

# Louisiana Small Business Summit 2023

By Louisiana Economic Development

The 2023 Louisiana Small Business Summit will be held on October 24, 2023, from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm, at the Cajundome and Convention Center in Lafayette. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect directly with state departments and procurement representatives, and obtain information on small business resources. For small businesses wishing to potentially increase their sales of goods and services to the state government, this is a fantastic opportunity. Tickets include lunch and registration. You may purchase tickets at <https://www.universe.com/events/louisiana-small-business-summit-tickets-GQN5D6>.

The summit is hosted by Louisiana Economic Development and presented by Lafayette Economic Development Authority and One Acadiana.

Gain access to resources, opportunities, and insights to drive your business forward—all in one day. Connect directly with state agencies and procurement representatives at the Reverse Trade Show, and attend informational breakout sessions.

Gain valuable business insights from keynote speaker Jewel Burks Solomon, managing partner of Collab Capital, a venture capital fund that she launched to close the funding gap for Black entrepreneurs. Jewel is also the former head of Google for Startups in the United States. In this role, she worked to level the playing field for underrepresented startup founders and communities by connecting them with Google's products, people, and best practices, so as to foster more access to the technology innovation ecosystem.

The breakout sessions and panel discussions will include:

- Information from the governor's office and state agencies regarding projects and opportunities upcoming via the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law/IIJA, and how small businesses can prepare themselves to access these opportunities
- Information on certifications, resources, and tools available to assist with business growth and sustainability
- Sessions on how to do business with the state and leverage Hudson and veteran certifications for increased opportunity



- Business owner panels on lessons learned and leveraging resources to grow a small business and succeed with government contracting
- Information on how to prepare, protect, and respond to cybersecurity threats faced by

Small Business Exchange • Voice of Small, Emerging, Diversity-Owned Businesses Since 1984 [Click to read more](#)

## Opportunities

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With over 1.6 million businesses in our active database—the country's largest non-public diversity database—SBE sets the professional standard for diversity outreach across the nation. For more than three decades, we have served small businesses, prime contractors, and agencies—with proven results.

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With a database of over 1.6 million businesses, SBE assists agencies with public legal notices.

**Advertisements**  
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weekly or whenever wherever to whomever you need to reach among agencies contractors diversity firms



**LAGNIAPPE BAKEHOUSE**

Lagniappe Baking is an independently owned pop-up Bakehouse by pastry chef Kaitlin Guerin. Created to make one-of-a-kind assorted Pastry Boxes that highlight the local, seasonal bounty of the Crescent City's agriculture, each box is meant to challenge your taste buds with flavor combinations and leave you with joy and anticipation for the next.

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**COMPANY PROFILE**

Edwards Unlimited is an award-winning media production and leadership development business enterprise. Our company is dedicated to helping corporations, entrepreneurs and non-profit organizations celebrate their successes and share their vision with the world through high quality video production, media/presentation training and strategic communications. President & CEO Janice Edwards is an award-winning talk show host, Emmy-nominated producer, co-author of the international best-seller *Step Into Your Brilliance*, an in-demand MC, and an acclaimed contributor to community empowerment through her media work.

- SERVICES WE PROVIDE**
- Media Coaching and Training
  - Leadership Development
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  - Legacy Interviews
  - Marketing
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- LEGACY INTERVIEWS**
- Edwards Unlimited Legacy Interviews are 1080p or 4K video and/or audio recording with transcripts capturing family treasures as living historical documents.
  - These interviews provide ideal content for books, documentaries, TedX talks or for sharing with generations to gain a better understanding of their lineage. They can be created anywhere in the world with strong internet connection. Janice Edwards has conducted more than 12,000 interviews throughout her stellar career.
  - These legacy interviews have created joy and happiness among family members and friends. They become a living record for loved ones in the future.

## SOUTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

**2023**

**8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar**  
Wednesday, September 20, 2023, 9:30 am-10:30 am CDT Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, [illinois.do@sba.gov](mailto:illinois.do@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
Join the Small Business Administration (SBA) Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer additional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further assistance, and answer your other questions. To register for this free webinar, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8a-orientation-sam-registration-tickets-518989961947>

**Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Program Webinar**  
Thursday, September 21, 2023, 9:00 am-10:00 am CDT Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcome-to-wosb-webinar-tickets-482397041537>  
Fee: Free; registration required  
Welcome to the WOSB webinar series! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions will include an overview of the self-certification process, as well as a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register for this free webinar at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcome-to-wosb-webinar-tickets-482397041537>

**Selling to the Federal Government Webinar**  
Thursday, September 28, 2023, 12:00 pm-3:00 pm CDT Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, [george.tapia@sba.gov](mailto:george.tapia@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register on line at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federal-government-tickets-21790713611> SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Participants must ensure Microsoft Teams is functioning.

## CERTIFICATION

Small Business Exchange, Inc. is DBE certified by the Louisiana UCP.

