

GeorgiaForward

2017 FORUM



DEFINING GEORGIA'S PROSPERITY
SEPTEMBER 28-29, 2017
GEORGIA WORLD CONGRESS CENTER
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

presented by:

Bank of America



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

12:00 PM: REGISTRATION

1:00 PM: WELCOME & REMARKS

A.J. Robinson

GeorgiaForward Board Chairman

1:30 PM: ECONOMIC MOBILITY & RELEVANCE FOR GEORGIA

Wendy Stewart

Atlanta Market President &

Co-Head Southeast Region Bank of America

1:50 PM: GEORGIA'S CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS: A LOOK AT OUR FUTURE

John Fortier

Director of The Democracy Project

Bipartisan Policy Center

2:30 PM: INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION: WHAT IS OUR COMMON PROSPERITY?

Otis White

President, Civic Strategies

3:30 PM BREAK

3:45 PM BREAK OUT SESSIONS:

TECHNOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE

Presented by: Georgia Farm Bureau

Agriculture is Georgia's number one industry.

How is technology impacting the future of agriculture in Georgia?

• Gary Black

*Commissioner of Agriculture,
State of Georgia*

• Megan Frame

*Marketing & Communications Coordinator,
Georgia Forestry Association*

• Jenni Harris

*Marketing Manager,
White Oak Pastures*

• Taylor Sills

*Director of Public Affairs,
Georgia Cotton Commission*

MODERATOR:

John Clark

Georgia News Network and Timber Farmer

YOUNG LEADERS IN RURAL GA

Many of our rural communities are facing population decline. How can we retain, attract and cultivate the next generation of leaders to ensure that Georgia's smaller towns have a vibrant future?

• Matt Bishop

Executive Director,

*J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership
Development at University of Georgia*

• Dr. David Bridges

President,

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

• Morgan Law

*Vice President of Strategic Initiatives,
Georgia Chamber*

• Anna Strickland

Archway Professional,

UGA Archway Partnership

MODERATOR:

Ben Young

*Editor in Chief and Publisher,
GeorgiaTrend*

GEORGIA'S SKILLED WORKFORCE

A skilled, trained workforce is essential to the sustainability of Georgia's businesses. How can we better develop connections between our early education programs and nationally ranked colleges and universities?

• Odie Donald

*Director of Department of Employee Services,
Washington DC*

• Dr. John Green

Director,

Carrollton-Carroll County Education Collaborative

• John Tibbetts

2018 Georgia Teacher of the Year

• Dr. Barbara Wall

State Director

*Career, Technical and Agricultural Education,
Georgia Department of Education*

MODERATOR:

Amir Farokhi

*Founding Director of GeorgiaForward &
Director of Strategy at BrightHouse*

FOLLOW US ►►

georgiaforward.org |



SUSTAINABILITY OF GEORGIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

From our water supply, to transportation options and communications, infrastructure is vital to our economy, security, health and safety. How can we better plan for future needs and sustainability of Georgia's infrastructure?

- Shrujal Amin
*Transportation Investment Act Program Manager,
Georgia Department of Transportation*
- Jeff Davis
*President,
Alterra Networks*
- Mike Robinson
*Transmission Planning &
Operations General Manager,
Georgia Power*
- Burke Walker
*Planning & Government Services,
Northeast Georgia Regional Commission*

MODERATOR
Howard Franklin
*Principal,
Ohio River South*

**4:45 PM: INTERACTIVE SESSION:
BIG IDEAS**

5:30 PM: ADJOURN

**6-8 PM: COCKTAILS AT
THE COMMERCE CLUB**
*191 Peachtree Street NE
49th Floor*

7:30 PM: DINNER & DISCUSSIONS
georgiaforward.org for details

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

**8:30 AM: NETWORKING &
GRAB & GO BREAKFAST**

**9 AM: WELCOME BACK
PRIORITIZING BIG IDEAS**

10:30 AM: BREAK

10:45 AM: CIVIC LEADERS: POSITIVE IMPACT IN YOUNG GAMECHANGERS COMMUNITIES

Presented By: Georgia Municipal Association and
Georgia Cities Foundation

- **Phil Best**, *Dublin Mayor*
- **Patrick Crews**, *Troup County Commission Chairman*
- **Hardie Davis**, *Augusta Mayor*
- **Larry Yockey**, *Douglasville Mayor Pro Tem*

MODERATOR

- **Craig Lesser**, *Managing Partner,
Pendleton Group*

11:45 AM: LUNCH

12:30 PM: KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. R. Kirby Godsey
Chancellor, Mercer University

**1:30 PM: YOUNG GAMECHANGERS:
GEORGIA'S NEXT GENERATION
OF LEADERS**

- **Ben Andrews**
Communications Consultant
- **Shemeeka Johnson**
*Senior Communications Specialist
Georgia Department of Economic
Development, Workforce Division*
- **Scott Poag**
*Director of Business Development
Williams & Associates*
- **Rebecca McWilliam**
*Executive Director
Visit Dublin GA*
- **Kenita Williams**
*Director of Racial
Equity Leadership Network
Southern Education Foundation*

MODERATOR:

Carrie Barnes
*Community Development Consultant
Georgia EMC*

**2:30 PM: INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION
LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE**

3 PM: ADJOURN

PRESENTED BY



GOLD SPONSORS



THE ARTHUR M. BLANK
FAMILY FOUNDATION

SILVER SPONSORS



BRONZE SPONSORS



A Member of the ClubCorp Family



FRIENDS OF THE FORUM



IN KIND SPONSORS



MEDIA SPONSORS



2017 STEERING COMMITTEE:

Ben Andrews, Carrie Barnes, Bernadette Birch, Stacey Chavis, Meghan Duke, James Hammond, Karen Hatchett, Laurie Murrah Hanson, Cole Posey, Sara Ray, Otis White

▶▶ GEORGIA FORWARD BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

A.J. ROBINSON, CHAIRMAN
President
Central Atlanta Progress

BEN ANDREWS
Communications Consultant

BILL BOLLING
Founder
Atlanta Community Food Bank

AMANDA BROWN-OLMSTEAD
President
Amanda Brown-Olmstead & Associates

DEKE COPENHAVER
Principal
Copenhaver Consulting, LLC

ANN CRAMER
Senior Consultant
Coxe Curry & Associates

HARDIE DAVIS
Mayor
City of Augusta

MEGHAN DUKE
Economic Development Director
City of West Point

AMIR FAROKHI
Director of Strategy
BrightHouse

MIKE FORD
Former President
NewTown Macon

HILL HARDMAN
Director of Corp. Strategy
& Development
RouteMatch Software

MIKE STARR
President & CEO
Georgia Cities Foundation

BEN YOUNG
Editor in Chief & Publisher
Georgia Trend Magazine

KRIS VAUGHN
Executive Director
GeorgiaForward