



Area Organizations to Host First-Ever Arts & Tourism Summit on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)

The event, organized by the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County and Discover The Palm Beaches, is designed to provide tools and resources to local professionals in the cultural and tourism sectors

Lake Worth Beach, Fla. (July 28, 2021) – The Cultural Council for Palm Beach County (CCPBC) and Discover The Palm Beaches (DTPB) are pleased to announce the first-ever **Arts & Tourism Summit on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion** on August 11 & 12, 2021 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center.

The organizations are hosting the two-day event as a professional development opportunity for the area’s business leaders working within hotels, attractions, cultural institutions, and other hospitality/arts organizations. The programming is geared toward professionals at the General Manager, C-Suite, Executive, senior manager and board levels who are looking to incorporate EDI strategies into their organization’s culture. The summit is free to attend, but space is limited.

“We’re committed to continually strengthening our community, and that includes the education that shapes how we think and work—with particular focus on viewing our organizations through the lens of equity, diversity, and inclusion,” said Dave Lawrence, president and CEO of CCPBC. “It’s important that we do the work, and ultimately, that we create workplace environments—and within our broader cultural community—where everyone feels they belong, is valued, and has the opportunity to advance.”

“I am a firm believer that travel fosters understanding and appreciation toward people and cultures,” said Jorge Pesquera, president and CEO of DTPB. “In The Palm Beaches we aim to provide a tourism experience that is reflective of our community and where all visitors always feel welcome. This summit is a great example of steps we’re taking to refine that experience.”

The summit features an impressive lineup of presentations, panels, and special performances. The keynote speakers are **Elliot Ferguson**, president and CEO of Destination DC, and **Donna Walker-Kuhne**, author and president of Walker International Communications. Additional presentations will be given by West Palm Beach Mayor **Keith James** and other subject matter experts throughout the course of the two days, with some of the topics including “Brave Conversations: Implicit Bias,” “Top 10 Micro-Inequalities,” and “Being an Antiracism Ally and

Making Connections.” Further, the program will feature performances by **Afrique Ngozi Dance & Drum**, the **Chino Nuñez Group**, and more.

The full schedule for the summit is listed [here](#).

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About The Cultural Council for Palm Beach County

The Cultural Council for Palm Beach County is the official support agency for arts and culture in The Palm Beaches, Florida’s Cultural Capital®. Headquartered in the historic Robert M. Montgomery, Jr. Building in Downtown Lake Worth Beach, the Council presents exhibitions and performances featuring artists who live or work in Palm Beach County. The building also serves as a VISIT FLORIDA-designated Florida Certified Tourism Information Center, a helpful resource for visitors. The Council’s complimentary Cultural Concierge program provides visitors with expert recommendations, custom itineraries, and enhanced access to local events, talent, and venues.

About Discover The Palm Beaches

Discover The Palm Beaches is the official 501(c)(6) not-for-profit, accredited tourism marketing organization that promotes the collection of 39 cities and towns commonly referred to as The Palm Beaches, which spans more than 2,300 square miles and boasts 47 miles of pristine beaches from Highland Beach and Boca Raton to Jupiter and Tequesta. Tasked with growing visitation and the local tourism economy, the organization works year-round to bring travelers from around the state, country and globe to visit Palm Beach County. The Palm Beaches’ have a rich history in hospitality as America’s First Resort Destination® and tourism is among Palm Beach County’s major industries, generating \$5.5 billion in economic impact during 2020.

The Palm Beaches are home to more than 18,000 hotel rooms, and feature more than 100 family-friendly attractions, an abundance of world-class luxury, award-winning restaurants, and 125 miles of peaceful waterways for on- or in-the-water activities, including 160 artificial reefs that line the Atlantic Ocean’s Gulf Stream current. 160 golf courses have earned it the moniker of Florida’s Golf Capital®, as well as Florida’s Cultural Capital® due to its thriving entertainment scene of more than 200 art and culture organizations. Situated along I-95, The Palm Beaches are accessible via Palm Beach International Airport (PBI), which offers more than 100 daily nonstop flights to 30 cities in the United States. The Palm Beaches are also conveniently located within driving distance of Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood and Miami International airports.

For more information about The Palm Beaches, visit www.ThePalmBeaches.com or on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn and TikTok). Visitors and residents can take advantage of county-wide deals via The Palm Beaches Savings Pass. They can also tune in to The Palm Beaches TV for 24/7 streaming content of the destination’s hotels, attractions, restaurants and experiences.

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