



VA Voice: June 2024

This edition of the VA Voice is generously sponsored by Kalahari Resorts.



Leadership News



Seize the opportunity to shape the future of MPI Virginia! We're seeking passionate individuals to join our Board of Directors for 2025. If you're ready to make a meaningful impact, lead with innovation, and connect with fellow industry leaders, nominate yourself or a colleague to serve on our Board of Directors for 2025!

[Apply or Nominate a Colleague for the Board Here!](#)

We also have an immediate need for volunteers on the Annual Conference committee!

If interested, please email Kim Carragher, our Annual Conference Chair, kim.carragher@whitelodging.com.

MPI Virginia Upcoming Events



July Chapter Meet-Up

Henrico Sports & Events Center,
Glen Allen, VA

July 10th, 2024, 5:00pm-7:00pm

[Register Here](#)

FREE for MPI-VA Members
\$10.00 Fee for Non-Members

Come check out this new 185,000 square ft venue which opened in November 2023 featuring 12 basketball courts, 24 volleyball courts, a 3500 seat arena and meeting space!

Leadership Amplified:
Inspire | Innovate | Ignite

August 5th - 7th, 2024

The Kimpton Forum Hotel
Charlottesville, VA

Member: \$279.00 (Hurry! This rate only valid through July 6th)

Non-Member: \$399.00



[Register Here](#)



November Quarterly Education & Networking Program: Save the Date

November 19th, 2:00pm -
November 20th, 12:00pm

Member: \$105.00

Non-Member: \$120.00

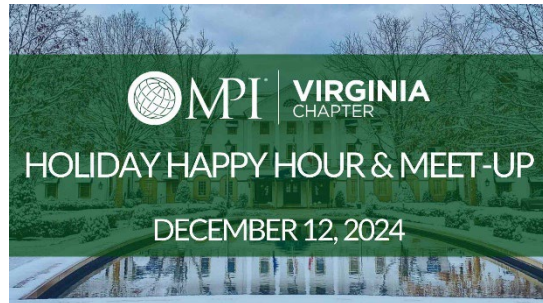
Hilton Norfolk the Main

Norfolk, VA

December Chapter Meet-Up

Colonial Williamsburg Resorts,
Williamsburg, VA

December 12th, 2024,
5:00pm-7:00pm



[Register Here](#)

FREE for MPI-VA Members

\$10.00 Fee for Non-Members

Step back in time and celebrate with MPI Virginia at Colonial Williamsburg Resorts December 12th from 5pm-7pm! Immerse yourself in history by exploring a vibrant 18th-century city, 5 flexible accommodations, 70,000 sq. ft. of meeting space and world-class amenities!

Membership News



Kate Belleman is June's Featured Member! Kate is the Director of Sales for Dover Hall Experiences, LLC, and has been a member of MPI Virginia on and off for 5 years. Get to know more about Kate below:

Q: Why did you join MPI Virginia?

A: I originally joined MPI Virginia when working as an outside sales manager for the Greater Richmond Convention Center. I loved the organization and it's members, but had to put a pause on membership due to covid and job change, but was excited to re-join in 2023.

Q: What do you enjoy he most about the meeting and events industry?

A: The people! Truly I have met some of the kindest, most fun loving folks in this

industry.

Q: What advice would you give someone entering the meeting and events industry?

A: Make sure your clients know how much you care for them. Constantly make sure you are front of mind by inviting them to events, showing them your appreciation through gift baskets and other fun things. Also, have fun and don't be shy at networking events- everyone in this industry is so friendly so get out there and meet people!

Q: What is a fun fact about you?

A: When I am not a full time worker and mother, I choreograph and perform in local theatrical shows around Richmond! My specialty is tap dance, but I'll do anything!

Q: If you had to eat one meal every day for the rest of your life what would it be?

A: Oh man I would have to say sushi. I love fresh fish, whenever my husband and I go out for sushi it usually results in a full boatload of sushi. Though admittedly not a wasabi girl- that stuff hurts!

Thank you Kate for letting us get to know more about you!

If you would like to be featured in one of our upcoming editions of The VA VOICE, please complete our [Member Spotlight Questionnaire](#).

The MPI Foundation is a non-profit organization that will celebrate 40 years in 2024 as the leading meeting and event industry foundation devoted to funding grants, scholarships, and pan-industry research for the people who need it most.

Whether you're an industry veteran or just getting started in your career, the MPI Foundation is committed to giving back to you and your industry, making you both stronger. A donation to the MPI Foundation helps secure the meeting and event profession for the future. When you help the people who bring people together, you help change the world.

Member Support from the MPI Foundation

The MPI Foundation offers grants for education, training, research and other special interest needs that enrich our industry as well as scholarships to complement MPI membership, education and career opportunities. With these grants and scholarships, together, we move this community and our global industry towards critical recovery.

[Learn More!](#)



Happy June Membership Anniversaries!

Ann Buhl, CMP, CMM, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, 16 Years

Andi Minor, CMP, University of Richmond, Robins School of Business, 10 Years

Holly Jackson, Covington Meetings and Events, 1 Year

Michele Curlee, Framatome, 1 Year

Bernard Ozarowski, Prixis Drones, 1 Year

Rachel Miller, CMP, Ferguson Enterprises, 1 Year

Reed Patterson, Visit Richmond, 1 Year

Claire Wood, The Management Office, 1 Year

Nicole Moseman, Massanutten Resort, 1 Year

Welcome New Members!

Tarah Warner, Howard Feiertag Department of
Hospitality & Tourism Management

Natalie Tyer, Hit Play



Want to shine a spotlight on who you are, personally and professionally? We're looking for members who want to be featured in the next issue of the VA VOICE. If that's you, [please submit your profile today!](#)

Update your MPI Member Profile Today!

It is essential that our members have fully-completed and up-to-date information on their member profile page so we can make their membership tailor-made to their needs. Please take a look at your current profile and make any necessary changes, today. It only takes a couple of minutes!

Check out this video for step-by-step instructions on how to edit your profile.

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A half-century of inspiration, stories and memories.

Share yours.

50 MPI YEARS

MPI is the association for people who bring people together.

We understand that when people meet face-to-face, it empowers them to stand shoulder-to-shoulder. That's why we lead the world in professional development that advances the meeting and event industry—and the careers of the people in it. We connect the connectors so they can produce experiences that inspire, educate and energize.

Because when people meet, they can think in ways previously unthought. Because when people meet, they can break barriers. Because when people meet, they can change the world.

Featured Article

PLANNING FOR THE INDUSTRY'S NEXT GENERATION

THE Z

6 Tips and Tricks to Make Networking Less Awkward

From Mandi Graziano, vice president of global accounts, HPN Global

@Taylor Smith

meetings TODAY

We've all been there.

It's the first day of an event and you're standing in a crowded room alone. Maybe you're new to the meetings and events industry and don't know many other professionals just yet, or the familiar faces you're typically used to seeing in the room are running late.

[Read Here](#)

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claire@themanagementoffice.com.

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