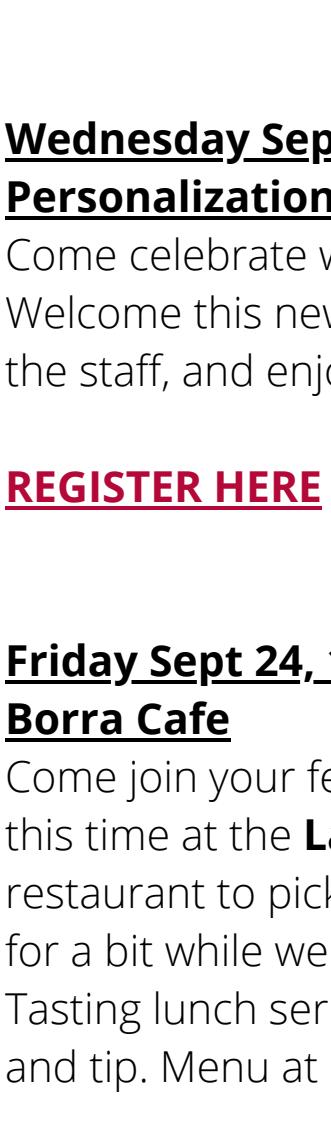


September is always a month that marks new beginnings - from the start of school or back to work, to the beginning of shorter days and cooler weather. And for the Chamber we are excited to launch several of our new initiatives - Meditation Mondays and our 2021 Spotlight Celebration! More to come on these soon. But for now, from everyone at the Chamber, we hope you had a restful and safe Labor Day long weekend!

#chamberLOVE



Liz Holt
Executive Director



COMMUNITIES

[Wednesday Sept 8, 11:30am-12pm - Ribbon Cutting at Studio of Art](#)

Come celebrate with us at this week's ribbon cutting at **Studio of Art**! Welcome this new business, take pictures of the actual ribbon cutting with the staff, and enjoy networking with our amazing business community!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

[Friday Sept 10, 12-12:30pm - Takeout Stakeout lunch pickup at the Daly Bagel](#)

Come join your fellow Chamber members for our next Takeout Stakeout, this time at the **Daly Bagel**! In this event, we convene at a designated restaurant to pick up our takeout lunch choices, and get to see each other for a bit while we're at it in a socially-distanced meet-up. Like our Tuesday Tasting lunch series from which this springs, lunch is a flat \$16 including tax and tip. Menu at registration.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

[Tuesday Sept 14, 5-7pm - Business After Hours at the Oak Park Conservatory](#)

Join us at our regular monthly networking event, Business After Hours (BAH), on the second Tuesday of every month. This month's BAH will be hosted at **The Oak Park Conservatory**, operated by the Park District of Oak Park with the support of the Friends of the Oak Park Conservatory. All members and non-members are welcomed. (Members are free.)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

[Wednesday Sept. 22, 11:30am-12pm - Ribbon Cutting at Personalization House](#)

Come celebrate with us at the ribbon cutting at **Personalization House**! Welcome this new business, take pictures of the actual ribbon cutting with the staff, and enjoy networking with our amazing business community!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

[Friday Sept 24, 12-12:30pm - Takeout Stakeout lunch pickup at La Borrca Cafe](#)

Come join your fellow Chamber members for our next Takeout Stakeout, this time at the **La Borrca Cafe**! In this event, we convene at a designated restaurant to pick up our takeout lunch choices, and get to see each other for a bit while we're at it in a socially-distanced meet-up. Like our Tuesday Tasting lunch series from which this springs, lunch is a flat \$16 including tax and tip. Menu at registration.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

[Wednesday Sept 29, 12-12:30pm - Ribbon Cutting at YogaSix](#)

Come celebrate with us at this week's ribbon cutting at **YogaSix**! Welcome this new business, take pictures of the actual ribbon cutting with the staff, and enjoy networking with our amazing business community!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

2021 Professional Development Webinar Series

brings you monthly webinars with helpful and practical tools to navigate the new normal.

Professional Development

OPRF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2021 WEBINAR SERIES

DEIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

How they implemented their DEI policy

SEPT 15, 11AM-12NOON

KRISTOL SIMMS

Director

Energy Efficiency, Strategy & Innovation

Ameren Illinois

Join Kristol Simms, Director, Energy Efficiency, Strategy & Innovation

Ameren Illinois, in partnership with the Illinois Association of Chamber of

Commerce Executives (IACCE), for an informative webinar about how the

Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program successfully implemented diversity

and inclusion strategies and how you can put these strategies and

innovations to work for your business or organization.

REGISTER HERE

Member Benefits Series

Member Benefits Series

Member Benefits Series



Develop & Define Your Entrepreneurial Journey

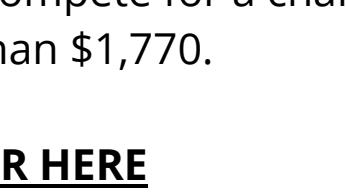
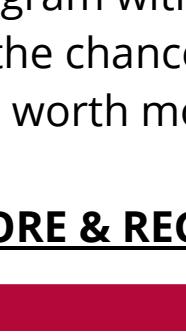


Classes Begin
October 2, 2021

Register by
September 8, 2021



Business
Foundation
of Illinois



The LGBTQ+ Biz Boot Camp was founded by the LGBT Business Foundation of Illinois in 2019 to assist LGBTQ+ entrepreneurs with launching and growing sustainable businesses that will positively impact our local communities. The Boot Camp is designed for businesses with at least one-year of hands-on experience in operating their business, but all interested applicants are encouraged to apply.

Facilitated by **Kristina Wynne of The Wynners Club**, the eight-week cohort program will provide participants with broad practical skills and a demonstrated ability to apply knowledge using skills such as critical thinking, communication, and collaboration to help them further develop and define their entrepreneurial journey. Participants will leave the program with a business plan and business pitch deck, while also accessing quality networking through mentorship and guest speakers.

In addition to leaving the program with a prepared business plan and pitch deck, students will have the chance to compete for a chance to win a valued prize worth more than \$1,770.

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE](#)



Be sure to check out the Ideas Center on the Chamber Website for more grant opportunities.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Attention Illinois Small Business Owners!
\$250 Million now available through State of Illinois Back 2 Business (B2B) Grant Program

\$5K – \$150K
Grants Available

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a Strong, Equitable
Recovery for Illinois'
Small Businesses**



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Help is available in every region of the state and in multiple languages. Over 100 community navigators stand ready to assist with grants applications. Find a community navigator near you www.illinois.gov/dceo.

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Illinois
& Economic Opportunity
Department of Commerce
Governor

Application is fast and easy!

- New interface designed to help small business owners track and learn updates on their application status in real-time
- B2B application portal at www.illinois.gov/dceo
- **What You Need:**
 - A copy of your business's 2019 AND 2020 Federal tax returns
 - Two business bank statements – one from the period March through December 2020, and your most recent statement
 - Business owner ID (ITIN accepted)
- **Applications will be accepted starting August 18, 2021**

[Learn More HERE](#)

[Learn More HERE](#)

[Learn More HERE](#)

