



DELTA FEST 2025 SCHEDULE

TRACKS: OWNERSHIP | ENTREPRENEURSHIP | COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE
Sept 16-18

SEPT 17 WEDNESDAY @ Jackson Convention Center			
8:00 – 9:00a	Breakfast & Relationship Building Mornings begin with food for the body, music for the soul, and table prompts that open space for new connections to take root.		
9:00 – 10:00a	Bold Reveals & Aspirations of What's Possible Armchair Conversation with Dr. Shena Ashley , President of Capital One Foundation, and Bill Bynum , CEO of HOPE. PLENARY ROOM		
10:15-11a	<i>Community Ownership, CLTs & Stewardship as Pathways to Wealth Creation</i> Presented by: Oji Alexander Chief Executive Officer at People's Housing+, Inc. OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205	<i>Your First Million: Building Scalable Ideas Into Profitable Businesses</i> Presented by: Cortney Woodruff Co-Founder, Assemble ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203	<i>Building Stronger Communities, Stronger Working Futures: Accelerating Opportunity Together</i> Presented by: Dr. Courtney Taylor Executive Director of AccelerateMS COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201
11:15a -12p	<i>Developing a Multi-Generational Real Estate Investment Strategy</i> Presented by: Herschell L. Hamilton, CCIM CEO of BLOC Global Group OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205	<i>Building a Small Business Support Ecosystem</i> Presented by: Kendra Key, Executive Director, Entrepreneurship Center for Growth & Excellence ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203	<i>Our Grass is Green, Too</i> Presented by: Nia Umoja, Creative Director & Lead Organizer, Cooperative Community of New West Jackson COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201
12:00 p	Lunch, Conversation, & Storytelling		

12:30 – 1:30p	Plenary & Inspiration: <i>“Cities of the Delta: Building Prosperity Across the Deep South”</i> Black Economic Alliance Mayor’s Panel with Mayors John Horhn (Jackson, MS), Steven Reed (Montgomery, AL), Randall Woodfin (Birmingham, AL), and Frank Scott (Little Rock, AR), moderated by Alaina Beverly , Executive Vice President, Black Economic Alliance Foundation. PLENARY ROOM		
1:45 – 2:30p	<i>Dreaming at Scale: Turning Vision Into Strategy for Communities, Regions, and Nations</i> Presented by: Lisa Yancey , President of Yancey Consulting and co-producer of DELTA FEST OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205	<i>Developing Capacity to Create and Preserve Affordable Housing in Rural Communities</i> Co-Presented by: Robin Wolff , Senior Director, Rural Communities, Enterprise Community Partners Adrienne Norwood , Program Manager, Rural Communities, Enterprise Community Partners ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203	<i>Building on Your Advantages</i> Presented by: Rebecca Kaufman , Vice President, Regional Innovation, AgLaunch COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201
2:45 – 3:30p	<i>Kitchen Table Gathering: Black Power Scorecard</i> Presented by: Andre Perry , Senior Fellow – Brookings Metro, Director – Center for Community Uplift OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205	<i>Access to Capital: Building Prosperity in the Deep South</i> Co-Presented by: David B. Payton , MBA, Executive Director of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program at Delgado Community College Percy Manson , SVP Director of Sales, Hope Enterprise Corporation ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203	<i>Innovating to Build Rural Housing</i> Presented by: Nick Mitchell-Bennett , Chief Executive Officer of cdcB COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201

3:45-4:30p	<p><i>Amplifying Community Voice to Advance Economic Prosperity</i></p> <p>Presented by: Perry Perkins, Supervisory Organizer at Working Together Mississippi</p> <p>OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205</p>	<p><i>Building Prosperity Through Culture: From Creativity to Economic Power</i></p> <p>Co-Presented by: Scott Hutcheson, Executive Director, E Pluribus Unum</p> <p>Gerri Hobdy, Owner, Pleroma LLC</p> <p>ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203</p>	<p><i>Revitalizing Southern Cities A Conversation with Mayor John Horhn.</i></p> <p>Presented by: Bill Bynum CEO of HOPE</p> <p>Featuring: Mayor John Horhn (Jackson, MS)</p> <p>COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201</p>
4:45 - 6:00p	<p>Grounding, Reflection, & Activation: <i>Sparkling a National Movement</i></p> <p>Plenary Speaker: Shaun Donovan, CEO of Enterprise Community Partners\</p> <p>PLENARY ROOM</p>		

SEPT 18		THURSDAY @ Jackson Convention Center	
8:00 – 9:00a	Breakfast & Relationship Building		
9:00 – 10:00a	Bold Reveals & Aspirations of What’s Possible: <i>Multi-Family Real Estate, a solution to the Affordable Housing Crisis</i> Plenary Speaker: Amin Irving , Founder, President, and CEO of Ginosko Development Company PLENARY ROOM		
10:15-11a	<i>Fortifying Emerging Developers</i> Co-Presented by: Lori Chatman , President, Capital Division, Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. Amin Irving , Founder, President, and CEO of Ginosko Development Company OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205	<i>Empowering Communities Through Technology & Innovation</i> Presented by: Dr. Nashlie Sephus , CEO/Founder of Bean Path; Principal AI Scientist at AWS ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203	<i>Learning, Collaboration, and Proximity: NCF’s Approach to Advancing Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice</i> Presented by: Rey Ramsey , President and CEO of Nathan Cummings Foundation COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201
11:15a-12p	<i>Reimagining the Affordable Housing System in the US</i> Presented by: Noel Andrés Poyo , Executive Vice President at Housing Partnership Network OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205	<i>Mastering the Art of Business with Local Government Agencies</i> Presented by: Michael Thomas , President of Systems Companies ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203	<i>Partnering with FHLB to Drive Housing, Home Ownership, and Community Development</i> Presented by: Sanjay Bhasin , President & CEO of FHLB Dallas COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201
12:00 p	Lunch, Conversation, & Storytelling		
12:30 – 1:30p	Plenary & Inspiration: <i>Rooted: Food, Family, & Community</i> Plenary Speaker: Nick Wallace , Founder/Executive Chef, Nick Wallace Culinary PLENARY ROOM		

1:45-2:30p	<p><i>Housing Can't Wait</i></p> <p>Presented by: Jim King, CEO Fahe</p> <p>OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205</p>	<p><i>Building High-Growth Companies: The Growth Mindset</i></p> <p>Presented by: Tony Jeff, President and CEO of Innovate Mississippi</p> <p>ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203</p>	<p><i>Building the Cultural Economy</i></p> <p>Presented by: Betsy Bradley, Laurie Hearin McRee, Director/Mississippi Museum of Art</p> <p>COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201</p>
2:45-3:30p	<p><i>From Stewardship to Sustainability: Building Generational Wealth Through Landownership</i></p> <p>Co-Presented by: Alex Harvey, Forester / Land Manager</p> <p>Casey Benedict, Land Surveyor</p> <p>Mike Massey, Managing Partner, Massey & Vise, P.A.</p> <p>OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205</p>	<p><i>Strategic Growth: Scaling Small Businesses for Long-Term Success</i></p> <p>Presented by: Dr. Nichole Thompson, CEO of Gaitway Solutions & Co-founder of 400 Films</p> <p>ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203</p>	<p><i>Data Centers, Economic Development, and the New Infrastructure of Civilization</i></p> <p>Presented by: Tray Hairston, Partner at Butler Snow LLP</p> <p>COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201</p>
3:45-4:30p	<p><i>Converting Renters to Homeowners</i></p> <p>Co-Presented by: Jonathan Pearce Mulkin, Chief Mortgage Officer, Hope Enterprise Corporation</p> <p>Jena Reed, Vice President of Community & Economic Development, Hope Enterprise Corporation</p> <p>OWNERSHIP ROOM: 205</p>	<p><i>Rural Water Infrastructure Solutions</i></p> <p>Co-Presented by: Ines Polonius, Chief Executive Officer, Communities Unlimited</p> <p>Suzanne Anarde-Devenport, CEO, Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC)</p> <p>ENTREPRENEURSHIP ROOM: 203</p>	<p><i>"Good Things for Good People," Repurposing Community Assets</i></p> <p>Co-Presented by: Latoya Cutts, Project Consultant, Jackson Repurposing Initiative</p> <p>Roy Decker, FAIA Duvall Decker</p> <p>Dr. Errick Greene, Superintendent, Jackson Public Schools</p> <p>COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROOM: 201</p>
4:45 - 6:00p	<p>Grounding, Reflection, & Activation</p> <p>Plenary Speakers: Bill Bynum & Lisa Yancey, Producers and Co-Creators of DELTA FEST, anchoring the room in vision, reciprocal value, and the power of an activated ecosystem moving with intention.</p> <p>PLENARY ROOM</p>		