



#### Top Stories:

- Broward County adds 17,300 jobs year over year
- Gov. Scott: Fort Lauderdale Area Created 140,300 New Private-Sector Jobs Since Dec. 2010
- Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance to Host IEDC Leadership Summit in January

#### Top Stories

##### **Broward County adds 17,300 jobs year over year**

Broward County's job report indicated a 2.8 percent unemployment rate in November 2018. This rate was 0.8 percentage point lower than the region's year ago rate of 3.6 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 17,300 jobs (+2.0 percent) over the year, with an employment of 864,800 in the Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MSA (Broward County). The region's jobless rate was 0.2 percentage point lower than the state rate (3.0 percent). The labor force was 1,041,177, up 12,795 (+1.2) over the year. There were 29,613 unemployed residents in the region. To read more, [click here](#).

##### **Gov. Scott: Fort Lauderdale Area Created 140,300 New Private-Sector Jobs Since Dec. 2010**

On December 26, Governor Rick Scott announced that the Fort Lauderdale area added 17,800 new private-sector jobs in the past year, making the total number of new private-sector jobs created in the Fort Lauderdale area 140,300 since December 2010. Fort Lauderdale's unemployment rate dropped to a low 2.8 percent in November, down 0.8 percentage point from one year ago. Statewide, Florida businesses created 23,000 new jobs in November bringing the total number of new private-sector jobs created in Florida to 1,673,500 since December 2010. To read more, [click here](#).

##### **Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance to Host IEDC Leadership Summit in January**

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance is hosting the upcoming International Economic Development Council (IEDC's) Leadership Summit in Fort Lauderdale in January of 2019. To learn more, please [click here](#).

#### In the News

*The Real Deal* - [January panel: How transportation is changing the future of the SoFla real estate market](#)  
*Sun Sentinel* - [Applause for Broward's new attitude— and action — on homelessness | Editorial](#)

#### Education and Workforce Development News

[Hundreds Attend BCPS Ed Talk 2018/19 Community Forum](#)  
[BCPS High School Graduation Rates Rise to Highest Level in Seven Years](#)  
[NSU Launches First-of-its-kind Artificial Intelligence Bot to Help Students, Faculty and Staff](#)  
[NSU Researchers Uncover Genetic Marker, Predictor of Early Relapse in Pediatric ALL](#)

#### Business Briefs and Alliance Member News

Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

The **Broward Center for the Performing Arts** will host a free open house for the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center on Saturday, January 26, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Guests can tour the education center facilities, observe or sample a class, meet the teaching artists, win prizes, register to win a free winter class and enjoy family-friendly activities and light refreshments. The Broward Center's singing, dancing and acting classes are for preschoolers, kids, teens and adults and are designed to encourage artistic expression and teach new skills through the performing arts. Classes begin in mid-January and most continue for 10 weeks. Classes are limited in size and tailored to the appropriate age and skill levels from beginner to the more advanced student. All class fees include complimentary parking. To read more, [click here](#).

Business for the Arts of Broward launches its 2019 Arts Mean Business Speaker Series featuring mural and billboard artist Lori Pratico on Thursday, January 24 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Marina, 2301 SE 17th St. in Fort Lauderdale during the 3rd annual Art Ft Lauderdale art fair. The event is free and open to the public. To read more, [click here](#).

**Broward County's Port Everglades** welcomed Holland America Line's newest cruise ship, Nieuw Statendam, on its maiden call to the United States. Its inaugural Port Everglades sailing departed Wednesday, December 19 and returned Sunday, December 23. To read more, please [click here](#).

As it expands statewide, **City Furniture**, South Florida's top-selling furniture retailer, recently announced its pledge to donate a minimum of five percent of annual profits to a host of charities throughout Florida. The pledge reflects City Furniture's decades-long role as a community steward and comes on the heels of a \$1 million donation by the company in November to launch the capital campaign for Covenant House of Florida, addressing the needs of homeless and at-risk youth. "We owe much of our success over the last 47 years to the communities that have allowed our business to grow," said City Furniture CEO Keith Koenig. "We've always believed there's no limit to the good we can do by partnering with deserving organizations that we've supported through fundraising, volunteering and activism." To read more, [click here](#).

Winter weather and the holidays are a particularly difficult time for thousands of homeless youth across the state who lack shelter and a family support system. Thanks to generous donations from **Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood** and Hanes, Covenant House Florida's youth residents will be comforted from head to toe with fluffy new pillows and cozy socks. To read more, [click here](#).

**Ultimate Software**, a leading provider of human capital management (HCM) solutions in the cloud, announced recently that it is ranked #4 on this year's 50 Best Workplaces for Parents list by Fortune and Great Place to Work (GPTW). The ranking is based on employees' survey responses covering a range of topics for parents and non-parents alike, and on an analysis of companies' policies and practices in such areas as healthcare benefits, parental leave, adoption support, and flexible schedules. To read more, [click here](#). The company was also named #5 on this year's Best Workplaces for Diversity list by Fortune and Great Place to Work. The ranking considers feedback from employees surveyed at organizations across the United States, analyzing the daily workplace experiences of women, people of color, LGBTQ people, Baby Boomers and older generations, and people with disabilities. To read more, please [click here](#). Ultimate Software also announced the launch of its Slack app for UltiPro, creating the most robust functionality in the industry for the integration of workplace conversations and HR transactions. To read more, please [click here](#).

## Upcoming Events



### [Alliance Events](#)

#### **Alliance Partner Council Meeting - (Invitation Only)**

Tuesday, January 10, 2019, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Alliance Offices, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131, or [hkulp@gfalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gfalliance.org)

#### **Alliance Leadership Council Meeting - (Invitation Only)**

Tuesday, January 15, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBA

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-01333, or [tinaixa@gfalliance.org](mailto:tinaixa@gfalliance.org)

#### **Alliance Corporate Council Meeting - (Invitation Only)**

Wednesday, January 16, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBA

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131, or [hkulp@gfalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gfalliance.org)

#### **Alliance Governor Council Meeting (Invitation Only)**

Tuesday: January 22, 2019, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Roscioli Yachting Center Inc., Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please contact Peggy Doty at 954-627-0134, or [pdoty@gfalliance.org](mailto:pdoty@gfalliance.org)

### [Member/Partner Events](#)

### **2019 NSU Catch and Release Scholarship Fishing Tournament**

Saturday, January 12, 7:00 a.m.

Location: Weigh-in at Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale

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

### **The Real Deal Panel: Transportation & the Real Estate Market**

Wednesday, January 16, 4:00 p.m.

Location: MiamiCentral Station

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

### **BCPA - SFSO's Porgy & Bess Gala**

Wednesday, January 23, 5:00 p.m.

Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts

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

### **Broward Center for the Performing Arts Open House**

Tuesday, January 26, 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale

For more information [click here](#).

### **2019 IEDC Leadership Summit**

Sunday, January 27 – Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Location: Pier Sixty-Six Hotel and Marina

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

### **Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day**

Friday, February 1, 2019

Various locations

### **2019 Claim Your Future Showcase**

Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Location: BB&T Center, Sunrise

For more information, please contact Susan Climan at 954-627-0126 or [scliman@gfalliance.org](mailto:scliman@gfalliance.org)

Calendar items are subject to change without notice. Please visit [www.gfalliance.org](http://www.gfalliance.org) for the most current calendar of events and meetings and for more information regarding the Alliance.

## **Enterprise Florida Events**

### **Arab Health 2019**

Monday, January 28, 2019 - Thursday, January 31, 2019

Location: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Categorized in: International Trade Show

For information, [click here](#).

### **Dubai International Boat Show**

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 - Saturday, March 2, 2019

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Categorized in: International Trade Show

For information, [click here](#).

### **MRO Americas 2019**

Tue, April 9, 2019 - 9:00 a.m. - Thursday, April 11, 2019 - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Georgia World Congress Center

Categorized in: Trade Conferences

For information, [click here](#).

### **Export Sales Mission to Morocco**

Sunday, April 14, 2019 - Thursday, April 18, 2019

Location: Casablanca, Morocco

Categorized in: Export Sales/Trade Mission

For information, [click here](#).

**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 more event listings, please [click here](#).

Connect with and follow the Alliance on Social Media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).  
*Looking for commercial properties and demographic information? Visit [www.greaterfortlauderdaleproperties.com](http://www.greaterfortlauderdaleproperties.com).*  
*Why have so many companies relocated to Greater Fort Lauderdale? [Click here](#) to find out (90 second video).*