

May 17, 2019



## Friday Focus

### Events Next Week

#### DOWNTOWN CHAMBER BIKE TOUR 2019



May 23rd & 24th  
1:00pm-3:00pm

[REGISTER NOW](#)

#### **Tonight! Friday, May 17th - Ribbon Cutting**

At Onyx Office Suite, 4:00 PM

[Register](#)

#### **Monday, May 20th - Restaurant Series**

Held at the Trellis, Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, 11:30 AM

[Register](#)

#### **Tuesday, May 21st - Riverwalk Rendezvous**

Held at the Brenton Skating Plaza, 4:30 PM

[Register](#)

#### **Thursday & Friday, May 23rd and 24th - Economic Bike Tour**

Starting at DART Central Station, 1:00 PM

[Register](#)

[Visit the full calendar of events](#)



## Impact



### Student and Business Connections

The Downtown Chamber's Student-to-Employer (s2e) initiative is focused on connecting high-school and college-age students with member businesses, and it includes business training, student training, and connection activities for students and employers.

To help businesses prepare, the Downtown Chamber hosted a business training this week: **Workplace Win: The Do's & Don'ts of Hiring Youth in the Workplace**, presented by *Kay Oskvig, Whitfield & Eddy Law*.

***Are you currently looking for a student intern this summer?***

The Downtown Chamber is working together with an s2e Partner, **Evelyn K. Davis Center**, to help connect members to students in their Summer Youth Employment Program. They are currently seeking businesses with internship opportunities. [Learn more here.](#)

## Student Video Project Showcases Downtown Des Moines

In addition, earlier this month Downtown Chamber members were visited by students from Blue Valley Southwest High School, located in Overland Park, Kansas to build hands-on experience for their Broadcasting class. Thank you to the Greater Des Moines Partnership and Catch Des Moines for helping with the video briefs and welcoming the students to Des Moines, and also to all of our chamber members who took time to work with the students. Our community benefited from this project with the gift of several promotional videos to highlight aspects of our city. [Learn more about this project and the Downtown Chamber's experience working with the students.](#)



## Students Practice National Presentation with Downtown Chamber Members

The ACE Competition team of Central Iowa was selected as one of just three presentations (out of 64 entries) to compete nationally for the second consecutive year for their project titled “Unboxed.” On Wednesday, May 1st, the Downtown Chamber invited the students to do a mock presentation at Cityville (Hubbell) in front of chamber members to help them prepare for their official presentation on May 14th in Washington D.C.

*Unboxed* was created by eight high school students on the competition team in response to the prompt which challenged them to create a playground or playscape for all ages that revitalized a neglected part of an urban area or city into an interactive landscape that encourages public engagement and community involvement along with keeping sustainable ideas in mind. With the steady rise of online shopping comes an inevitable consequence—brick-and-mortar stores are having a harder time keeping up. Some of the recent casualties of this trend include Toys R Us, Sears, and Youngers; all big-box stores. When these stores close, they leave behind massive properties that become difficult to repurpose, which is where their design comes into play. Located within a large residential neighborhood the “Unboxed” playground is located in a transformed Youngers building in Merle Hay Mall and provides a central hub for students from the five nearby schools to exercise, hang out, and enjoy nature. The program incorporates various play elements to transform the abandoned space and create a playscape for all ages.

Congratulations to the students, and thank you to their parents and mentors! The mock presentation was excellent and inspiring to all those who attended.

## Downtown Chamber Leadership Represents in D.C.



Downtown Chamber Board leaders and staff attended the Greater Des Moines Partnership's annual D.C. Fly-in, #DMDC2019, on May 8th-10th.

Nearly 200 business leaders and local government officials were in Washington, D.C. last week. It was the 40th year for this trip, which is regarded as the Partnership's launch point for advocacy at the federal level.

## City Connect Brings Businesses and City Leaders Together

City Connect offered a space for Downtown Chamber members to have easy access to multiple local leaders on April 11th to communicate their needs and priorities. Mayor Cownie, Councilman

Mandelbaum, Supervisors Hockensmith and McCoy, Terry Vorbrich, Ryan Moffatt, Cody Christensen, and Mike Ludwig all participated as representatives to listen and help guide businesses with their questions. Thank you to Christensen Development (Presenting Sponsor) and East Village Spa for your support of this influential series. Thank you also to the City of Des Moines for hosting in the Council Chambers. Watch for more City Connect events this summer.



## Partnership Perk

As a Member of the Downtown Chamber, you are automatically a Member of Greater Des Moines Partnership.

### Seize the City

Seize the City is a series of free events for interns spending their summer in Greater Des Moines (DSM). The series contains various networking events designed to engage summer interns with business and community leaders, young professionals and other interns while incorporating exposure to many of the quality of life amenities and professional development opportunities in the region. If you are interested in Seize the City or want to learn more, [click here](#).

### Internship Toolkit

Are you thinking about implementing an internship program at your organization, but aren't sure where to start? Or perhaps you have had interns in the past and are looking for ways to make your program more formalized and effective. Check out The Greater Des Moines Partnership's internship toolkit: [Internships 101](#). The free, online guide provides employers with tools to successfully implement and maintain an internship program within their organizations.

The online guide walks through key areas of implementation, beginning with establishing a plan, recruiting and hiring, and management tips. Also included are resources such as a sample job description, local college and university contacts, sample interview questions and legal considerations.

If you are still looking to hire interns. Check out our resume database on the Career Center, which can be accessed at <https://www.careersdsmusa.com>.

### Member Opportunity! RFP for Presenters

The Greater Des Moines Partnership is seeking presentations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Small Business Success Summit on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. There are 18 breakout sessions that need your expertise.

The purpose of the Small Business Success Summit is to inform, educate and inspire business owners in Greater Des Moines (DSM). This event will be the premier business conference of 2019. The summit will host three keynote speakers and 18 breakout sessions on a variety of timely topics that affect business owners and managers. In addition there will be 28 resource partners on site to answer specific questions related to your business (there are sponsorship opportunities available as well). Attendees will also have time to network and establish strategic partnerships. To see example of 2018 agenda and details please visit [www.dsmpartnership.com/summit](http://www.dsmpartnership.com/summit)

Responses due by **5pm on May 31<sup>st</sup>**

[RFP Details Here](#)

## Volunteer Openings

It's ribbon-cutting season! The Ambassadors are seeking additional volunteers to help out and attend at ribbon cutting events.



If you're interested in being part of an energetic team that supports new and expanding businesses, let us know!

To inquire or participate on this committee, contact [Melanie Suljic](#) (Ambassadors Chair).



## New Office

Be sure to update your records, our new address is:  
**500 Locust St., Suite 101, Des Moines, IA 50309**

New Phone Number:  
**515-297-6333**

We invite you to stop by anytime to visit and share with us how the Downtown Chamber can help your business.

*Pictured: Special Guest, Joe Murphy (Greater Des Moines Partnership) and Jennifer Chittenden (Downtown Chamber)*



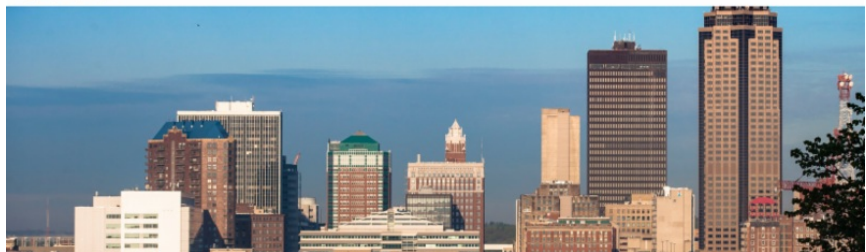
## New Website

Our website has a new look, more resources, and new features!

Explore at  
[www.DTchamber.com](http://www.DTchamber.com)



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## Platinum Members





McLaughlin Investment



CPAs & BUSINESS ADVISORS



**GOLD Members**

**All Makes**

**Americana**

**Des Moines Marriott Downtown**

**Netbringer**

**Principal Charity Classic**

**Storey Kenworthy**



**Mission:**

The Des Moines Downtown Chamber of Commerce is a provider of information and resources for the downtown community through knowledge sharing, the fostering of civility, and understanding of economic issues in the service of the betterment and sustained growth and success of Downtown Des Moines.



**CHAMBER OF THE YEAR  
2018**

Des Moines Downtown Chamber of Commerce | 515-309-3229 | [director@dtchamber.com](mailto:director@dtchamber.com)  
[www.DTchamber.com](http://www.DTchamber.com)

STAY CONNECTED

