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*Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses since 2009*

## 2021 OhioMBE Awards Honorees

The in-person OhioMBE Awards are back. The seventh annual scholarship awards luncheon recognizes Ohio's Top MBE, FBE, Family Businesses and their advocates. Ohio's premiere networking event will be held and hosted by the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium on October 28. A portion of proceeds benefit the Frank W. Watson Scholarship. Five central Ohio youth will be assisted with startup funds for their businesses.

"We are please to recognize the efforts of the 2021 OhioMBE Awards Honorees. They have truly made a difference in the lives of business owners and the overall Ohio community. The OhioMBE Awards recognizes excellence and service," said OhioMBE Publisher Ronda Watson Barber. "I am really excited about raising funds to aid young people with starting their businesses and hopefully beginning to create the notion of generational wealth."



Angela Pace  
2021 OhioMBE Media Legend

### 2021 Honorees

- **Publisher's Award**
  - Annie Womack
  - Roote
- **Frank W. Watson Advocate Award**
  - Jerome Jones—SBA
  - Tia Roseboro—City of Columbus
- **Media Legend**
  - Angela Pace
- **Top Elected Official**
  - US Representative Joyce Beatty
- **Civil Rights Awards**
  - Bexley HS Anti Racism Project
  - Heath HS Students Against Racism
  - New Albany HS NAACP Youth Chapter

### 2020 Honorees

- **Economic Empowerment**
  - City of Columbus Office of Diversity & Inclusion
  - Park National Bank
  - Ohio Bankers League
- **Publisher's Award**
  - James Ragland—Columbus Board of Education
  - Kenneth Wilson—Franklin County Administrator
- **Frank W. Watson Advocate Award**
  - Jill Nagy-Reynolds — SBA
  - Attorney Ambrose Moses
- **Legends Award**
  - Dennis Hopson
  - Cornelius Green
- **Top Legislator**
  - State Rep. Emilia Sykes



# Ohio Diversity Network

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Ronda Watson Barber,  
Editor-in-Chief & Publisher  
www.OhioMBE.com  
rbarber@ohiombe.com

P.O. Box 533  
Granville, OH 43023  
912-290-2112

news@ohiombe.com

OhioMBE welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Typed letters of 350 words or less are preferred. Each letter must include name, home address and daytime phone number. Some letters may appear on our website.

**Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 10:00am**  
**Cleveland SBA: WOSB Federal Contracting Program and Ascent Programs for Women**

**Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 12:00pm**  
**Cincinnati MBAC – Leveraging Resources to build a Real Estate**

**Thursday, August 5, 2021 at 1:00pm**  
**OBDC – Walk-in Certification Assistance**  
Columbus

**Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 6:00pm**  
**OBDC – Certification 101**  
Columbus

**Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 10:00am**  
**Cleveland SBA – How to do business with the National Park Service**

**Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 11:30am**  
**Cleveland SBA – Get an SBA Backed Loan**

**Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 1:00pm**  
**OBDC – Walkin Certification Assistance**  
Columbus

**Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 11:00am**  
**OBDC – Certification 101**  
Columbus

**Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 11:30am**  
**Cleveland SBA – Get a Building**

**Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 1:00pm**  
**OBDC – Walkin Certification Assistance**  
Columbus

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*Ambrose Moses III*  
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## Franklin County Engineer Upcoming 2021 Construction Projects

### Highway Projects

- Eureka Ave, Valley View Dr, Highland Ave, & Harper Ave, **Apr 2021**
- Ormond Ave Drainage Part II, **Apr 2021**

### Resurfacing Projects

- 50 E. Mound St Parking Lot, **Apr 2021**
- Franklin County Resurfacing Program, **May 2021**
- Township Resurfacing Program, **May 2021**
- Franklin County Maintenance & Safety Program, **May 2021**

### Drainage Projects

- Cook Tri-County Ditch **Oct 2021**
- Kropp Road Drainage Outlet Improvements **Dec 2021**
- 2022 Drainage Maintenance **Nov 2021**

### Bridge Projects

- Agler Rd over Alum Creek **Nov 2021**
- Borror Rd over Tributary of Strader Ditch, **May 2021**
- Hoover Rd over Tributary of Grant Run, **May 2021**
- Olentangy River Rd 11.40 & 11.62 Culverts, **Jun 2021**
- Schleppi Rd over Tributary of Rocky Fork Creek, **May 2021**
- 2022 Bridge Maintenance **Nov 2021**

For more information visit

[www.franklincountyengineer.org/future-projects/](http://www.franklincountyengineer.org/future-projects/)

<https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/28582/home?agency=true>



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\*The dates listed above are projected dates to advertise\*



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>

## Questions to ask candidates seeking public office

As small and minority business owners consider asking the following questions to those seeking public office and your vote.

1. What have you done for Black-owned & minority businesses during your career?
2. What do you promise to do for Black-owned & minority businesses if elected?
3. What Black-owned & minority business do you regularly purchase products or services from?
4. Why should Black-owned & minority business owners vote for you?
5. How important is Black-owned & minority business development to the overall Ohio economy?
6. Are minority business set-asides and goals in city/county/state government still important and why?
7. What can the city/county/state do to improve its purchasing with minority businesses?
8. What should minority owned businesses do to get city/county/state contracts?
9. Is there anything else, aside from contracting that the city/county/state can do to assist MBE's?
10. Who are the major contributors to your campaign?



## COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS SEEKS LEDE VENDORS

Local Economically Disadvantaged Enterprise

### How do I become a LEDE Vendor with Columbus City Schools?

1. Complete a CCS Vendor Application and provide all pertinent information. You will receive a vendor number which will allow you to do business with CCS.
2. After you receive a vendor number, complete the LEDE Vendor Affidavit.
  - You can access the form on the Columbus City School's Website or request one by contacting the Purchasing Department at (614) 365-5820 or the Outreach Office at (614) 365-8732

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Development has contracting opportunities in the below areas. Please reach out for more information and bidding requirements.

- Graffiti Removal and Arborist Services. Contact Eric Voorhees (614-645-7934 or [eavorhees@columbus.gov](mailto:eavorhees@columbus.gov)).
- Grass Cutting and Solid Waste Removal. Contact Mike Schwab (614-645-7122 or [mfschwab@columbus.gov](mailto:mfschwab@columbus.gov)).
- Demolition and Asbestos Abatement. Contact Mike Farrenkopf (614- 679-5873 or [mlfarrenkopf@columbus.gov](mailto:mlfarrenkopf@columbus.gov)) or Seth Brehm (614-645-5659 or [swhbrehm@columbus.gov](mailto:swhbrehm@columbus.gov)).
- Property Maintenance and Miscellaneous Services in Contact Audrea Hickman (614-645-8907 or [ahickman@columbus.gov](mailto:ahickman@columbus.gov))
- Construction trades including: General Construction, Home Improvement, Electrical, HVAC, and Plumbing. Contact Tim Tilton (614- 724-3009 or [twilton@columbus.gov](mailto:twilton@columbus.gov)).
- Lead abatement. Contact Erica Hudson (614- 645-6739 or [ejhudson@columbus.gov](mailto:ejhudson@columbus.gov)).

To register for notifications on upcoming bid opportunities, please visit <http://vendors.columbus.gov/sites/public>.



Building Crafts, Inc., an equal opportunity employer, is soliciting bids from INDOT certified DBE, MBE, and WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the **Palestine-Hollansburg Joint Sewer District Centralized WWTS** in Hollansburg, OH which bids on **August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. Items of work to be subcontracted or supplied include, but are not limited to the following: ready-mix concrete, rebar material, rebar labor, precast concrete, curing, sealing, miscellaneous metals, FRP materials, wood trusses, thermal and moisture protection, sheet metal roofing, caulking, sectional overhead doors, hollow metal doors/frames, painting, plumbing, electrical, earthwork, erosion & sedimentation control, asphalt, fencing, seeding, aggregate, process piping, valves, process integration, process & handling equipment, davit crane, wastewater equipment. Bidding documents can be obtained through Mote & Associates' website ([here](#)) or by calling **Ben Call at (859) 781-9500**. Submit quotes by 8 AM on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, by email to [estimating@buildingcrafts.com](mailto:estimating@buildingcrafts.com) or by fax at (859) 781-9505. All bids should include a completed Form 6100-3 DBE Subcontractor Performance Form.



The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority is seeking bids for Roof Replacement at Stephanie A. Keys.

Those interested in submitting a bid may obtain the instructions/information package by contacting SE Blueprint, 540 South Main Street, Suite 211, Akron, Ohio 44311. (330) 376 1689 [seblue@seblueprint.com](mailto:seblue@seblueprint.com)

Bids, to be considered, must be received by AMHA no later than 4:00 p.m. (local time) on Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Persons with disabilities needing assistance are asked to contact AMHA'S ADA Coordinator, 100 West Cedar Street, Akron Ohio 44307, 330-762-9631 or Ohio Relay at 800-750-0750 at least seven (7) days in advance.

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority  
Debbie Barry  
Interim Executive Director

## LEGAL NOTICE

### DRAINAGE & TENNIS COURT IMPROVEMENTS – JOHNSON PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sealed bids for the above-referenced project will be received by the **BOARD OF EDUCATION**, City School District of Co-

lumbus, Ohio, Office of Capital Improvements, 889 E. 17th Ave, Columbus OH 43211, until Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.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



# Support Black Media

## When is the "slow season" for your business, and how do you plan for it in advance?



To help business leaders plan for the "slow season," we asked small business owners and business professionals this question for their best

tips. From offering season specials to pivoting your client focus, several strategies there are several strategies that may help you plan ahead for the "slow season" and expand your business.

Here are ten tips for planning ahead of time for the "slow season:"

- Get Approvals Before Big Trips
- Plan to Offer Season Specials
- Invest in Training
- Test Out New Strategies
- Create Slow Season Programming
- Focus on Client Retention
- Set Aside Funds and Stay Active
- Build Relationships
- Incorporate Team Building
- Pivot Your Client Focus

**Get Approvals Before Big Trips.** Summer can be a slow time for our business because we have so many of our high-end clients go on extended vacations. Before clients leave on trips, we ensure that we have designs approved and furniture ordered to make sure there isn't too much pending while they are away. We set lots of design meetings in the spring to plan for the slower summer months. Because working with a client to design a luxury custom home spans the time of several months, we try to plan accordingly! - Alisha Taylor, [Alisha Taylor Interiors](#)

**Plan to Offer Season Specials .** Although the weather in Sedona is beautiful year-round, we still tend to see a slow down towards the end of the year when it gets

a little chilly. We plan for it by offering different types of retreats and specials during that time of the year! It is perfect for individuals or couples looking to travel around the holidays and allows for some new experiences internally as well.- Gregory Drambour, [Sedona Retreats](#)

**Invest in Training.** Your industry's "slow season" is a great time to invest in training for employees. Whether the training is around compliance or sexual harassment, employee downtime can best be utilized by completing training that may not be prioritized during the peak seasons of a business. Taking time to do these vital training sessions will ensure success for your team year-round. -Andrew Rawson, [Traliant](#)

**Test Out New Strategies.** Seasonality is a huge factor for us. The hospitality industry ebbs and flows at different times, depending on what city you're talking about. For example, in Phoenix, business slows down when the weather heats up. In New York, the slowdown happens in the cold winter months. Fortunately, when one city is slow another one is busy as hospitality is never 100% dormant. While breaking into a new city isn't feasible for every small business during a slow season, testing new strategies in your current market is. Take advantage of the slower flow of business to take a look at your existing processes, pinpoint opportunities for improvement, and use the slower months to build new things. -Zack McCarty, [Qwick](#)

**Create Slow Season Programming.** Typically, in the world of education, our slow season is during the summer months. Families plan vacations and trips, though not all do this. We accommodate for this by making sure we discuss the summer programs with the families that we work with. It's important that children keep up with their learning, and taking long summer breaks can produce the "summer slide." So we keep our doors open and help children through various themed summer events retain what they've learned, learn even more, and have fun

while doing it! -Jeanne Kolpek, [Cadence Education](#)

**Focus on Client Retention.** After the summer season burns out into fall, we typically experience a lull in business. We plan for this by leaning into customer retention. The ability to retain and expand existing customers helps us when we can't depend on significant new business during slow seasons. We look into data and find customers who can potentially expand their contract with.

-Nik Sharma, [Sharma Brands](#)

**Set Aside Funds and Stay Active.** The slow season of our business (residential real estate investing) is the winter months, specifically December through February. We plan in advance by capitalizing on the active, fast-paced months for the rest of the year. We set aside the same percentage of money from every transaction even in the months when our income is much higher than the slow season. We have also found that our slow season for making money is a great time to capitalize on growing our business. Many people in our industry take time off around the holidays, but we choose to work a few hours per day to network and keep our website and socials active. This sets us up for success once the slow season passes. -Andy Kolodgie, [The House Guys](#)

**Build Relationships.** If you often refuse lunch invitations from colleagues, now is the time to agree. When you are not busy, you can connect by eating lunch and drinking coffee together. By establishing friendship in this way, you can accumulate your contacts and prepare for more cooperation in the future. -Abby Ha, [WellPCB](#)

View the complete article online at <https://ohiombe.com/archives/17294>

Source: [www.score.org](http://www.score.org)



*I'd rather go down in history as one lone Negro who dared to tell the government that it had done a dastardly thing than to save my skin by taking back what I said.* - Ida B. Wells

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# Self Destruction

[Krs-One]

Well, today's topic, self destruction  
It really ain't the rap audience that's buggin  
It's one or two suckas, ignorant brothers  
Trying to rob and steal from one another  
You get caught in the mid  
So to crush the stereotype here's what we did  
We got ourselves together  
So that you could unite and fight for what's right  
Not negative 'cause the way we live is positive  
We don't kill our relatives

[Mc Delight (Stetsasonic)]

Pop pop pop  
When it's shot who's to blame?  
Headlines, front page, and rap's the name  
Mc Delight here to state the bottom line  
That black-on-black crime was way before our time

[Kool Moe Dee]

Took a brother's life with a knife as his wife  
Cried cause he died a trifling death  
When he left his very last breath  
Was I slept so watch your step  
Back in the sixties our brothers and sisters were hanged  
How could you gang-bang?  
I never ever ran from the Ku Klux Klan  
And I shouldn't have to run from a black man  
Cause that's

[Mc Lyte]

Funky Fresh dressed to impress ready to party  
Money in your pocket, dying to move your body  
To get inside you paid the whole ten dollars  
Scotch taped with a razor blade taped to your collar  
Leave the guns and the crack and the knives alone  
Mc Lyte's on the microphone  
Bum rushin and crushin, snatchin and taxin  
I cram to understand why brother's don't be maxin  
There's only one disco, they'll close one more  
You ain't guarding the door  
So what you got a gun for?  
Do you rob the rich and give to the poor?  
Yo Daddy-O, school em some more

[Daddy-O, Wise (Stetsasonic)]

Straight from the mouth of Wise and Daddy-o  
Do a crime end up in jail and gotta go  
Cause you could do crime and get paid today  
And tomorrow you're behind bars in the worst way  
Far from your family, cause you're locked away  
Now tell me, do you really think crime pays?  
Scheming on taking what your brother has?



STOP THE  
VIOLENCE  
NOW

You little suckers.. You talkin' all that jazz.

[D-Nice]

It's time to stand together in a unity  
Cause if not then we're soon to be  
Self-destroyed, unemployed  
The rap race will be lost without a trace  
Or a clue but what to do  
Is stop the violence and kick the science  
Down the road that we call eternity  
Where knowledge is formed and you'll learn to be  
Self-sufficient, independent  
To teach to each is what rap intended  
But society wants to invade  
So do not walk this path they laid.  
It's

[Ms. Melodie]

I'm Ms. Melodie and I'm a born again rebel  
The violence in rap must cease and seckle  
If we want to develop and grow to another level  
We can't be guinea pigs for the devil  
The enemy knows, they're no fools  
Because everyone knows that hip-hop rules  
So we gotta get a grip and grab what's wrong  
The opposition is weak and rap is strong

[Doug E. Fresh]

This is all about, no doubt, to stop violence  
But first let's have a moment of silence  
\*Fresh beatboxes\*... Swing  
Things been stated re-educated, evaluated  
Thoughts of the past have faded  
The only thing left is the memories of our belated  
And I hate it, when  
Someone dies and gets all hurt up  
For a silly gold chain by a chump