

# The *Langston*

Vol 21 Iss 7

Tabor 100 Newsletter

TABOR 100 GALA  
VENUE CHANGE



**LOTTE HOTEL**  
809 5TH AVENUE  
SEATTLE, WA 98104  
**SEPTEMBER 24TH 2022**  
6 PM - 10 PM

**Boeing  
Awards  
Tabor 100**

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**Seattle's  
First Lady  
and Keynote  
Speaker**

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**Abdi  
Mohamed**  
Tabor 100's New  
IT Specialist

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AUGUST 2022

  
**Tabor**

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Visit our website: [www.tabor100.org](http://www.tabor100.org)  
Social Media Handle: @Tabor100

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## Message from the President

Ollie Garrett | CEO and President

**G**ala, Gala, Gala. My days and nights have been consumed with preparations for our biggest event of the year and the first one since 2019. As I have said on many occasions, you want to be there and you want to help make it happen. Darci Henderson is our Gala Chair and she can be reached at [darci.henderson@tabor100.org](mailto:darci.henderson@tabor100.org) or 206-718-3685.

The Gala line-up of speakers is one of the best we've ever had and our honorees are people who have given much to this community and the mission of Tabor 100. Be sure you get your tickets to Tabor 100's 21st Annual Gala at the HOTEL LOTTE on 5th Avenue (809 5th Ave.). You will not regret it!

The success of our businesses is determined by many things – capital, expertise, knowing the right folks, etc....

Success in doing business with public agencies is also determined based on the "rules" they set for businesses to follow. One of the rules is creation of percentages of minority businesses that must be used on the project. Disparity studies help set those percentages. We want Black and other minority contractors to get

as much work as possible so we encourage you in the strongest way to engage in these studies, which usually only take a short period of time to fill out a survey or meet and give your candid feedback. The City of Seattle, WSDOT and, soon, King County, are all conducting disparity studies that will decide how many of us will

**"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually members of one another."**

– Romans 12:4-5

be under contract with them in the future. The studies are a chance to let government agencies know what they are doing right and what they are doing wrong. We have no right to complain if we are not letting the agencies know what we want! Make sure you answer the call to speak up when asked to weigh in on a disparity study.

Lastly, let me give a "shout out" to two loyal Tabor 100 members

who have created institutions aimed at creating more opportunity for members of our community. Lewis Rudd, founder of Ezell's Chicken and long-time Tabor 100 member, sponsored the inaugural conference for the "Raising Up Black Businesses (R.U.B.B)." initiative last Saturday. We wish him success and welcome another organization focused on Black business prosperity. On the public policy front, former Tabor 100 Board member, Abdul Yusuf, launched the Black Suffrage Network (BSN) last Saturday as well. The organization is poised to engage members of the community in civic engagement and active participation in the public policy space. What he is doing is much needed and we wish Abdul the utmost success in this new endeavor.



## Tabor 100 Visitor Report (Door Swings)

Total Visitors August 2022 – 560  
Visitors 2022 YTD – 3,160

Visitors are stopping by to attend outreach events, meetings, get vaccinations, receive technical assistance, and so much more.

## New Members – AUGUST

**Darrell Bryant**  
A/D & Son's Transportation Group

**Shirline Wilson**  
Washington Employers for Equity

**EL'ona Kearney**  
Forgiveness Coaching & Notary

**BCC Community Development Services**

**Gregory Davis**

**Cindi Bright**  
Bright Consulting LLC

**Jenefeness Franke**  
Seattle Credit Union

**Taj Benford**  
Seattle Credit Union

## SAVE *the* DATE

**1 September** City of Seattle Office: WMBE/  
Contract Compliance Team  
1:00 – 5:00 pm

**5 September** LABOR DAY - TABOR CLOSED

**6 September** City of Seattle Office:  
Labor Equity Team  
12 noon – 4:00 pm

**8 September** Tabor 100 Accounting Workshop:  
Financial Software & Accounting Tools  
12 noon – 1:00 pm

**12 September** City of Seattle Office: WMBE/  
Contract Compliance Team  
1:00 – 5:00 pm

**13 September** Department of Enterprise  
Services: Going over Contracts  
12 noon – 1:30 pm

**14 September** Tabor 100 Accounting Workshop:  
How to Prepare Your Business  
for Tax Season  
12 noon – 1:00 pm

**16 September** City of Seattle Office: WMBE/  
Contract Compliance Team  
9:00 – 12 noon

12 noon – 2:00 pm City of Seattle Office: Jesse  
Gilliam, Interim Division Director,  
Purchasing & Contracting

**17 September** General Membership Meeting

**19 September** City of Seattle Office:  
Purchasing Team  
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

**20 September** City of Seattle Office:  
Labor Equity Team  
12 noon – 4:00 pm

**24 September** Tabor 100 Gala | Lotte Hotel  
809 5th Ave. S.  
6:00 – 10:00 pm

**27 September** Department of Enterprise Services:  
How to be Visible to State Buyers  
12 noon – 1:00 pm

**30 September** City of Seattle Offices: Jesse  
Gilman, Interim Division Director,  
Purchasing & Contracting  
12 noon – 4:00 pm



## TABOR 100 GALA VENUE CHANGE

# LOTTE HOTEL

809 5TH AVE  
SEATTLE, WA 98104  
SEPTEMBER 24TH 2022  
6PM-9PM

[www.tabor100.org](http://www.tabor100.org)

# Seattle's First Lady Joanne Harrell

by Henry Yates

Tabor 100 proudly announces Joanne Harrell as its keynote speaker for the 21st Annual Tabor 100 "Captains of Industry" Gala, an annual affair that brings together luminaries throughout the northwest to recognize and show appreciation for outstanding leadership in the area of equity and social justice.

While Harrell has graced the stage of the Gala as a co-MC with husband and Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell, Gala attendees will now have the opportunity to hear from one of the most accomplished African American women in the nation.

"Joanne's life's work and philosophy represent the ideals held dear by Tabor 100," said Ollie Garrett, Tabor 100 President and CEO. "We are fortunate to have her headlining our 21st Gala. It is a privilege to hear from a woman whose contributions to this community and the world, have been so profound."

Joanne has been involved with Tabor 100 for decades and has carried the Tabor 100 philosophy into whatever endeavor she has been involved in. Her life's work has revolved around the social

justice and fairness for which Tabor 100 stands.

"I attended the University of Washington and witnessed the work of Eddie Rye, Tyree Scott, Bob Armstead and Hayward Evans and others to promote minority businesses. In every place I have been, the need to ensure our businesses do well has been foremost in my actions. These local civil rights icons and Tabor 100 have been my guiding light."

Mrs. Harrell was also influenced at a young age to more national struggles for equity. Growing up in Washington DC, she witnessed MLK's 1963 March on Washington. Later in life she watched Nelson Mandela in conversation with F.W. de Klerk during an International Women's Forum conference in Johannesburg. As South African President, de Klerk negotiated with Mandela the end of the brutal apartheid system of racial segregation in the country. Mandela, after serving 18 years in prison for actively opposing apartheid, became its first Black President.

In 2017, Harrell marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, with the late civil rights champion and member of Congress John Lewis.

**"Joanne's life's work and philosophy represent the ideals held dear by Tabor 100."**

— Ollie Garrett



Her work in the equity arena is significant. Serving as University of Washington Regent, she spearheaded the effort to make UW the first large public university to create an advisory committee to the Regents on Race and Social Justice. In her recent appointment to the Board of Homestreet Bank, she has become Chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee responsible for the bank's Environmental, Social Justice and Diversity efforts.

Currently, Seattle's First Lady, Joanne has occupied many roles that had previously been off-limits to minority people, as well as women. She was selected as the first Black CEO in the United Way of King County's history and during her three years at the helm, oversaw development and execution of marketing and fundraising strategies that vaulted the organization's revenue from \$54 million to \$93 million. She also created a \$110 million Gates

Endowment Fund that offset the organization's operating cost. Today, the United Way of King County is one of the strongest in the nation.

Harrell's pre-United Way journey led her to become Vice President and State CEO of US West Communications (now Lumen Technologies) as well as serving on many different boards focused on giving back to the community. The YWCA, Salvation Army, The Atlantic Street Center, Urban League and Seattle Art Museum have all benefited from Harrell's Board involvement and strategic guidance as she's leveraged her ability to market and strengthen these non-profit entities over the last 25 years.

Harrell's most recent executive corporate leadership position, as Senior Director for U.S. Citizenship and Market Development, was a key element of Microsoft's global community-betterment initiatives in education, technology and ensuring communities worldwide thrive.

As she retired from Microsoft after 20+ years and completed her 12-year tenure as a UW Regent, Joanne summed up her engagement philosophy: "Whatever the seats are which we occupy as 'the first,' our greatest impact comes from giving our best and leaving a clear and positive path for those who follow as we work to represent our communities well and push for positive change."

# Tabor 100 Welcomes Abdi Mohamed!

by Aybee Anderson

**T**abor 100 Is proud to announce our newest employee: Abdulahi “Abdi” Mohamed.

Abdi has joined the Tabor 100 staff for IT support, technical assistance, event management and helps out at the front desk. He comes to us on high recommendation (he is a family member to a Tabor 100 member)!

He holds a Certificate in Information Technology from South Seattle Community College and has plans to go back to school in September to get his degree in Computer Science and God willing, to continue on to get his Bachelors in the same field.

When asked if he has any crowning achievements to share he slyly says “no” but looks forward to the future. And after many inquiries, we learned that he was the Valedictorian of his graduating class from his alma mater Rainier Beach.



In his off time he plays soccer competitively for Club America in the midfield position. He also likes to joke around quite a bit, savors Italian food and helps his mom with her daycare; although he states it’s something he has to do, not something he wants to do. He is the middle child in a family of seven, so he knows how to be helpful and calm under pressure.

We are most excited to have Abdi here to help us with all of our technology and room preparation for our events!

He is soft spoken and seems shy, please make sure to introduce yourself when you see him around the HUB.

You can contact Abdi at [abdulahi.mohamed@tabor100.org](mailto:abdulahi.mohamed@tabor100.org) or call him at 425.528.0108.

# Boeing Awards Tabor 100 Business Enhancement Grant

by Henry Yates

**T**abor 100 was recently awarded \$100,000 from the Boeing Company to further its work helping minority businesses get started and grow.

Tabor members and other minority businesses will benefit from enhanced business support services as a result of the Boeing award. In addition, experts in particular fields will be needed to assist Black and minority-owned businesses in a variety of fields that members tend to cite as barriers to their success. The list of offerings Tabor 100 currently provides and expects to enhance as a result of the Boeing grant are extensive. The Tabor 100 HUB, as a regional resource – the only one of its kind devoted to the betterment of Black and minority businesses, will also provide exclusive access to professional support. In addition, the grant will assist Tabor 100 in strengthening its “networking” capabilities, putting its members in touch with commerce and industry leaders.

“The Boeing Grant will help Tabor 100 be even more of an asset to all minority businesses, Tabor members or otherwise,” said Ollie Garrett, CEO and President of Tabor 100. “We are pleased to have such an outstanding local private sector partner that intends to not only provide grant funds, but is also open to additional opportunities for minority business enterprises.”

Listed below are services that will be enhanced with the Boeing grant funds:

- Review and assistance to understand responsibilities and implications of contract proposals, alternative language, and contract obligations so small firms are prepared to perform and minimize disputes and maximize profits;
- Advice and counseling to understand unsuccessful work pursuits, why they went that way and how to increase your chances in the future;
- Accountants, CPA and/or billing experts to assist in pricing, creating proper invoices, etc.;
- One-on-one assistance with Project Labor and Community Workforce Agreements;
- Connections to organizations that provide licensing, bonds and insurance or capital.

Additionally, the Tabor 100 Hub provides Collaborative Work and Office Spaces for Black and minority-owned businesses. The Hub offers private offices; shared workspaces and an address for business owners who choose to office out of the “HUB. While other collaborative workspaces such as WeWork, The Riveter (for women-owned firms) are models where entrepreneurs can rent office space, none are oriented towards minority owners. The Tabor 100 hub provides high-quality, low-cost offices and shared services, attracting a density of minority businesses offering support and collegiality (particularly important to black-owned businesses).



# Feel the Power, Join Tabor!

**Tabor 100** is an association of entrepreneurs and business advocates who are committed to economic power, educational excellence, and social equity for African Americans and the community at large.

## Events and Outings



## Don't Miss an Issue

Be sure to add our email address; [communications@tabor100.org](mailto:communications@tabor100.org) to your address book, so important news from Tabor doesn't end up in your spam folder.

## Share Tabor

Do you know someone you feel is a great fit for Tabor 100 membership? Take this opportunity to expand our territory by sharing Tabor with a friend or colleague who could benefit from all the great business opportunities, connections, and networking Tabor has to offer.

Check out three ways you can share Tabor right now:

- 1 Forward a copy of the electronic version of The Langston news magazine.
- 2 Click the three dots at the top of the Tabor 100 Facebook page and click share on the pull-down.
- 3 Invite a friend or colleague to have breakfast with us at our next monthly meeting.

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# TABOR 100

Photography by Keith Williams | [flyrightproductions@gmail.com](mailto:flyrightproductions@gmail.com)



# 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>