

40th Annual NOBCO Economic Development Conference

Conference Agenda

From Leadership to Legacy: Paving the Next 40 Years Forward

Thursday, May 7

12:00PM - 3:00PM

Registration Opens

Honoapi'ilani Tour Desk

3:30PM - 5:30PM

Day of Service

Meet at Honoapi'ilani Tour Desk

• Lāhainā Strong: Rebuilding Maui For The People

As part of the National Organization of Black County Officials' (NOBCO) 40th Annual Economic Development Conference, participants are invited to step beyond the conference and into the community, joining **Lahaina Strong** for an afternoon of meaningful, hands-on service in Lahaina.

Lahaina Strong is a Maui-based, community-led movement committed to a resilient, sustainable, and just future for Lahaina and all of Hawai'i. This is a perfect volunteer opportunity and is an invitation to stand in solidarity with a community actively rebuilding, organizing, and caring for one another.

Participants will meet at 3:45 PM on Thursday, May 7, 2025, at the conference registration desk to gather for a welcome, grounding, and briefing.

Join us with Lahaina Rising and Lahaina Strong to do mālama 'āina work with Kaiāulu Initiatives in the mountains above Lahaina. We'll be planting native species and removing invasive plants as part of ongoing reforestation efforts. Plan for approximately two hours of hands-on restoration work. All skill levels welcome.

What to bring:

- Water
- Sunscreen
- Comfortable shoes
- Appropriate outdoor clothing
- **A spirit of connection for a great afternoon together**

This is a space to listen, learn from one another, and connect as we witness community voices shaping the path forward.

Come ready to show up, lend your hands, and help support the ongoing rebuilding of Maui for the people!

Friday, May 8

8:00AM - 12:00PM
2:00PM - 3:00PM

Registration
Honoapi'ilani Tour Desk

7:30AM - 9:00AM

Breakfast
Honoapi'ilani Terrace

9:00AM - 10:00AM

Fireside Chat
Honokeana

• The Digital Third Rail: Tech’s Unseen Influence on Politics

Moderator



Johnnie Gordon
Co-Chief Executive Officer
Ankobia Group, LLC

Featured Guest



Emily Vaughn Henry
Assistant Chief Information Officer
San Bernardino County, CA

10:00AM - 10:30AM

Morning Mix Break
Honoapi'ilani Lounge

10:30AM - 11:45AM

Concurrent Sessions
Honokowai

• Navigating Public Safety Across Crisis, Policy and Community Impact

Moderator



Hon. George Dunlap
1st Vice President
National Association of
Counties (NACo)

Panelists



Hon. Holly Mitchell
Supervisor
Los Angeles County, CA



Elliot T. Boyce Sr.
Executive Director
National Black State
Troopers Coalition, Inc.



Corey Shaffer
Associate Director
Network Operations
Verizon Hawaii

• Beyond Pensions: Building Modern Retirement Systems for a New Workforce

Moderator

Panelists



Carlos L. Greene
Managing Director, Retirement Services
National Association of Counties (NACo), NACo Edge



Andy Pierce
Endorsement Partner Manager
Nationwide



Hon. Sharon Green Middleton
Vice President
Baltimore, MD City Council



Kurt Summers
Founder and Chairman
Congruent Holdings

12:00PM - 2:00PM

Annual Awards Luncheon

Haleakala Ballroom

• Exclusive Private Screening & Conversation of Award Winning Documentary, Lāhainā Rising

Lāhainā Rising is a HIFF 'Made in Hawai'i' Award-winning documentary delving into the life-altering events of August 8, 2023, when the historic town of Lāhainā endured one of the most devastating wildfires in American history. The film takes you inside the fire in real-time, vividly capturing the chaos, suffering, and valiant efforts to combat the blaze that obliterated an entire town and displaced over 13,000 residents.



Catherine Cluett Pactol
Senior Reporter
Maui Nut



Jeeyun Lee
Chief Executive Officer
Maui United Way



Michaellyn "Mikey" Burke
Board President
Lāhainā Community Land Trust
Advisory Board



Matthew Schweitzer
Director
LĀHAINĀ RISING



Blake Ramelb
Producer
LĀHAINĀ RISING



De Andre Makakoa
Producer
LĀHAINĀ RISING



Pā'ele Kiakona
Lead Organizer & President
Save Honolulu Coalition

2:15PM - 3:15PM

General Session

Honokeana

• Data Centers Decoded: A County Leader's Guide to Understanding the Impact

Moderator

Panelists



Hon. Joe Norwood
Vice President
Lauderdale County, MS
Board of Supervisors



Hon. Sydney J. Harrison
Councilman
Prince George's County, MD
Council



Kurt Summers
Founder and Chairman
Congruent Holdings

3:15PM - 3:45PM

Closed Door Meeting

Honokeana

• Elected Officials Only

NO STAFF ALLOWED

**All -White
Welcome
Reception**

5:30PM - 8:30PM

Conversation & Cocktails

Hon. Monica Gordon

County Clerk - Cook County, IL

Kukahi Lawn & Adult Pool Deck

Westin Maui Resort & Spa

2365 Kaanapali Pkwy

Lahaina, HI 96761



The time is now

Retirement plan sponsors and participants
want **guaranteed lifetime income**
investment options today.



Saturday, May 9

8:00AM - 12:00PM
2:00PM - 3:00PM

Registration
Honoapi'ilani Tour Desk

7:30AM - 9:00AM

Breakfast
Honoapi'ilani Terrace

9:00AM - 10:00AM

Fireside Chat
Honokeana

• Island Voices, National Impact: The Black Experience in Hawaii

Moderator



Milli Moto
CEO/ Executive Director
National Organization of Black
County Officials (NOBCO)

Featured Guests



Leslee Matthews
President, African American
Lawyer Association Hawai'i
Past President, Maui County
Bar Association



Moses Goods
Actor and Storyteller
Chief of War, NCIS Hawai'i

10:00AM - 10:30AM

Morning Mix Break
Honoapiilani Lounge

10:30AM - 11:45AM

General Session
Honokowai

• From Burnout to Balance: Rest as a Leadership Strategy for Public Service

Moderator



Kristina M. Dixon
Former Chief Financial Officer
Los Angeles Homeless Services
Authority

Guest Speaker



Dr. Taft Parsons
Vice President & Chief
Psychiatric Officer
CVS Health

Keynote Speaker



Tavis Smiley

Host and New York Times Best Selling Author
The Tavis Smiley Show, KBLA Talk 1580

Featuring



Langston Hughes II
Saxophonist,
Woodwind Doubler,
Composer and Educator

Langston Hughes II is a saxophonist, woodwind doubler, composer, and educator whose warm, expressive sound and lyrical improvisational voice have earned him recognition as one of the emerging talents of his generation.

Based in New York City, he has performed with leading artists across the jazz world and appeared on stages throughout the United States and beyond. Hughes has shared the stage with renowned musicians including Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Cyrus Chestnut, and Ulysses Owens Jr., among others. His performances have taken him to prestigious venues and festivals such as the Kennedy Center, Blues Alley, Keystone Korner, the DC Jazz Festival, and leading clubs and concert halls across the country.

As a bandleader, Hughes presents original music and creative interpretations of the jazz tradition, drawing from the lineage of great saxophonists while cultivating a personal, modern voice. His playing is marked by a rich, centered tone, rhythmic clarity, and a deep commitment to melodic storytelling.

Originally from Prince George’s County, Maryland, Hughes began his formal jazz studies at Howard University, where he studied under acclaimed saxophonist and educator Charlie Young III. Under Young’s mentorship, he developed the discipline, self-diagnostic skills, and musical foundation that continue to shape his artistic path. He later moved to New York City to pursue a master’s degree in Jazz Studies at The Juilliard School.

Beyond the bandstand, Hughes is an active and passionate educator. He maintains a private teaching studio and works with young musicians through school programs, workshops, and nonprofit organizations. His teaching centers on sound development, musical expression, and the cultivation of discipline, confidence, and artistic identity. Through his work as a performer, composer, and mentor, Langston Hughes II continues to build a career rooted in musical excellence, community, and the enduring spirit of the jazz tradition.



Isa Eden
Junior Intern
National Organization
of Black County
Officials, (NOBCO)

Isa Eden is a dynamic 10-year-old actress, youth elite fencer, and accomplished violinist whose talents span screen, sport, and symphony. As a rising young performer, Isa has already built an impressive list of credits, appearing in acclaimed and popular shows including *Matlock*, *Abbott Elementary*, *This Is Us*, *Raven's Home*, *That Girl Lay Lay*, *Tuca & Bertie*, and the feature films *Young. Wild. Free.* and *Hiding Places*. She brings a natural presence to every role, pairing emotional depth with confidence and authenticity beyond her years.

Beyond the screen, Isa is a dedicated athlete who trains competitively as a youth elite fencer, demonstrating discipline, agility, and strategic precision. Her commitment to the sport reflects her drive for excellence and her ability to thrive in high-performance environments.

Isa is also a violinist, performing in the Junior Symphony with the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles (ICYOLA) and the New Hope Orange County Orchestra (NHOCO). Through music, she continues to develop her artistry while contributing to ensembles that celebrate excellence, culture, and community.

In addition to her artistic and athletic pursuits, Isa is deeply committed to service and leadership. She proudly dedicates her time to the National Organization of Black County Officials, where she serves as an honorary Junior Intern, supporting initiatives, engaging with community leaders, and gaining early exposure to civic impact and public service.

2:15PM - 3:15PM

General Session

Honokowai

• **From Federal Cuts to Trillion-Dollar Opportunities: Launching the NOBCO Grant Finder Powered by Grant Guru**

Moderator



Milli Moto
Chief Executive Officer/ Executive Director
National Organization of Black County
Officials (NOBCO)

Guest Presenter



Craig Hunter
Vice President Customer
Relations, North America
GrantGuru

3:15PM - 3:45PM

Corporate Roundtable Meeting

Honokeana

• **Business Professional & Elected Officials Welcome**

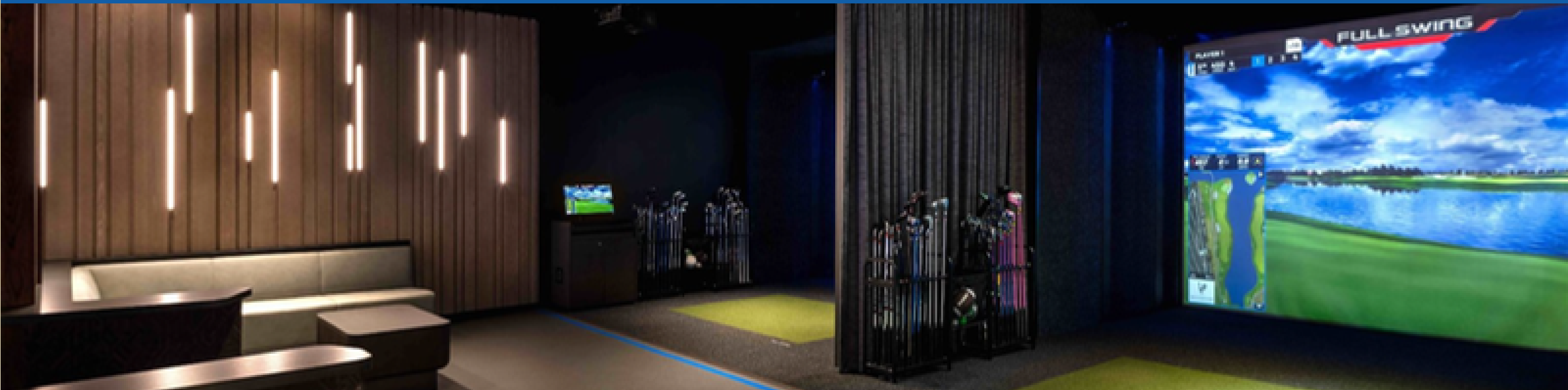
NO STAFF ALLOWED

**Chairman & CEO's
Experience**

6:00PM - 9:00PM

Valley Alley

Westin Maui Resort & Spa
2365 Kaanapali Pkwy
Lahaina, HI 96761



Hospitality Suite

Open after 9:00PM

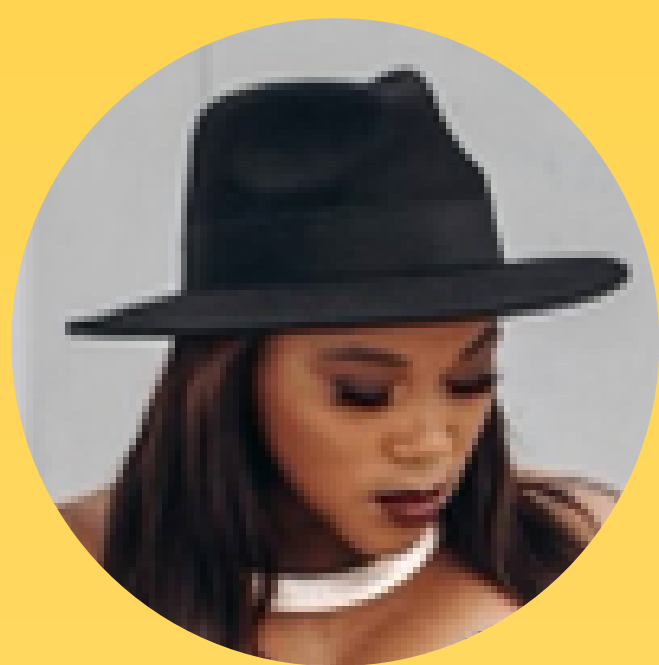
Hokupa'a Tower Sundeck
Suite 288

Sunday, May 10

9:00AM - 10:30AM

Gospel & Prayer Breakfast

Haleakala Ballroom



Ashia Bello
Singer and Songwriter

Angelic. Pure. Moving. Powerful. Just a few words to describe the incredible tone and vocal gift of singer, songwriter Ashia (Asia). Born and raised in Prince George's County, MD, Ashia has been singing all her life! Growing up in the AME Zion church where her grandmother was a Pastor, was her first introduction to music. A self taught musician, she would learn to read music and play the piano at age 8 and shortly after began writing her own songs. Ashia and music were a match made in heaven as she sang and performed in musicals and choirs from elementary school through high school, honoring her craft.

Ashia continued her musical journey attending Morgan State University on a vocal scholarship, majoring in Vocal Performance. She traveled extensively with the famed Morgan State University Choir under the direction of Eric Conway.

11:00AM - 12:00PM

Main Lobby

• **Keiki Hula & Polynesian Show**

The Keiki Hula Show is a heartwarming and culturally rich experience that showcases the beauty of Hawaiian traditions through the art of hula. Featuring talented young dancers (keiki) from local hālau (hula schools), this enchanting performance brings to life the stories, history, and spirit of the islands through graceful movements, vibrant costumes, and traditional Hawaiian music.

Wailele Lu'au

5:30PM - 8:30PM

The Aloha Pavilion

Westin Maui Resort & Spa
2365 Kaanapali Pkwy
Lahaina, HI 96761



Hospitality Suite

Open after 8:30PM

Hokupa'a Tower Sundeck
Suite 288

Monday, May 11

6:30AM - 7:30AM	Group Wellness Activity
• Run Club	<i>Hokupa'a Lawn</i>
7:00AM & 8:00AM	Group Wellness Activity
• Bodyweight Burner	<i>Aloha Pavillion</i>
7:30AM	Group Wellness Activity
• Beach Yoga	<i>Hokupa'a Lawn</i>
9:00AM - 9:15PM	Leisure Event
• Koi Fish Feeding	<i>Lobby Pond</i>
<i>Connect with nature - a moment where nature's vibrant colors meet tranquil waters.</i>	
10:30AM	Leisure Event
• Ukulele Lessons	<i>Main Lobby Mound</i>
<i>*Walk in only</i>	

8 in 10
participants

would be at least somewhat likely to roll over their current retirement savings into a guaranteed lifetime income investment if it were available from their employer.¹



Scan the QR code or visit nationwidefinancial.com/consultant/in-plan-guarantees/evaluation-guide to learn more about how you can add an in-plan guarantee to a plan.

¹“Nationwide Retirement Institute® 2021 In-Plan Lifetime Income Survey” (September 2021).
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