

Welcome to the Georgia Economic Developers Association Annual Conference!


On behalf of the Georgia Economic Developers Association, I am thrilled to welcome you to this year’s Annual Conference. With our theme “Leveling Up,” we are excited to embark on a journey of growth, innovation, and collaboration together.

As economic developers, our mission is to elevate our communities and create opportunities for everyone. This year, we’ve crafted an exciting agenda filled with inspiring keynote speakers, dynamic panels, and interactive sessions designed to challenge conventional thinking and enhance your approaches to community growth. We’re honored to host thought leaders and industry experts who will engage, inspire, and spark fresh ideas. Whether you’re exploring new ways to propel your community, strengthen partnerships, or adopt cutting-edge technologies, we hope this event provides some strategies and insights to help you succeed.

The GEDA Annual Conference is a unique opportunity to connect with peers, share best practices, and discover innovative solutions to the challenges we face as economic developers. We encourage you to immerse yourself in the sessions, network with fellow attendees, and participate in meaningful discussions that will take you to the next level.

Thank you for being a part of this exciting event. We hope this conference will leave you feeling empowered and ready to “Level Up” in your career and in your work for Georgia’s future.

We look forward to a memorable experience together!



Charlie Moseley
2025 GEDA Annual Conference Chair
Director, Georgia Power Statewide Economic Development

Connect and Share with us on Social Media!

@Georgia Economic Developers Association - GEDA @GEDA_1963



Program Sponsor



WEDNESDAY

September 17, 2025

10 AM-5 PM	Registration Open (Lobby & Registration Desk)
10-11 AM	GEDA Board Meeting (Plimsoll)
11 AM-1 PM	Exhibitor Set-Up
11-11:45 AM	GEDA 101 - New Member Orientation (Scarborough 3-5)
11:45 AM-12:45 PM	New Member Luncheon (Invite Only) (Scarborough 3-5)
1-1:15 PM	Opening Remarks & Welcome (Regency Ballroom)
1:15-2 PM	Powering Georgia in the 21st Century (Regency Ballroom) Speaker: • Dr. David Gattie, Associate Professor of Engineering, University of Georgia
2-3 PM	Keys to Productivity and Success (Regency Ballroom) Speaker: • Ron Clark, Ron Clark Academy, New York Times Best Selling Author
3-3:30 PM	Break with Sponsors (Regency Prefunction & Verelst/Percival/Vernon) Sponsored by Golden Isles Development Authority
3:30 PM	Door Prizes (Regency Ballroom)
3:30-4:30 PM	Hot Political Issues & Economic Development Trends (Regency Ballroom) Speaker: • Chris Lloyd, Senior VP & Director, Infrastructure & Economic Development, McGuireWoods Consulting
4:30-5:30 PM	GEDA Young Professionals Happy Hour (Sorry Charlie's Oyster Bar Rooftop)
5:30-7 PM	Welcome Reception (Harborside Ballroom) Sponsored by Evans General Contractors
	Dinner on Your Own

THURSDAY

September 18, 2025

7 AM-12 PM	Registration Open (Registration Desk)
7-8:30 AM	Breakfast Buffet (Regency Prefunction & Verelst/Percival/Vernon)
8-8:15 AM	Door Prizes & Opening Remarks (Regency Ballroom)
8:15-9 AM	Update from GDOL Commissioner (Regency Ballroom) Speaker: • Commissioner Bárbara Rivera Holmes, Georgia Department of Labor
9-9:45 AM	The Toto Story: A Great Bidet in Georgia (Regency Ballroom) Speaker: • Bill Strang, President of Corporate Strategy, Toto USA
9:45-10:15 AM	Break with Sponsors (Regency Prefunction & Verelst/Percival/Vernon) Sponsored by Jackson EMC
10:15-11:15 AM	Lessons on Adversity (Regency Ballroom) Speaker: • Malcolm Mitchell, Author, Advocate, and Super Bowl Champion
11:15-11:55 AM	Insights on Data Centers (Regency Ballroom) Moderator: • Charlie Moseley, Director of Statewide Economic Development, Georgia Power Company Panelists: • Aaron Bilyeu, Chief Development Officer, Cloverleaf • Katie Comer, Head of Community Development, North America, Meta • Nathan Regan, Economic Development Strategic Negotiator, Google
11:55 AM-12 PM	Door Prizes & Adjourn (Regency Ballroom)
12-5 PM	Optional Thursday Afternoon Activities • Sporting Clays: Forest City Gun Club • Golf Tournament: The Landings Golf & Athletic Club • Georgia Ports Authority Tour: by Boat • Cooking Class: Savannah Culinary Institute
6-7 PM	Reception: Cocktails and Conversations (Scarborough Ballroom) Sponsored by Savannah Economic Development Authority
	Dinner on Your Own

FRIDAY

September 19, 2025

7-11 AM	Registration Open (Registration Desk)
7-8:30 AM	Breakfast Buffet (Regency Prefunction & Verelst/Percival/Vernon)
8:15-8:30 AM	Door Prizes & Opening Remarks (Regency Ballroom)
8:30-9:30 AM	Annual Business Meeting GDEd Update GRAD & Award Presentations (Regency Ballroom)
9:30-10:30 AM	Leveling Up Your K-12 Partnerships (Regency Ballroom) Moderator: • Mickey Daniell, Area Manager, Georgia Power Company Panelists: • Patrick Ledford, Economic Development Liaison, Georgia Department of Education • Hannah Mullins, President and CEO, Candler County Industrial Authority • Bethany Gilliam, CTAE Director, Bulloch County School District • Jason Zdunich, Head of Military and Community Relations, Hyundai Motor Group Megaplant America (HMGMA)
10:30-11 AM	Break with Sponsors (Regency Prefunction & Verelst/Percival/Vernon)
11-11:45 AM	Georgia Rural Site Development (Regency Ballroom) Moderator: • Rusty Haygood, Deputy Commissioner, Georgia Department of Community Affairs Speakers: • Bob Kosek, Division Director, Georgia Department of Economic Development • Gina Webb, Executive Director, OneGeorgia Authority • Brynn Grant, CEO, Liberty County Development Authority
11:45 AM-12 PM	Door Prizes & Final Comments (Regency Ballroom)
12 PM	Adjourn

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