

The Langston

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Tabor 100 Newsletter



Celebrating Innovation: 45Camp Graduates Pave the Way for a Sustainable Future

The 45Camp pre-accelerator cohort recently celebrated the conclusion of its program at Tabor 100, spotlighting BIPOC, women, and other underrepresented entrepreneurs in the climate tech startup sphere.

PG 8

BUILDING

OUR FUTURE

JUNE 2024



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Visit our website: www.tabor100.org
Social Media Handle: @Tabor100

Tabor 100 Economic Development Hub

7100 Fort Dent Way
Tukwila, WA 98188
425-528-0110 | Staff@Tabor100.org

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Our Board

Ollie Garrett
CEO and President
Ollie.Garrett@Tabor100.org

Brian Sims
Chair
Brian.Sims@Tabor100.org

Sherlita Kennedy
Vice Chair
Sherlita.Kennedy@Tabor100.org

Elisa Young
Treasurer
Elisa.Young@Tabor100.org

Darci Henderson
Secretary
Darci.Henderson@Tabor100.org

Shannon Horton
Membership Chair
Shannon.Horton@tabor100.org

Henry Yates
(Interim) Public Affairs Chair
Henry.Yates@Tabor100.org

Dan McGrady
Government Affairs
Dan.McGrady@Tabor100.org

James Faison
Business Development Chair
James.Faison@Tabor100.org

Kevin Washington
Education Chair
Kevin.Washington@tabor100.org

VACANT
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VACANT
Economic Development Chair

Advisory Members

Aundrea Jackson
Aundrea.Jackson@Tabor100.org

Ellen Kerr
Ellen.Kerr@Tabor100.org



Welcome to summer, Tabor Neighbors!

As June nears a close and summer comes, my thoughts turn to several items, not the least of which are the upcoming elections, the promise of more opportunity in public contracting and the Tabor 100 Gala.

Let me begin with the elections. The importance of this year's Presidential outcome cannot be more critical. Whichever of the nominees is elected will drive the tone of government in relation to the programs that are designed to even the playing field for minority contractors. Whatever your thoughts about the two candidates, make sure you express them in your vote.

Public contracting is destined for a huge boost. Over the course of the next few years, tens of billions of dollars will be spent in the region on everything from new highways, bridges, rail lines, fish passageways, City of Seattle transportation, a new Harborview Hospital and a number of upgrades to Sea-Tac, to name a few. The opportunity to

enhance your business, whether you are an accountant or

bricklayer, is huge. Tabor 100 can help – we can get you together with decision-makers for these projects and provide you with “technical assistance” that can make a big difference in your business future. Go to the website (Tabor100.org) and check out the many ways we can help connect and enhance your business.

Lastly, let me talk about one of my favorite topics – the 23rd annual Tabor 100 Gala, marking the 25th anniversary of Tabor 100. While you may have been to previous Galas, this one will be the

biggest and best ever! **Call us at 206-368-4042 to volunteer for the Gala Committee or go to the website to become a sponsor or donate to the Dessert Dash or Auction.**

“Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.”

– Proverbs 3:27”

GALA – Saturday, September 7
Seattle Convention Center
Summit Room 5-7
Reception 7-9
Program 9-until Network & Dancing

Ollie Garrett | CEO and President



Door Swings

Visits Since January 2024 | 3,535
Since Opening | 24,485

Come join us for our workshops this summer!
Let us know why you are coming to Tabor!

Host your coffee chats at Tabor!
So many networking opportunities!



SAVE the DATE

17 July @OMWBE Workshop
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
@ The Hub

27 July @Tabor General Membership Meeting
10:00 AM - noon
@ The Hub

16 August @YMCA Job Fair
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
@ Matt Griffin YMCA, 3595 S. 188th St., SeaTac, WA 98188

7 September @23rd Annual Captains of Industry Gala
5:00 PM
@ Seattle Convention Center Summit Building

New Members – JUNE

Stefani Coverson
Jamii Pae Consulting, LLC

Gabriela Nunez
Salas Painting and Restoration, LLC

Monica Colgan
Launch Industries, LLC

Stacey Brahm

Dr. Angela Griffin
Byrd Barr Place

Elisa Young
Parametrix

JMarie Johnson-Kola
Unity Infusion, A Social Purpose Corporation

Zekaryas Tekle Gebrekidan
Cart Away Dump Service, LLC

Erika Nang Sobze
Ouwezo, LLC

Shanon J Yop
Korean American Chamber of Commerce

NEW EMPLOYEE *Marjorie Mekkhavong*

by *Marjorie Mekkhavong*



We are delighted to introduce Marjorie Mekkhavong as the newest member of our Tabor 100 team, taking on the role of Program Coordinator. Marjorie was recently promoted from her initial position as a Senior Administrative Specialist due to her exceptional performance and dedication. She brings a diverse professional background, having worked in customer service, call center, and healthcare as a Medical Assistant. Renowned for her hard work, positive attitude, and commitment to encouraging others to strive for success, Marjorie is a valuable addition to our team.

Marjorie, a second-generation Asian-American, was born and raised in Washington. In addition to her impressive professional journey, she plans to pursue continued education in Business Management, further enhancing her capabilities and contributions to our organization. She also has a passion for self-care and beauty, which reflects her holistic approach to personal and professional growth.

Outside of work, Marjorie enjoys a variety of activities, including outdoor adventures, baking delicious goodies, and attending music concerts and festivals. She is an avid food enthusiast and loves exploring new culinary experiences. At home, Marjorie enjoys the company of her four beloved dogs. She is excited to learn more from Tabor and the communities we serve.

We are thrilled to have Marjorie on board and look forward to the positive impact she will bring to our team.

You can reach Marjorie Mekkhavong at marjorie.mekkhavong@tabor100.org or her direct line at (425) 528-0112.

MARKETING IN MOTION

by *Zene Hall*



Annette Washington, CEO of AG Washington and IYBS Local, brought her decades of small business experience to a recent workshop aimed at empowering local entrepreneurs. The event attracted a diverse crowd of small business owners, also attended by some Tabor staff: Don, Marjorie, and Christian.

The workshop centered on three crucial topics: establishing a robust online presence, harnessing the power of AI for business growth, and mastering SEO strategies. Washington, a Google-certified partner, emphasized the importance of online visibility in today's market landscape. She highlighted AI's role in enhancing content creation, personalization, and customer engagement, stressing its transformative impact on small businesses.

The session culminated with an engaging Q&A session, where attendees probed deeper into refining their online strategies. Washington's practical insights and hands-on approach left participants inspired and equipped with actionable steps to elevate their businesses in an increasingly digital world.

We Rise By Lifting Others

You're Invited to the **23rd** Annual Captains of Industry Gala

The 2024 Annual Gala is attended by 700+ business and political leaders, small business owners, and community members who are excited to give back in support of Tabor 100

Saturday, September 7, 2024
Visit tabor100.org for more information

SKYWAY COALITION: fighting gentrification through community advocacy

by Kelan McGrady

We at Tabor 100 are proud to announce the completion of a series of workshops with the Skyway Coalition aimed at imparting critical skills to aspiring Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and women-owned building trades contractors.

8 workshops in total covered everything from putting together a bid to accessing credit, and administrative tasks. These workshops were led by experts who were excited to share their insights with an audience eager to shape not just their future, but the future of their community.

Historically there has been a lack of investment and a lack of equal access to key resources in BIPOC communities. Skyway is home to a large BIPOC community in an unincorporated area of King County. Because of this, they must actively advocate for themselves due to not being able to access resources and investments available to other communities and incorporated cities. To level the playing field, the Skyway Coalition has cultivated a diverse and engaged community



that is empowered to counter gentrification and promote local entrepreneurs. This made the Skyway coalition the perfect group to bring in and organize these workshops to share their success with those who wanted to learn these skills for themselves.

We look forward to hosting more workshops like this in the future so that we can strengthen our connections to the people we serve, and they can in turn serve their community with newfound skills. While achieving full equal opportunity for previously underserved communities will take time, we know we have entrepreneurs who will go into the world committed to that goal with the means and drive to succeed.

To keep an eye out for these future events, be sure to check out our events page at <https://www.tabor100.org/events!>



Consultant Experience

by Adreanna Smith

Adreanna Smith, Smiths Accounting Company

Working with Tabor 100 has been an incredibly rewarding experience. Through Tabor 100, I've had the privilege of working with a wide range of clients from diverse industries, including health and wellness, tech, juice bars, and full gyms, as well as other sectors.

The connections made through Tabor 100 have been invaluable. I've met many amazing people and businesses, and these relationships have led to several new clients for my business Smith's Accounting Company. Tabor 100's support has not only empowered my clients but has also contributed to the growth of my own business. By working closely with clients, I identified gaps within my operations and took steps to address them. Our team has expanded, allowing us to offer a full range of consulting services.

One of the most fulfilling aspects of working with Tabor 100 is witnessing the transformation of



businesses from the ground up. Seeing the confidence and knowledge of business owners grow as they implement new strategies and achieve their goals is incredibly fulfilling. Tabor 100 not only provides technical assistance but also creates an environment where entrepreneurs can thrive and feel supported in their journeys.

I'm incredibly grateful for Tabor 100 and the opportunities it provides. The impact Tabor 100 has on minority-owned businesses is profound, and I'm proud to be a part of this dynamic network.

Thank you, Tabor 100, for your dedication to helping businesses thrive. Your support has made a significant difference in the lives of many entrepreneurs, including myself.

Adreanna Smith can be contacted at info@smithsaccounting.com.



CELEBRATING INNOVATION: 45Camp graduates pave the way for a sustainable future

by Don Robinson

On June 12th, the 45Camp pre-accelerator cohort gathered at Tabor100's Economic Development Center, marking the culmination of their transformative journey. 45Camp is a groundbreaking climate tech startup program dedicated to empowering BIPOC, women, and other underrepresented entrepreneurs. This program is part of Tabor 100's partnership with VertueLab, aimed at supporting Washington's entrepreneurs and investing \$350,000 back into the community.

The 10-week pre-accelerator focused on market research and product development. During the program, businesses explored value propositions, design thinking principles,

rapid prototyping, and more. The graduation event was a heartfelt celebration, with participants inviting their loved ones to join in the festivities. The air was filled with excitement as many met in person for the first time. Tabor100 President Ollie Garrett, along with VertueLab Directors Juan Barraza and Leo Ochoa, shared inspiring words of encouragement.

During the event, participants reflected on their experiences, the program's impact on their businesses and offered words of gratitude to the Tabor 100 and VertueLab staff. For some, this grant marked the first financial support for their

entrepreneurial goals. Here is a list of the businesses that participated in the Pre-Accelerator program:

DiverseAmerica Network

- Enlighten Electric
- Eno Designs
- Future Gen XYZ
- Jasper Kinnay
- KIKA Flower Farm LLC
- Kim Martini
- Muji Electric
- Nolan Singroy
- Nursing Staffing Solutions
- O.M. Michael Quality Painting
- REDYOOS
- rojo Juice
- Sheeba LLC
- Sustainable Power & Water Engineering Solutions
- Sky Bear Media
- UrbanTech Systems
- Vaughn's Consulting

The next phase, the Accelerator, is already in progress with four promising businesses. The 10-week accelerator series is specifically targeted at SEDI entrepreneurs. Upon successful completion, these participants will receive a \$25,000 grant to further their ventures.

Join us in celebrating these trailblazers and stay tuned for more updates as they continue to innovate and transform our world with their innovative ideas and relentless spirit.

Would you like to know more about the Green Economy Transition Program at Tabor 100? Your business doesn't have to be a traditional green enterprise, but it should fit into NAICS codes related to infrastructure sectors like IRA, IIIJA, Workforce Development, or CCA. For more information about the program or to learn how your business can benefit from this partnership, please contact Don Robinson at don.robinson@tabor100.org.



June Highlights





Access to Equal Opportunity

The Port of Seattle is committed to building a strong, inclusive economy. With the Diversity in Contracting Resolution, we're making sure that includes businesses like yours.

Our goal is to triple the number of women and minority-owned businesses that contract with the Port by 2024 and remove barriers to expand the development of other disadvantaged business enterprises.

GROW YOUR BUSINESS AND SKILLS WITH THE PORT:

1. Bid on open contacts

Register your business in our database, and search and apply for contracts through a clear and fair process on <http://bit.ly/Facts19>.

2. Train with PortGen Workshops

Excited for opportunities but not sure where to start? We're here to support you. Join quarterly workshops to learn how to do business with the Port, get certified as a vendor, and network with representatives.

3. Learn on our site

Access resources year-round on the site. From video how-tos to lists of upcoming opportunities and events, you can find all the information you need for success.

[Learn More](#)

<http://bit.ly/Facts19>