



Photo by Ken Henson – ken@whitehotmedia.com

The Alliance E-Newsletter
March 30, 2012
Top Stories

Volunteers Sought for Six Pillars Planning Process

Broward County business, civic and government leaders are being sought as volunteers to provide input to the Six Pillars™ Strategic Planning process for Broward County. To volunteer for one or more of the Six Pillars task forces, please go to www.gfalliance.org/sixpillars.

The Six Pillars process is being led by The Florida Chamber Foundation at the state level, and is meant to help communities throughout the state of Florida prosper and create high paying jobs by creating a visioning process which looks to a 20-year horizon. Six Pillars will be addressing these topics which have been deemed critical to economic success in the future:

- (1) Talent Supply & Education
- (2) Innovation & Economic Development
- (3) Infrastructure & Growth Leadership
- (4) Business Climate & Competitiveness
- (5) Civic & Governance Systems
- (6) Quality of Life & Quality Places

The co-chairs of Broward County's Six Pillars process are: J. David Armstrong, Jr., president of Broward College and chairman of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance; Charles Caulkins, managing partner of the Fort Lauderdale office of Fisher and Phillips LLP and vice chair of The Broward Workshop; Lori Chevy, Broward market president of Bank of America Merrill Lynch; Broward County Commissioner Chip LaMarca; and James Murley, executive director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council.

"Our goal is to bring as many stakeholders as possible into Broward's Six Pillars planning process," said David Armstrong, one of the Six Pillars co-chairs and president of Broward College. "Members of our community will have an opportunity to jointly agree on priorities for our County, make decisions that prompt action, measure progress, and make periodic adjustments to the Plan when appropriate."

To become a Six Pillars Community, a community, county or region in Florida must complete a 10-step process focused around the Six Pillars for Florida's Future framework.

"Each of the Six Pillars topics is important in its own right," said Broward County Commissioner Chip LaMarca. "When we bring them all together to develop a strategic vision, we will most assuredly impact our future success by creating high wage jobs, a vibrant community prepared for the future and the tools we need in Broward County to compete in an increasing global competitive environment."

"Florida is embarking on a new economy and communities across the state must take an active role in designing the future of their regions," said Dr. Dale A. Brill, president of the Florida Chamber Foundation. "Broward County joins others who are setting the example of how to effectively plan for a new economy that they will be a part of and we encourage and welcome their decision to become a Six Pillars Community."

For more information, please contact Ron Drew, vice president of marketing and communications for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance at 954-627-0130 or at rdrew@gfalliance.org.

Alliance and Broward County Host Brazil Ambassador Ramos in Greater Fort Lauderdale

The Consul General of Brazil in Miami, Ambassador Hélio Vitor Ramos Filho, visited Broward County on March 22, 2012 during an official tour and visit. The visit, hosted by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance International Action Team and the Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development, included a ceremony at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts where a "Key to the County" was presented to Ambassador Ramos by Broward County Commissioner Dale Holness. This was followed by a Sun Trolley tour of Port Everglades and the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, and ended with a reception cruise along the New River aboard the Riverfront Anticipation.

"With Brazil being one of the world's fastest growing major economies, this high level official tour and visit alongside our other international initiatives will increase Broward County's visibility as a premier global strategic business location for both Brazilian trade and foreign direct investment," said Deborah Wilkinson, Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development and co-chair of the Alliance International Action Team.

"This is one of the Action Team's initiatives to strengthen ties between Broward County and countries around the world and to increase awareness of the strengths the County has to offer foreign direct investors," said Paola Isaac Baraya, International Business Manager for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance. "This year, the team plans to have two more inbound visits, including the Italian Consul General and Colombian Consul General."

"Home to a significant portion of the Brazilian community in South Florida, Broward County, with premium infrastructure such as Port Everglades and the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, is capable of striving for a protagonist position in the relationship between Brazil and Florida," said Ramos. "I believe much can be accomplished together, having the privileged ties between Brazil and Broward County as a stepping stone for an ever greater presence of Brazil in South Florida."

Ambassador Ramos' extensive background in international affairs began in 1981 after graduating as Third Secretary of the Diplomatic Career from the Brazilian Diplomatic Academy, Instituto Rio Branco. Since then he has held many positions working for the Embassy of Brazil in Washington and for the Energy of Brazil and he has received many prestigious awards. In 2009, he was promoted to Ambassador and has held the position as Consulate General of Brazil in Miami, Consul General since September of 2011.

"We are happy to have this opportunity to show Ambassador Ramos Broward County's resources for international business, and to encourage him and his staff to assist us in promoting Broward County as THE place for Brazilian businesses to establish themselves in the United States," said Marty Kurtz, CPA with Kaufman Rossin & Co., P.A. and co-chair of the International Action Team.

Alliance Mid-Year Meeting and Luncheon to Feature Bloomberg Radio Host

Kathleen Hays, Host of "The Hays Advantage" on Bloomberg Radio and recognized as one of the top economics reporters and anchors in the country, will be the keynote speaker at this year's Alliance Mid-Year Meeting and Luncheon on May 3 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale. An added feature of this year's meeting will be an onstage interview of Ms. Hays by Alliance CEO Council Member Mike Jackson, Chairman and CEO, AutoNation.

The Alliance's Mid-Year Meeting and Luncheon is one of the premier business events of the year. Join Broward County and South Florida's business and community leaders to hear about the exciting progress being made in accelerating job growth and strengthening our economy. This year's mid-year event is being presented by AutoNation, FP&L and Patriot National Insurance Group.

For more information or to become a sponsor, please contact Gail Bulfin at 954-627-0127 or at gbulfin@gfalliance.org. To register to attend, please [click here](#).

Citrix Systems and Broward College Announce New Partnership

In 2009, the Broward College Board of Trustees and President Armstrong engaged Citrix Systems leaders in South Florida to see what role the College could play in helping Citrix expand its certified, educated workforce in Florida and continue to grow its Fort Lauderdale headquarters. At the same time, Citrix was defining academic programs to educate future information technology professionals worldwide on its technologies and solutions.

As a result of those discussions, an agreement forming the Citrix IT Academy at Broward College was formed. The Citrix IT Academy, located on the North Campus, is part of the Citrix Academic Network, a global initiative led by Citrix focused on training the next generation of IT professionals.

At a recent board meeting, North Campus President Dr. Barbara Bryan took the opportunity to review the Citrix IT Academy and noted that it was the first in the U.S. to deliver courses, and 35 to 50 students from the academy will graduate at the May 2012 commencement.

Alliance Governor Council Welcomes Excellence in Government Fellows Participants

The Alliance's Governor Council, chaired by Melanie Dickinson, President and Publisher of the South Florida Business Journal, hosted a very special group of federal employees as part of this year's "Excellence in Government Fellows" program. The meeting was held on Tuesday, March 27th at the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in conjunction with this quarter's Governor Council meeting.

The "Excellence in Government Fellows" program is affiliated with the non-partisan, non-profit Partnership for Public Service. Broward County is one of only two sites in the U.S. chosen to host the group this year. The group consists of 30 Fellows representing different branches of the federal government such as the State Department, Department of Defense, Small Business Administration and National Institutes of Health, to name a few. The mission of the Fellows group is to strengthen the leadership skills of GS-14 and GS-15 federal employees to help them become more innovative leaders when they take the next step to higher levels within the federal government.

Presentations at the meeting included an overview of Broward's transportation plans, a case study on innovation in government and an in-depth discussion of the change in structure of the MPO. Speakers included Greg Stuart, Executive Director of the MPO, and James Cromar, Livability Planner with the MPO. This presentation was followed by a panel discussion on leadership and change moderated by Melanie Dickinson featuring Tony Coley, Senior Vice President, Broward County - City Executive for BB&T; Mason Jackson, President/CEO of WorkForce One; and Peggy Nordeen, CEO of Starmark International and a past chair of the Alliance. It was a great opportunity to showcase Broward County to future federal government leaders.



Mason Jackson, President and CEO of WorkForce One, presents to Excellence in Government Fellows participants at Alliance Governor Council.



Participants at the Governor Council Excellence in Government Fellows meeting listen intently to MPO presentation.

Pompano Beach and Margate Become Latest 'Platinum' Permitting Cities

The Cities of Pompano Beach and Margate have been named the latest Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance "Platinum Cities" after city commissioners approved a permitting excellence processes recommended by the Alliance. Fourteen Broward County cities have now been named "Platinum Cities." Other cities, in the order that permitting excellence ordinances or resolutions were passed include Tamarac, Davie, Oakland Park, Fort Lauderdale, Miramar, Coconut Creek, Plantation, Cooper City, Deerfield Beach, Coral Springs Hollywood and Dania Beach.

The purpose of the permitting excellence process, which is intended to be available to high-impact, targeted industry businesses that are relocating or expanding in Broward County, is to provide businesses with a streamlined, first-rate experience when going through the development, permitting and inspection process for office and industrial properties.

To qualify for streamlined permitting, businesses must be part of an identified targeted industry cluster and hiring new employees with salaries at least 15 percent higher than the average wage in Broward County. These businesses must also show that the property is properly zoned, platted and ready for the type of business being proposed.

Steps communities are taking to provide an excellent permitting experience include pre-development meetings and designating a city staff member as a single point of contact to assist the company through the permitting process. An online permitting system also allows applicants to review the status of their permits on a real-time basis throughout the process. Cities that adopt the new process are promoted and marketed on the Alliance website (www.gfalliance.org), in Alliance promotional materials, on social media sites and in other ways.

If you are a member or partner of the Alliance and would like to be involved in the Platinum Cities Action Team, please contact Gail Bulfin at gbulfin@gfalliance.org or at 954-627-0127.

Alliance Hosts Economic Development Seminar for Local Elected Officials and Economic Development Professionals

The Alliance recently held a seminar for elected officials and economic development professionals in Broward County designed to educate participants on the corporate site selection process and help them compete for projects resulting in jobs for Broward County. The seminar was sponsored by Florida Power & Light Company's Office of Economic Development and featured executives of the national site consulting firm of Boyette Strategic Advisors. Attendees heard that as cities across America look for ways to create jobs for their residents, the economic development process has never been more competitive. The seminar was designed to help elected officials throughout Broward County better understand the corporate process of choosing a location for a business and the role they can play to enhance their community's likelihood of being selected. Topics covered include the importance of incentives, workforce capabilities, being able to quickly respond to requests and confidentiality when dealing with corporate prospects. Approximately 50 attendees attended the seminar.

which was held in partnership with Enterprise Florida, Inc., and the Florida Chamber Foundation.

Make Plans Now to Attend Palm Beach Strategic Forum

The International Economic Forum of the Americas is pleased to invite you to the 2nd Annual Palm Beach Strategic Forum "Competing in a World of Emerged Economies!"

The second edition of the Palm Beach Strategic Forum will reflect upon new-found competition emanating from the emerged economies. The accelerated growth rate in emerged economies has fundamentally altered the traditional global economic order. The aim of this year's Forum will be to account for this change with a focus on corporate strategies for success. Specifically, how can companies of varying sizes compete effectively in international markets? Will innovative partnerships between government and the private sector be formed to address new challenges? How much emphasis should be given to creating strategic incentives for a competitive and highly-skilled work force? How will developments in international trade and energy policy affect the US' global role?

Featured speakers include: Florida Governor Rick Scott; Shaukat Aziz, Former Prime Minister of Pakistan; Ron Prosor, Permanent Representative of Israel, United Nations; John Negroponte, Former US Deputy Secretary of State; Alejandro Toledo, Former President of Peru; & Heraldo Muñoz, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations; and many more!

Next Alliance Council Connect Set for April 10

Alliance members please mark your calendar to attend the Alliance's next Council Connect event on Tuesday, April 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. This fun event that includes cocktails and great conversation will be held at B Ocean Fort Lauderdale, 999 North Fort Lauderdale Beach Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale. This will be a Council Connect event you won't want to miss! For more information, or to RSVP, please [click here](#).

Education, Workforce Development and Educational Excellence Builds Business (E²B²)

Cypress Bay High School Wins North Central Florida High School Science Bowl and Spot in Nationals

Building on President Obama's efforts to help more students excel in math and science and his call in the State of the Union address for investments in a skilled American workforce, U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu recently announced Cypress Bay High School as winner of the North Central Florida High School Science Bowl. Cypress Bay High competed against 16 other teams from across the region in one of the nation's regional competitions of the 22nd Annual U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl. The Cypress Bay team will be awarded an all-expense paid trip to the National Finals in Washington, D.C., which are scheduled for April 26-30.

"Congratulations to the students at Cypress Bay High School – some of America's future leaders in the science, technology, engineering and math fields," said Energy Secretary Chu. "Through the National Science Bowl, we're challenging today's students and ensuring that America stays competitive in a rapidly advancing world."

The Department of Energy created the National Science Bowl in 1991 to encourage students to excel in mathematics and science and to pursue careers in these fields. More than 200,000 students have participated in the National Science Bowl throughout its 21-year history, and it is the nation's largest science competition. The Broward Education Foundation (BEF) is number 10 in the nation in supporting public education, according to a recent national study of educational foundations and funds in the 50 largest school districts.

Piper High JROTC Leadership Team Earns Spot For National Champion Title

The Piper High School Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) Leadership Team recently placed first in the 6th ROTC Brigade for the third consecutive year, earning a spot in the national championship event – JROTC Leadership and Academics Bowl (JLAB) in Washington, D.C., which will occur June 22-26, 2012. The JROTC Academic Team also placed second in the 6th ROTC Brigade. Piper's Leadership Team is one of only two teams in the state of Florida to qualify for this year's National Championship and one of only 10 schools in the nation to compete in the National Championship for three consecutive years. In the last five years, only 12 Florida teams have qualified for this prestigious competition and six of them are from the Broward County JROTC family. The JLAB is a national competition designed to help JROTC cadets learn the value of citizenship, apply the principles of leadership and compete in a nationwide academic competition while opening

doors to gain college opportunities.

William Dandy Middle School Named One of America's Best Urban Schools

The National Center for Urban School Transformation (NCUST) has named Broward County Public Schools William Dandy Middle School in Fort Lauderdale a 2012 NCUST National Excellence in Urban Education Award winner. Through the Excellence in Urban Education Award program, NCUST at San Diego State University awards and celebrates America's best urban schools.

Since 2006, the NCUST has been honoring what it calls "phenomenal schools" each year. The goals of the award program are to: recognize the talent, dedication, and hard work of urban school educators and students; educate the public about the accomplishments and potential of urban schools; provide a benchmark of excellence that motivates the reform efforts of urban schools and districts; and deepen the knowledge base of best practices for promoting urban school transformation.

In announcing its winners, the national organization called this year's competition the most competitive field of applicants it has had to review. From the list of 27 finalists, William Dandy was selected as one of 14 winners, which means that even among these elite schools – schools across the country that had achieved phenomenal successes – it has been crowned the best of the best.

In making that decision, NCUST officials, who celebrate America's best urban schools, conducted one-day site visits to each finalist school. During these site visits, they looked for evidence of high achievement, rigorous curriculum, excellent instruction and enthusiastic engagement. The schools in which they found the greatest evidence of these elements became winners of the 2012 award and with it a cash award of \$2,500. Winners will be recognized at the Excellence in Urban Education National Symposium, May 23-25, 2012 in San Diego, CA.

To read more, please [click here](#).

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News (Alliance members in bold)

B Ocean Fort Lauderdale was featured in Travel + Leisure's Most Affordable Beach Hotels for their affordable prices and amazing views. To view the featured blurb, please [click here](#).

CBRE Group Inc., was named the industry's top global brand in commercial real estate, according to a survey of industry professionals worldwide by The Lipsey Company. CBRE has been named the industry's number-one brand by Lipsey for 11 consecutive years.

Network with hundreds of business owners, leading entrepreneurs and Fortune 500 companies, connect with business experts, learn best practices and attend workshops and plenary sessions at **Hispanic Unity's** Entrepreneur Summit 2012. This event will feature keynote speaker, Harry M. Jansen Kraemer, Jr. former Chairman and CEO of Fortune 500 Company, Baxter International and the 2012 American Dreamer Award Recipients: Michelle Bernstein, award winning chef and restaurateur; Luis Capo, EL DORADO Furniture; Al Fernandez, ANF Group, Inc.; Laurans A. Mendelson, HEICO Corporation; Alberto Perlman, Zumba Fitness, LLC; and George Yak, LEASA Industries Co., Inc.

Lorna Brown-Burton, has been elected to be on the Florida Bar Board of Governors as a representative for the 17th Circuit which will start in July, 2012 following being sworn in at the Florida Bar Annual Meeting in June 2012. Lorna will be one of five representing Broward County when she officially becomes a board member in July 2012. Lorna is a graduate of Nova University Center for the Study of Law and has been licensed to practice law since 1987 in the state of Florida. Her focus is on workers' compensation defense and consumer bankruptcy law.

Fort Lauderdale based integrated marketing agency **Starmark International** swept the Advertising Federation of Greater Fort Lauderdale's ADDY Awards taking home Best of Show and eight ADDY Awards.

Stiles has launched construction of a new mixed-use development with numerous "green" features at the southern gateway to Plantation's Midtown District – a positive step for Broward's real estate market. Stiles President Doug Eagon estimates an average of 225 construction workers will work at the jobsite each month. Completion of the residential community is

expected by June 2013, and the approximate completion date for the retail center's redevelopment is early 2014.

Spotlight on Alliance Members

It's time to welcome some new Alliance members, announce a few upgrading companies and changes in participation for others!

New member companies

A big welcome to these new member companies:

Better Homes & Gardens

CSX Transportation

Research In Motion

Member upgrades

And a loud cheer for four long-time members who stepped up their memberships in a big way.

Broward College moves up to the CEO Council

Kaufman Rossin & Co. jumps to Governor Council

Becker & Poliakoff, P.A. steps up to Leadership Council

Riverside Hotel moves up to Corporate Council

New representation for existing companies

Glenn Spanier, Hyatt Regency Pier 66 – Governor Council

John Brown, BB&T – Corporate Council

AJ Fasano, Verizon Wireless – Entrepreneur Council

Ellen Hesse, South Florida Business Journal – Leadership Council



Glenn Spanier

CEO COUNCIL

J. David Armstrong, Jr., President of Broward College and Chairman of the Alliance Board of Directors, made the ultimate commitment by moving Broward College up to the CEO Council. Broward College will be joining 17 other leading companies and organizations as they move the dial forward in the quest to attract new company headquarters to Greater Fort Lauderdale.

Broward College has 3 major campus locations, 6 local centers and 10 overseas affiliate locations including sites in Colombia, Singapore, Spain and India. A third of the student body is foreign-born with 91 countries represented in this past year's graduating class. www.broward.edu

Thank you President Armstrong.



President Armstrong

GOVERNOR COUNCIL

Mike Moore and Marty Kurtz have secured a place at the Governor Council table for **Kaufman Rossin & Co.** Mike leads our Entrepreneur Council and Marty chairs the International Action Team. Kaufman Rossin was founded in 1962 by Jim Kaufman and Jay Rossin. Today, they have nearly 300 employees and serve clients in more than 40 countries. They were named the #1 Accounting Firm to Work For in the national Accounting Today magazine and have been on the South Florida Business Journal's list of Best Place to Work in South Florida for many years. www.krco-cpa.com



Marty Kurtz



Mike Moore

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Becker & Poliakoff, P.A., a mainstay of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, moves up to Leadership Council this month. The Hollywood-headquartered firm is led by **Bernie Friedman**, shareholder in charge of the firm's Government Law and Lobbying Practice group. Becker & Poliakoff is especially active on the International Action Team with **Melissa Groisman**, attorney in the Customs and International Trade department. Founded in 1963, Becker & Poliakoff is a diverse commercial

law firm with more than 135 attorneys practicing in offices throughout Florida, Washington, D.C., New York, New Jersey, and Prague, Czech Republic. Rounding out the team is **Allen Levine**, shareholder, and head of the firm's statewide real estate litigation practice and **Marcie Nolan**, certified land planner in the Firm's Government Law & Lobbying Group. www.becker-poliakoff.com



Bernie Friedman

CORPORATE COUNCIL

CSX Transportation, led by **Bob O'Malley**, Resident Vice President, Florida, State Government and Community Affairs joins the Alliance as a new member. While its division headquarters is in Jacksonville, locally CSX operates a TRANSFLO terminal in Fort Lauderdale and an automotive distribution center in Jupiter. CSX's network covers 21,000 miles of track in 23 states, the District of Columbia and the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec. Of that, 2,800 miles are in Florida where they employ approx. 4,600 people. Tri-Rail and Amtrak operate on CSX tracks. www.csx.com



Bob O'Malley

Riverside Hotel, host to our Council Connect holiday party (November, 29, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.), moves up to the Corporate Council level. The Riverside Hotel team has been very active in the Alliance led by **Heiko Dobrikow**, General Manger, on both the Entrepreneur Council and International team and **Carol Tracz** on the BRAVO and E2B2 Action Teams. **Rosie Hernandez** will be replacing Heiko on the Entrepreneur Council as he moves up to Corporate. www.riversidehotel.com



Heiko Dobrikow

A big welcome to new member company **Research In Motion**. **Bill Seefeldt, Sean Shea, Müge Ayse Kiy, Jeff Strater** and RIM join the Alliance at the Corporate Council level making their impact felt even stronger by becoming a sponsor at both our Mid-Year and Annual events. Over the past year, RIM has been a partner to the Alliance as we develop our branding campaign for the wireless technology/cloud cluster in Greater Fort Lauderdale. www.blackberry.com / www.rim.com



Bill Seefeldt

ASSOCIATES

Theresa Kresge of **Better Homes & Gardens** is joining us at the Associate level. She handles residential real estate and relocation so keep her in mind as you talk to new companies considering the area. www.theresakresge.com

Upcoming Economic Development Meetings, Missions & Events

Enterprise Florida Events:

Florida Medical Manufacturers' Consortium (FMMC)

April 30- May 1, 2012

Hilton Carillon Park - St. Petersburg, Florida

Event Type: Convention / Trade Show

Industry Sector: Various

33rd Hemispheric Congress of Latin Chambers of Commerce

May 1, 2012

Miami, Florida

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Various

Enterprise Florida (EFI) conducts or participates in an extensive schedule of export marketing missions and exhibitions worldwide. These trade events are open to all businesses registered in Florida. For more information and to see more event listings, please go to <http://eflorida.com/Events.aspx>.

Other Events:

Broward Technical Centers: Workforce Training

Tuesday, April 3, 2012 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Location: McFatter School of Culinary Arts, 6500 Nova Drive, Davie

For more information, please [click here](#).

FAU: 2012 Executive Forum Series

April 5, 13 & 19, 2012 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: FAU College of Business, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton

For more information, please [click here](#).

NAIOP/ULI SE Florida/Caribbean Collegiate Challenge

Thursday, April 5, 2012 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: University of Miami

For more information, please [click here](#).

Business Education Seminar: Doing Business with Broward County and City of Fort Lauderdale

Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:15 p.m.

Location: Broward County Convention Center, 1950 Eisenhower Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please [click here](#).

African-American Achievers Awards (Presented by JM Family Enterprises, Southeast Toyota Distributors and JM Lexus)

Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: War Memorial Auditorium, 800 N.E. 8th Street, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please [click here](#).

Broward Workshop Presents: 4th Annual “The State of Our County” Forum (by invitation only)

Friday, April 13, 2012 7:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Location: Signature Grand, 6900 W State Road 84, Davie

For more information, please [click here](#).

Palm Beach Strategic Forum Presents: Competing in a World of Emerged Economies

April 16 - 17, 2012 8:00 a.m.

Location: Palm Beach County Convention Center, 650 Okeechobee Boulevard, West Palm Beach

For more information, please [click here](#).

“How to do Business with Broward County” Workshop

Thursday, April 19, 2012 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: African-American Research Library and Cultural Center, 2650 Sistrunk Blvd., Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please [click here](#).

Hispanic Unity's Second Annual Entrepreneur Summit

Friday, April 20, 2012 7:30 a.m.

Location: Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 1 Seminole Way Hollywood, Hollywood

For more information, please [click here](#).

4th Annual South Florida Small Business Lending Forum

Friday, April 20, 2012 11:00 a.m.

Location: The Renaissance Boca Raton Hotel, 2000 Northwest 19th Street, Boca Raton
For more information, please [click here](#).

Humana Military Fleet Week

April 25-30, 2012

For more information, please [click here](#).

Lauderdale Air Show

Friday, April 28-29, 2012

Location: Fort Lauderdale Beach (Show center located at Sunrise & A1A)

For more information, please [click here](#).

EDC's 11th Annual Life Science Conference - Biotech 2012

Wednesday, May 9, 2012 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: Florida International University, Ernest R. Graham University Center, 11200 S.W. 8th Street, GC 1215, Miami

For more information, please [click here](#).

Alliance Calendar of Events

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Thursday, April 12, 2012 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: Saveology, 5259 Coconut Creek Parkway, Margate

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at hkulp@gflalliance.org.

Alliance Council Connect (by invitation only)

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: B Ocean Fort Lauderdale, 999 North Fort Lauderdale Beach Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org.

Register Now!

Alliance Mid-Year Meeting and Luncheon

Thursday, May 3, 2012 11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Location: Hyatt Regency Pier 66, 2301 SE 17th Street, Fort Lauderdale

To register, please [click here](#).

For more information or to become a sponsor, please contact Gail Bulfin at 954-627-0127 or at gbulfin@gflalliance.org.

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Thursday, May 10, 2012 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBD

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at hkulp@gflalliance.org.

Calendar subject to change without notice. Please go to www.gflalliance.org for the most current calendar of events and meetings and for more information regarding the Alliance.

Follow the Alliance on these websites: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#)

Also join our [LinkedIn group](#) (for members only).

Why have so many companies relocated to Greater Fort Lauderdale? [Click here](#) to find out (90 second video).

To see a short video of highlights from our 2011 annual meeting, courtesy of Six Points Media (a Patriot National Insurance Group company), please [click here](#).

THE ALLIANCE: PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

Broward County's Official Economic Development Partnership

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