mark has been a well-respected litigator and civic-minded counselor in the Cleveland business community for many years. His skills and business acumen enhance the breadth and depth of our services to our corporate and financial clients."

Mr. Young said, "I am excited to rejoin my colleagues at Roetzel, which is well-known in Cleveland and nationally for its experienced litigation team and successes in handling high-profile cases across the full spectrum of industries. I also look forward to continuing my focus on community work that allows me to bring my business and legal knowledge to bear on behalf of important civic efforts."

Most recently, Mr. Young was a partner with Meyers, Roman,



E. Mark Young

# business tip

## 5 Reasons to Brand Your Email

Which dental practice would you choose to contact given the following email addresses: info@pearlybrightsmiles.com or toothymike88@gmail.com? It's probably safe to assume you'd pick the first one - in a recent Verisign survey, 65 percent of consumers believe a company-branded email is more credible than a business using a free email account.

Although it may initially seem insignificant, there is a bigger takeaway here than just email. It's really all about building credibility and branding; essentially, the impression your business is promoting to the outside world. And for small companies in today's competitive market, branding is how one business will stand out from another. The Five Reasons to Brand Your Email

If you're still uncertain, here are five solid reasons why you should have a business-branded email address for your company:

1. **Give The Right First Impression** - A branded email shows the world your company is established and professional. A generic email may project inexperience – or even worse, raise doubts on whether you're a real company at all. But when you use a branded email, your audience feels you're here to stay and serious about your business.
2. **Create A "Bigger" Image** - A generic email address can convey that your business is new, or small, or part time. Having a branded email creates a more "corporate image" and can help prevent awkward situations where potential clients may not want to compensate you as fairly. Additionally, setting up multiple email addresses for different segments of your business (eg: billing@pearlybrightsmiles.com, info@pearlybrightsmiles.com, support@pearlybrightsmiles.com, etc.), will support that established, professional image you need.
3. **Build Credibility And Trust** - Unfortunately, scam artists do exist, so many consumers won't be comfortable emailing personal information to toothymike88@gmail.com. But when you have a branded email address, you're providing a sense of security and reassurance to your customers that your business is legitimate.
4. **It's Inexpensive...And Easy** - You can set up a branded email address with minimal effort through a domain name provider or web hosting company for free or at a reasonably low cost. The great advantage of registering a domain name now is how it can grow with your business – use it for your branded email today and for your website in the future.

See Email on page 7

## Looking for bid notices? Look for OhioMBE online!



www.facebook.com/ohiombe  
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www.twitter.com/ohiombe  
www.twitter.com/bidnotices

### Challenge from page 2

- **Connect:** Technologies to provide immediate and extended access to help for relapse or overdose intervention. Expected solutions are likely to include communication or social media technologies that immediately connect individuals, including those in remote and rural areas, to needed resources.
- **Protect:** Technologies to protect first responders and medical professionals from inadvertent exposure to toxic opioid levels. Expected solutions are likely to include ambient detection of opioid residue, medical prophylactics, or protective equipment.

Responses for the Challenge Phase of the Ohio Opioid Technology Challenge may be submitted at:

[www.opioidtechchallenge.com](http://www.opioidtechchallenge.com) and are due by July 11, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. US EDT.

For the Challenge Phase, up to 12 prize recipients will be announced in September 2018 and will receive \$200,000 to advance their solutions. These semi-finalists will be eligible to compete in the final phase of the program, the Product Phase, to further develop their technology for market entry.

### **Business Terms You Should Know:**

**Cash Flow** - Your cash flow is the overall movement of funds through your business each month, including income and expenses. Businesses track general cash flow to determine long-term solvency. A business' cash flow can be determined by comparing its available cash balance at the beginning and end of a specified period.

# bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email [news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com)



The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) requests proposals for services of a qualified and experienced transportation (planning, environmental and engineering services)

consultant or consultant team. Services are requested to complete work associated with a Service Development Plan (SDP) and a Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Tier-1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Lima to Pittsburgh corridor portion of the Pittsburgh to Chicago Freight and Passenger Rail Corridor.

Consultants interested in being considered must submit two (2) printed copies and one (1) in the form of a compact disc or jump drive in a PDF format. Proposals will be received by MORPC until 5:00 pm (ET), Monday, April 2, 2018.

Submit proposals to:  
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Attn: Dina Lopez  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, OH 43215  
[dlopez@morpc.org](mailto:dlopez@morpc.org)

Review RFP at [www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities](http://www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities)



The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) requests proposals for services of a qualified and experienced transportation (planning, environmental and engineering services) consultant or consultant team. Services are requested to complete work associated with the Midwest Connect Hyperloop Feasibility Study.

Consultants interested in being considered must submit two (2) printed copies and one (1) copy in the form of a jump drive in a PDF format. Proposals will be received by MORPC until 5:00 p.m. (ET), Monday, April 2, 2018.

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Submit proposals to:  
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Attn: Dina Lopez  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, OH 43215  
[dlopez@morpc.org](mailto:dlopez@morpc.org)

View complete at [www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities](http://www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities)



## LEGAL NOTICE

OPERATION: FIX IT – ROOF UPGRADES FOR ALPINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MIFFLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL & SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

Sealed bids for the above-referenced project will be received by the BOARD OF EDUCATION, City School District of Columbus, Ohio, Office of Capital Improvements, 889 E. 17th Ave, Columbus OH 43211, until Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. More information can be found on the District's web site at <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/rfp>. The plans and specifications are on file with Franklin Imaging.

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

### CMHA Headquarters Board Room Renovations

The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) will receive bids from qualified contractors for the Board Room Renovations at CMHA Headquarters, 880 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211. All bids will be received and publicly opened on **Monday, March 12, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.**, at CMHA Central Office, 880 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211, Conf. Rm. A, Attn: Mr. Mike Wagner. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled on **Monday, February 26, 2018 at 1:30 pm.**, at CMHA Central Office, at the address listed above. Contract Documents may be viewed at [www.cmhanet.com/DoingBusinessWithUs/Development](http://www.cmhanet.com/DoingBusinessWithUs/Development). Contract documents may be obtained from Cannell Graphics, 5787 Linworth Road, Columbus, Ohio, 43085; Phone: 781-9760; Fax: 781-9759, starting **Monday, February 19, 2018**, upon receipt of a **refundable company check or money order for \$50.00**, payable to CMHA. Bidders must agree to comply with Davis-Bacon Labor Standards of the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, and Section 3 of the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, and are asked to assist CMHA in meeting their Minority Business Enterprise goal of 20%. A 5% bid bond must be submitted with bid.

## Get Bid Notices Delivered to your inbox

Visit [www.OhioMBE.com](http://www.OhioMBE.com) and add your email address to our bid notice database.



# bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email [news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com)



## INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed bid proposals will be received by the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority at 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307 until **2:00 p.m.** local time on **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018** at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

### EXTERIOR REHABILITATION AND RELATED WORK at CRIMSON TERRACE 408 HERMS COURT, BARBERTON, OHIO 44203

Specifications can be purchased at SE Blueprint, Inc. located at 540 South Main Street, Suite 211, Akron, Ohio 44311 (330) 376-1689. [seblue@seblueprint.com](mailto:seblue@seblueprint.com)

An email link for the above mentioned specifications is available at the Subcontractors Association NEO, 637 Vernon Odom Blvd., Akron, Ohio; Akron Urban League, Minority Business Assistance Center, 440 Vernon Odom Blvd., Akron, Ohio; the Builders Exchange of Canton, 5080 Aultman Rd., North Canton, Ohio; Builders Exchange of Cleveland, 9555 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Cleveland, Ohio; and the Ohio Construction News, 7261 Engle Road, Suite 304, Cleveland, Ohio. A list of plan holders can be obtained from SE Blueprint's website @ [www.seblueprint.com](http://www.seblueprint.com)

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held by the Housing Authority at the AMHA Administration Building, 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307, on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018 at 2:00 P.M.**

See complete bid notice at [www.OhioMBE.com](http://www.OhioMBE.com)



Columbus City Schools issues solicitations on a regular basis for goods & services related to food, construction, technology, curriculum, & transportation. Interested vendors should periodically check our website at <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/rfp>

## WELTY SUBCONTRACTING/ VENDOR OUTREACH EVENT

### WHEN

**March 8<sup>th</sup>  
3pm-5pm**

### WHERE

## Welty Building Company

Headquarters  
3421 Ridgewood Rd Akron, OH 44333

Free Parking in Main Parking Lot

Please join us as we connect and provide subcontracting and employment opportunities to Minorities, Women, Economically Disadvantaged, and Local Businesses for our Union and Non-Union projects.

## ALL TRADES ARE WELCOME

### MEET THE TEAM

Dan Bernhard, VP of Preconstruction, Rusty Walsh, Group President of Welty, and Jeff Dorman, Senior Estimator plus other team members are pleased to meet you all and talk about all of the exciting projects coming up for 2018!

### CONTACT

Interested in attending?  
Contact Erica Berg-  
Diversity Coordinator  
[eberg@thinkwelty.com](mailto:eberg@thinkwelty.com)  
330-867-2400



## Need to meet your EDGE/MBE or Good Faith Contracting Efforts?

When you need EDGE or MBE participants,  
The 912 Group and OhioMBE can help.

Place your legal ad or bid notice in  
OhioMBE and our other media outlets.

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# #bidnotices

# CAPITAL FOR CONSTRUCTION MOBILIZATION LOAN

ECDI'S CAPITAL FOR CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM ADDRESSES THE FINANCING GAPS IN CENTRAL OHIO FOR MINORITY-OWNED SUBCONTRACTORS

Enroll in ECDI's innovative MBE Capital for Construction Program to gain access to low-interest, quick capital to take on large-scale construction contracts. The program increases the utilization of minority owned sub-contractors in Central Ohio and creates and retains jobs for local residents.

- Short-term, low rate working capital Mobilization Loans between \$5,000 to \$150,000 to eligible businesses in Central Ohio
- Capitalization Loans up to \$350,000 use more flexible underwriting guidelines than that of traditional lenders, and support businesses typically would not be able to secure that same financing from a traditional bank.
- Access ECDI's Business Innovation Center (BIC) to take advantage of construction industry-specific trainings, co-working space, professional amenities, and ECDI's Professional Advisory Network.



Contact:  
Jesse Mark  
Relationship Manager  
jmark@ecdi.org  
614.933.4185

Since 2004, ECDI has assisted Ohio's entrepreneurs through their one-stop-shop business services model, suited to meet the needs of all entrepreneurs, regardless of what business stage they're in. From providing capital to entrepreneurs looking to expand their businesses, to providing focused, business-specific educational opportunities to enhance entrepreneurial skill sets, ECDI works with their clients to meet their specific needs. Whether you merely have a business idea or are opening up your fifth location, ECDI's "never say no" approach has allowed over ten thousand entrepreneurs to take advantage of the services they provide.

CONNECT WITH US!



www.ecdi.org

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Columbus • 1655 Old Leonard Ave., Columbus, OH 43219 • 614.559.0115  
Toledo • One Maritime Plaza Toledo, OH 43604 • 419.214.4182

## MBE Ohio Procurement Fairs

Make new contracting connections at the March 15 OhioMBE Procurement Fair hosted by Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority.

The following organizations have confirmed their participation: **Columbus City Schools, Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority, City of Columbus Department of Development and Ohio Secretary of State.**

The OhioMBE Procurement Fairs have provided access to over \$350 million in contracting opportunities. **Register at [www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com](http://www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com)**

*Organizations confirm attendance daily, check our social media for updates.*

Email from page 4

5. Promote Brand Awareness - The best benefit of using branded email is every time you send out an email, you're promoting your business, not Gmail or Hotmail. It's a valuable, cost-efficient way to market your company without having to spend a lot of money.

So if you, like many other small businesses, think that branding was only meant for large enterprises with big advertising budgets, think again. You're never too small to start building your brand, and you can get started today with branding your email.

Source: [www.verisign.com](http://www.verisign.com)

Young from page 3

Friedberg & Lewis in Cleveland. Previously, he also was a partner at Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff, also in Cleveland. In addition, Mr. Young has served as outside general counsel to multiple companies in diverse industries, including mobile technology, construction supply manufacturing, low- and moderate-income residential housing development, alcohol manufacturing and distribution, medical billing and home health care, as well as for religious institutions and a number of minority- and female-owned businesses.

Mr. Young also is an adjunct professor at The Cleveland Marshall College of Law and a former trustee of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation.

Mr. Young received his J.D. from the University of Toledo College of Law. He also holds a Master of Arts from Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University and a Bachelor of Arts from Wake Forest University.

### **Business Terms You Should Know:**

**Assets** - These are the economic resources a business has, including the products it has in inventory, the office furniture and supplies purchased for use, and any trademarks or copyrights it owns. These assets count toward the value of a business, since they could be sold if the business experienced difficult times.

# OhioMBE Certification 101 at the WBC

## Make a resolution to get your business certified in 2018!

There are several reasons why you should get your business certified:

1. Some entities have purchasing goals. Only certified businesses can participate.
2. Certification adds legitimacy to your business. You have gone through a process that has determined that your business is owned and controlled by a minority, woman or disadvantaged business.
3. Certification can afford you loan and bonding opportunities. The State of Ohio has loan and bonding programs specifically for certified minority owned businesses.
4. Certification can be a marketing tool for your business. You can add your certifications to your marketing materials, business cards, website, etc. Many consumers like doing business with veteran, minority or woman owned businesses.
5. Certification can be used in the private sector. Many companies don't have a certifying program but in an effort to have supplier diversity, will accept the certifications from some governmental agencies.



**Class dates are online at [www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com](http://www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com)**

### Williams from page 1

All of this is possible but would be exceedingly difficult to achieve if left the sole responsibility of those within state government. The culture of state government as an institution is reactive, not proactive. To be clear, this isn't a criticism of the people who work in state government, many of whom do their utmost to serve their constituents. Indeed, it was an honor to serve alongside many of them. Instead, it's an acknowledgment that the inertia of the state as an institution is very rarely spontaneously moved, and that the success of these programs depends on both external force and internal momentum.

This is why I resigned: to redirect my experience as an external force, which—when combined with the internal momentum we've already created—can help continue to produce positive change for historically underutilized businesses. But like all former public-sector employees, I must comply with post-employment ethics rules, which in my case would prohibit me from representing parties before state agencies on any of EOD's programs for one year. The timing of my resignation, however, will ensure that I can freely engage the next administration (which begins in January 2019) from the very beginning—the most critical period—having already served my stay-out period. In the meantime, I've returned to private law practice, where I hope to continue serving historically underutilized businesses in general legal matters.

It was an honor to serve as State EEO Coordinator. But my resignation doesn't mark an end to my service—instead, it is the start of my service from outside of state government and the beginning of the new ways I hope to continue helping. Please join me and tell me how I can help you. Feel free to contact me at [gregory@glwesq.com](mailto:gregory@glwesq.com) or [williams@whitt-sturtevant.com](mailto:williams@whitt-sturtevant.com)

### Looking for the paper copy of OhioMBE?

Not only are we online, you can find OhioMBE at the following locations. OhioMBE is published on the 1st and 15th of each month.

#### Akron

- Akron Urban League

#### Cleveland

- Cleveland Urban League
- Cleveland Women's Business Center

#### Columbus:

- Driving Park Library
- M & M Chicken
- Livingston Ave. Library
- M.L.K. Library
- Woodland Y.M.C.A.
- Woodland Christian Church
- Mt. Vernon AME Church
- A Cut Above The Rest Barber Shop

- Creole Kitchen
- OSU Black Extension Center
- Mt Vernon AME Church
- Shiloh Baptist Church
- Second Baptist Church
- Lincoln Café
- Linden Library
- COWIC
- City of Columbus ODI
- Women's Business Center
- ECDI
- Increase CDC
- Mt. Hermon Baptist Church
- Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church
- Mt. Olivet Baptist Church
- Destiny Center
- Columbus Main Library

#### Dayton

- City of Dayton - Human Relations Commission

*If you would like OhioMBE distributed at your business, please email us at [news@OhioMBE.com](mailto:news@OhioMBE.com)*

# Ohio Diversity Network

Get a weekly email from [OhioDiversityNetwork.com](http://OhioDiversityNetwork.com) notifying you of upcoming events. Sign up online!

Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 1:00pm  
[Columbus WBC – Membership Preview Panel Discussion](#) - Columbus

Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 6:00pm  
[Columbus WBC – Membership Preview Open House](#) - Columbus

Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 3:00pm  
[Welty Building Company Outreach Event](#) - Akron

Monday, March 12, 2018 at 6:30pm  
[Columbus Library: Grants for Nonprofits](#) - Columbus

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 6:30pm  
[Columbus Library – Starting a Small Business](#) - Columbus

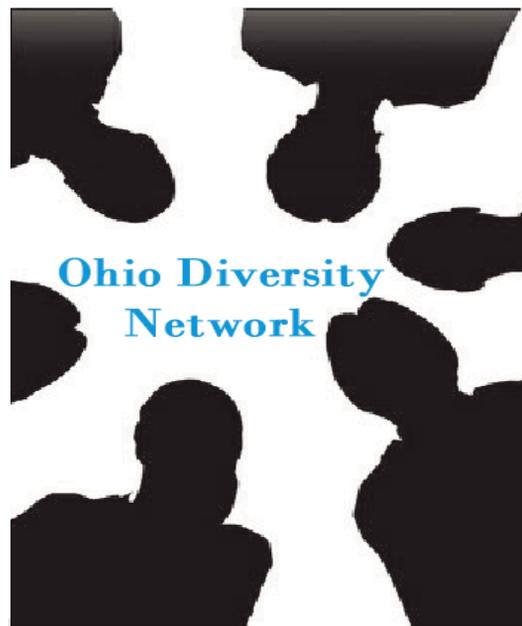
Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 6:30pm  
[Columbus Library – Grants for Individuals](#) - Columbus

Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 2:01am  
[Certification 101 at the WBC](#) - Columbus

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 6:30pm  
[Columbus Library: Market Research for Entrepreneurs](#) - Columbus

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 11:30am  
[ECDI: Capital for Construction: Contract Killer Provisions](#) - Columbus

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 6:30pm  
[Columbus Library: The Startup Experience: Asempe Kitchen](#) - Columbus



Hosting a business event?

Did you know you can  
post it on  
[OhioDiversityNetwork.com](http://OhioDiversityNetwork.com)

Email: [news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com)  
for login information

*OhioDiversityNetwork.com is  
sponsored by:*

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**COLUMBUS**  
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY  
AND INCLUSION

• **REGISTER TODAY!** •  
[transportation.ohio.gov/odotcivilrights](http://transportation.ohio.gov/odotcivilrights)  
April 10 & 11, 2018

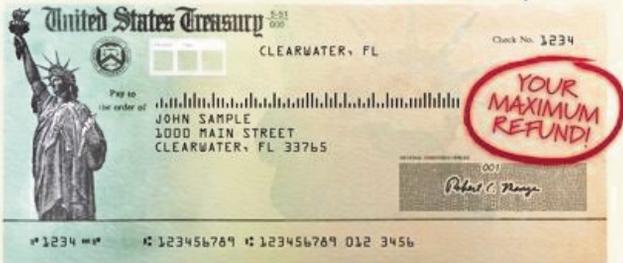
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• **Civil Rights** •  
**Transportation Symposium**  
INCLUSION · COMMITMENT · RESULTS  
350 N. High St. Columbus, Ohio





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# WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

*Women's History Month is celebrated in March to highlight and celebrate the many historic and contemporary contributions of women to society. In 2016, President Barack Obama issued a proclamation saying that "during Women's History Month, we recognize the victories, struggles, and stories of the women who have made our country what it is today."*

"How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!" -- Maya Angelou

"I have the right of education. I have the right to play. I have the right to sing. I have the right to talk. I have the right to go to market. I have the right to speak up." -- Malala Yousafzai

"Excellence is the best deterrent to racism or sexism." -- Oprah Winfrey

"I do know one thing about me: I don't measure myself by others' expectations or let others define my worth." -- Sonia Sotomayor

"We still think of a powerful man as a born leader and a powerful woman as an anomaly." -- Margaret Atwood

"The only tired I was, was tired of giving in." -- Rosa Parks

"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less." -- Marie Curie

"I am an example of what is possible when girls from the very beginning of their lives are loved and nurtured by people around them. I was surrounded by extraordinary women in my life who taught me about quiet strength and dignity." -- Michelle Obama

"Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier." -- Mother Teresa

"I must admit that I personally measure success in terms of the contributions an individual makes to her or his fellow human beings." -- Margaret Mead

"Women will have achieved true equality when men share with them the responsibility of bringing up the next generation." -- Ruth Bader Ginsburg

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

"Anything's possible if you've got enough nerve." -- J.K. Rowling

"Feet, what do I need you for when I have wings to fly?" -- Frida Kahlo

"As you enter positions of trust and power, dream a little before you think." -- Toni Morrison

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." -- Anne Frank

"There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." -- Edith Wharton

"So if diva means giving your best, then yes, I guess I am a diva." -- Patti LaBelle

"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm possible!'" -- Audrey Hepburn

"Let me listen to me and not to them." -- Gertrude Stein

"I'd rather regret the things I've done than regret the things I haven't done." -- Lucille Ball



Jenlysc Martin Paez

### Future Leader: Jenlysc Martinez Paez

For the second year in a row, Jenlysc Martinez Paez has been recognized for an Aspirations in Computing Award from the national Center of Women & Information Technology for 2018. She was recognized as one of the top young women in technology from a field of 3600 candidates. Jenlysc is a senior in Information Technology at the Columbus Downtown High School. She is also a Frank W. Watson Scholar and intern with The 912 Group, publisher of OhioMBE & OhioFBE.

She has a 3.966 grade point average. Jenlysc is involved in Tennis, Swim Team, Mock Trial, Student Council, Robotics Club, and National Technical Honor Society.

“It is important for me to go to college because it will be the time when I am able to pursue academics to my full potential. I want to learn as much as possible so I can bring that knowledge to other as it was once brought to me. I want to inspire young girls so they can see the same beauty I see in mathematics and sciences. My dream is to learn and impact the world, but to achieve this goal, it is fundamental that I go to college.”

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