2026 GAA Annual Meeting | Schedule of Events

Day 1 | September 9, 2026

10:00AM - 12:00PM | Leadership Lyceum Capstone
Speaker: Anne DeMartini, JD, MEd, APTD, Valley Room
AAA Leadership Lyceum Only
AAA Leadership Lyceum students will complete the Leadership Lyceum program.

12:30 - 6:00PM | Registration Open
Attendees may check-in and collect their badges.
***Move For Hunger* Snack Packing** available in the **River Room** throughout registration.

1:30PM - 3:00PM | Leading with DISC: Strengthening Communication & Leadership Effectiveness
Speaker: Anne DeMartini, JD, MEd, APTD, Valley Room

GAA Affiliate Leaders, AAA/GAA Board Chair, & Chair-Elect Only
Understanding how people communicate is key to effective leadership. Using the Everything DiSC® framework, this session will help you recognize different styles, adapt your approach, and improve communication. Gain practical tools to reduce conflict, strengthen collaboration, and build more effective teams.

Pre-Registration Closed.

2:00 - 2:30PM | Welcome & Kickoff
Speakers: GAA Chair & GAA Planning Committee Chair, Lairie Kincaid Ballroom

2:30 - 3:30PM | Living Off The Wall: Using Music to Shift
Speaker: Shawntá Hooks

Today's leaders are navigating more pressure, change, and complexity than ever before. In this engaging keynote, Shawntà Hooks uses neuroscience, storytelling, and the music that shaped a generation to show how leaders can stay grounded, think clearly, and lead authentically under pressure.

This session is a shared experience that helps audiences shift from pressure to possibility - leaving attendees with practical tools to restore clarity, manage stress, strengthen connection, and lead with greater resilience in high-stakes moments.

3:30 - 3:50PM | BREAK

3:50 - 4:30PM | Leading What's Next: Preparing Multifamily Leaders for an Era of Transformation
Panel: Scott Hawley, Jene Cox, Jeanne Hatten, Carin Johnson, & Shatori Floyd

The multifamily industry is navigating a period of transformation, driven by shifting workforce expectations, emerging technologies, economic pressures, and increasing demands on leaders at every level. In this engaging panel discussion, current and former Leadership Lyceum participants will share their perspectives on the changing nature of leadership in multifamily housing and the mindsets needed to guide organizations into the future.

4:45 - 5:30PM | IMPACT Council Meet Up
Speakers: Dana Hill, Brenda Lindner, Shawntá Hooks
Junior Ballroom, *Invite Only*

Members of the GAA IMPACT Council will network in this invitation only reception.

5:30 - 7:00PM | Opening Reception
Lairie Kincaid Ballroom & Exterior Terrace

Blue Text denotes a session that is <u>not</u> open to general registrants.

Day 2 | September 10, 2026

8:00AM - 4:00PM | Registration Open
Attendees may check-in and collect their badges.

8:00 - 9:00AM | Sponsored Breakfast
Sponsored by ***Reliance Fire & Security***

9:30 - 9:50AM | NAA Welcome Address & GAA Hall of Fame Induction
Speaker: Chris Burns, Lairie Kincaid Ballroom

9:50 - 11:00AM | Breaking the Gravity of Average in Multifamily Leadership
Keynote: Mike Howard

In this high-energy keynote, former NASA team member Mike Howard shares proven successful principles from his time at NASA while showing leaders how to elevate performance by creating a vision for excellence, embracing change, reprogramming their mindset for higher achievement, strengthening communication, and leveraging the power of connection to bring out the best in their teams.

11:00 - 11:15AM | BREAK

11:15AM - 12:00PM | Retention, Risk & Results: Protecting Your Team and Your Property
Speaker: Ed Ware

Employee turnover, compliance gaps, and fraud exposure are often treated as separate issues - but they're more connected than most teams realize. This session brings together real-world strategies to retain maintenance professionals and site teams while maintaining strong service standards, improving compliance, and reducing operational risk. Attendees will walk away with practical tools to strengthen accountability, protect assets, and build more stable, high-performing teams.

12:00 - 2:30PM | Lunch & Networking Break

Attendees break for lunch. Please make sure to return by 2:30PM for the afternoon sessions!

2:30 - 3:20PM | The Maintenance Talent Pipeline: Creating Career Pathways That Work
Speakers: Brittany Lambert & Trevino Gresham

The future of multifamily depends on attracting, developing, and retaining skilled maintenance professionals. Join HR and maintenance leaders as they share strategies for building talent pipelines, creating career pathways, and developing the next generation of industry talent.

Attendees will walk away with how to recruit and develop maintenance talent, create career growth opportunities, strengthen workforce development efforts, and build the future multifamily workforce

3:20 - 3:30PM | BREAK

3:30 - 4:15PM | Advocacy - Why it Matters
Speaker: Jordan Jones, M. Ed., AAA/GAA Director of Policy & Government Affairs

4:15 - 4:45PM | Multifamily Throwdown: Industry Edition
A high-energy, interactive game show–style session where multifamily professionals compete to guess top survey responses to real industry questions. Designed for both Owner/Managers and Associate members, this session blends competition, collaboration, and industry insights. Attendees will gain practical takeaways through fun, fast-paced engagement.

Both Owner/Manager and Associate members will be participating

8:00 - 11:00PM | 2026 GAA Block Party
Location: St. Johns Green

Join GAA for a high-energy block party on St.Johns Green. The 2026 GAA Block Party will feature live music, yard games, dessert bars, and all your favorite people. Additional drink tickets for the Block Party can be purchased here.

Day 3 | September 11, 2026

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM | Breakfast

9:30 AM - 10:50 AM | How to Control AI Before It Controls You
Keynote: Beth Z, Lairie Kincaid Ballroom

Most AI talks are all hype and no help. This keynote is different.

In How to Control AI Before It Controls You, Beth Z moves beyond the "wow" factor and gets real about what's happening as we use AI every day - the good, the bad, and the quietly risky habits we're developing along the way.

This session isn't about using more AI. It's about using it better. Attendees will learn how to cut through AI-generated noise, avoid costly mistakes, protect their thinking, and stay in control in a rapidly changing world. Because AI isn't the problem - passive use is.

Takeaways:

- Spot and clean up "workslop"
- Avoid being fooled by confident misinformation
- Keep your brain from going on autopilot
- Use AI without oversharing or overdoing it

10:50 AM - 11:00 AM | Final Remarks & 2027 Preview
Speakers: GAA Chair & GAA Planning Committee Chair