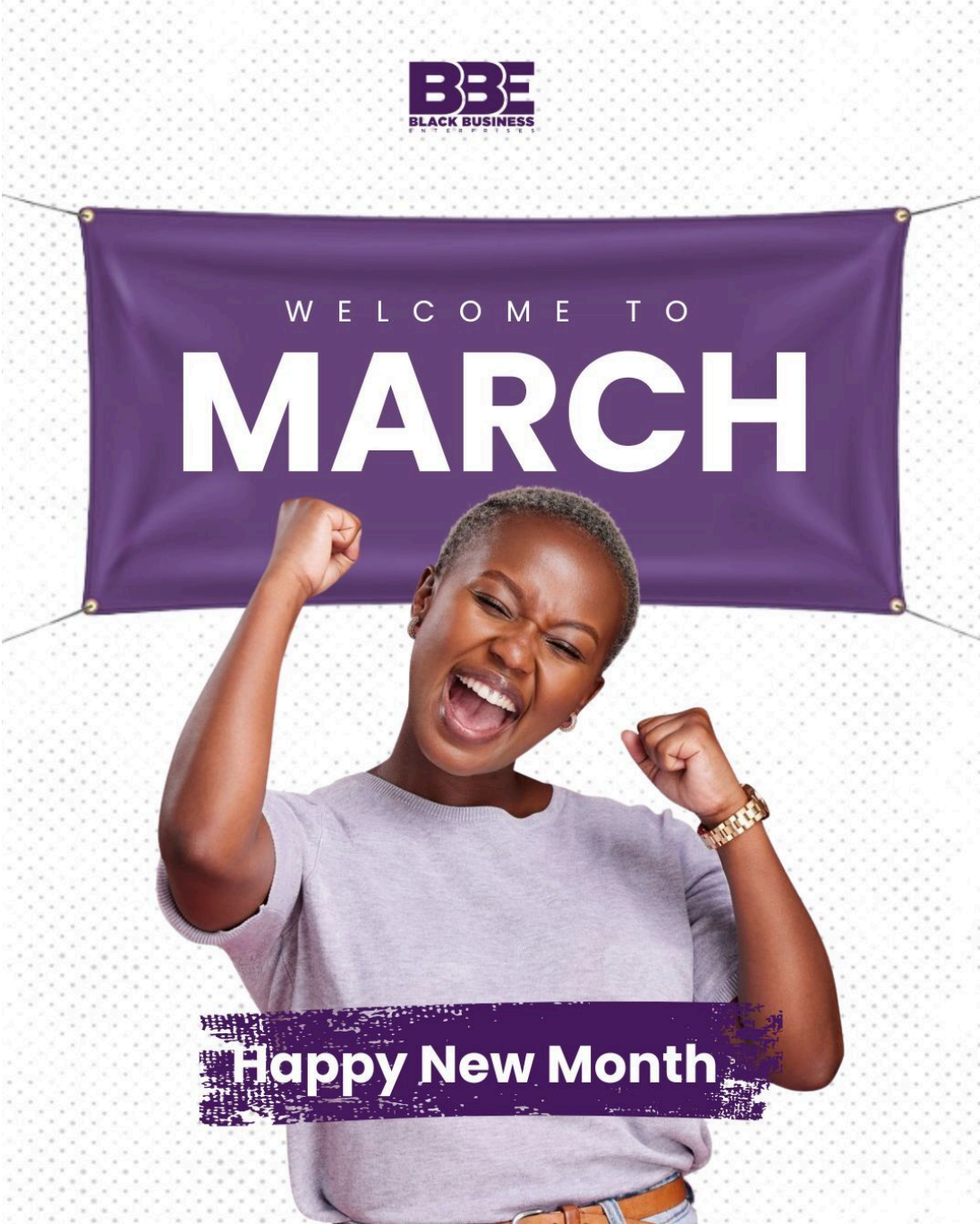




HAPPY NEW MONTH BBE FAMILY!



March invites us to pause, reset, and get clear on what's next. Whether you need a sharper strategy, help finding the right resources, or a trusted thought partner as you move through the year, we're here for it. You don't have to do it alone.

Connect with us to find out how we can help you.

MARCH CELEBRANTS!



A big shoutout to all the BBE members celebrating their birthdays in March! While you're busy building, don't forget to pause, make a wish, and enjoy a little cake (or rest).

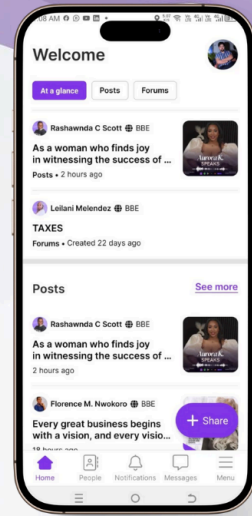
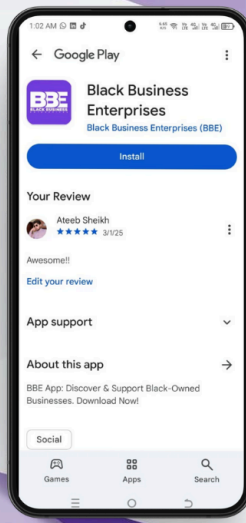
Cheers to another year of growth, joy, and well-earned wins!

New address? New number or just brand new you? Don't ghost us - drop your updated membership info [here](#).

Exciting News!!!



OUR APP IS LIVE!



Get to **connect, grow, thrive and enjoy the community** like never before!
We bring you **exclusive resources, networking, and business solutions**
at your fingertips.

Download now to enjoy seamless interaction!

JOIN US

MEMBERSHIP

OPEN

BBE

BLACK BUSINESS
E N T E R P R I S E S



BBE Membership is OPEN—Join the Movement!

Black entrepreneurship has never been about ease—it has always been about courage. Long before access to capital, storefronts, or fair markets was guaranteed, Black business owners built anyway. That same resilience lives in you. If you're just starting, finding your footing, or looking for a community that understands the journey, there's space for you here—come build with us.

This is your moment!

JOIN US

GRANTS APPLICATION

The grant opportunities below are here for a reason - to be used. They're for practice.

Apply often. Apply boldly, and keep showing up even when the “no’s” stack up before the yes. Entrepreneurship is a wild journey full of trials, pivots and patience. Tenacity is what carries you through—not fear, not procrastination.

Every application builds skill, clarity, and momentum. Commit to applying for **at least one grant each month**. Keep trying. Keep refining. Keep believing. Your persistence is part of the process—and eventually, it pays off.



Galaxy Grant – FREE to Apply!

Opportunity for All,

Because **Every Dream Deserves a Chance.**

Powered by Hidden Star 501(c)

Deadline: April 30th

[APPLY HERE](#)

HERSUITE SPOT®

HerRise MicroGrant – FREE to Apply!

The HerRise Micro-Grant provides financial assistance, with the help of our corporate sponsors and donors, to women of color creating innovative solutions that impact their community and who are often unable to secure funding for their small businesses.

Deadline: Evergreen

[APPLY HERE](#)



Building a better Queens, for generations!

Queens is home to 2.3 million people – nearly all of whom have been touched by our work in some way. We've helped thousands of entrepreneurs start businesses that employ thousands more, promoted events and attractions that have driven tens of millions of visitors, and supported organizations that make our neighborhoods the envy of the world.

Evergreen

APPLY HERE



The Minnesota Trade Office (MTO)!

The Minnesota Trade Office (MTO), an office within the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, is soliciting applications for funding for eligible Minnesota-based small businesses to participate in export development activities that will assist the company to begin exporting or increase their exports from Minnesota.

Deadline: June 30th, 2026.

APPLY HERE



EDA Business Development Fund – FREE to Apply!

The Cook County/Grand Marais Joint Economic Development Authority (EDA) is now accepting applications for the Business Development Fund Grant Program for the 2026 calendar year. This reimbursement-based grant program provides up to \$25,000 to support local small businesses and entrepreneurs, encourage public-private investment, and strengthen Cook County's overall economy.

Deadline: Evergreen

APPLY HERE

Freed Fellowship Grant



Apply Today For a \$2,500 Small Business Grant!

Plus get feedback on your business and two months of free mentorship in our vibrant online community for entrepreneurs and business owners.

Deadline: Evergreen

APPLY HERE

HELLO ALICE

Pilot Small Business Growth Fund!

The **Pilot Small Business Growth Fund**, presented in partnership with Hello Alice and Pilot, is here to support small businesses as they grow and scale. Whether you're investing in operations, expanding your team, or strengthening your financial infrastructure, this fund is designed to help you take the next step forward.

Deadline: March 31st, 2026

APPLY HERE



Power Forward Small Business Grant!

The Power Forward Small Business Grant program aims to create a lasting impact through the economic empowerment of Black-owned small businesses across New England. Through a combined commitment of \$1 million, Vistaprint and the Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation are teaming up with the NAACP to award transformative grants of \$25,000 on a rolling basis. Through this initiative, grant recipients will have opportunities to be featured on national co-branded platforms, along with receiving marketing and design resources customized to their specific needs to help their business grow and thrive.

Deadline: Evergreen

[APPLY HERE](#)



Wish Local Empowerment Program

We recognize that as a large e-commerce company we have the responsibility to help uplift others. Black-owned small businesses have long faced hardship due to systemic racism. But small businesses like yours are integral to the makeup of America. So we are dedicating a \$2M dollar fund to give roughly 4,000 Wish Local small business partners financial support. The selected recipients will receive amounts between \$500 - \$2000. This program will only be open to Black-owned stores, to help promote equality and diversity in American business.

Deadline: Evergreen

[APPLY HERE](#)

The logo for the MN Promise Act, featuring the letters "MN" in a large, dark green, sans-serif font, followed by a white outline of the state of Minnesota with a small dark green star in the lower right corner. Below this is the text "PROMISE ACT" in a dark green, sans-serif font.

MN
PROMISE ACT

MN Promise Act – FREE to Apply

Round 2 of the MN PROMISE Act Grant for

Minneapolis and Saint Paul are open now.

Click below to start your application.

Deadline: Evergreen

[APPLY HERE](#)

Business SPOTLIGHT



Neacara Sutton is the founder of Pathways Cookin' Up Catering, a culinary heartbeat of Pathways Life & Health, blending exceptional food service with a mission-driven purpose. More than a catering company, Cookin' Up serves as a social enterprise that fuels our nonprofit programming for youth and families across the Twin Cities.

Through high-quality catering, themed pop-ups, and community-centered events, we generate vital funding that directly supports Pathways' initiatives—including life skills development, social-emotional learning, workforce training, and positive youth experiences. Every meal prepared, Every event hosted and every plate served helps us expand opportunities for the young people we serve.

Rooted in excellence, hospitality, and heart, Cookin' Up Catering transforms food into impact. When you book with us, you not only enjoy a delicious culinary experience—you help empower the next generation of leaders. safety.

Learn more about Cookin' Up and Connect below!

LET'S CONNECT

Upcoming
EVENTS



Masked Fund-raiser Mixer!

 March 21st, 2026.

 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

The Women Empowered Community Business Fair & Resource Expo is your opportunity to shop with purpose while uplifting local, women-owned businesses and community vendors. By shopping local, you help strengthen small businesses, keep dollars in the community, and support entrepreneurs who are making a meaningful impact.

This event brings together a diverse group of vendors offering products, services, and resources focused on wellness, creativity, self-care, and empowerment. Whether you're looking to discover new businesses, connect with community resources, or simply enjoy a positive, welcoming atmosphere, your presence and purchases make a difference.

Come out, shop local, build connections, and be part of a community that believes in empowerment through economic opportunity.

[**Join Here**](#)

BBE
BLACK BUSINESS

ARTIST EXHIBITION
AT BBE
2ND ANNUAL



THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

BBE HQ | Downtown Minneapolis
1128 Harmon Place | Loring Park District

- **FEATURING | LOCAL & BIPOC ARTISTS**
- **ORIGINAL ARTWORK**
- **RAFFLES & PRIZES**

FREE ENTRY | DONATIONS WELCOME

Minneapolis
Arts & Cultural Affairs

*Celebrate diversity. Elevate new voices.
Reimagine downtown through art.*

1128 Harmon Place | Minneapolis, MN 55403

2nd Annual Artist Exhibition

 Thursday March 26th. 2026.

5:00pm - 8:00pm

Mission

Come experience incredible local & BIPOC artists, explore original artwork, and enjoy raffles and prizes — all in a vibrant space celebrating culture and talent.

Admission is **FREE**, and donations are welcome. Let's celebrate diversity, elevate new voices, and reimagine downtown through art.

RSVP

UPDATE ON BBE SPACE!



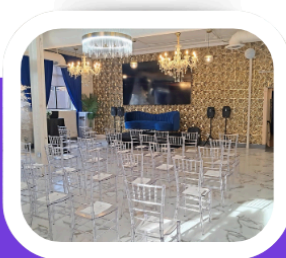
THE LUXE AT HARMON BY BBE

Venue Booking Fees Starting January

Dear BBE Member, We'd like to inform you that starting January, all event space bookings will include: **\$100** non-refundable cleaning fee and a **\$30/hr** staff fee for event support. Thank you for being a valued member of the BBE community!

\$100 Cleaning Fee

\$30/hr Staff Fee



**BBE
MEMBERS
ONLY**

Do you need a perfect venue for your next event?

From birthdays to weddings, corporate functions, dinner, gala, conference, seminar, talk show, music concerts, and more — our stunning BBE space is here for YOU!

Booking available Monday – Friday for **FREE** (Members should reach out about weekend events)

Exclusive for BBE Members Only

For enquiries: designs@blackbusinessenterprises.org

Secure your date today — space fills up fast!

BOOK HERE

About Us

LEARN MORE

OUR CORE VALUES

1. Lead with Love
2. Show up!
3. Invest in Yourself
4. Give Back
5. **JEDI** is Everything

JUSTICE
EQUITY
DIVERSITY
INCLUSION

We are excited to bring you the latest news and updates from our organization. As a collective of Black-owned businesses, we continue to strive towards empowering ourselves and our communities through economic growth and development.

We are seeking individuals who share our core values and are committed to upholding them.

[CLICK TO ALL THINGS BBE](#)



1-1 MEETING WITH NANCY

Duration: 30 minutes
Platform: Web conferencing details provided upon confirmation.

Discussion Points:

Let's explore how we can elevate your business to new heights. Together, we'll refine your strategy, enhance your business plan, and turn your vision into reality. Ready to take the next step?

[BOOK A CALL](#)



Support

BLACK BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

We welcome you to stand with us in our mission. By backing Black-owned businesses, you're not just fostering economic growth within our community, but also advancing equality and social justice.

Your contributions play a pivotal role in empowering us to sustain our goal of nurturing a flourishing community of Black-owned enterprises. We're confident that through your kindness, we can forge a brighter tomorrow for both ourselves and future generations.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation for your ongoing support and generosity. Together, we have the power to enact meaningful change.

DONATE



Services

WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER?



VENUE

Rent our space for events, birthday parties, graduations, dinners, workshops, small weddings, and more!

[BOOK NOW](#)



VIRTUAL OFFICE

Don't want your home address to be public to the world? Get a Virtual office with us.

[GET YOUR ADDRESS](#)

GROUPS

168 Facebook group communities with a total of 3.6 million users to connect with.

[JOIN A CHAPTER](#)





PROGRAMS

Credit Workshops, Marketing, Business Development, and more.

[FIND A CLASS](#)

Impact

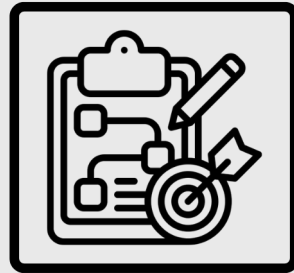
WHAT WE DO



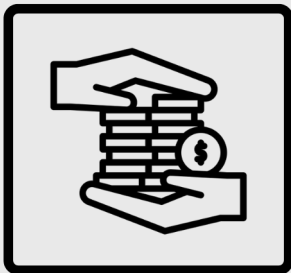
Over 100 New Businesses
Opened



Over 200 New
Websites



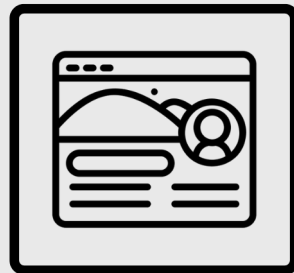
Over 100 Business
Plans



Over 80 Businesses
Funded by Partner Banks



Over 150 Logos Created and
Branding



Over 5000 Posts Created for
Members

PODCAST

We feature local business owners that need spotlight.

Watch our educational podcast where we discuss homeownership, credit, law, business, accounting, and more. **40k to 80k viewers weekly.**

[WATCH](#)



Black Business Enterprises
Podcast:Credit in the Arts

41 weeks ago · 78.9K views

You and 161 others



EVENTS

Join us at our monthly events to learn, connect with potential customers, expand your professional network and get to know your supportive business family.

[EVENTS](#)

MEMBERSHIP

Not a member yet?

Join our growing community of
Entrepreneurs!

We all need a YOU

Let us help you with your business!

[LEARN MORE](#)





CREDIT

We give our members an opportunity to learn how to improve their credit and how to legally dispute incorrect items on their report, pay off debts, and improve their financial lives.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Hello BBE Members,

We are in the process of updating our records and kindly request all members to complete the information update by filling out the following form.

[UPDATE INFORMATION FORM](#)



BLACK BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

Black Business Enterprises Fund (BBE) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization based in Minneapolis, M.N.

**EVENTS | MEMBERSHIP | SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
| AFFILIATE PARTNERS | JOB POSTINGS | DONATE**

1128 Harmon PI Minneapolis, MN 55403 suite #200

This email was sent to {{ contact.EMAIL }}
You've received it because you've subscribed to our newsletter.

[UNSUBSCRIBE](#)