

# **Equality Chamber**

**2023-2024  
Business Directory**

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## WELCOME TO THE CHAMBER!



Engagement has been the hallmark of the Chamber's recent efforts. As the first Chief Executive Officer in more than a decade, I know that engagement of members and stakeholders will be our most profound and lasting metric of success.

Since the last Business Directory, I'm proud that we've expanded our engagement with members by adding programming, including intentional programs like our Womxn Networking series. We've attracted new members, increased volunteer numbers, reached new communities and increased engagement with strategic, community and government partners.

As we look toward the horizon, WorldPride Washington D.C. 2025 looms large. I know that we will be ready as a business community. I had the privilege of joining other local leaders at WorldPride Sydney. While our friends from Australia put on a great show, we'll show millions of our LGBTQ+ siblings the time of their lives - though we must be prepared, as a region and business community.

Together, we will keep engaging and empowering our members while building stronger strategic partnerships focused on our shared goals. WorldPride 2025 offers us an opportunity to showcase our home to the world for a few weeks, meanwhile, our long-term success will always come from consistent, intentional and evolving cooperation with members and stakeholders - like you!

Thank you for being the most important part of the success of LGBTQ+ community: its members, businesses and faithful alliance. Our success - now and always - is because of you!

**Morgan Jameson**  
CEO

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## ABOUT THE EQUALITY CHAMBER

The Equality Chamber of Commerce | DC Metro Area is an award-winning nonprofit organization of hundreds of LGBTQ+ and ally members, with a network of several thousand LGBTQ+ professionals, allies, and business leaders in the Washington, DC Metro Area. The mission of the Chamber is to advocate, empower, promote and facilitate the success of LGBTQ+ businesses and their allies in the Metro DC Area.

The diverse LGBTQ+ business community is acknowledged and well recognized as a key driver in a thriving Metro DC economy. This is happening because of the Chamber's work to build the common economic interests and synergies between LGBTQ+ business owners, LGBTQ+ professionals and organizations intent on doing business with the LGBTQ+ suppliers and professionals. Business acceptance and business equality for the LGBTQ+ community is resulting in economic prosperity for all people in the DC Metro Area. The Chamber is an affiliate of the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce.



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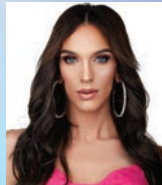
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## ABOUT THE EQUALITY CHAMBER FOUNDATION

The Equality Chamber Foundation (ecf) was founded in 2019 by a common purpose to enhance our community's culture, evolve its economy and create safe spaces for the entrepreneurial spirit to thrive. We help support and facilitate the success of the LGBT+ community and its allies through inclusion, a commitment to equality, and educational outreach in the areas of financial awareness, business acumen and economic opportunity.

The ecf is a not-for-profit (501c3) and a public charity.



Chadwick Charles  
Board Member



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## OUR VISION

The diverse LGBTQ+ business community is acknowledged and well recognized as a key driver in a thriving Metro DC economy. This is happening because of the Chamber's work to build the common economic interests and synergies between LGBTQ+ business owners, LGBTQ+ professionals and organizations intent on doing business with the LGBTQ+ suppliers and professionals. Business acceptance and business equality for the LGBTQ+ community is resulting in economic prosperity for all people in the DC Metro region.

## OUR VALUES

**Engaged:** it takes a connected group of people to fulfill the mission.

**Respectful:** all people of all backgrounds are appreciated and served.

**Fun:** advancing business is good and ought to be fun to do.

**Civic Minded:** we care about our communities and their well-being is tied to our success.

## COMMITTEES

### Joint Committees

- Communications and Marketing Committee
- Finance Committee
- Operations Committee
- Programming and Events Committee

### ECC Committees

- Membership Growth and Retention Committee

### ECF Committees

- Advisory Committee
- Micro Grant Committee

If you're interested in learning more about our committees or how to join, please visit our website.

## 2023-2024 EVENTS

The Chamber hosts events throughout the year to provide members and guests a chance to meet, learn, network, socialize, and celebrate. Hosted events provide opportunities for sponsors to gain visibility.

Most events are free to members, guests, and the public. Where entry fees exist, they can often be deducted from a new member's fee to join. Entry fees can be waived for those willing to volunteer.

### Chamber Connect

An open-format cocktail-hour networking event, hosted on the second Thursday evening of each month; free.

### Rise & Grind

An educational and informational seminar. Our goal is to gather experts in our community to discuss topics critical to small businesses and organizations.

### Womxn Networking

A quarterly networking series created to cultivate a community of D.C. metropolitan area LGBTQ+ women business owners and professionals.

### MegaNetworking

The largest LGBTQ+ networking event and job fair in the region, organized with many of our Partners to gather a wide representation of the community to promote business, awareness, membership, volunteering, organizing, and fund-raising.

### ERG

Programming, education, training, and networking opportunities for LGBTQ+ Employee Resource Groups from the corporate, nonprofit, and government sectors.

### Pride Festivals

Annual events intended to celebrate the community and our accomplishments with our friends and allies. We want to be visible in all areas of the community to invite people to get involved. This is a good chance to volunteer; free.

### Holiday Party

The end-of-year annual December networking event to honor and acknowledge all Chamber hosts and sponsors; free.

### Special Events

The Chamber hosts special events and joins our partners in planning, promoting, and attending special events as they arise. We have hosted and represented our members at awards dinners, sponsorship events,



## JOIN THE CHAMBER

The Chamber provides members access to business with over 5,000 loyal members of the LGBTQ+ community and our Allies, including professionals, entrepreneurs, business owners, clients, shoppers, and consumers.

This entrée to the LGBTQ+ community and our allies occurs through multiple channels including new media, educational seminars, intentional referrals, and diverse network-building events.

No other organization has the attention of, or can deliver, such an impressive market.

## PURSUE YOUR GOALS

- » **Meet** exciting people and **expand** professional networks
- » **Network** with people who share **passion** for business and the community
- » Find **clients**, customers, and employers
- » Conduct business within the **comfort** of like-minded people
- » Find guidance and support while pursuing new **career** goals
- » **Learn** useful ideas, strategies, and insights for **advancement**
- » Build leadership skills, **mentor** others, give back to the community
- » Promote and strengthen the universal **interests** of the community
- » Discuss, consider, and **surmount** challenges for the community in business
- » **Interact** with community **role models** and regional leaders
- » Have a **voice** in regional **government** and regulations



## MEMBERSHIP

### Diamond

Traditional Diamond Members are larger companies looking to promote themselves to the community and provide professional development benefits for their employees.

### Gold

The Gold Membership is intended for small businesses that want to elevate the exposure of their business in the community and include up to 3 employees as Chamber members under their organization.

### Silver

Silver Members are typically single-person businesses or individual practitioners who want increased exposure and inclusion in our online Business Directory.

### Nonprofit Community Partner

This membership level is intended for area non-profits to gain access to Chamber benefits and to combine forces to provide benefits of mutual interest to our respective memberships and to the wider queer and allied community as a whole.

### Individual Professional

This membership level is intended for professionals who want to deepen their network, expose themselves to professional development opportunities, and/or explore the possibility of becoming an entrepreneur.



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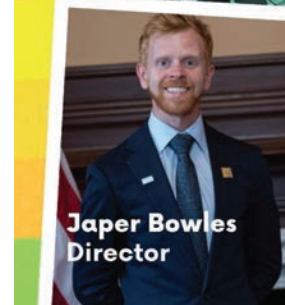
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- **PROVIDE GRANTS** to community based organizations who serve the LGBTQ+ community and LGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness.
- **HOST EVENTS** that enrich, promote, and bring together the LGBTQ+ community of the District.



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## EQUALITY CHAMBER AMBASSADORS

Many members and non-members alike choose to initially get involved or get more involved by volunteering their time and skills. Becoming an ambassador provides an opportunity to do just that. Chamber Ambassadors represent everyone in the queer and allied community and focus on making connections regardless of where you've come from. Becoming an ambassador is both a fulfilling opportunity to help people and a way to place yourself at the center of activity to stay aware of business and professional opportunities in the area.

**2023 – 2024 Ambassadors:** Bry'an Azuekwu, Chadwick B Charles, Albert DuPont, Joey Fink, TJ Flavell, TL Green, Joe Greener, Ryan Kellinger, Allen Miller, Peter Pawlak, Richard Pearrell, Justin Rosales, Anshal Rose, James Saintvil, Yuri Velasquez, Bailey Vogt, Dennis Vonasek

## AMBASSADOR'S SPEAK

"Being an Equality Ambassador has made great contributions to my business and me personally. It has also helped me grow my network that not only helps me but my clients. Personally, I have found life-long friends who have become a member of my chosen family." — Dr. Albert P. DuPont, Trax Method

"Serving as an ambassador for the ECCDC has allowed me to feel a true sense of fellowship within our community, sharing members' stories through my own networks, uplifting people I not only have business relationships with, but people that I can now call friends." — Allen Miller, RLAH Real Estate

"Serving as an ambassador with ECCDC and now newly appointed to the board of directors for ECF has been one of the greatest milestones in my life. To quote Devin McCourt, 'I think the more you can kind of decrease yourself and kind of increase other people's stories and give them the light, I think that's what it's all about.'" — Chadwick B. Charles, Chad O'L Public Relations & Events

"The Equality Chamber is at the heart of our community and provides a wellspring of connections and continuity." — TJ Flavell

"I am always honored and thrilled to represent the Chamber on a wide range of activities around the DMV area. As an Ambassador, it is important to support the mission, vision, and values of this incredible organization, in order to build trust within our community and beyond." — Yuri Velasquez, Sr. Associate, Pyxis Partners, LLC



For nearly 3 decades,  
we have helped build bridges  
and strengthened reputations.

We don't simply see change,  
we help create it.



"The only  
way you really  
see change is  
by helping  
to create it."

— **Lena Waithe**

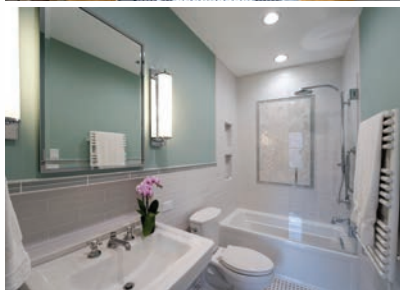
Our name reflects our unyielding commitment  
to equality, visibility, and trust.



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