



2026 DESIGN-BUILD CONFERENCE & EXPO

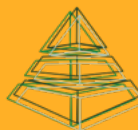
REGISTRATION BROCHURE

Nov. 4–6, 2026 | Cleveland, Ohio

REGISTER



DESIGN-BUILD VDC LEADERSHIP
EXCHANGE
Nov. 3, 2026



The Nation's Premier Event Where the Design-Build Industry Comes Together

The Design-Build Conference & Expo is the nation's largest annual gathering dedicated exclusively to design-build and the premier event for professionals committed to delivering Design-Build Done Right®. Join more than 2,300 Owners, practitioners, architects, engineers, contractors and industry partners for three days of education, networking and collaboration you won't find anywhere else.

As design-build continues to become the most widely used project delivery method in the U.S., representing nearly half of all construction spending by 2028, there has never been a better time to invest in your team and your future.

Discover Cleveland

We're bringing the conference to one of the Midwest's best-kept secrets, and one big advantage is its value. Cleveland's affordability makes it possible to experience the industry's premier event while stretching travel dollars further, a win for both individual attendees and the organizations investing in their teams:

- Affordable hotels, dining and travel
- Easy access from across the U.S.
- Walkable downtown convention district
- Great restaurants, breweries and waterfront attractions

And because no trip to Cleveland is complete without music, we'll kick things off with our Opening Party at the legendary Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, a uniquely Cleveland experience you won't want to miss.

You'll also find five education tracks, two preconference experiences — including the returning VDC Leadership Exchange (VDCLEx) and Collaborative Delivery Leadership Academy Foundations Course — and inspiring general sessions exploring AI, Owner leadership and the future of project delivery.

Cleveland's affordability makes it easier than ever to bring an entire team!





Making Your Travel Plans

The 2026 Design-Build Conference & Expo will be held Nov. 4-6 at the Huntington Convention Center, 1 St. Clair Avenue NE, Cleveland, OH 44114.

Where to Stay?

DBIA has secured discounted room blocks at several conveniently located hotels to provide attendees with a variety of lodging options. **All hotel reservations must be made through the Official DBIA Hotel Reservation Portal hosted by Visit Cleveland.** Attendees **cannot book directly with the hotels** and still receive the negotiated DBIA conference rates. The discounted room blocks end **Friday, Oct. 9, 2026**, or until the blocks sell out.

The reservation portal will automatically display all available hotel options based on your selected arrival and departure dates, allowing you to compare participating hotels, room rates, amenities and availability in one convenient location.

Official Hotel Reservation Portal

Book accommodations early as conference rates and room availability are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. You must be a DBIA Conference attendee to keep a reservation made using the DBIA discount.

DBIA is not affiliated with any third-party housing companies.

When Should You Arrive?

Plan to arrive Tuesday, Nov. 3, the day before the conference begins, to attend our evening Welcome Reception at 6:00PM as well as to take advantage of our Owners' and Practitioners' Forums that start bright and early on Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 8:00AM.

Plan to arrive on Monday, Nov. 2, if you are attending any of our pre-conference events on Tuesday, Nov. 3 (see [page 4](#) for more details on these events).

Getting There

Airport: Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (CLE)
Distance to Convention Center: Approx. 16 miles
Drive time: Approx. 20 minutes

- Rideshare (Uber/Lyft) – Pick-up and drop-off can be coordinated on either the upper (departures) or lower (arrivals) roadways
- Taxi – Pick-ups ONLY at the taxi entrance at the south end of Baggage Claim by carousel #11

Save on Your Travel with Southwest Airlines and Delta Air Lines

Traveling to the conference just got even easier! Thanks to our partnership with Southwest Airlines and Delta Air Lines, take advantage of exclusive discounted fares when traveling to and from Cleveland. Book early to secure the best options.

Eligible Travel Dates: Oct. 30 – Nov. 9, 2026.

- For Southwest Airlines, book flight directly through the [SWABIZ® booking link](#).
- For Delta Air Lines flights, [book online](#) using the designated **Meeting Event Code NY4YQ** or call 1-800-328-1111* (M-F, 8AM-8PM ET) and reference the meeting code.

**Please note there is no service fee for reservations booked and ticketed through Delta's Conferences & Events line.*

When Should You Depart?

The excitement goes right up until the end so don't be in a rush to leave! Schedule a late afternoon departing flight on Friday, Nov. 6 as you won't want to miss our Closing General Session ending at 2:30PM.



A partnership between DBIA
and Barbara Jackson, LLC



INSPIRING LEADERS.
ELEVATING TEAMS.
TRANSFORMING THE INDUSTRY.

Nov. 3 Pre-Conference Event

Limited seating. Separate registration* required. See [page 16](#) for pricing and details.

DBIA's Collaborative Delivery Leadership Academy, in partnership with Barbara Jackson, LLC, is designed to equip AEC professionals with the leadership skills and mindset needed to successfully make the mental shift from a segregated services approach to an integrated one. It's designed exclusively for the realities of collaborative project delivery, equipping every team member — regardless of title, discipline or experience level — with the mindset and skills to lead with impact. Projections show that nearly half of all construction spending will be design-build by 2028, so building a strong foundation of leadership is vital to keeping up with that trend. Are you ready to elevate your leadership?

Learn more about all the courses in the Academy and see the full [2026 schedule and flyer](#).

LEADERSHIP: BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

8:00AM–5:00PM

(Pre-requisite course in the Collaborative Delivery Leadership Academy)

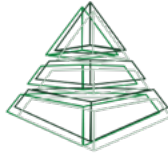
Leadership matters. Distinguishing different ways to lead is at the crux of Design-Build Done Right®. This course will introduce the distinctions of Design-Build Leadership Done Right, summarize what the Academy is about and why the five follow-on modules (Communication, Trust, Mindset, Teaming, Culture) are vital to Design-Build Leadership Done Right. Explore the crucial competencies for effective leadership in Design-Build. The course emphasizes shifting from default tendencies to higher leadership levels, addresses the challenge of leadership and learning stagnation, and highlights the correlation between leadership effectiveness and business performance. Participants will discuss how to create a strategic leadership plan for their organizations.

*Registration for this event **does not** include access to Nov. 4–6 conference sessions, keynotes, exhibit hall or ticketed events.

Nov. 3 Pre-Conference Event

Limited seating. Separate registration* required. See [page 16](#) for pricing and details.

DESIGN-BUILD VDC LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE



View the [full VDCLEx program here!](#)

1:00–6:00PM

The Virtual Design & Construction Leadership Exchange (VDCLEx) is back, continuing to explore how VDC is impacting designers, builders and Owners by enhancing design excellence, increasing quality and productivity, as well as improving lifecycle costs.

This half-day pre-conference event includes opening and closing general sessions and two specialized tracks: one for experienced VDC professionals and the other for non-VDC professionals. So no matter what your level of VDC experience, the VDCLEx offers opportunities to better understand how design and construction technology and emerging processes are integral to driving greater efficiencies on design-build projects.

*Registration for this event **does not** include access to Nov. 4–6 conference sessions, keynotes, exhibit hall or ticketed events.

TUESDAY, NOV. 3		
7:00AM–6:30PM	Registration Open	
1:00–2:00PM	VDCLEx Opening Keynote: Managing Projects with AI on Design-Build Projects	
2:00 – 2:15PM	Break	
2:15–3:15PM	VDC Deep Dive Session 1 <i>Keeping Up with a \$4B Design-Build: The Tech Stack That Connected JFK Terminal One</i>	VDC for Non-VDC Professionals Session 1 <i>Connected Teams, Better Outcomes: VDC Progressive Design-Build Synergy for Adaptive Reuse</i>
3:15–3:45PM	Break	
3:45–4:45PM	VDC Deep Dive Session 2 <i>Concrete Uses for AI for in Design-Build</i>	VDC for Non-VDC Professionals Session 2 <i>Extreme Modeling and Coordination to Eliminate Deferred Submittals</i>
4:45–5:00PM	Break	
5:00–6:00PM	VDCLEx Closing General Session: Breaking Down Silos in VDC Integration Across the Design-Build Lifecycle	
6:00–9:00PM	Opening Reception Hosted by DBIA National and DBIA Ohio Valley Region (Open to All Attendees)	



Featured Events

OPENING RECEPTION — HOSTED BY DBIA NATIONAL & DBIA OHIO VALLEY REGION

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 6:00–9:00PM

Open to all attendees (including preconference events)! Unwind from your travels with beverages, food, games, prizes and more at our Opening Reception hosted by the DBIA Ohio Valley Region! Relax and enjoy the company of friends, peers and colleagues!

OWNERS' FORUM

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 8:00–11:00AM

Touted by Owners as a highly valuable education and networking experience, the Owners' Forum allows open, honest discussion and provides Owner professionals the opportunity to share views, pose questions, find solutions to project delivery challenges and network with colleagues.

Owner Advisors are not allowed in the Owners' Forum unless DBIA has obtained written confirmation from the Owner that the Advisor is at the conference specifically serving as an extension of the Owner. Industry professionals, including consultants, are not permitted in this session.

PRACTITIONERS' FORUM

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 8:00–11:00AM

This year's Practitioners' Forum moves away from a lecture-style format. Instead of listening to a series of presentations, attendees will spend the majority of the session in facilitated, small-group roundtable discussions, working through a curated set of industry topics alongside peers from across the country. Each table will surface its own key takeaway, and a selection of tables will report those takeaways back to the full room, so the conversations in the room directly shape the discussion the whole forum hears. The goal is for every attendee to leave having contributed to — not just observed — the industry conversation. The final 30 minutes of the session will be reserved for an update from the Owner Advisor Committee Chair.

DBIA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 11:15AM–12:00PM

Calling all DBIA Members! Join us at the Annual Membership Meeting. You'll have the opportunity to learn more about DBIA's successes and achievements this year, elect members to the National Board and get introduced to the 2026 Board officers.

DBIA REGION NETWORKING/ROUNDUP (LUNCH PROVIDED)

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 12:00PM–1:00PM

Grab your lunch and join the conversation at the Region Roundup! Meet the passionate volunteers and leaders who bring DBIA to life across the U.S., discover the programs and events happening in your area, and explore new ways to connect, volunteer and grow your professional network. Whether you're looking to get more involved, reconnect with colleagues or simply meet new people, Region Roundup is the perfect place to find your DBIA community.

OPENING PARTY AT THE ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME (OFFSITE, TICKETED EVENT)

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 7:00PM

See [page 7](#) for more details.

AWARDS DINNER & CEREMONY (TICKETED EVENT)

Thursday, Nov. 5, 7:00PM

What better way to celebrate our industry's success than by honoring the nation's best design-build projects, teams, the 2026 Class of DBIA Fellows and this year's Brunelleschi Lifetime Achievement Award winner? Design-build's contributions to the national and international landscape continue to impress and inspire. This year's awards ceremony promises to be an elegant evening and truly memorable event you won't want to miss. See [page 16](#) for ticket information.





Opening Party at the **ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME**

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 7:00–10:00PM
(Ticketed Event – Advance Purchase Required)

Turn up the volume and join your fellow conference attendees for an unforgettable evening at Cleveland's iconic **Rock & Roll Hall of Fame!** This one-of-a-kind networking event combines popular music, great company and one of the world's most celebrated museums in a truly legendary setting.

Enjoy private access to explore multiple floors of interactive exhibits featuring the artists, songs and moments that shaped generations. See stage costumes, instruments, handwritten lyrics, rare memorabilia and immersive displays celebrating the history and evolution of rock & roll. Whether you're a lifelong music fan or simply looking for a memorable evening, there's something to inspire everyone.

Your ticket includes:

- Exclusive evening access to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame
- Networking with colleagues from across the design-build industry
- Food and beverages
- World-class exhibits and interactive experiences
- An unforgettable Cleveland experience you won't want to miss

This is one of the conference's most popular social events. **A separate ticket is required and can be purchased during conference registration** (see [page 16](#)). Transportation to the event will be provided. Space is limited so don't miss a night of music, networking and memories at one of America's most legendary destinations!



Featured Events – General Sessions

OPENING KEYNOTE: THE FUTURE FAVORS THE BOLD: HUMAN LEADERSHIP 2.0 MIKE WALSH, CEO TOMORROW, A GLOBAL INNOVATION CONSULTANCY

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 1:15–2:30PM



AI is redefining how professionals create value. Across every sector, algorithms are beginning to perform tasks that once defined expertise, from analysis and forecasting to research and advice. The leaders and professionals who thrive in this new environment

will not be those who simply adopt new tools. They will be the ones willing to rethink how work gets done, how decisions are made and where human judgment truly matters.

Futurist Mike Walsh will explore how leaders, consultants, agents and advisors can reinvent themselves in the age of AI. Drawing on examples from organizations and professions already embracing digital labor, he will show how the most successful individuals are moving beyond traditional workflows to more leveraged ways of working.

GENERAL SESSION: WHY THE BEST TEAMS SHOW UP: THE OWNER LEADERSHIP BEHIND GREAT DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT

Thursday, Nov. 5, 8:00–9:30AM

No Owner is perfect, just as no design-build team is perfect. Every organization faces their own challenges, competing priorities and difficult decisions made along the way. What distinguishes great Owners is how they respond to challenges. This session will bring together industry-leading Owners to explore the organizational capacities, including leadership practices and decision-making approaches, that define an “Owner of Choice” — those Owners that attract strong design-build teams, foster collaboration and build the foundation for successful project outcomes.

Drawing on emerging research into Owner readiness and real-world experiences from some of the industry’s most successful organizations,

panelists will share lessons learned, challenges overcome and the actions they have taken to achieve excellence in design-build project delivery.

GENERAL SESSION: OFF-RAMPING: FAILURE OR INFORMED DECISION?

Friday, Nov. 6, 8:00–9:15AM

Progressive Design-Build (PDB) is designed to create alignment on scope, budget, schedule and risk before major commitments are made. But what happens when that process reveals a project should not proceed as originally envisioned? Is that a failure, or evidence that the process worked exactly as intended?

Drawing on groundbreaking research conducted by the ACEC Research Institute in partnership with DBIA and the Charles Pankow Foundation, this session will move beyond the research to examine real-world experiences from both successful projects and high-profile projects that ultimately off ramped before reaching a Final Contract Price. The discussion will provide a deeper understanding of how the validation process creates alignment, why transparency matters and how informed decision-making can deliver value, even when the outcome is not what was originally anticipated.

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION: GINGER KERRICK, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER, BARRIOS TECHNOLOGY

Friday, Nov. 6, 1:30–2:30PM



The first Latina Director of NASA Mission Control, Ginger Kerrick’s steady voice led teams through waves of challenge and change during NASA’s most innovative decades since the Apollo missions. From the devastating loss of the Columbia to the celebrated success

of the International Space Station and the first partnership with SpaceX, Kerrick uses real-world stories to show business leaders and teams how to build the skills, culture and resilience needed for organizations to thrive amid constant change.

Owner Readiness

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VISIT THE OWNER READINESS CORNER AT THE DBIA BOOTH #421

Is your organization prepared for successful design-build delivery? Visit this interactive demonstration area in the DBIA Booth #421 during exhibit hall hours to explore the new Owner Readiness Assessment Tool. Developed through two years of research, this free online resource helps Owners evaluate organizational capabilities, identify opportunities for improvement and receive tailored recommendations for training, resources and Owner Advisor support.

Owner Scholarship Program (Limited)

DBIA is pleased to offer an enhanced Owner Scholarship Program designed to support public and private sector Owner participation and increase access to valuable industry education, networking and best practices.

Approved scholarship recipients will receive a complimentary full conference registration, providing access to conference education sessions, keynote presentations, networking events and the Exhibit Hall.

In addition, a limited travel stipend of up to \$500 per recipient may be available to help offset eligible travel expenses associated with attending the event. Travel stipends are limited, subject to availability and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, visit the [Owners Scholarships Application](#) page.



For Students and NextGen

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: PREPARING FOR THE AI FUTURE OF DESIGN-BUILD

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 9:00–11:00AM

Prepare for the future of design-build through this interactive student program designed to bridge the classroom and the workplace. Hear from a panel of industry leaders as they discuss the technologies, risks and disruptions shaping tomorrow's AEC industry, including the impact of AI. You'll also collaborate in a hands-on tabletop exercise exploring innovative solutions to traditional water-based cooling for AI-driven data centers. Connect with experienced mentors, expand your professional network and celebrate the Regional winners of DBIA's National Student Design-Build Competition.

RISING VOICES: NEXTGEN LEADERS SHAPING THE FUTURE OF DESIGN-BUILD

Thursday, Nov. 5, 1:30–2:45PM

The future of design-build is being shaped by the next generation of industry leaders. Join an engaging panel of emerging professionals as they share fresh perspectives on innovation, collaboration, leadership, career growth and the evolving skills needed to succeed in today's design-build environment. Through candid conversation and real-world experiences, these rising leaders will discuss the challenges they've faced, the opportunities ahead and how they are driving meaningful change across the industry. Whether you're an experienced professional looking to mentor the next generation or an early-career professional seeking inspiration and practical advice, this session will provide valuable insights into the future of the design-build workforce.

FREE PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS IN THE EXHIBIT HALL, BOOTH #615

Just starting your job search or looking to make your next career move? A professional photo can make a strong first impression. Stop by DBIA's designated Booth #615 in the Exhibit Hall during the noted times on [page 13](#) to get your free headshot! No appointment needed, first-come, first-served (priority given to students and Next Gen).

CONNECT WITH EXHIBITORS DURING EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 4:00–6:30PM

Thursday, Nov. 5, 11:15AM–1:15PM

Thursday, Nov. 5, 4:15–6:15PM

Friday, Nov. 6, 11:30AM–1:15PM

DBIA wants to help students and NextGen professionals make meaningful connections and set you up for success. During Exhibit Hall hours, look for this designated tabletop sign at exhibitor booths who are interested in talking about career paths and opportunities. Exhibitors represent key industry players ranging from general and specialty contractors to design firms and specialty trades.



DESIGN-BUILD NATIONAL STUDENT COMPETITION, FINAL ROUND

Thursday, Nov. 5, 10:00AM–1:30PM



The National Design-Build Student Competition provides young design-build professionals the opportunity to create a project as a team, present it to some of the industry's leading pros and earn national recognition for their innovative work. This year's project is a brownfield (the location of a previous gas station) site in a small-town rural area which has recently decided to pursue planning, design and construction of its first major medical facility.

Exhibit Hall Experience

The Exhibit Hall is where ideas, innovation and relationships come together. Explore the latest products and services, discover new solutions, connect with industry leaders and take advantage of exclusive networking opportunities, demonstrations and special activities happening throughout the conference.

INNOVATION TALKS IN THE VDC SHOWCASE

Presented by our VDCLEx Premium Sponsors, Innovation Talks will take place in the VDC & Technology Pavilion during these designated Exhibit Hall hours:

- Wednesday, Nov. 4, 4:30–5:45PM
- Thursday, Nov. 5, Noon–1:00PM
- Thursday, Nov. 5, 4:30–5:15PM

These engaging, bite-sized presentations will highlight emerging technologies, innovative solutions and practical applications that are helping advance Design-Build Done Right®.

COMPLIMENTARY PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS

Whether you're updating LinkedIn, your company profile or conference bio, stop by DBIA's special Booth #615 for a complimentary professional headshot. No appointment is necessary, just stop by during designated hours. Priority will be given to students and NextGen professionals.

CAREER CONNECTION BOOTHS

Students and NextGen professionals can identify exhibitors who are eager to discuss career paths, internships and employment opportunities by looking for this designated tabletop sign displayed at participating booths. It's an easy way to make valuable industry connections and learn about organizations across the design-build marketplace.



UBE CONNECTION HUB, BOOTH #147

This dedicated space is where Underutilized Business Enterprises (UBEs) can meet and connect with design-builders, larger industry partners and Owners, creating an environment to make introductions and explore teaming and partnership opportunities. Whether you're looking to expand your network or find your next project partner, this area is designed to make those connections easy and visible. UBEs, stop by, introduce yourself and let the conversations begin!

DBIA BOOTH #421

Visit the DBIA Booth to learn about upcoming events, education, DBIA Certification, custom training, resources, the Collaborative Delivery Leadership Academy and other opportunities to help you and your organization succeed with Design-Build Done Right®.

- **Discover the Benefits of Membership**
Whether you're considering membership, renewing your involvement or have questions about benefits, our Membership team is here to help. While you're there, drop off your completed Sponsor Passport for your chance to win great prizes.
- **Design-Build Delivers Live!**
Stop by our live interview space where industry leaders, project teams and conference attendees share insights, success stories and conversations shaping the future of design-build. You may even catch a live podcast recording or be invited to join the conversation.
- **Owner Readiness Corner**
Is your organization prepared for successful design-build delivery? Visit this interactive demonstration area to explore the new Owner Readiness Assessment Tool. Developed through two years of research, this free online resource helps Owners evaluate organizational capabilities, identify opportunities for improvement and receive tailored recommendations for training, resources and Owner Advisor support.



Program at a Glance

View the full online program and register now at designbuildexpo.com

Track sessions are marked with levels **BEGINNER**, **INTERMEDIATE** or **ADVANCED**

TRACK 1: Leading the Future of Design-Build:

Explore the strategies, governance models and Owner leadership approaches shaping the future of the design-build industry.

TRACK 2: Better Together: Collaboration in Action:

Discover how high-performing teams, early engagement and collaborative cultures lead to stronger outcomes and more innovative solutions.

TRACK 3: Innovation Unleashed:

Dive into the latest advancements in AI, VDC, digital delivery and future-focused infrastructure changing how projects are delivered.

TRACK 4: Lessons from the Front Lines:

Hear first-hand lessons learned and practical insights from some of the industry's most impactful and complex design-build projects.

TRACK 5: Building Tomorrow's Workforce:

Focus on workforce development, experiential learning and leadership strategies designed to strengthen the future of the industry.

TUESDAY, NOV. 3

6:00–9:00PM

Welcome Reception Hosted by DBIA National and DBIA Ohio Valley Region *(Open to All Attendees)*

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4

7:00AM–6:30PM

Registration Open

8:00–11:00AM

Owners' Forum *(Owners Only)*

8:00–11:00AM

Practitioners' Forum

9:00–11:00AM

Student Program: Beyond the Classroom: Preparing for the AI Future of Design-Build

11:15AM–12:00PM

DBIA Membership Meeting

12:00–1:00PM

Lunch with DBIA Region Networking/Round-Up

1:00–1:15PM

Break

1:15–2:30PM

Opening Keynote: The Future Favors the Bold: Human Leadership 2.0

2:30–2:45PM

Refresher Break

2:45–4:00PM

Track 1: Leading the Future of Design-Build:

INTERMEDIATE

Inside Design Integration Management: Real Perspectives from Owners, Designers and Builders

Track 4: Lessons from the Front Lines:

INTERMEDIATE

If You Build It, Will They Come? Leveraging Design-Build to Gain Stakeholder Buy-In

Track 2: Better Together: Collaboration in Action:

INTERMEDIATE

Unlocking One of Design-Build's Greatest Opportunities: Leveraging the Value of Contractor Early Involvement

Track 5: Building Tomorrow's Workforce:

INTERMEDIATE

Design-Build Done Right® Starts Here: Bridging Academia and Industry Through Experiential Learning

Track 3: Innovation Unleashed:

INTERMEDIATE

AI in Design-Build: From Prediction to Real-Time Decisions

4:00–6:30PM

Exhibit Hall Welcome Reception

4:30–5:45PM

Innovation Talks at the VDC Showcase in the Exhibit Hall

7:00–10:00PM

Opening Party at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame *(Offsite, Ticketed Event)*

Program at a Glance CONTINUED

View the full online program and register now at designbuildexpo.com

THURSDAY, NOV. 5		
7:00AM–6:15PM	Registration Open	
7:15–8:00AM	Continental Breakfast	
8:00–9:30AM	General Session: Why the Best Teams Show Up: The Owner Leadership Behind Great Design-Build Projects	
9:30–9:45AM	Refresher Break	
9:45–11:00 AM	Track 1: Leading the Future of Design-Build: ADVANCED <i>How New DBE Rules Are Reshaping Project Delivery</i>	Track 4: Lessons from the Front Lines: INTERMEDIATE <i>Faster, Bigger, Greener: Lessons from Brooklyn's Largest Recreation Center</i>
	Track 2: Better Together: Collaboration in Action: INTERMEDIATE <i>Best-Value Substation Design Through Change and Collaboration</i>	Track 5: Building Tomorrow's Workforce: INTERMEDIATE <i>10 Hard Truths for Design-Build Team Leaders</i>
	Track 3: Innovation Unleashed: INTERMEDIATE <i>Need, Innovation and Longevity: Progressive Design-Build Enables California's First Community College Mass Timber Housing Project</i>	
10:00AM–1:30PM	Design-Build National Student Competition, Final Round Review	
11:15AM–1:15PM	Exhibit Hall Lunch	
11:15AM–1:15PM	Free Professional Headshots in the Exhibit Hall (open to all attendees, first-come, first-served basis; priority given to students and young professionals)	
12:00–1:00PM	Innovation Talks at the VDC Showcase in the Exhibit Hall	
1:15–1:30PM	Break	
1:30–2:45PM	Track 1: Leading the Future of Design-Build: INTERMEDIATE <i>Recent Design-Build Cases: Risks, Rulings & Real-World Lessons</i>	Track 4: Lessons from the Front Lines: INTERMEDIATE <i>The Kiss of Death...Happens Before Design</i>
	Track 2: Better Together: Collaboration in Action: ADVANCED <i>Owner Readiness Assessment for Design-Build</i>	Track 5: Building Tomorrow's Workforce: BEGINNER <i>Rising Voices: NextGen Leaders Shaping the Future of Design-Build</i>
	Track 3: Innovation Unleashed: INTERMEDIATE <i>Choosing Your Design-Build Partners Carefully to Maximize TEAM Innovation</i>	
2:45–3:00PM	Refresher Break	
3:00–4:15PM	Track 1: Leading the Future of Design-Build: ADVANCED <i>Powering the Future with Design-Build: Strategies for Capital Program Development</i>	Track 4: Lessons from the Front Lines: INTERMEDIATE <i>Behind the Scenes of an Award-Winning Project</i>
	Track 2: Better Together: Collaboration in Action: INTERMEDIATE <i>Making Design-Build Work: Collaboration Inside the Federal Way Link Extension</i>	Track 5: Building Tomorrow's Workforce: INTERMEDIATE <i>Elevating the Conversation: The Design-Build Done Right Owner Advisor®</i>
	Track 3: Innovation Unleashed: INTERMEDIATE <i>Design-Build at Hyperscale: Meeting Data Center Demand Faster</i>	
3:00–5:00PM	Faculty Forum: DBIA University Program Preview	
4:15–6:15PM	Exhibit Hall Networking Reception	
4:15–6:15PM	Free Professional Headshots in the Exhibit Hall (reserved for students and young professionals; first-come, first-served basis)	
4:30–5:15PM	Innovation Talks at the VDC Showcase in the Exhibit Hall	
6:30–7:00PM	Awards Pre-Dinner Wine Reception (Ticketed Event)	
7:00–9:30PM	Design-Build Awards Dinner & Ceremony (Ticketed Event)	
9:30PM	Awards After Glow Reception (Ticketed Event)	

Program at a Glance CONTINUED

View the full online program and register now at designbuildexpo.com

FRIDAY, NOV. 6		
7:00AM–2:30PM	Registration Open	
7:15–8:00AM	Continental Breakfast	
8:00–9:00AM	General Session: Off-Ramping: Failure or Informed Decision?	
9:00–9:15AM	Break	
9:15–10:15 AM	Track 1: Mindset Matters BEGINNER <i>Hot Off the Press: DBIA's First Ever Progressive Design-Build Best Practices</i>	Track 4: Lessons from the Front Lines: INTERMEDIATE <i>GOOOOAL! Design-Build Done Right® Scores for World Cup Host City!</i>
	Track 2: Better Together: Collaboration in Action: BEGINNER <i>It's Not the Contract, It's the Culture — Ensuring Design-Build Successful Outcomes</i>	Track 5: Building Tomorrow's Workforce: INTERMEDIATE <i>Owner Readiness in PDB: Lessons from a First-Time Design-Build Project</i>
	Track 3: Innovation Unleashed: INTERMEDIATE <i>The GMP in Progressive Design-Build: When, What and How?</i>	
10:15–10:30AM	Refresher Break	
10:30–11:30AM	Track 1: Leading the Future of Design-Build: INTERMEDIATE <i>Design-Build Legislation: Turning up the Volume on 2026</i>	Track 4: Lessons from the Front Lines: INTERMEDIATE <i>Progressive Design-Build Takes Flight: Delivering the Kansas City International Airport</i>
	Track 2: Better Together: Collaboration in Action: INTERMEDIATE <i>Design to Dirt: A Playbook for Seamless Transition from Design to Construction</i>	Track 5: Building Tomorrow's Workforce: INTERMEDIATE <i>Strategies for Stakeholder Engagement and Governance That Maximize Collaboration and Mitigate Risk</i>
	Track 3: Innovation Unleashed: INTERMEDIATE <i>Reimagining the Future of Integrated Design & Construction</i>	
11:30AM–1:15PM	Exhibit Hall Lunch	
1:30–2:30PM	Closing General Session: Ginger Kerrick, Chief Strategy Officer, Barrios Technology	

AWARDS DINNER & CEREMONY

Thursday, Nov. 5, 7:00PM

Don't miss out on our celebration of excellence honoring the nation's best design-build projects, individuals and teams!

The evening kicks off with a pre-dinner wine reception at 6:30PM followed by the awards dinner and ceremony, then wrapping up with an After Glow Reception. Black tie optional.

See [page 16](#) or visit designbuildexpo.com for ticket information.



Registration Rates & Policies

WAYS TO SAVE

Become a DBIA member

Join before you register and take advantage of significant savings. Visit dbia.org/join to learn about the benefits of being a member and to join online.

Special Discounts

- **NextGens (formerly Young Professionals):** DBIA's NextGens will rule the world someday! That's why we're offering a special conference registration rate to those 35 years old and younger. NextGens can save 10% off their individual registration.
- **UBEs:** DBIA is committed to helping America's design-build teams find and hire Underutilized Business Enterprise (UBE) firms and the first step is to build those networks vital for successful collaboration. We want UBE firms to attend this important event and are offering discounted registration (see rates below) for certified UBE firms.
- **Groups:** Ten (10) or more paid full conference individuals from the same company receive a significant discount on a full conference registration. Discounts range from \$150/person to \$250/person depending on the number of people and registration type. To receive the group registration discount, all 10 or more attendees must register together in a single transaction.

Full Conference *(Includes access to all Nov. 4–6 sessions, keynotes and exhibit hall)*

		Early on/before 9/4	Advance 9/5–10/30	On Site after 10/30
Academia	Member	\$375	\$425	\$525
	Non-Member	\$475	\$525	\$625
Government Agency/ Private Owner	Member	\$375	\$425	\$525
	Non-Member	\$475	\$525	\$625
Practitioner	Member	\$975	\$1,075	\$1,175
	Non-Member	\$1,175	\$1,275	\$1,375
UBE	Member	\$780	\$860	\$1,120
	Non-Member	\$940	\$1,020	\$1,120
Student	Member	\$150	\$175	\$200
	Non-Member	\$200	\$225	\$250

Full Conference Group Rates *(Includes access to all Nov. 4–6 sessions, keynotes and exhibit hall.)*

To receive the group registration discount, all 10 or more attendees must be registered together in a single transaction, either through online registration or by submitting a completed Group Registration Form. If there is a cancellation from one or more of the group, the discount becomes null and void. This offer may not be combined with any other DBIA discount and excludes optional activities.

		Employees	Early on/before 9/4	Advance 9/5–10/30
Government Agency/ Private Owner	Member	10–20	\$250	\$350
		21+	\$200	\$300
	Non-Member	10–20	\$350	\$450
		21+	\$300	\$400
Practitioner	Member	10–20	\$800	\$900
		21+	\$750	\$850
	Non-Member	10–20	\$975	\$1,075
		21+	\$925	\$1,025

Registration Rates & Policies CONTINUED

Exhibit Hall Only *(Does not include access to sessions or special events.)*

	Early on/before 9/4	Advance 9/5–10/30	On Site after 10/30
Wednesday, November 4	\$125	\$150	\$250
Thursday, November 5	\$175	\$200	\$300
Friday, November 6	\$125	\$150	\$250
All Three Days (Nov. 4-6)	\$375	\$450	\$550

Special Events *(Optional, additional fees.)*

	Early on/before 9/4	Advance 9/5–10/30	On Site after 10/30
Design-Build Awards Dinner & Ceremony (Nov. 5) Includes wine reception, dinner and After Glow Reception for attendees	\$250	\$275	\$300

	Early on/before 9/4	Advance 9/5–10/30	On Site after 10/30
Opening Party at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame (Nov. 4) Offsite	\$225	\$250	\$275

Pre-Conference Events *(Select one event only. Limited seating available. Additional fees.)*

Collaborative Delivery Leadership Academy (CDLA) — Leadership Foundations Course

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 8:00AM–5:00PM		
Academia	Member	\$595
	Non-Member	\$695
Government Agency/ Private Owner	Member	\$595
	Non-Member	\$695
Practitioner	Member	\$595
	Non-Member	\$695
NextGen	Member	\$536
	Non-Member	\$695
Underutilized Business Enterprise (UBE)	Member	\$476
	Non-Member	\$695

Virtual Design & Construction Leadership Exchange (VDCLEx)

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 1:00PM–6:00PM		
Academia	Member	\$100
	Non-Member	\$150
Government Agency/ Private Owner	Member	\$100
	Non-Member	\$150
Practitioner	Member	\$200
	Non-Member	\$350

Registration Rates & Policies CONTINUED

Exhibitor/Sponsor Registration Fees

Exhibitors receive a complimentary allotment of registrations and booth staff. These rates apply to add-ons beyond the allotment.

		Early on/before 9/4	Advance 9/5–10/30	On Site after 10/30
Complimentary Full Conference Registrant Included as part of package		No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Additional Full Conference				
Government Agency/ Private Owner	Member	\$375	\$425	\$525
	Non-Member	\$475	\$525	\$625
Practitioner	Member	\$975	\$1,075	\$1,175
	Non-Member	\$1,175	\$1,275	\$1,375
Booth Personnel				
Complimentary Booth Personnel		No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Additional Booth Staff Personnel		\$325	\$375	\$475

Become an Exhibitor/Sponsor

[Learn more](#) about the benefits of networking with thousands of design-build innovators and teams who will be leading the way to deliver the most cost and time-efficient infrastructure investment projects nationwide.

Event Cancellation, Substitution and No-Show Policy

All cancellations must be received in writing and sent to the DBIA Conferences Department at conferences@dbia.org.

If you cancel before **Sept. 11**, you will be refunded your registration fee less a \$125 administrative processing fee.

Cancellations received between **Sept. 11–Oct. 9** will be refunded the registration fee less a \$175 administrative processing fee

No refunds or credits will be given for “no-shows” or for cancellations received on or after **Oct. 10**. As an alternative to cancellation, substitutions may be made. The appropriate member or non-member fee will apply to the substitute and any rate difference must be paid in full (including balance due) at the time of request. Badge sharing and splitting is prohibited. Please visit designbuildexpo.com for substitution rules and the substitution form.

Continuing Education Information

Design-Build Conference & Expo attendees can earn up to 14 Continuing Education Hours (CEHs). Additional CEHs can be earned by attending pre-conference sessions.

DBIA is an approved AIA provider.



Health, Safety, and Welfare (HSW) credits will be available for select conference sessions. The final number of approved HSW credits will be announced prior to the conference.



2026 Design-Build Conference & Expo Planning Committee

Jennifer R. Gonzalez, Assoc. DBIA
2026 Planning Committee Chair
National Design Build Services, LLC

Jennifer A. Macks, PE, LEED AP, DBIA
2026 Planning Committee Vice Chair
HITT Contracting

Monica Amalfitano, PE, LEED AP BD+C, DBIA
Swinerton

Jennifer Crawford, CPSM, Assoc. DBIA
IntegrateBD

Peter Davich, PE, DBIA
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Francisco Espinoza, Assoc. DBIA
DPR Construction

Katie Goldberg PE, SE, LEED AP
IMEG Consultants Corp.

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The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company

Tracy Jenkins, PE, LEED AP BD+C, AIA, NCARB
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VanTrust Real Estate, LLC

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M.C. Dean, Inc.

Dana Pomeroy, AIA, LEED AP, DBIA
The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company

Steve Roney, DBIA
B&S Electric Supply Co.

Robert J. Scancelli, PE, FDBIA
KS Engineers & STV (Retired)

Jamie Stacey, LEED AP BD+C, PMP, GGP, GPCP,
DBIA
SGS, LLC

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Carroll Daniel Construction Co.

Kathryn Weisner, PE, NRAEMT, DBIA
Federal Highway Administration

Colin Williams, PE, Assoc. DBIA
STV Inc.

Ron Wilson, PE
Rosendin Electric, Inc.

Conference photos by Robb McCormick Photography (robbmccormick.com)