



Advancing women Advancing transportation > Atlanta

MARCH 2023



A Message from our Presenting Sponsor

It is HNTB's pleasure to be the presenting sponsor for the WTS Atlanta Chapter a second year in a row. HNTB are proud employers of more than 20 WTS Atlanta members and many more throughout the country supporting other WTS Chapters. HNTB employees are active members of the organization, volunteering across several committees, including this year's conference planning committee.

View full message [here](#).

WTS ATLANTA
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Presenting Sponsor Message](#)

[WOTY Luncheon Panel Recap](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[2023 WTS Annual Conference](#)
[Prof. Development Series](#)
[GA Legislative Wrap Up](#)
[Introduce a Girl to Engineering](#)

[New LinkedIn Page](#)

[Member Opportunities](#)

[Donate to WTS Scholarships](#)

[2023 Corporate Sponsors](#)

A Message from our 2023 Presenting Sponsor



It is HNTB's pleasure to be the presenting sponsor for the WTS Atlanta Chapter a second year in a row. HNTB are proud employers of more than 20 WTS Atlanta members and many more throughout the country supporting other WTS Chapters. HNTB employees are active members of the organization, volunteering across several committees, including this year's conference planning committee.

Office Leader, Tim Morgan, has personally seen the value of WTS through the talented leaders and strategic thinkers who have and currently serve the organization in various capacities. That is why HNTB is and will remain committed to WTS at the local, national, and international levels. As part of the 40th Anniversary of WTS Atlanta chapter, the HNTB creative team came up with the tag line: first, only, but not last. What it takes for women to be successful in transportation, a male dominated industry, requires mentors and leaders to make sure that while they may have been the first or only - these women will never be the last. So, it is up to all of us to create a vision for inclusivity in present day and the time to come.

An excerpt from HNTB Presenting Sponsor delivered by VP of Membership, Iris Ortiz.



WOMEN OF THE YEAR PANEL DISCUSSION

by Deborah Mobula
and Bianca George

In celebration of Women's History Month and our membership this year, WTS Atlanta held a members only Woman of the Year panel discussion on Thursday, March 30th. Our special guest panelists included Erica Parish, Deputy Director for Paulding County Department of Transportation; Marsha Anderson Bomar, Commissioner Emeritus for City of Atlanta Department of Transportation; and Lisa Cupid, Chairwoman for Cobb County Board of Commissioners. Each panelist has received the WTS Atlanta Woman of the Year award in the past; Ms. Parish in 2020, Ms. Cupid in 2021, and Ms. Bomar in 2022 and 2003, respectively.

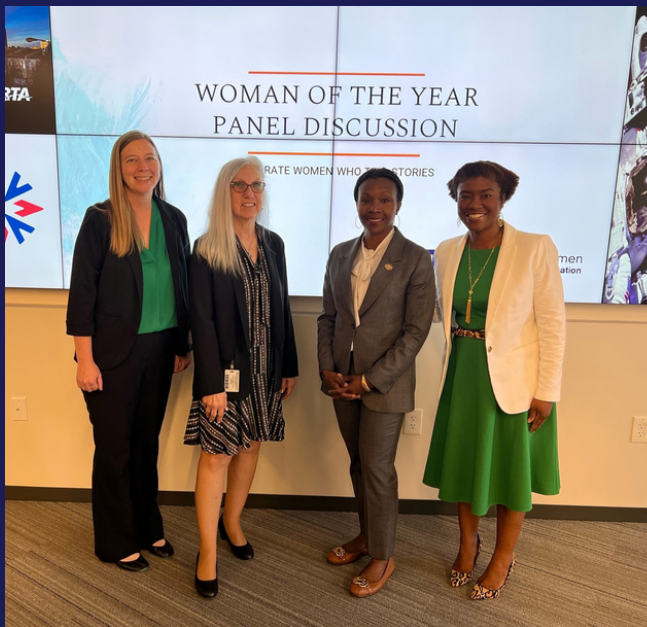


Photo (above): Special guest panelists, Erica Parish, PE; Marsha Anderson Bomar; Lisa Cupid, JD/MPA; and Rukiya Thomas, WTS Atlanta President

Photo (top): Special guest panelists and WTS members at Woman of the Year Panel discussion held at SRTA/GRTA headquarters.

We opened up our discussion with Iris Ortiz, VP of Membership sharing her personal journey in the transportation industry with the group. It was inspiring to listen to our Woman of the Year award recipients. This panel discussion, which felt more like an intimate conversation around the dinner table, was one filled with emotions. We laughed, we cried, we felt vulnerable as we sat down and listened to all the stories our speakers shared with us. We all left encouraged and challenged to continue to do better and work hard in our industries as well as in our personal lives. Additionally, we were reminded to continue to have patience with ourselves, understanding that the journey is just as important as the destination.



Photo (above): Iris Ortiz, VP of Membership sharing her personal journey in the transportation industry for the Woman of the Year Panel event.

Panelists Bios

- Erica Parish - Erica has 20 years of local government experience and currently serves as deputy director for the Paulding County Department of Transportation (DOT) executing the mission of providing a "safe and efficient roadway system for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists in Paulding County". Parish previously worked as the deputy director for Cobb County DOT and as preconstruction manager for Paulding County DOT. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering Technology from Southern Polytechnic State University.
- Marsha Anderson Bomar - Marsha is an entrepreneur, NetWeaver, servant leader and champion of all that is embraced by sustainability, diversity, inclusion and belonging. She has experience working in both the private and public sector for transportation with organizations such as MARTA, Gateway85 Gwinnett CID, ATL, and Stantec. Marsha founded and presided over two transportation focused companies called Street Smarts and Data Smarts for 20 years. She currently serves as commissioner emeritus for the City of Atlanta Department of Transportation (ATLDOT). Marsha
 - served on the WTS Atlanta board as president in its early inception and later as a co-chair for the chapter's 40th anniversary.
 - Lisa Cupid - Lisa currently serves as Chairwoman for the Cobb County Board of Commissioners. She is the first woman and African American to serve in this position. She previously served as the Cobb County Commissioner for District 4 for two terms. Cupid was recently named Economic Development Subcommittee Chair for the National Association of Counties and was recognized as one of the 100 most influential Georgians by Georgia Trend this year. Cupid graduated from Georgia State University with a Juris Doctor/Master of Public Administration dual degree and Georgia Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

Save the Date
2023 WTS Annual Conference, May 10-12th



ATLANTA
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023

THE GREAT INTERSECTION
EQUITY TRANSPORTATION
WTS CONFERENCE 2023 | ATLANTA, GA

SAVE THE DATE

WTS Advancing women
Advancing transportation

**Registration for the annual conference is
NOW OPEN!**

[Register Here](#)

If you would like to sign up to volunteer on or before the day of the event, please contact, Tonya Saxon at tsaxon@itsmarta.com or Sherl White at swhite@pontengineering.com.

For more information, visit: <https://wtsannualconference.org/>



Advancing women
Advancing transportation
> Atlanta



2023

EMERGING LEADERS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

[REGISTRATION](#)



20 April, 2023

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

How to Grow Your Finances as You Grow Your Career



**RICHARD S.
SLATON,
CCIM**

SPEAKER

Richard Slaton, Executive Director within JP Morgan Chase Commercial Bank in Community Development Banking, will be sharing insights on how you, as a professional can grow your finances as you grow your career.

WTS Emerging Leader series is a series of professional development webinars/workshops that WTS Atlanta will offer to all professionals desiring to gain valuable skills for their career.



A photograph of the Georgia State Capitol building in Atlanta, featuring its prominent golden dome and classical architectural style. The building is set against a clear blue sky.

Save the date!

GA LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

APRIL 27, 2023

In Person Event
More details coming soon!



Advancing women
Advancing transportation
> Atlanta



**INTRODUCE A GIRL
TO ENGINEERING**

APRIL 15, 2022
8:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.
KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
MARIETTA CAMPUS - GYMNASIUM

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF ENGINEERING!

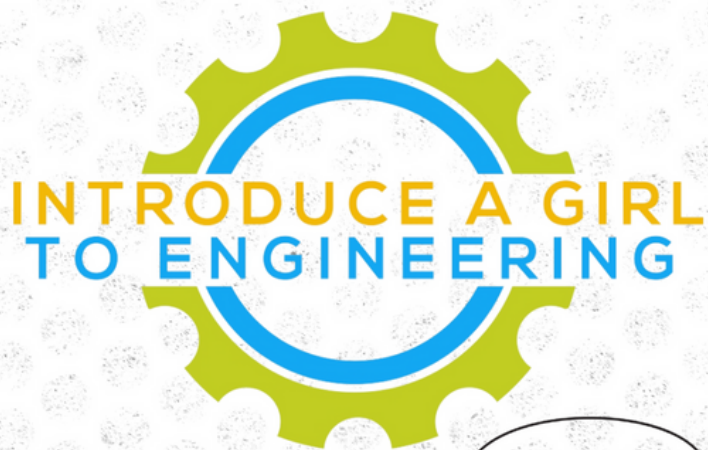
Introduce a Girl to Engineering is a half-day program designed to introduce upper elementary and middle school-aged girls to engineering through fun projects and activities.

Each ticket is only \$5 and includes:

- Access to more than 35 different activities led by Georgia engineering firms and other organizations
- Keynote address from a leading woman in the industry
- Participation in a Trivia Bowl with prizes
- Tour of KSU's Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering Technology
- Lunch

REGISTER AT WWW.ACECGA.ORG OR CONTACT CHANDLER BAKER AT CHANDLER.BAKER@ACECGA.ORG TO LEARN MORE!

Hosted by:
ACEC Georgia



APRIL 15, 2023

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY - MARIETTA CAMPUS

Volunteer Opportunity

WTS will have a booth at the *Introduce a Girl to Engineering* event on April 15th!

A few slots remain to volunteer at our booth during the following times:

8:00am-10:00am

10:00am-12:00pm

12:00pm-2:00pm

Click [here](#) to sign up!

Connect with
us on our new
LinkedIn Page



Out with OLD...IN with the NEW
Our new public LinkedIn page is
WTS Atlanta



Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS (wtsinternational.org)

Member Opportunities

WTS Atlanta Mission

WTS Atlanta seeks to close the workforce gap in the Atlanta regional transportation industry by promoting lifelong careers in transportation for women. By attracting, retaining and advancing women in the industry, WTS Atlanta will be the most recognized network of transportation subject matter experts.



Get Involved!!

There are many ways to get involved this year! From joining a WTS Atlanta committee to participating in local events throughout the year. If you were unable to attend this year's membership event, take a moment to view the presentation below.

Want to learn more about our amazing benefits, like professional and leadership development, networking, educational programming, volunteering and mentorship, and events? Please contact our Vice President of Membership, Iris Ortiz at iortiz@hntb.com.

[View Membership Presentation Here](#)



Connect with WTS Atlanta

We love connecting with our WTS community on social media. Please follow, like and share WTS Atlanta!

Also, check out our industry [job postings here](#).



Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS (wtsinternational.org)

2023 WTS Atlanta

Upcoming Events Calendar

April	May	June
<p>Introduce a Girl to Engineering</p> <p>Quarterly New Members Webinar</p> <p>Emerging Leaders Professional Development Series: Financial Literacy</p> <p>GA Legislative Wrap-up Event</p>	<p>WTS Annual Conference</p>	<p>GDOT Board Breakfast</p>
July	August	September
<p>Emerging Leaders Professional Development Series: TBD</p> <p>Family/Community Event</p>	<p>DBE Mixer</p>	<p>Multimodal Transportation Panel Discussion</p>
October	November	December
<p>Emerging Leaders Professional Development Series: TBD</p>	<p>Scholarship Luncheon</p>	<p>Holiday Mixer</p>

[View Events Here](#)

Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS (wtsinternational.org)

Member Opportunities

WTS International Vision

Equity and access for women in transportation.

WTS International Mission

WTS attracts, sustains, connects and advances women's careers to strengthen the transportation industry.

.....

Get Involved!!

Check out these WTS International events for 2023:

2023 Distinguished Speaker Series

WTS Member Meetups

2023 WTS Spring Policy Symposium - March 15-16, 2023

2023 WTS International Annual Conference - May 10-12, 2023

Transportation YOU Capital Summit - June 25-29, 2023

Signature Leadership Training - October 10-14, 2023

Chapter Leadership Development - November 14-16, 2023

For more information on these events:

[View Events Here](#)

Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS (wtsinternational.org)

Member Opportunities

Get Scholarships!!

Check out these WTS Foundation scholarships for 2023:

Strategic Partner Scholarships

Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship

Helene M. Overly Memorial Graduate Scholarship

Molitoris Leadership Scholarship for Undergraduates

**Jannet Walker-Ford Leadership Legacy
Scholarship for Graduates**

Junior College/Trade School Scholarship

WTS Transportation YOU High School Scholarship

For more information on these scholarships:

[View Scholarships
Here](#)

Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS (wtsinternational.org)



Help WTS Atlanta Raise \$40,000 for Scholarships for Our 40th Anniversary



To celebrate WTS Atlanta's 40th Anniversary this year, our chapter has set a goal to raise \$40,000 for our scholarship program to support women pursuing transportation careers. Please help us reach this goal by scanning this QR code to donate.

Track our progress on the donation thermometer here:
[Fundraising Wall](#) | [WTS Foundation](#) | [GiveSmart Fundraise](#)

In 2022, WTS Atlanta awarded 5 scholarships for a total of \$15,000.

Your donation today will help us raise \$40,000 to expand our scholarship program in 2023.

Thank you for your donation and support!

2023 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

Thank you to all our partners and welcome to our newest corporate partners!

2023 Presenting Partner



2023 Diamond Partners



Member of the SNC-Lavalin Group



2023 Platinum Partners



2023 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

2023 Gold Partners



Heath & Lineback Engineers, Inc.



2023 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

2023 SBE/Non-Profit Partners



BLUE
CYPRESS
CONSULTING



PERIMETER COMMUNITY
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS



SJH Engineering P.C.



UNITED
CONSULTING

2023 In Kind Partners

SRTA/GRTA

Odonnell Company