



Advancing women  
Advancing transportation  
> Atlanta

SPECIAL EDITION  
2025 SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS LUNCHEON



WTS ATLANTA  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

TABLE OF  
CONTENTS

[Corporate Sponsors Thank You](#)

[Message from 2025-2026  
President](#)

PAST EVENTS RECAP  
[Annual Scholarship Luncheon](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS  
[Membership Drive - Join Now!](#)  
[Member Opportunities](#)  
[Join our LinkedIn Page](#)

Thank

TO OUR 2025  
CORPORATE PARTNERS!

you

# 2025 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

*Thank you for your support this year!*

*2025 Presenting Partner*

**AtkinsRéalis**

*2025 Diamond Partners*



*2025 Platinum Partners*



# 2025 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

## 2025 Gold Partners





# *2025 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners*

## *2025 SBE/Non-Profit Partners*



## *2025 In Kind Partners*

Atlanta Regional Commission

Niti Systems Consultants

Odonnell Company

SRTA

## — *Message from the President* —

The WTS Atlanta Annual Scholarship and Award Luncheon brought 350 transportation industry professionals and friends together to honor the accomplishments of local industry leaders, but more importantly, to award scholarships to young women pursuing careers in transportation.

Under the theme “The Year of the Woman,” WTS Atlanta recognized all the hardworking women who lead and serve our local public and private organizations, and those who are just starting their career journey.

One highlight of the event was presenting the video “She is Why” to kick-off the 2026 WTS Atlanta Scholarship Fundraising efforts, with the goal of increasing the scholarships value in 2026 to \$30,000. Over the years, I’ve met many past scholarship recipients who have led successful careers, and I really wanted to show their stories. I’m glad that a few of them indulged me in my request to share their stories. The video is a testimony of the power of the WTS Atlanta scholarships and our efforts to support the mission and vision of the organization. Thank you to everyone who donated and/or took part of the silent auction. With your support, we have raised almost \$15,000 to date... we’re halfway to our goal! Go [here](#) to donate.

WTS International and the Foundation had a strong showing at this event. Thanks to Malika Reed Wilkins, PhD, APR for delivering the keynote speech. It was great to have her home... WTS Atlanta will always be her chapter. Both Yvonne Lopez-Diaz and Bridgette Beato shared messages as leaders and representatives of the WTS Foundation and WTS International, respectively. Alexa Gangemi and Melissa Mullinax also joined the event.

So many people deserve a big THANK YOU and acknowledgement for their contributions to this successful event.

Many thanks to the Luncheon Committee chair and co-chair, Nicole Neeley (Law) and Melanie Robinson, for their leadership and executing so perfectly our largest and most important event, and to all the subcommittee leaders and volunteers. And to the WTS Atlanta Board, for contributing so much of their time, knowledge and connections for the greater good. I’m honored to work with them.

Thank you to the Corporate Sponsors, for your financial support and for showing up as leaders in our programming and your employees are Chapter volunteers year after year building a strong network. Special thanks to our 2025 Presenting Sponsor, AtkinsRéalis.





Advancing women  
Advancing transportation  
> Atlanta

## — *Message from the President* —

Thank you to all our members and attendees to this event. I hope everyone enjoyed and had an opportunity to connect and enjoy our event.

Thank you to Ashley Frasca for being our Mistress of Ceremonies for the past 10 years!

And last, but not least, thank you, Jignesh Patel, of Niti Systems Consultants, for generously giving your time and serving as our event photographer.



*Iris Ortiz*

WTS Atlanta President





Advancing women  
Advancing transportation  
➤ Atlanta



2026

# MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

SAVE THE DATE  
JANUARY 28TH

[BECOME A MEMBER](#)

[JOIN A COMMITTEE](#)





# 2025 WTS ATLANTA SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON



Photos (above): Attendees in Ocean Ballroom at the Georgia Aquarium, Mistress of Ceremonies Ashley Frasca, and silent auction

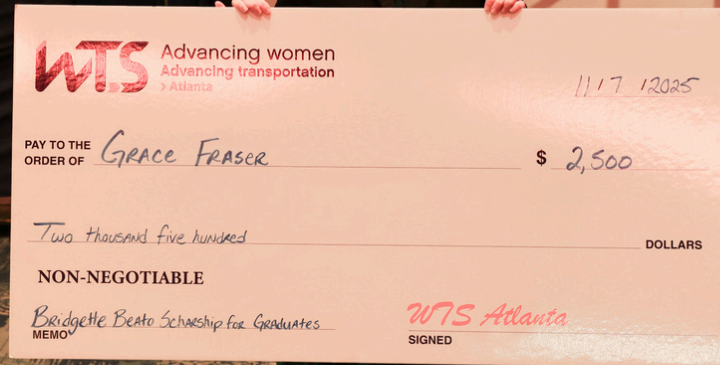
Photo (right): WTS Atlanta President presenting on stage at the Annual Scholarship Luncheon

Photo (top): Keynote speaker Malika Reed Wilkins





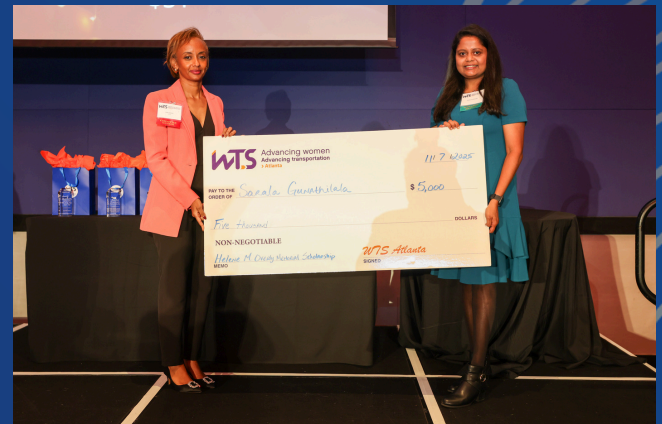
# 2025 WTS Atlanta Scholarship Awardees



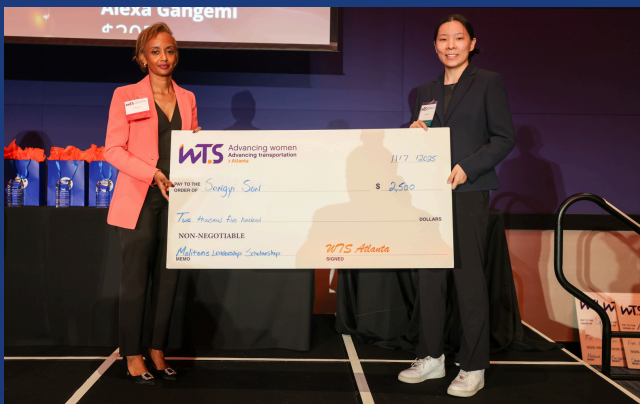
**Bridgette Beato Leadership Legacy Scholarship for Graduates**  
Grace Fraser



**Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship**  
Alexandra Lugo Diaz



**Helene M. Overly Memorial Graduate Scholarship**  
Sarala Gunathilaka



**Molitoris Leadership Scholarship for Undergraduates**  
Songyi Son



**Junior/Technical College Scholarship**  
Jasmine Duenez Garcia



# Silent Auction, Industry Leadership Highlights and Special Guests





# 2025 WTS Atlanta Chapter Awardees



**Member of the Year Award**  
Nicole Neeley



**Employer of the Year Award**  
Lumenor Consulting Group



**Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award**  
Nykita Hurt



**Innovative Transportation Solutions Award**  
CDOT's Connected Vehicle (V2X) Roadmap



**Uncovering our Legacy Award**  
Meg Pirkle



**Man of the Year Award**  
Eric Duff



**Woman of the Year Award**  
Jannine Miller





# Scholarship Luncheon

THE YEAR OF THE WOMAN

November 7, 2025

11:30am - 1:00pm

Georgia Aquarium  
225 Baker Street NW  
Atlanta GA 30313

## PHOTOS NOW AVAILABLE!!!

[View Full Photo Gallery](#)  
([Large Format](#)) [Here](#)

[View Full Photo Gallery](#)  
([Small Format](#)) [Here](#)

# 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, Amanda von Oldenburg at [Amanda.vonOldenburg@atkinsrealis.com](mailto:Amanda.vonOldenburg@atkinsrealis.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](http://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 2026:

**WTS International Chair's Reception at TRB Annual Meeting**

**WTS Workshops & Webinars**

**WTS International Annual Conference**

**WTS Capital Summit**

**WTS Signature Leadership Training**

**WTS Chapter Leadership Summit**

For more information on these events:

[View Events Here](#)

**Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS ([wtsinternational.org](https://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](http://wtsinternational.org))**