



Industry Led. Community Focused.

FEBRUARY 2024 E-NEWSLETTER

Workforce Development

Success Story: Dominique Grant



Dominique Grant, a 37-year-old in his first year as a Laborer apprentice, sought assistance from HIRE360 to start his career with the Laborer's union. Growing up in Humboldt Park with six siblings, Dominique witnessed his single mother's struggles, instilling in him a robust work ethic and an unwavering drive to pursue his aspirations. With HIRE360's support, Dominique successfully obtained sponsorship from Kiewit, allowing him to contribute to the Chicago Transit Authority's Red and Purple Program. Overcoming initial financial barriers with assistance from HIRE360, Dominique embarked on his employment journey, and he remains dedicated to enhancing his skills and expanding his professional network as he actively seeks his next project.

In his perspective, Black History Month serves as a poignant time to honor those who made significant sacrifices for a better future, reflecting on their achievements. A staunch advocate for HIRE360, Dominique has referred over 10 individuals, ensuring they receive the information and support necessary for success in the unionized construction trades. Beyond his professional growth, Dominique is passing on his knowledge and accomplishments to his 13-year-old daughter, inspiring her to pursue her dreams with the same determination and resilience he exhibits.

Success Story: Demetrius D. Grier

Demetrius D. Grier's story is a testament to resilience and determination. Demetrius D. Grier, 43, grew up in Robbins, Illinois. After high school, Demetrius joined

the Marine Corps and worked as a railroad trackman, a heavy equipment operator for a food processing plant, then overseas Morale & Welfare Recreation internet installation technician covering 10 countries in the Middle East. He became interested in cooking because he loves to cook & while traveling the world he was exposed & introduced to different cuisines from around the world. HIRE360 and [UNITEHERE](#) helped him succeed in the Culinary program and he has now been an apprentice for 6 months. “I have actually recommended this program to anyone I've talked to, who told me they are trying to do something different with their lives. I've also told many high school teens about it being a great opportunity & that HIRE360 has other programs worth looking into.”



Success Story: Cristian Rivera



Cristian Rivera, 30, from Belvidere, came to HIRE360 having some manufacturing and building experience but wanted to take it to the next level and join a union. With a passion for hands-on work and a drive to see tangible results from his efforts, Cristian dove into HIRE360's resume revision workshops and test prep programs, determined to make his mark in the trades. Now, just two weeks into his [Pipefitters](#) apprenticeship, Cristian embodies the spirit of growth and ambition, poised to thrive in his new role. Cristian attested, “I would highly recommend HIRE360 to my friends and family. They helped me in finding different opportunities in unions and helped me prepare for test taking. They answered any questions I had and were helpful in getting me anything I needed. “

Landmarks Illinois

HIRE360 is honored to be selected as the 2024 Nonprofit Influencer by [Landmarks Illinois](#)! Please join us on February 29th at Preservation Forward, Landmarks Illinois' annual fundraising event celebrating our collective efforts to build a more inclusive, connected and powerful preservation movement.



PRESERVATION FORWARD

02.29.2024

the old post office

433 VAN BUREN ST., CHICAGO

LANDMARKS ILLINOIS' SPRING FUNDRAISING EVENT

5:30 PM – COCKTAIL RECEPTION

7:00 PM – MAIN EVENT

8:30 PM – AFTER-PARTY

RESERVATIONS: \$500

NONPROFIT PRICE: \$250

AFTER-PARTY ONLY: \$35 - \$95

VIRTUAL MAIN EVENT: FREE

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

2024 LANDMARKS ILLINOIS INFLUENCERS

Lisa Yun Lee

Executive Director, National Public Housing Museum

Juan Moreno

Project Design Principal, President & Founder, JGMA

Shermann “Dilla” Thomas

Chicago Historian & Co-Founder, Chicago Mahogany Foundation

HIRE360, Nonprofit Influencer

Represented by Jay Rowell, Executive Director

**Holsten Real Estate Development Corporation,
Corporate Influencer**

Represented by Jackie Holsten, SVP & General Counsel,
& Peter Holsten, President

REGISTER

Rep. Krishnamoorthi Hosts Panel on Skills-Based Hiring Practices

Thank you [Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi](#) for hosting a lively panel discussion on the need to focus on skills rather than just on degrees when hiring. We appreciate the Congressman's leadership on this issue.



Cement Mason's Tour

We had a wonderful opportunity to tour the [Cement Masons](#) Training Center with several candidates. Our candidates got to see first-hand the different skills required of a cement mason. Thank you to Alexis, Jay and Larry for the wonderful tour!



Constellation Graduation

Congratulations to the graduates of our first cohort in partnership with [Constellation](#) for the [Green Energy and Construction Pre-Apprenticeship Program](#). Last week our candidates graduated after completing their 8 - week pre-apprenticeship program where they were exposed to new trades opportunities and obtained certifications along the way. Thank you to our partner Constellation for giving us the opportunity to create this amazing program.



CTA Event

The [Chicago Transit Authority](#) hosted a workforce outreach event at the Altgeld Chicago Youth Center, adjacent to the footprint of the future Red Line 130th terminal site. The event brought together workforce partners, contractors, and union representatives to inform potential and current candidates about existing and

forthcoming opportunities in the construction trade industry.



Apprenticeship Program Openings

HIRE360 is excited to announce that our trade partners are accepting applications for their apprenticeship programs:

- Plumbers Local 130, UA will be accepting only online applications for admission to the Plumbing Apprenticeship Program starting November 13, 2023.
- Painters District Council 14: Finishing trades Institute of DC 14 Chicago is accepting applications all year round. You must make an appointment online or by phone M- F from 7 am 3 pm. For more information contact your case manager.
- Pipefitters Local 597 - The next application date for our welders in Local 597 is February 7. Your case manager can help you make a reservation to apply if you are interested in a high-tech career welding in a wide array of environments, from nuclear power plants to hospitals.
- IUEC Elevator Constructors Local 2 – Applications will be accepted on April 8 at 9 am time sharp, for information please reach out to you case manager for details on how to apply.
- Glaziers Architectural Metal & Glass Workers Union Local 27 - applications will be accepted on the 1st and 3rd Monday in February and March.

For those individuals interested in applying and needing a letter of recommendation, please contact your HIRE360 Case Manager today or email us at info@HIRE360Chicago.com.

Business Development

DPS Construction Summit

Join the City of Chicago, Department of Procurement Services (DPS) and a host of partners on Thursday, February 22nd as they explore construction opportunities from key City infrastructure departments that are building Chicago's future. The Summit is the ultimate gathering of construction enthusiasts that will feature an immersive agenda with interactive panel discussions, networking, and keynote presentations, offering businesses a must-attend opportunity to hear about upcoming projects.

Business owners can network in person with top government representatives from across the construction value chain who will be showcasing some of the latest projects, innovations, and opportunities driving improvement in Chicago's 77 neighborhoods. You will be able to gain a deeper understanding of the City's construction sector to set up your business for future investments while finding new growth opportunities.



Clean Energy Business Summit

Join the [Illinois Minority Business Development Agency](#) (IL-MBDA) Business Center for their [2024 Clean Energy Business Summit](#) on February 29th at Malcom X College. The Summit will bring together minority businesses, corporations and government agencies to showcase, connect and share business opportunities that are available through Clean Energy initiatives.



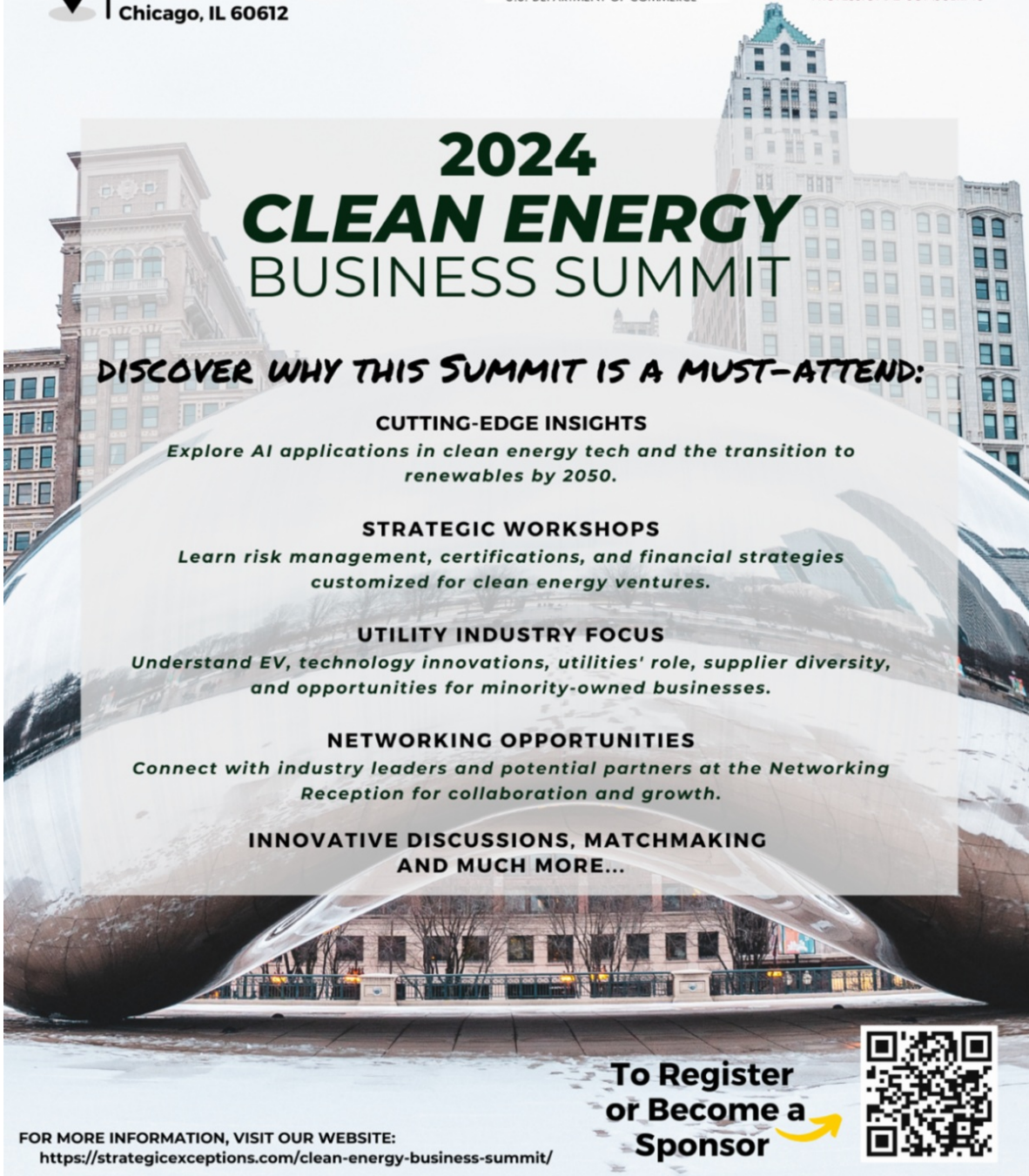
FEBRUARY 29, 2024
9:00AM - 5:00PM



Malcolm X College
1900 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60612



Strategic Exceptions
PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING



2024 **CLEAN ENERGY** BUSINESS SUMMIT

DISCOVER WHY THIS SUMMIT IS A MUST-ATTEND:

CUTTING-EDGE INSIGHTS

Explore AI applications in clean energy tech and the transition to renewables by 2050.

STRATEGIC WORKSHOPS

Learn risk management, certifications, and financial strategies customized for clean energy ventures.

UTILITY INDUSTRY FOCUS

Understand EV, technology innovations, utilities' role, supplier diversity, and opportunities for minority-owned businesses.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Connect with industry leaders and potential partners at the Networking Reception for collaboration and growth.

**INNOVATIVE DISCUSSIONS, MATCHMAKING
AND MUCH MORE...**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
<https://strategicexceptions.com/clean-energy-business-summit/>

**To Register
or Become a
Sponsor** 



Youth Engagement

CPS Counselors and Apprenticeship Programs

[Chicago Department of Aviation](#)
along with HIRE360 conducted our
first tours of 2024 with [Chicago](#)
[Public School's ECCE team](#). The
group of over 50 counselors got a
chance to tour the training facilities

of [Local 150 Operating Engineers](#) and [Local 134 Electricians](#), collecting valuable information about their apprenticeship programs. These tours are meant to better inform counselors about what the trades have to offer and bridging the gap for students looking for assistance in their next steps after high school.

We have additional tour dates set for February and March to other local unions for [Pipefitters](#), [Ironworkers](#), [Painters](#) and [Bricklayers](#). Our goal is to impact an additional 200 counselors and work with them and their students to create more candidates for apprenticeships.



Our Mission Is to Expand Employment Opportunities

IN THE NEWS

**Chicago Nonprofit
Receives \$3
Million!** Tia Ewig |
Fox 32, January 8

A Chicago nonprofit received a \$3 million donation from philanthropist

MacKenzie Scott
this week.

[Read the full article
here.](#)



Partner Spotlight

Youth Job Center (YJC) works to reduce the number of young people disconnected from work and school in the Chicagoland area by engaging them in an integrated service delivery model that incorporates employability skills development, referrals to supportive services, financial literacy training, social-emotional learning, and ongoing personalized career advising and support. Youth Job Center connects young adults to non-degreed career pathways that prepare them to become confident, self-sufficient members of the workforce by providing client-centered services geared toward personal/professional development, living wage careers, and continued learning. YJC's partnership with HIRE360 furthers our commitment to youth by providing our clients with shared responsibility of career



Small Business Spotlight

Crosstown Electric Supply Corporation is located at 7733 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60620. It is a certified MBE distributor of electrical supplies that has proudly served the Chicagoland region since 1977. With a commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction, they offer an array of electrical components, equipment, and solutions to meet the diverse needs of their clients. Over the years, Crosstown Electric Supply Corporation has established a strong track record of serving a diverse clientele, including commercial real estate, industrial warehouses, multi-family buildings, new construction, public projects, and civil engineering. As a minority-owned business, they emphasize reliability, integrity, and professionalism, eagerly welcoming new opportunities for expansion.

exploration, barrier reduction, and placement services for various trade industries. YJC and HIRE360's partnership provides diverse Chicagoland area residents with construction job opportunities with livable wages to advance their career and life goals.

Through the collective dedication and collaboration of our committed team, our valued partners, and the unwavering support of our donors, internal and external stakeholders, YJC serves nearly 1,500 Chicagoland young adults ages 14 to 25, a remarkable 35% growth compared to previous years. Our YJC Career Coaches crafts over 400 individualized employment plans tailored to the unique aspirations of our clients and places clients into meaningful jobs, empowering them with financial independence and laying the groundwork for their futures.

Crosstown Electric Supply has recently participated in projects for Chicago Public Schools (Bogan High School and Vanderpoel Elementary), City of Chicago (Garfield Park Band Stand), Midway Airport (5700 South Cicero Avenue), and INVEST South/West (79th & Halsted Street).

What sets Crosstown Electric Supply apart from the competition is:

- Sustainable and environmentally friendly options
- A wide range of products
- Their expertise in custom solutions and a commitment to quality

Among the many products sold by Crosstown Electric Supply are:

- Breakers and fuses
- Conduit, Fittings, and Struts
- Fixtures
- Full Services Installation Equipment (Residential and Commercial)
- Piping Supply
- Wiring needs
- Tools
- And more

HIRE360's Business Development and Supply Chain department is currently assisting Crosstown Electric Supply with networking and increasing business opportunities on construction projects by building relationships with community developers, general contractors, and subcontractors focused on energy efficiency and decarbonization.

HIRE360

Newsletter Sign Up



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