

2026 CHAMBER CHAMPIONS



ATHENS AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

By many standards, 2025 was an incredibly successful year for the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce. Among some of the highlights:

- We kicked off Athens Achieves, our ambitious Workforce Development initiative.
- We coordinated our third Intercity Leadership Visit, this time to Gainesville, FL.
- Athens was selected as the host city for the Georgia Chamber's Red Carpet Tour the week of the Masters. We introduced over 40 site selectors from around the world to this wonderful community.
- We held our first Political Leadership Academy that brought several Athenians to talk about the honor, responsibility and commitment of running for political office.
- We partnered with other local organizations to kick off the Gifted Savings program, in which every public high school Senior in Clarke County receives a \$1,000 stock portfolio.
- We continued to increase the number of members of the Chamber while participation in Chamber events soared.

WE is the important word! *WE* are continuing to take a leadership role in Athens. You, as a Chamber Champion, are so very critical to the work. Your investment in the Chamber allows for all of us to tackle the work of today *and* to prepare for a brighter tomorrow. Together, *WE* get the work done.

The Chamber is on course to have another banner year in 2026. We are committed to ramping up our focus on business development, continuing to expand Athens Achieves, and increasing our visibility of policy issues that impact the economy of this fine community.

Thank you for your support!



**DAVID
BRADLEY**

President & CEO

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF WORKFORCE OFFICER

Athens Achieves is a bold, collaborative workforce initiative dedicated to reducing poverty and increasing labor force participation across Athens-Clarke County and Northeast Georgia. Our mission is to connect people to meaningful employment, provide the support needed to sustain careers, and build a skilled talent pipeline that benefits individuals, employers, and our entire community.

Through this effort, we are launching several key strategies to create lasting impact. First, we are developing a comprehensive job portal that will serve as a central hub for employment opportunities and career resources. We are also hiring career navigators to personally guide job seekers—offering both employment connections and the wrap-around support services essential to long-term success. For our youth, Athens Achieves is expanding work-based learning opportunities within K-12 schools, ensuring students can explore high-demand careers early and graduate with real-world experience. Our new Workforce Academy is facilitating pre-apprenticeship programs in manufacturing, HVAC, and electrical trades, while we also grow second-chance employment opportunities so that every resident—regardless of background—has access to a pathway forward.

This work is made possible by a powerful network of partners who share our commitment to a stronger local economy. Together with the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government, Clarke County Mentor Program, Boys and Girls Club of Athens, Books for Keeps, Goodwill, Minority Business & Non-profit Association, Destined Inc., Envision Athens, and the Athens High School Completion Initiative, we are aligning education, training, and community services to remove barriers and create opportunity. By joining forces, we are developing a more prosperous Athens-Clarke County and driving workforce development that will lift the entire Northeast Georgia region.



**DR. ALVIE
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Chief Workforce Officer

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PROGRAM OF WORK

PUBLIC POLICY	EDUCATION/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	MEMBER SERVICES	SPECIAL EVENTS
				
<i>Pancakes & Policy</i> <i>Day at the Capitol</i> <i>Local Government Engagement</i> <i>DC Fly In</i> <i>HUB Chamber Council</i>	<i>Mentorship Support</i> <i>Teacher Externships</i> <i>CCSD Partnership</i> <i>Athens Achieves</i>	<i>Site Selector Visit</i> <i>Jobs Database</i> <i>Airport Expansion</i> <i>Intercity Visit</i>	<i>Chamber 101</i> <i>Monthly Networking</i> <i>Small Business of the Month</i> <i>Ambassador Program</i>	<i>Annual Meeting</i> <i>Golf Tournament</i> <i>Athena Award</i> <i>Gamechangers</i>



PUBLIC POLICY DIVISION

The Chamber strives to be the voice of business in the Athens area. Our advocacy for business, from policy to relationship cultivation, provides direct value to our members and the necessary ingredients for increased commerce benefitting the Athens area.



EDUCATION/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

We actively seek to expand business and education partnerships throughout the year, working closely with our local school district. Athens Achieves, our ambitious Workforce Development Strategic Plan for Athens-Clarke County will launch in 2025, paving the way for employers and job-seekers to reach their full potential.



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

A goal of the Athens Area Chamber is catalyzing prosperity through commerce. Better business makes better community, and better community makes better business - the two are one. We take action for the prosperity of the Athens area, because jobs and good commerce should benefit everyone.



SPECIAL EVENTS DIVISION

The Chamber will hold several major events in 2026 including Annual Event, Gamechangers, ATHENA Award Luncheon, and the Golf Tournament. Athens area stakeholders gather at the table we set, building relationships through what truly unites us: the desire for everyone in the Athens area to thrive.



MEMBER SERVICES DIVISION

We continue to be one of the fastest growing chambers in Georgia. Networking programming is where Chamber members maximize their relationship ROI. We open the door for member businesses of all sizes to leverage an immense number of opportunities and resources as their network, learn, and grow as part of the Athens community.

**YOUR INVESTMENT IS CRITICAL
FOR THIS WORK TO SUCCEED.**



ATHENS AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2025 IN REVIEW

153,000

ACTIVITY ON
ATHENSGA.COM

5,743

IN ATTENDANCE
AT EVENTS

216,323

SOCIAL
MEDIA
PAGE
REACH



42,224

EMAIL
NEWSLETTERS
OPENED



916

MEMBERS

72,576

EVENT CALENDAR
PAGE VIEWS



Joining the Chamber is one of the best decisions a business or nonprofit can make. It's an open door to share your story, build genuine relationships, and plug into a community that truly supports each other.

-Kim Keegan, Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation

2026 SPONSOR LEVELS

	PREMIER \$18,500	ELITE \$11,000	CLASSIC \$6,500	SUPPORTING \$4,750	FRIEND \$1,900
EVENTS	Presenting Sponsor				
- Pancakes & Policy - Day at the Capitol - Annual Meeting - Golf Tournament - Athena Luncheon - Intercity Visit - Monthly/Regular Events	Table of 8 4 Tickets Table of 8 Foursome Table of 8 1 Participant Logo Recognition	Table of 8 2 Tickets Table of 8 Foursome Table of 8 \$1,000 Credit Logo Recognition	4 Tickets Table of 8 2 Players 6 Tickets Logo Recognition	2 Tickets 4 Tickets 2 Players 4 Tickets Name Recognition	 4 Tickets 1 Player 2 Tickets Name Recognition
VISIBILITY					
Logo recognition on Chamber Champion webpage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo displayed year-round in Chamber lobby	✓	✓	✓	✓	Company Name
Logo displayed at all Chamber events	✓	✓	✓	Company Name	Company Name
Spotlight in Chamber member newsletter	✓	✓	✓		
Enhanced online member directory listing	✓	✓	✓		
Preferred event access & seating	Priority Seating	✓			
Rotating logo on high traffic webpages	✓	✓			
Social media spotlight	✓				
Feature opportunity in Chambering	✓	✓			
Priority opportunity for Athens CEO	✓	✓			

THANK YOU

2025 Chamber Champion Sponsors

PREMIERE PARTNERS



ELITE PARTNERS



CLASSIC PARTNERS



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



FRIENDS OF THE CHAMBER



CORE VALUES



TRUSTED TO DO THE
RIGHT THINGS IN
THE RIGHT WAY



EMBRACING FRESH
NEW IDEAS



EMPOWERING OURSELVES
AND OTHERS TO LEAD
WITH CONFIDENCE



LISTENING TO AND
LEARNING FROM
OTHERS



SEEKING PARTNERS
TO ACCOMPLISH BIG
IDEAS TOGETHER

MISSION

The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce is the voice of business. By connecting, innovating and growing opportunity for all, the Chamber is laying the foundation for tomorrow's workforce and economy.

VISION

The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce is the essential business champion for Athens - the premiere community for creativity, innovation, and economic development.



ATHENS AREA
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