

# FORWARD<sup>®</sup> CONFERENCE 2024

April 29 – May 1, 2024

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place | McCormick Place Chicago, South Building

## **MONDAY, APRIL 29**

12:00 – 2:30 pm      **ForWard Advisory Committee Meeting** (*invitation only*)  
*Clark and Dusable Rooms, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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*

3:00 – 3:45 pm      **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      **Pre-Conference Networking: Fun & Games** (repeat)  
*S103A, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

7:30 – 9:30 pm      **Opening Night ForWard Social!**  
*Regency Ballroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hyatt Regency McCormick Place*

## **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

## **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

11:30 am – 12:45 pm **Networking Lunch**

*S100 Ballroom, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

12:45 – 1:45 pm **Breakout Sessions**

### **1. Solution Sessions: Roundtable Conversations**

**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*

1:45 – 2:25 pm **Networking Break**

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

2:25 – 3:25 pm **Breakouts Sessions** (repeat)

3:45 – 5:30 pm **ForWard General Session** (continued)

*S100 Ballroom, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

**ForWard Together: A Conversation with Kevin Jacobs**, Chief Financial Officer & President, Global Development, Hilton and Chair, AHLA Board of Directors and **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

**Keynote Laughter:** Fireside chat with Stand-up Comedian, Actress and Writer **Zainab Johnson** and **Kevin Carey**, Interim President & CEO, AHLA

**Closing Remarks:** **Anna Blue**, President, AHLA Foundation

5:30 – 6:30 pm           **Cocktails & Conversations**  
*S102-104 Foyer, McCormick Place Chicago, South Building*

## **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

### **Generational Changes in the Workforce**

Moderator: **Leticia Proctor**, Executive Vice President, Donohoe Hospitality Services  
**Dorothy Dowling**, Principal, Introspect Advisors, and Special Advisor to HSMIAI  
**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

### **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**, CEO, Liz Plank Productions, and **Anna Blue**, President, AHLA Foundation

**Closing Remarks:** **Anna Blue**, President, AHLA Foundation

11:30 am               **Conference Concludes**