

# FORWARD CONFERENCE 2024

## *Right* **THE NARRATIVE**

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# FORWARD

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# FORWARD

**DAY 1 MONDAY, APRIL 29**

**12:00 – 2:30 pm**

## **ForWard Advisory Committee Meeting**

*(invitation only)*

*Clark & Dusable Rooms, 2nd floor, Hyatt Regency McCormick Place*

**1:00 – 8:00 pm**

## **Registration Open**

*S100 Ballroom Foyer, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**3:00 – 5:00 pm**

## **\*NEW\* Pre-Conference Workshops**

*Advanced registration required – space is limited*

**1**

### **What's Your Story?**

#### **Change and the Power of Narrative**

**Carol Tell Morse**

Lecturer, English Department, Yale College

*S102A, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**2**

### **The Art of Negotiation:**

#### **Finding Your Everyday Superpower**

**Lucia Kanter St. Amour**

Attorney, Author, VP Emerita UN Women USA, Pactum Factum

*S102BC, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**3**

### **Elevating the Workplace:**

#### **Community & Belonging**

**Jennifer Clark Fugolo**

Vice President of Industry & Stakeholder Engagement, AHLA Foundation

*S102D, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

# FORWARD

**DAY 1 MONDAY, APRIL 29 (CONTINUED)**

**3:00 – 3:45 pm** 

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**Pre-Conference Networking:  
Fun & Games**

**Talene Staab**

Brand Leader, Home2 Suites by Hilton, Hilton  
*S103A, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**4:00 – 4:45 pm** 

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**Pre-Conference Networking:  
Fun & Games**

**(repeat)**

*S103A, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**7:30 – 9:30 pm** 

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**Opening Night ForWard Social!**

*Regency Ballroom, 2nd Floor, Hyatt Regency McCormick Place*

**DAY 2**



# FORWARD

**DAY 2 TUESDAY, APRIL 30**

**8:00 am – 5:30 pm** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Registration Open**

*S100 Ballroom Foyer, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**8:00 – 9:00 am** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Breakfast**

*S102-104 Foyer, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**9:00 – 11:30 am** \_\_\_\_\_

## **ForWard General Session**

*S100 Ballroom, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

## **Welcome to ForWard: Anna Blue**

President, AHLA Foundation

# FORWARD

**DAY 2 TUESDAY, APRIL 30 (CONTINUED)**

## **Breaking Boundaries: Industry Innovators & Disruptors**

**Moderator: Malaika Myers**

Chief Human Resources Officer, Hyatt Hotels Corporation

**Jen Collins**

President, Procure Impact

**Tracy Prigmore**

Managing Partner, TLTSolutions + She Has a Deal

**Julienne Smith**

Chief Development Officer, IHG Hotels and  
Chair, AHLA Foundation Board of Trustees

## **Wisdom from Rising Leaders**

**Moderator: Mark Hoplamazian**

President and CEO, Hyatt Hotels Corporation

**Kiana Beimes**

General Manager, OHANA Waikiki East by OUTRIGGER

**Ashley Bellucci**

Senior Director, Marketing, Guest Worldwide

**Colby Bracy**

Director of People & Operation, The Nonantum Resort

**Gaby Corona**

Director of Service Culture and Performance,  
Hyatt Hotels Corporation

## **Headline Speaker: Shola Richards**

Founder & CEO, Go Together Global and Best-Selling Author

# FORWARD

**DAY 2 TUESDAY, APRIL 30 (CONTINUED)**

**11:30 am – 12:45 pm** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Networking Lunch**

*S100 Ballroom, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**12:45 – 1:45 pm** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Breakout Sessions**

### **Solution Sessions: Roundtable Conversations**

**1**

#### **Laisha Dismuke**

Vice President, Human Resources & Administration,  
RLJ Lodging Trust

*S102, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**2**

### **The 7 Habits of Transformational Leaders**

#### **Rachel Vandenberg**

Executive Leadership Coach, The Travel Leader

*S103, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**3**

### **The Unhustle Mindset**

#### **Milena Regos**

Founder, UNHUSTLE®

*S104, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**4**

### **Women on Boards**

#### **Ann Fastiggi**

Leadership Advisor, Spencer Stuart

#### **Tatia Torrey**

Leadership Advisor, Spencer Stuart

*S105ABC, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

# FORWARD

**DAY 2 TUESDAY, APRIL 30 (CONTINUED)**

**1:45 – 2:25 pm** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Networking Break**

*S102-104 Foyer, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**2:25 – 3:25 pm** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Breakout Sessions** (repeat)

### **Solution Sessions: Roundtable Conversations**

**1**

#### **Laisha Dismuke**

Vice President, Human Resources & Administration,  
RLJ Lodging Trust  
*S102, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**2**

### **The 7 Habits of Transformational Leaders**

#### **Rachel Vandenberg**

Executive Leadership Coach, The Travel Leader  
*S103, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**3**

### **The Unhustle Mindset**

#### **Milena Regos**

Founder, UNHUSTLE®  
*S104, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**4**

### **Women on Boards**

#### **Ann Fastiggi**

Leadership Advisor, Spencer Stuart

#### **Tatia Torrey**

Leadership Advisor, Spencer Stuart  
*S105ABC, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*



# FORWARD

**DAY 2 TUESDAY, APRIL 30 (CONTINUED)**

**3:45 – 5:30 pm**

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## **ForWard General Session** (continued)

*S100 Ballroom, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

### **ForWard Together: A Conversation With Kevin Jacobs and Anna Blue**

#### **Kevin Jacobs**

Chief Financial Officer & President, Global Development, Hilton,  
and Chair, AHLA Board of Directors

#### **Anna Blue**

President, AHLA Foundation

### **The Global Picture: Snapshots from Abroad**

#### **Moderator: Meghan Connolly**

Senior Vice President, Global Client Group, American Express

#### **Alyshia Mangalji**

Vice President Europe & Africa, Westmont Hospitality

#### **Anu Saxena**

President, Hilton Supply Management and  
Vice Chair, AHLA Foundation Board of Trustees

#### **Michelle Woodley**

President, Preferred Travel Group



# FORWARD

**DAY 2 TUESDAY, APRIL 30 (CONTINUED)**

## **Keynote Laughter: Fireside Chat With Zainab Johnson and Kevin Carey**

**Zainab Johnson**

Stand-up Comedian, Actress, & Writer

**Kevin Carey**

Interim President & CEO, AHLA

## **Closing Remarks: Anna Blue**

President, AHLA Foundation

**5:30 – 6:30 pm**

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## **Cocktails & Conversations**

*S102-104 Foyer, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**DAY 3**



# FORWARD

**DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, MAY 1**

**7:30 – 11:30 am**

## **Registration Open**

*S100 Ballroom Foyer, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**7:30 – 8:30 am**

## **Breakfast**

*S102-104 Foyer, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**8:30 – 11:30 am**

## **ForWard General Session**

*S100 Ballroom, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

## **Welcome Back**

### **Jennifer Clark Fugolo**

Vice President, Industry & Stakeholder Engagement,  
AHLA Foundation

### **Katie Moore**

Vice President, Strategy & Executive Management, AHLA Foundation



# FORWARD

**DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, MAY 1 (CONTINUED)**

## **Generational Changes in the Workforce**

**Moderator: Leticia Proctor**

Executive Vice President, Donohoe Hospitality Services

**Dorothy Dowling**

Principal, Introspect Advisors, and Special Advisor to HSMIA

**Dawn Gallagher**

Chief Commercial Officer, Crescent Hotels & Resorts

**Brooklynn Tucker**

Student, The Marriott-Sorenson Center for Hospitality Leadership,  
Howard University

## **The Power of Advocacy: Political + Personal**

**Moderator: Ashley McNeil**

Vice President, Federal Affairs, AHLA

**Carol Fowler**

Senior Manager, Government Affairs and Public Policy  
– Federal & International, Marriott International

**Alessandra Marsico Esq.**

Corporate Counsel, Pebblebrook Hotel Trust

**Lina Patel**

Director, Strategic Franchise Initiatives, Red Roof Inn Franchising



# FORWARD

**DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, MAY 1 (CONTINUED)**

## **Reality Check: The Future of DEI**

**Moderator: Kim Twiggs**

AVP, DIRECTV Hospitality

**Michael Amilcar**

CEO and Principal Consultant, Be Equitable

**Dexter Davis**

SVP HR – DE&I Global Inclusion and Engagement, HR, Ecolab

**Daniel del Olmo**

President, Hotels & Restaurants, Sage Hospitality Group

**Stephanie Piimauna**

SVP, Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, Seminole Hard Rock

## **Fireside Chat with Liz Plank and Anna Blue**

**Liz Plank**

CEO, Liz Plank Productions

**Anna Blue**

President, AHLA Foundation

## **Closing Remarks: Anna Blue**

President, AHLA Foundation

**11:30 am** 

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**Conference Concludes**

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LAZ Hospitality

McKibbon Hospitality

Towne Park

# 2024 FORWARD

## Advisory Committee

**Jennifer Barnwell**  
President  
Curator Hotel Collection

**Peggy Berg**  
Founder  
Castell Project

**Lynsie Bennett**  
Vice President - Sales  
STR

**Kathy Burns**  
Managing Partner  
Sea Pine Partners

**Mary Beth Cutshall**  
Founder & Managing  
Partner  
Amara Capital

**Sarah Dinger**  
EVP, Franchise Operations  
My Place Hotels

**Ann Fastiggi**  
Consultant  
Spencer Stuart

**Andrea Foster**  
Principal  
Foster Venture

**Krissy Gathright**  
ForWard Advisor and  
Board of Directors, Apple  
Hospitality REIT

**Kristie Goshow**  
Chief Commercial Officer  
KSL Resorts

**Terri Haack**  
Senior Vice President  
Lowe

**Dr. Cassandra Hill, CHA**  
Executive Director  
Choice Hotels Owners  
Council

**Nala Holmes**  
VP, Business Development  
& Acquisitions  
Pyramid Global Hospitality

**Marina MacDonald**  
Chief Marketing Officer  
Red Roof

**Michelle Majewski**  
Vice President, Global  
Accounts  
Ecolab

**Rachel Moniz**  
Chief Operating Officer  
HEI Hotels & Resorts

**Malaika Myers –  
Committee Chair**  
Chief Human Resources  
Officer  
Hyatt Hotels Corporation

**Nimisha Patel**  
Partner  
Vue Hotels

**Liz Perkins**  
SVP & Chief Financial  
Officer  
Apple Hospitality REIT

**Tricia Primrose**  
Chief Global  
Communications & Public  
Affairs Officer  
Marriott International

**Allison Reid**  
Chief Global Growth Officer  
Aimbridge Hospitality

**Joy Rothschild**  
Chief Human Resources  
Officer  
Omni Hotels & Resorts

**Jyoti Sarolia**  
President & CEO  
Ellis Hospitality Group

**Bella Silverberg**  
Vice President, Development  
Marketing  
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

**Talene Staab**  
Global Head  
Tru by Hilton

**Gretchen Stroud**  
SVP, Human Resources  
Hilton

**Mari Sifo**  
EVP & Chief HR Officer  
Host Hotels & Resorts

**Kim Twiggs**  
AVP, Product Development  
DIRECTV

**Telesa Via**  
Head of Sales, Luxury &  
Lifestyle Americas  
IHG Hotels & Resorts

**Monica Xuereb**  
Chief Commercial Officer  
Loews Hotels & Co.

## Passionate, Inclusive, and Mission-driven

The ForWard Network unites women working in the hospitality industry that are passionate about the mission of ForWard — to mentor, educate, and lead women to the next level of their careers.

[Learn More](#)

# FORWARD@

## Regional Events

May 2, 2024  
ForWard@DC

October 3, 2024  
ForWard@Chicago

October 17, 2024  
ForWard@Orange County

[LEARN MORE](#)



## COMING TO A CITY NEAR YOU!

5/2 Washington, D.C.  
5/16 Kansas City, MO  
5/23 Salt Lake City, UT  
5/30 Las Vegas, NV

9/5 Philadelphia, PA  
10/3 Chicago, IL  
10/17 Orange County, CA  
10/22 Boston, MA

11/7 Seattle, WA  
11/19 Grand Rapids, MI  
TBD Phoenix, AZ

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Jan 27, 2025 | Los Angeles, CA

[AHLAFoundation.org/Stars](http://AHLAFoundation.org/Stars)

  
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