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Athens Now //
August 2019
Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau

Athens
LIFE UNLEASHED



Newsmakers // Opportunities // New Developments in Tourism

NEWS AND UPDATES

CVB Sales Staff Entertain GACTE Board Members

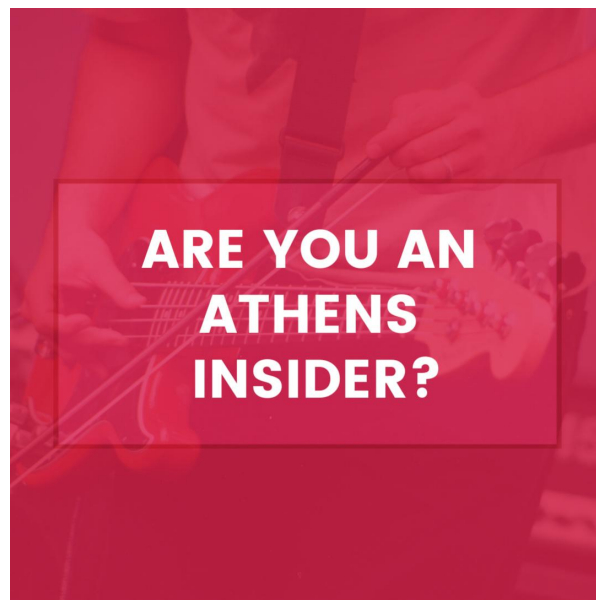
Director of Sales Nick Arnold and Sales Manager Jay Boling entertained board members, including the new Executive Director Jody Reeves and President Dustin Davis, of the Georgia Association for Career and Technical Education (GACTE) at LumberJaxe while they were in town for the annual conference at The Classic Center in mid-July. The conference brought more than 1,800 attendees to Athens and generated an economic impact of \$1,301,489.75.

(Header Image)

Become a Guest Blogger with VisitAthensGA.com

The Athens CVB is currently taking applications for guest bloggers. We are looking for FIVE local experts to produce one 600 - 1500 - word blog per month on VisitAthensGA.com. The blogs are to be written on one of the categories:

- **Athens' Own:** telling the stories of Athens makers, creators, disruptors and innovators
- **Events & Experiences:** must-see-and-do happenings and events that capture the best of the seasons
- **Family Fun:** inter-generational experiences that bring people together
- **Food & Drink:** what's new, trending and distinctly Athens, expressed through our taste buds
- **Music:** celebrating Athens' rich music heritage and continuing influence and experience



To learn more about this amazing opportunity with the CVB and to apply, [click here](#).

HopOn Athens Shuttle now offers tour of Athens

HopOn Athens Shuttle has begun offering one-hour guided tours of the University of Georgia campus and historic downtown Athens. The driver will share historical facts and information about some of Athens' most cherished landmarks including: Sanford Stadium, the Arch, Herty Field, Stegman Coliseum, the Tree That Owns Itself, the Lucy Cobb House and many more. Tours are available Friday and Saturday from 5 to 6 p.m. at \$25 per person by appointment only. Each shuttle can hold up to six people on one tour. To learn more about the HopOn Shuttle tours, [click here](#).

Inaugural Historic Athens Porchfest

The Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation has changed its name to Historic Athens and will celebrate the new name with the first-ever "Historic Athens PorchFest" event on Sunday, October 6 from 1 to 7 p.m. Historic Athens is inviting homeowners, musicians and visitors to participate in the concerts throughout four historic Athens neighborhoods: Pulaski Heights, Newtown, Boulevard and Buena Vista Heights. In total, the event will include 48 pop-up concerts. To learn more about this event, [click here](#).

HOSPITALITY NEWSMAKERS

Welcome Back, Meredith McLucas

Meredith, our new Information Coordinator, was the CVB Tour & Travel Manager from 2000 - 2006, and we are thrilled to have her return! Meredith not only has a great background in tourism but is also well-connected in the local community making



her the perfect person to strengthen our relationships and partnerships with local attractions, businesses and the creative community. She'll be responsible for keeping our events calendar up to date as well as being a key liaison with our partners.

Congratulations Classic Center and CVB staff

Congratulations to **Philip Verrastro** and **Danny Bryant** for becoming International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM) certified at Venue Connect in Chicago! Philip became a Certified Venue Executive, which recognizes excellence in professional development and competence of managers of public assembly venues. Danny became a Certified Venue Professional, which recognizes middle-to-senior level managers of public assembly venues. We want to say way to go to them both for this accomplishment.



DON'T MISS OUT: OPPORTUNITIES

Georgia Small Business Rocks Nominations



Athens is a city full of rock stars! Small businesses should apply for the Georgia Small Business Rock Stars award. This award recognizes small businesses in Georgia, from retail and service to technology and manufacturing, with under 100 employees for their excellence. Winners will be honored at an

awards luncheon at the Georgia Aquarium on **April 20, 2020**, and will receive great opportunities for free marketing exposure. The deadline to apply is **Monday, September 30**, at midnight.

Hospitality HEROES Award Nominations Open

Did a specific person make your visit to Athens memorable? Please help us recognize our dedicated hospitality professionals by completing the brief nomination form below. We'll be sure to let their supervisor know so that they may receive special recognition. Hospitality HEROES nominees are also eligible to receive a "Be a

Tourist in your own Town" prize package each fall at the Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau's Annual Meeting. To make a nomination, [click here](#).

THE HOSPITALITY HEROES



Extranet Training

The CVB offers Extranet Training on the second Thursday of each month beginning at 2 p.m. The next Partner Extranet Training will be **Thursday, September 12.**

RSVP to Hannah Smith at hsmith@visitathensga.com.

INDUSTRY CALENDAR AND EVENTS

September 8 - 11 - **Georgia Governors Tourism Conference**
Great Wolf Lodge & Conference Center, LaGrange, GA.
www.georgiagtc.com/

ATHENS IN THE NEWS

"Then and Now Along Georgia's Antebellum Trail," ExploreGeorgia.org, July 2019.

"Stunning alternative cities you've never thought to visit but really should," Besttraveltale.com, August 2019.

"College Football's Greatest College Towns," - SI.com, August 2019.

"An Insider's Guide To The Best Restaurants In Athens, Ga.," - 365Atlantatraveler.com, June 2019.

[Website](#) / [Partner Extranet](#) / [State Resources](#) / [Media Coverage](#) / [Athens Events](#)

