

Black Business Leadership Conference 2026

Built to Last: The Blueprint for Sustainable Black Business

Washington State's premier gathering of entrepreneurs, business owners, executives, and community leaders

Presented by the **Rudd's R.U.B.B. Initiative** (Raising Up Black Businesses).

5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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Made with **GAMMA**

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

A Premier Platform for Business Leadership & Economic Opportunity

The Black Business Leadership Conference (BBLC) is Washington State's most respected annual gathering dedicated to entrepreneurship, leadership development, and economic advancement. Each year, the conference brings together entrepreneurs, business owners, corporate professionals, executives, and community leaders from across the state for a powerful day of learning, networking, and collaboration.

BBLC was created to strengthen the business ecosystem by equipping entrepreneurs with the tools, connections, and strategies they need to grow – and to connect them with the organizations, institutions, and resources that can accelerate their success.

Learn

Insights from top business leaders, innovators, and subject matter experts

Connect

Strategic networking with decision-makers, partners, and peers

Grow

Practical strategies for profitability, scalability, and long-term success

PRESENTED BY

The R.U.B.B. Initiative

Raising Up Black Businesses

Founded by the leadership behind **Ezell's Famous Chicken**, the R.U.B.B. Initiative is dedicated to supporting entrepreneurs, strengthening businesses, and expanding access to economic opportunity throughout Washington State.

The Initiative believes that sustainable business growth requires more than capital, it requires mentorship, community, and a clear blueprint for long-term success.

The Signature Event

The Black Business Leadership Conference is the flagship program of the R.U.B.B. Initiative. Now in its **5th year**, BBLC has grown into a respected and anticipated platform for business development, leadership, and economic empowerment.

Each year, the conference draws a growing audience of engaged entrepreneurs, business owners, and organizational leaders who are committed to building lasting enterprises and contributing to Washington State's economic vitality.

 2026 marks a milestone year - five years of impact, growth, and community investment.

2026 THEME

Built to Last: The Blueprint for Sustainable Black Business

The 2026 theme reflects a critical shift in the conversation around Black business ownership, moving beyond survival mode toward intentional, strategic, and sustainable enterprise building. This year's conference is designed to help entrepreneurs and business leaders develop the frameworks, systems, and strategies that transform promising ventures into enduring institutions.

From Survival to Strategy

BBLC 2026 equips entrepreneurs with the mindset and tools to build businesses that are profitable, scalable, and positioned for generational impact. Not just short-term resilience.

A Blueprint, Not a Dream

Sustainable business growth requires deliberate planning. This conference provides actionable frameworks for leadership, operations, finance, marketing, and legacy building.

Community as Infrastructure

Strong businesses are built within strong ecosystems. BBLC connects entrepreneurs to the partners, resources, and networks that form the foundation of lasting success.

Five Pillars of Sustainable Business

BBLC 2026 is structured around five core pillars that represent the essential elements of building a business designed to endure, grow, and create lasting impact.



Foundation

Building resilient leaders and businesses through strong values, leadership practices, and strategic planning.



Structure

Creating systems, processes, technology, legal protections, and operational frameworks that support growth.



Sustainability

Exploring capital access, procurement opportunities, profitability, financial management, and wealth creation.



Visibility

Increasing brand awareness, marketing effectiveness, strategic partnerships, media exposure, and digital presence.



Legacy

Building businesses that create long-term impact, generational wealth, succession plans, and community influence.

A High-Value Audience of Decision-Makers & Business Leaders



200–250 Attendees from Across Washington State

BBLC attracts a curated audience of entrepreneurs, business owners, corporate professionals, executives, and organizational leaders who are actively seeking growth, partnership, and opportunity.

- Entrepreneurs & Business Owners
- Corporate Professionals & Executives
- Community & Economic Development Leaders
- Supplier Diversity & Procurement Leaders
- Government Representatives & Agency Leaders
- Students & Emerging Leaders



WHY SPONSOR

Why Leading Organizations Invest in BBLC

BBLC sponsors are not making a donation – they are making a strategic investment in Washington State's business ecosystem. Sponsoring BBLC positions your organization at the center of entrepreneurship, economic development, and community leadership.

Brand Visibility

Reach an engaged audience of entrepreneurs, business owners, and organizational leaders actively seeking partnerships and resources.

Relationship Building

Connect directly with decision-makers, future customers, vendors, and talent from across Washington State.

Supplier Diversity

Demonstrate and advance your organization's commitment to supplier diversity, workforce development, and economic inclusion.

Community Impact

Show tangible support for entrepreneurship, leadership development, and economic growth in the communities you serve.

Sponsor Exposure Across Every Touchpoint

Sponsors receive comprehensive visibility across all conference channels, from event branding and stage recognition to digital promotion and media outreach. Your organization's brand will be woven into every aspect of the BBLC experience.



Conference Branding

Logo placement on event signage, promotional materials, website, and digital assets



Digital & Social Promotion

Dedicated sponsor spotlights across social media, email marketing, and digital campaigns



Stage Recognition

Verbal recognition during main stage programming and featured sessions



Exhibitor Opportunities

Premium activation space to engage directly with attendees



Media & Press

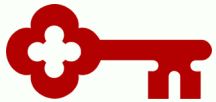
Inclusion in press releases, media outreach, and post-event recap materials



TRUSTED BY

Organizations That Recognize the Value of BBLC

Respected organizations across Washington State, including major financial institutions, corporations, government agencies, and higher education institutions have invested in BBLC because they recognize the strategic value of supporting entrepreneurship and economic opportunity. Their continued partnership is a testament to the conference's credibility, reach, and impact.



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- ❏ These organizations represent a cross-section of Washington State's business, financial, educational, and civic leadership united in their commitment to economic opportunity and entrepreneurship.

Invest in Washington State's Business Future

BBLC 2026 offers four strategic partnership levels designed to maximize your organization's visibility, engagement, and impact. Each level provides meaningful access to attendees, branding opportunities, and recognition across all conference channels.

Benefit	Presenting Partner \$15,000	Visionary Partner \$10,000	Leadership Partner \$5,000	Community Impact Partner \$2,500
Partner Recognition Title	✓ Presenting Partner	✓ Visionary Partner	✓ Leadership Partner	✓ Community Impact Partner
Conference Branding & Signage	✓ Premier placement	✓ Premium placement	✓ Standard placement	✓ Recognition
Website & Digital Recognition	✓ Premier	✓ Featured	✓ Included	✓ Included
Exhibitor Booth / Activation Space	✓ Premium	✓ Premium	✓ Standard	✓ Booth or Resource Table
Complimentary Conference Tickets	8 (VIP Table)	6	4	2
Stage / Programming Recognition	✓ Opening remarks + main stage	✓ Verbal recognition	✓ Verbal recognition	–
Social Media & Digital Spotlight	✓ Dedicated spotlight	✓ Featured spotlight	✓ Included	✓ Included
Press Releases & Media Outreach	✓ Full inclusion	✓ Included	–	–
Branded Materials / Giveaways	✓ Included	✓ Included	–	–
Grant or Scholarship Partner Recognition	✓ Included	–	–	–
Post-Event Recognition Materials	✓ Full inclusion	✓ Included	✓ Included	✓ Included

Ready to Partner?

Join BBLC 2026 as a sponsor and position your organization at the forefront of entrepreneurship, leadership development, and economic opportunity in Washington State. Partnership slots are limited – early commitment ensures maximum visibility and impact.

Connect With Us

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