

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2019

****VIDEO AVAILABLE****

Frey and Jenkins Announce Minneapolis Black Business Week

The week will feature an exhibition of extraordinary Black-owned businesses in Minneapolis; Job-seekers, business owners, creatives, and would-be entrepreneurs will have opportunities to expand their networks, hear firsthand from local officials about how to bid for procurement opportunities, and learn more about existing resources

Minneapolis Black Business Week partners include West Broadway Business and Area Coalition, Northside Economic Opportunity Network, Northside Job Creation Team, Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center, Minnesota Black Chamber of Commerce; Frey has made fueling economic growth through inclusive policies one of his top priorities

MINNEAPOLIS – Today Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey and Council Vice President Andrea Jenkins announced that the city will host its first Minneapolis Black Business Week. Starting Friday, July 19 and running until Saturday July 27, the City of Minneapolis along with local nonprofits and businesses will host a series of events for employers, would-be entrepreneurs, and job-seekers. Frey and Jenkins will kick off the 13-event, nine-day stretch with a panel discussion at Mama Sheila’s in South Minneapolis. City officials will also highlight procurement opportunities along with restaurant, retail, and professional service businesses throughout the city.

This week Frey met with staff and leadership from H&B Elevators, a participating business on the Northside, and discussed the what to expect during Black Business Week. Video from the mayor’s visit is available [here](#).

Jenkins stressed the importance of supporting Black-owned businesses and registering for an event in her video, available [here](#).

If you are a black business owner or have an event to promote, you can sign up to have your business highlighted in our online directory, learn about business trends, discover what it takes to become a vendor with the City, expand your professional network, and more – available [here](#).

Black Business Week partners include West Broadway Business and Area Coalition, Northside Economic Opportunity Network, Minnesota Black Chamber of Commerce, Minneapolis Urban League, Robert J. Jones Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (University of Minnesota), Northside Job Creation Team, E. Howard Co., WeRow, African American Leadership Forum, Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers, World to Win, Black Women’s Wealth Alliance, Boss Queens, Gold Room Restaurant and Lounge, Social Impact Strategies Group, and Fearless Commerce.

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We hope that you will explore more of what Minneapolis Black Business Week has to offer! See www.MinneapolisBlackBusinessWeek.com for details on the events below or to register your business in our online directory.

- July 19** 12:00p Join Council Vice President Andrea Jenkins and Mayor Jacob Frey for Afternoons with Andrea: Celebrating Minneapolis Black Business Week! @ Mama Shelia's. [RSVP](#) here.
- July 20** 10:00a Launch, Land, Level Up powered by Fearless Commerce @ Macalester College. [Register today](#); registrations close July 15th.
- July 21** 11:00a Join Rep. Ilhan Omar as we celebrate the first Minneapolis Black Business Week with a conversation on Diversity & Inclusion in Tech. [RSVP](#) here.
- July 22** 5:30p [Let's Do Business!](#) @ Sabathani Community Center. [Register](#) here.
- July 23** 8:30a Black Business Expo & Career Fair @ 800 W. Broadway Workforce Center. [RSVP](#) here.
- July 24** 8:00a Workout with Mayor Frey @ WeRow MSP. [Reserve](#) your spot on WeRow's website.
5:00p Black Women Makers Networking Event @ The Gold Room. [RSVP](#) here. Black women makers, submit your business [here](#) for promotion at the event!
- July 25** 9:00a FLOW Northside Arts Crawl on Plymouth Ave N, Penn Ave N @ Regional Acceleration Center/Minneapolis Urban League/Homewood Studios. [RSVP](#) here.
5:00p Ask an Expert Clinic @ NEON. [Register](#).
7:00p [Movie Night!](#) Spider-man Into the Spider-verse featuring Sandy's Grill and Ssstude-Nutz! BYOB @ The Commons
- July 26** 3:00p Penn Ave FLOW Northside Arts Crawl on West Broadway, Penn Ave N @ Freedom Square/ West Broadway Farmers Market. [RSVP](#) here.
- July 27** 11:00a FLOW Northside Arts Crawl @ West Broadway, Lyndale to Girard. [RSVP](#) here.
11:00a Creative Minneapolis Business Resource Fair @ West Broadway, Lyndale to Aldrich. [Sign up here](#) for the Minneapolis Black Business Week Vendor space! Bring your creativity and your products!

Share your experience on social media! Use the hashtag **#MplsBlackBizWeek** and share pictures from events, livestream, post about your favorite Black-owned businesses *and* encourage others to check out new places to shop, dine, workout, and more.