



Advancing women
Advancing transportation
> Atlanta

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024



Happy Spring, WTS Atlanta!

As we close out Q1, we would like to congratulate our returning and new corporate partners for their support! We have reached over 90% of our 2024 raise goal. We have had several busy months celebrating Black History Month and Women's History Month. Thank you to MARTA and the Atlanta Regional Commission for hosting these two wonderful events looking back at our transit history and learning from our past WTS Atlanta presidents. Read on to find out more about these enriching events. Also, take a moment to review our upcoming events including a new members' meeting in April and the annual WTS International Conference hosted by the New Orleans chapter this year in May. We hope to see everyone there!

WTS ATLANTA
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Welcome to our 2024
Corporate Sponsors](#)

[Presenting Sponsor Message](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

[2024 WTSI Annual
Conference-New Orleans](#)

[New Member Webinar](#)

[2024 Events Calendar](#)

[Tour + Conversation w/ MARTA
Recap](#)

[ACEC Introduce a Girl to
Engineering Day Recap](#)

[Past Presidents' Breakfast
Recap](#)

[Member Opportunities](#)

[Join our LinkedIn Page](#)

welcome

TO OUR 2024
CORPORATE PARTNERS!

2024 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

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

2024 Presenting Partner

HNTB

2024 Diamond Partners

 **ARCADIS** **AtkinsRéalis**

 **Hartsfield-Jackson**
Atlanta International Airport®



2024 Platinum Partners

HATCH LTK
Positive Change for the Next Century

JAT CONSULTING
SERVICES, INC.
Financial & Management Consultants

 **PONT**
ENGINEERING

RK&K

 **TRUENORTH400**

 **vhb**

2024 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

2024 Gold Partners



2024 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

2024 SBE/Non-Profit Partners



2024 In Kind Partners

SRTA/GRTA
Odonnell Company
Atlanta Regional Commission



OUR SPARK



Growing through Unity of Purpose

HNTB is proud to be WTS Atlanta's Presenting Sponsor
three years in a row.

CELEBRATING 110 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Infrastructure Solutions
www.hntb.com





2024 WTS INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Join transportation thought leaders and professionals from around North America in New Orleans as we Connect Cultures and Connect Communities.

MAY 8-10, 2024



Connecting



Educating



Leading



Advocating

Program Highlights

- Technical Sessions
- Local Tours
- Keynotes & Plenaries
- Networking & Social Events

THE  **CRESCENT CITY** 

CONNECTING CULTURES • CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

WTS CONFERENCE 2024 | NEW ORLEANS, LA

REGISTER NOW

www.wtsannualconference.org

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

April 24th

Join us for our next
quarterly new members
webinar!

2024 WTS Atlanta

Upcoming Events Calendar

January	February	March
Membership Meeting (1/18)	Tour + Conversation w/ MARTA Black History Month Event (2/29)	WTS Past Presidents Breakfast (3/28)
April	May	June
New Member webinar (4/24)	WTS Annual Conference (5/8-10, New Orleans)	GDOT Board Breakfast (6/20)
July	August	September
New Member webinar (7/24)	Multimodal Exchange Event (8/22-Tentative)	DBE Event (TBD)
October	November	December
New Member webinar (10/23)	Scholarship and Awards Luncheon (TBD)	Holiday Party (12/17-Tentative)

[View Events Here](#)

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



by Cara Vojdani

F

or Black History Month, on February 29th, MARTA hosted a fascinating tour of the Integrated Operations Center (IOC), which is the hub for transit services and police coordination. Participants also learned about MARTA's history in the Atlanta region in connection with Black History Month.

Thank you to our gracious hosts at the IOC and program organizers Paula Nash, Tonya Saxon, and Ryan Van Sickle, who also presented to the group. For a copy of the presentation, please [click here](#).

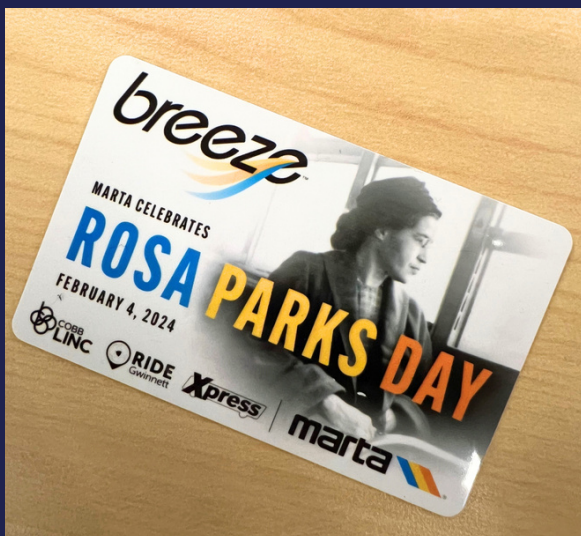


Photo (above): Rosa Parks Day Commemorative Breeze card in honor of National Transit Day on February 4th

Photo (top): Tour + Conversation participants and MARTA staff

Photo (right): Ryan Van Sickle presenting the history of public transit in Atlanta





2024 ACEC INTRODUCE A GIRL TO ENGINEERING

by Sherl White

On Saturday, March 16th, the WTS Atlanta chapter participated in the annual ACEC Introduce a Girl to Engineering event at the Dekalb Conference Center at Georgia Piedmont Technical College. It was a great success! Our “Make your Own Glue” activity was well received by the girls as it really gave them the opportunity to get their hands dirty. The option to add their favorite food coloring and glitter was a special highlight to test their homemade glue against the weight of pennies. Our TU Committee members, who volunteered, did an awesome job in the preparation and facilitation of our activity. It was great to see our fellow Board members Beth Ann, Laura and Ligia at the event!



Photo (above): Board members Sherl White and Laura Cook

Photo (top): Board member Sherl White and TU Committee members Nzinga Gantt, Gloria Neal, Elizabeth Diamond, and Martika Johanson-Murray

Photo (right): TU Committee members setting up “Make your Own Glue” activity







Advocating for Inclusive Leadership

by Rukiya Thomas

W

TS Atlanta Presidents ranging from 2007 until today filled the room on Thursday morning, March 28th, with inspiration, strategies, professional advice and leadership lessons from public and private experience. I was honored to host a conversation with my predecessors Claudia Bilotto, Angela Snyder, Regan Hammond, Malika Reed Wilkins, Tonya Saxon and Kristin Winzeler. Attendees heard from each of them on how they first learned of WTS, reasons for joining, roles served and how they became President.

“Advocating for oneself as a woman is just as critical in building your career.”

Some of the roads to presidency were intentional and others were more about seizing the opportunity. One common take-away from each President is they all volunteered and worked in multiple positions within the Chapter before becoming President, and sometimes even after being President. All benefited greatly as a result of their commitment and hard work in leading the Atlanta chapter. Benefits and lessons included leadership growth, expanded and diverse networks, enhanced confidence, and the power of women supporting women.



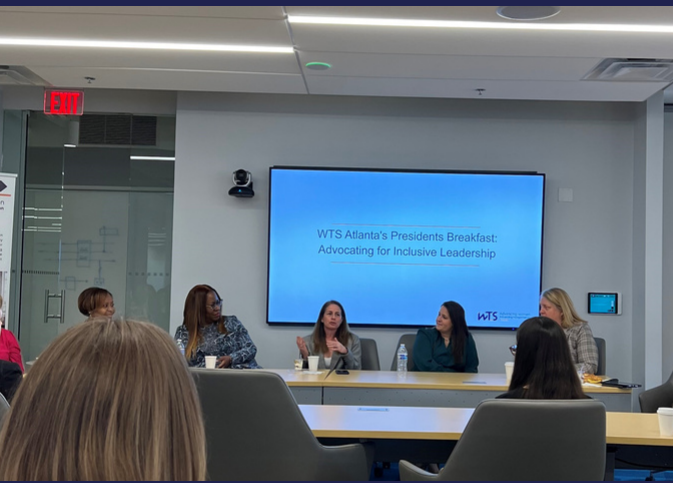
Photo (above): Panel discussion at Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)

Photo (top left to right): Current President, Rukiya Thomas with past presidents Claudia Bilotto, Angela Snyder, Kristin Winzeler, Malika Reed Wilkins, Regan Hammond, and Tonya Saxon



The examples of advocating for inclusive leadership were not just limited to others. Advocating for oneself as a woman is just as critical in building your career. Final words to lead by:

- Help each other
- Show up
- Walk the walk
- Take the risk
- Keep your word



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](#)

[Volunteer Sign up Sheet](#)



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)

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 2024:

WTS International Chair's Reception at TRB Annual Meeting

WTS Workshops & Webinars

Distinguished Speaker Series

WTS Member Meetups

WTS Spring Policy Symposium

WTS International Annual Conference

WTS Capital Summit

WTS Signature Leadership Training

WTS Chapter Leadership Development

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 2024:

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)

Connect with
us on our
LinkedIn Page



Out with OLD...IN with the NEW
Don't forget our new public LinkedIn page is
WTS Atlanta



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