



VIRGINIA
CHAPTER

VA Voice: December 2023

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



**A message from your 2023-2024 MPI-Virginia President,
Martina James**

"As we approach the close of another remarkable calendar year, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the MPI Virginia for the extraordinary efforts and dedication you've put into making 2023 a truly exceptional year for our community of event and meeting professionals. We have a host of accomplishments to celebrate, but we also have a lot to look forward to in 2024!"

[Read here!](#)

Upcoming Events

Special Edition of Wednesdays with
MPI Virginia Happy Hour

Wednesday, December 20th 4:30pm-
8:30pm

[C&G Luxury Candles](#) 9200 Stony
Point Pkwy #114, Richmond, VA,
23235

[Register for December
Happy Hour Here](#)

Registration required



February Quarterly Education &
Networking Program

February 6th & 7th

Delta by Marriott Virginia Beach
Waterfront 2800 Shore Drive,
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

[Register for February
Quarterly Event Here](#)



2024 Annual Conference: Save the
Date

August 5th - 7th, 2024

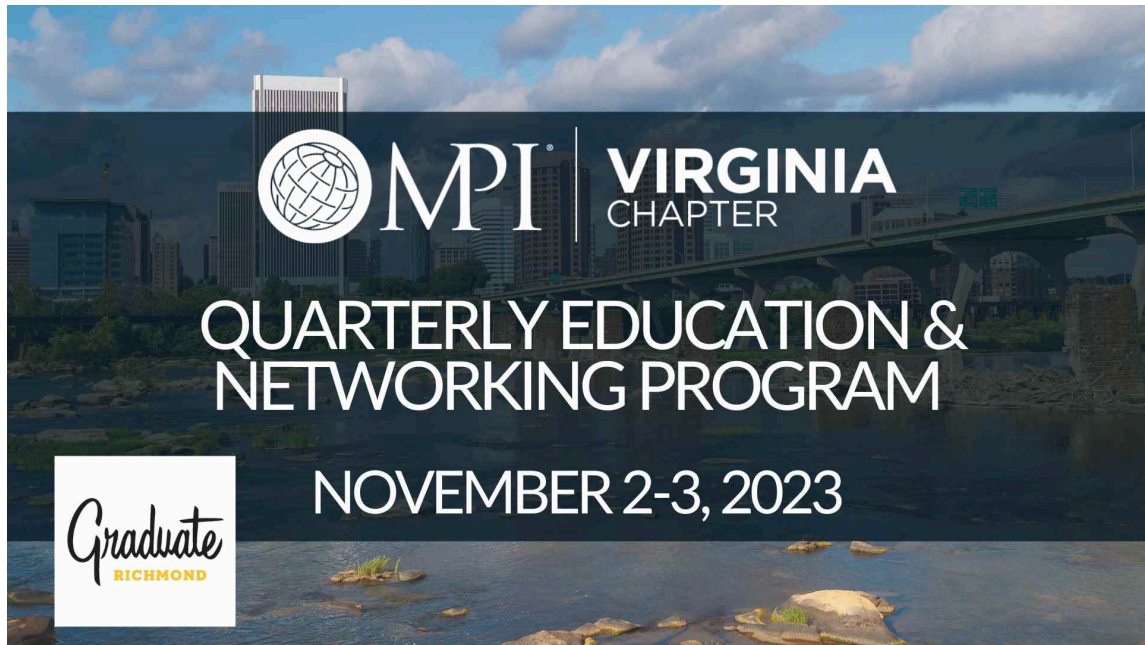
The Kimpton Forum Hotel
Charlottesville, VA



**Looking to gain exposure at the Annual Conference taking place in
August in Charlottesville? Volunteer on the Annual Conference
committee!**

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

Event Recap



Did you miss the November Quarterly Education Program? Check out a recap of the event, written by our very own Linné Diiorio, [here](#).



Call for Donations for MPI Virginia's next Fundraiser!

We are looking for fun silent donation items to offer to our membership including getaways, gift baskets, hotel night stays, event tickets, etc! Looking to showcase your property or service?! Donate now and get your logo and company in front of our planners and suppliers at the February 6-7, 2024 Quarterly Education, Networking, and Silent Auction event at the Delta by Marriott at Virginia Beach.

To donate to our upcoming silent auction, please fill out [this silent auction form](#) and send to [Megan Hazzard](#), or add your item to the online form when you register for the event!



Get Involved with YOUR MPI VA Chapter

We are looking for volunteers to join committees and the MPI Virginia board! Time to get involved and get all the benefits out of your membership! Please reach out to Megan Hazzard at Hazo29@henrico.us if you are interested in learning more about how to get involved with YOUR chapter.

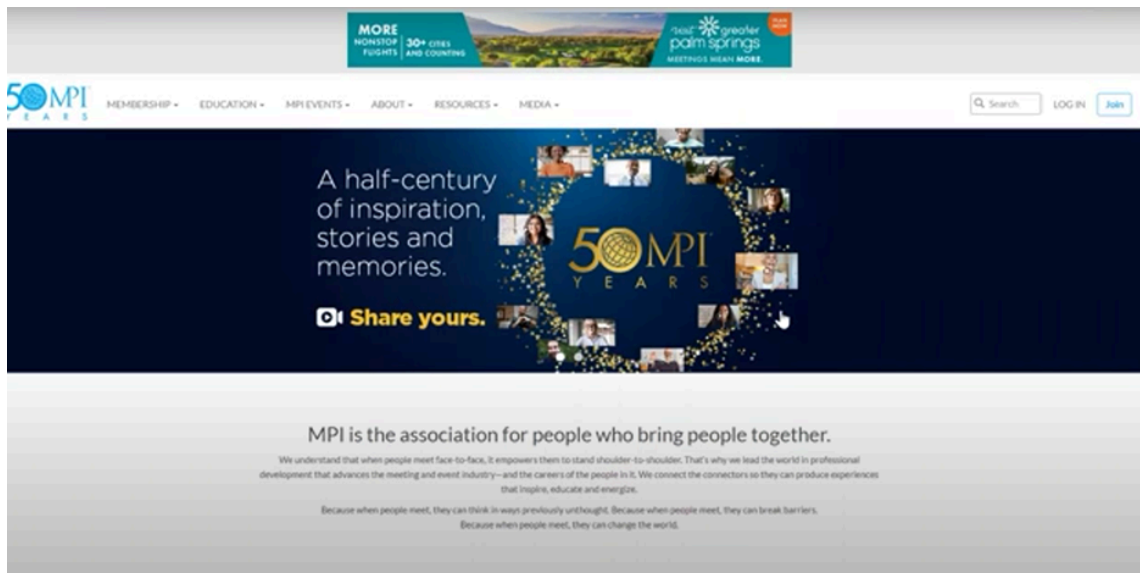
We have openings in Membership, Finance, Communications, and Education so wherever your interest in the meeting profession lies, we would love to have you!

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.



Happy December Membership Anniversaries!

Laurie Campbell, Hilton Norfolk the Main- 23 Years

Charles Waddell, CMP, CHSP, First Colonial Inn- 8 Years

Michelle Martin, DES, United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)- 8 Years

Candace Wilborn, M.S., MEM, CMM, CMP, DES, United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)- 6 Years

Melanie Joy Payne, CMP, CFMP, GCFA, The United Methodist Church- 5 Years

Sarah Lester, Massanutten Resort- 4 Years

Cynthia Bell, NRC Health- 2 Years

Pat Mallon, Indian Creek Productions- 2 Years

Michelle Jasper, CMP- Centre Law & Consulting, LLC- 1 Year

Emily Salvant, Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies- 1 Year

Gillian Saul, Bellatrix Consulting- 1 Year

Welcome New Members!

Sandra Harrington, REDROCS Consulting

Donna McMullen, Meeting Demands, LLC

Stacie Smith, PSA, Inc.

Tracey Hughes, CMP, Altria Client Services

Featured News

7 Corporate Event Trends And Predictions For 2024

2023 brought fresh challenges and opportunities for the events industry, from a growing awareness around sustainability, diversity and inclusion, as well as the impact of [rising event costs](#), [AI](#) and [new technology](#), and it's fair to say that it's as dynamic a time as ever for eventpros!

Going forwards, we've been keeping an eagle eye on the conversations happening in events, and we're diving into all the exciting trends that we've seen making headway in the lead-up to the new quarter and year. From accessibility to event technology, here are our top predictions for corporate events in 2024!



[Read More](#)

Thank You to our Sponsors!





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The VA Voice Newsletter is your monthly source for member news, events, and industry updates. It's produced for members and non-members alike. Have a colleague or prospective member who could benefit from receiving the VA Voice? Email Claire to have them added to our distribution list.

claire@themanagementoffice.com.

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