

Arkansas
Black
Mayors
Association
UNITED FOR PROGRESS

AB
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BRIDGES & **BOLD**MOVES»

LEADERSHIP **SUMMIT &** *Gala*

OCTOBER

9-10

2026

DOUBLE TREE HOTEL, LITTLE ROCK, AR

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MESSAGE FROM ABMA LEADERSHIP



Dear Prospective Partner,

On behalf of the Arkansas Black Mayors' Association, we invite you to stand alongside the leaders shaping future cities across the Natural State, and to play a defining role in a Summit that is as much about action as it is about inspiration. The 2026 ABMA Leadership Summit & Annual Gala is the premier gathering of Black civic leadership in Arkansas. We convene mayors, city staff, youth delegates, nonprofit executives, and corporate partners for two days of intensive programming, peer collaboration, and community investment. Every session is designed to produce something tangible: a commitment, a partnership, a 90-day plan.

Your sponsorship is more than a marketing investment. It is a signal to your employees, your community, and your industry, that your organization stands with the leaders doing the hardest and most important work in Arkansas.

ABMA partners are not logos in a program. They are recognized, credited, and connected to every outcome this Summit produces.

What ABMA brings that no other Summit can offer is something specific to Arkansas: deep local relationships, a tight-knit network of mayors who trust each other, and a community that shows up.

We look forward to building something lasting together.

Warm regards,

Mayor Tomeka Butler
Eudora, AR

*Chair of the Arkansas Black
Mayors' Association*

BRIDGES & BOLD MOVES

ABOUT ABMA

The Arkansas Black Mayors' Association is the leading organization representing Black elected municipal officials across the state. ABMA advances equitable governance, builds regional partnerships, and develops the next generation of civic leaders through programming, policy advocacy, and convening power.

The Arkansas Black Mayors' Association was founded on a simple conviction: that the zip code you grow up in should not determine the quality of your city government. Across Arkansas, Black mayors and municipal leaders are closing that gap, not because the resources were there, but because the will was.

The 2026 ABMA Leadership Summit & Annual Gala is the fullest expression of that mission. It brings together the state's most influential Black civic leaders alongside the corporate partners, funders, and institutions who share their vision and challenges

all of them to leave with something more than inspiration. This is not a symbolic gathering. Attendees leave with signed commitments, 90-day action plans, peer networks, and the practical tools to deliver. Past ABMA convenings have generated joint grant applications, regional procurement partnerships, minority business development agreements, and youth pipeline programs still operating years later.



400–700
Attendees Expected



50%+
Mayors & Elected Officials



3
Concurrent Program Tracks



1
Historic Gala Evening

TOP 3 REASONS TO PARTNER

ACCESS DECISION-MAKERS DIRECTLY

Mayors and city staff control procurement budgets, hiring policies, and community investment. ABMA puts you at the table, not just in the lobby.

ALIGN YOUR BRAND WITH MEASURABLE CHANGE

Sponsor your name to outcomes tracked at 30, 60, and 90 days: MOUs signed, internships created, policies adopted.

INVEST IN THE NEXT GENERATION

The Youth Track brings future civic leaders, procurement officers, and brand loyalists into your orbit at the exact moment they are forming lasting impressions.

2026 Summit Attendee Snapshot



400–700
Attendees Expected



\$__+
Combined Municipal
Budgets Represented



50%+
Chief Elected Officials

The ABMA Summit is where Arkansas cities get aligned. The decisions made in those rooms show up in procurement contracts, policy adoptions, and youth internships — 90 days later.

Who's in the Room

Mayors & Municipal Elected Officials

Sitting mayors and council members from cities across Arkansas, the core of ABMA membership and the primary decision-makers in the room.

Youth Delegates (Ages 14–24)

High school and college students in the youth track tomorrow's civic entrepreneurs, procurement officers, and brand loyalists.

Corporate Partners & Funders

Regional and national companies, CDFIs, foundations, and grant-making institutions.

City Staff & Department Directors

City managers, planning directors, finance officers, and public safety leaders attend alongside their mayors.

Nonprofit & Civic Leaders

Executive directors and program leads from health, education, housing, and economic development across the state.

Media & Communications

Local, regional, and select national press covering Arkansas civic affairs and HBCU communities.

Post-Summit Impact Metrics

These are the outcomes we track and report to every sponsor following the Summit:

- MOUs and collaborative agreements signed between cities during the Summit
- Youth participants placed into internships, mentorships, or volunteer roles within 90 days
- Municipal leaders who adopt at least one new policy or strategy (90-day follow-up survey)
- Total funds raised vs. budget target across sponsorships, Gala proceeds, and registration
- Media impressions and social reach across all event coverage and partner channels
- Funded youth pilot project seeded via Gala proceeds announced live at the awards ceremony

About the Summit

The ABMA Leadership Summit is a two-day event hosted at the Double Tree Hotel in Little Rock, AR and is one of the most consequential civic programming in Arkansas. Every session, every panel, every meal is designed around a single purpose: equipping Black municipal leaders to build better cities and connecting the organizations that want to help them do it.

Two-Day Program

DAY 1

OCT
09
FRIDAY

THEME
HIGHLIGHTS
EVENING

Leadership Intensive + Youth Convening
Opening Plenary, 3 Breakout Tracks, Mayor Panel, Regional Caucuses
Sponsor-Hosted Networking Receptions

DAY 2

OCT
10
SATURDAY

THEME
HIGHLIGHTS
EVENING

Deep Dives, Skill Labs + Annual Gala
Masterclass, Skill Labs, Youth Pitch Finals, Closing Plenary
Annual Gala & Awards (Formal, 7–11 PM)

About the Summit (cont)

Three Tracks. One Mission.



YOUTH TRACK

Civic bootcamp, policy simulation, rapid pitch coaching, and mentor pairings for ages 14–24. Top teams present at the Gala.



MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP

Practical governance: budget innovation, procurement, data-driven delivery, intergovernmental grants, and crisis communications.



GENERAL LEADERSHIP

Storytelling, coalition-building, executive resilience, racial equity leadership, and media training for elected officials.

The Annual Gala

Saturday evening culminates in the Annual Gala a formal celebration of Arkansas's most influential Black civic leaders alongside corporate partners, elected officials, and invited guests. Gala sponsorships offer stage recognition, premier seating, and access to leaders at their most engaged moment of the year.



Title
Sponsor
\$50,000

1 Available

The Title Sponsorship is the highest and most visible investment available at the 2026 ABMA Leadership Summit & Annual Gala.

Your organization's name becomes part of the Summit itself, every printed piece, every digital surface, every stage moment carries your brand alongside ABMA's for the duration of the event and the year beyond.

Title sponsors occupy a category of their own. At this level, your organization is not acknowledged from a list, your representative stands at the podium and personally welcomes every mayor, city director, funder, and youth delegate in the room. That moment belongs to you.

This level of sponsorship is designed for organizations whose mission, products, or services align directly with equitable municipal governance, workforce development, community investment, or civic infrastructure — and who want their commitment to be impossible to miss.

Title Sponsor Benefits

NAMING RIGHTS & VISIBILITY

- Summit named after your brand ("ABMA Summit presented by [Company]")
- Logo on all printed & digital materials, main stage, registration, and venue-wide signage
- Full-page premium ad in official Summit program
- Co-branded press release distributed to statewide and regional media
- 12-month digital sponsor placement on ABMA website and communications
- Recognition in all pre- and post-Summit email marketing

ACCESS & ACTIVATION

- 10 VIP Gala seats + 20 full Summit passes
- Keynote introduction — your representative addresses all attendees from the main stage
- Premier exhibit space at the highest-traffic location in the venue
- Title sponsor-hosted evening reception (Day 1, exclusive to your guests and VIPs)
- Named youth scholarship opportunity — announced from the Gala stage
- Bespoke activation package customized to your goals and audience

Platinum
Sponsor
\$25,000

2 - 5 Available

The Platinum Sponsorship places your organization at the center of the 2026 ABMA Leadership Summit, visible on the main stage, present in the program, and active on the floor.

With premiere exhibit placement and a branded breakout room, Platinum sponsors have dedicated space to build relationships that extend far beyond the event itself.

Platinum sponsorship is the difference between being recognized and being present. Panel participation gives your organization a direct voice in the policy conversations shaping Arkansas cities, not just a logo on a wall, but a seat at the table.

This level is ideal for organizations in financial services, technology, healthcare, infrastructure, and workforce development that want to be seen as partners in the work, not just investors in the event.

Platinum Sponsor Benefits

Brand & Visibility

- Logo on main stage and all event-wide signage
- Full-page advertisement in official Summit program
- Large exhibit space with premium high-traffic placement
- Recognition in all pre- and post-Summit email marketing
- Social media recognition across all ABMA Summit coverage

ACCESS & ACTIVATION

- 6 VIP Gala seats + 12 full Summit passes
- Panel participation in one General or Municipal Leadership session
- Branded breakout room (half-day, fully identified with your brand)
- Invitation to VIP sponsor reception with mayors and keynote speakers
- Post-Summit impact report with engagement metrics

Platinum sponsors are recognized by name during the Opening Plenary and at the Annual Gala — two of the highest-viewership moments of the Summit — ensuring your brand lands with every attendee regardless of which track they attend.

Gold
Sponsor
\$10,000

Limited Availability

Gold Sponsorship is the entry point for meaningful, visible partnership with the ABMA Leadership Summit.

For organizations seeking genuine access to the room, not just a logo on the wall, Gold delivers exhibit space on the Summit floor, a branded session room, Gala seats, and a half-page program presence that reaches every attendee.

Gold-level sponsorship delivers what matters most, direct personal access to the decision-makers in the room, an investment that works for organizations of every size. It is consistently one of ABMA's most sought-after levels because the benefits are concrete, the access is real, and the return speaks for itself.

Gold Sponsors are well-positioned in industries including banking, insurance, real estate development, legal services, telecommunications, and any sector where relationships with municipal government and community leaders drive growth.

Gold Sponsor Benefits

Brand & Visibility

- Half-page advertisement in official Summit program
- Recognition on event-wide signage throughout the venue
- Social media recognition across ABMA Summit coverage
- Exhibit space on the Summit floor

ACCESS & ACTIVATION

- 4 VIP Gala seats at the Annual Gala & Awards Ceremony
- 6 full Summit passes (both days)
- Branded breakout room for one session slot
- Post-Summit impact report with engagement metrics

Gold Sponsors are recognized during the Gala awards ceremony — a high-energy, formal evening that draws the full Summit audience and their guests, giving your brand visibility at the most celebrated moment of the event.

Silver
Sponsor
\$5,000

Open Availability

Silver Sponsorship puts your organization inside the 2026 ABMA Leadership Summit at an accessible investment level, with real presence on the floor, real seats at the Gala, and real recognition across the event.

It is designed for organizations that believe in the mission and want to be counted among its supporters.

This level was designed with a specific organization in mind: one that is deeply rooted in Arkansas communities, believes in what ABMA is building, and wants their support to be visible and credited, without the budget of a Fortune 500 company. Community banks, local law firms, healthcare systems, and regional nonprofits belong here.

Silver is also a natural starting point for organizations building toward a deeper partnership with ABMA. Many of the Summit's longest-running supporters began at this level and have grown their investment as the relationship deepened. Coming in at Silver is coming in with intention and we recognize that.

Silver Sponsor Benefits

Brand & Visibility

- Logo in official Summit program, distributed to all attendees
- Recognition on event-wide signage
- Social media recognition across ABMA Summit coverage

ACCESS & ACTIVATION

- 2 VIP Gala seats at the Annual Gala & Awards Ceremony
- 4 full Summit passes (both days)
- Exhibit table on the Summit floor
- Post-Summit impact report with engagement metrics

Silver Sponsors are invited to ABMA's Sponsor Appreciation Reception a private gathering of all Summit sponsors, ABMA leadership, and keynote guests — providing direct networking access that extends well beyond the exhibit floor.

Bronze
Sponsor
\$2,500

Open Availability

Bronze Sponsorship is how organizations of every size make their support of Black civic leadership in Arkansas official.

For \$2,500, your brand is in the room, in the program, on the signage, and in the social media coverage that reaches ABMA's growing statewide audience. It is the most accessible entry point into the ABMA sponsor family.

Not every organization that believes in this work has a six-figure budget and Bronze exists for exactly that reason. Small businesses, community development organizations, local credit unions, faith-based institutions, and individual advocates all have a place in the ABMA sponsor family. The investment is modest. The alignment is not.

Bronze Sponsors are acknowledged by name in the Gala program and recognized on ABMA's Summit social channels, which reach not only Summit attendees but a broader Arkansas civic audience of constituents, advocates, and community members who follow ABMA's work throughout the year.

Bronze Sponsor Benefits

Brand & Visibility

- Logo recognition in the official Summit program
- Recognition on event-wide signage
- Social media recognition across ABMA Summit channels

Brand & Visibility

- 2 full Summit passes (both days)
- Post-Summit impact report
- Recognition in post-Summit sponsor acknowledgment communications

Bronze Sponsors who commit before February 28, 2026 receive Early Commitment recognition in ABMA's pre-Summit announcement communications — an additional visibility touchpoint reaching ABMA's full statewide network before the event opens.

Youth Track Presenting Sponsor **\$10,000**

Open Availability

The Youth Track is the most distinctive element of the 2026 ABMA Leadership Summit.

Designed for delegates ages 14–24, it runs a full two-day civic bootcamp policy simulation, budget exercises, team-based community problem-solving, and a live pitch competition at the Gala. The Youth Track Presenting Sponsor owns all of it.

ABMA's Youth Track is built to produce outcomes, not just exposure. The top-performing youth teams pitch live at the Annual Gala, competing for a funded pilot project grant seeded by Summit proceeds. Your sponsorship makes that grant possible.

This sponsorship is built for organizations in education, healthcare, technology, financial services, and any industry with active workforce pipeline or community investment goals. The young people on this track are future employees, future customers, and future leaders and your organization's brand will be woven into the experience that shapes their trajectory.

Youth Track Presenting Sponsor Benefits

Brand & Programming

- Organization name on all Youth Track printed and digital materials
- Logo on Youth Track signage throughout the Summit venue
- Named youth scholarship announced from the Gala stage with your organization credited
- Social media spotlight on the scholarship recipient and your organization's role

Access & Engagement

- Opportunity to provide a mentor, panelist, or presenter in the Youth Track
- Stage recognition at the Youth Pitch Finals during the Annual Gala
- 4 full Summit passes (both days)
- Post-Summit impact report including youth placement outcomes at 30 and 90 days

Youth Track sponsors are highlighted in ABMA's post-Summit youth impact reports a separate document tracking internship placements, mentorship connections, and pilot project progress that is shared with ABMA's full membership.

The ABMA Exhibit Floor

The ABMA Exhibit Floor is your direct connection to the leaders building Arkansas.

Every mayor, city director, department head, and youth delegate at the 2026 ABMA Leadership Summit will walk the exhibit floor. They are not browsing, they are actively seeking the partners, products, and services that will help them deliver for their communities.

Your booth puts you in front, where it matters most. The exhibit floor sits at the center of everything, open across both Summit days, surrounded by sponsor tables, the youth showcase, and the networking reception. Every attendee passes through it.

The ABMA Summit is the most direct path to Arkansas's municipal decision-makers

I have found. These are the people who control contracts, hire vendors, and champion community programs. Being on that floor is not optional for us.

98%

of attendees visit the Exhibit Floor

85%

network with peers on the floor

80%

spend an hour or more at exhibits

72%

download the Summit app — extending your digital reach



The ABMA Exhibit Floor (cont)



Exhibit Hours

Friday, October 9th

8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

(Open with breakfast; closes before reception)

Saturday, October 10th

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Noon)

(Opens with coffee)

**Hours are subject to change. Final schedule distributed in the Exhibitor Services Kit.*

On the Floor

- Sponsor showcase tables alongside exhibit booths
- Youth Showcase Poster presentations
- Sponsor-hosted networking reception (Day 1)
- Lunch served on the floor both days
- Coffee & morning sponsor showcase (Day 2)



Secure Your Booth

Booth assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Previous ABMA exhibitors receive priority placement consideration. Booth inventory is limited, the 2026 Summit floor is expected to sell out. Reserve your space today.

Booth Rates

BOOTH TYPE	RATE PER 10'x10' BOOTH
Commercial / For-Profit	\$500
Government / Nonprofit	\$250
Corner Upgrade	+ \$200 Per Corner

Your Booth Includes:

- Two full Summit badges per 10'x10' booth
- Company listing in the Summit program and mobile app
- Opening Exhibit Floor Reception (Day 1 networking event)
- 8' draped back wall and 3' draped side rails for in-line booths
- Complimentary lunch on the exhibit floor, both days
- Complimentary morning coffee service (Day 2)
- Identification sign for all in-line booths
- Access to exhibitor-only ABMA briefing on Day 1

Not included in the booth fee:

Carpet (required for all booths), furnishings, electricity, audiovisual equipment, shipping, and individual booth security. Carpet must be arranged through the official event general service contractor. The Exhibitor Services Kit, including vendor contacts and order forms will be distributed to all confirmed exhibitors eight weeks prior to the event.

RESERVE YOUR BOOTH

Contact our exhibitor team to confirm your space before inventory closes.

[Exhibitor Contact Name]
[Email Address]
[Phone Number]

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

- Exclusive exhibit floor hours alongside lunch service, no competing sessions
- Opening Exhibit Reception on Day 1, the highest-energy networking window of the Summit
- Youth Showcase Posters displayed on the floor direct engagement with youth delegates
- Sponsor Showcase Coffee Service on Day 2 morning — captive audience before sessions begin

NEW IN 2026: Extended exhibit floor

access during the Day 1 afternoon breakout blocks, more face time, fewer competing sessions.

Specialty Sponsorships

Beyond the core package tiers, the following standalone opportunities allow organizations to align their brand with specific Summit moments that best match their mission and audience. À la carte sponsorships can be added on top of any package or secured independently.

SPONSORSHIP ITEM	INVESTMENT	HIGHLIGHTS
Opening Keynote Sponsor EXCLUSIVE	\$8,000	Exclusive. Intro remarks at the highest-viewership moment of Day 1, branded plenary signage, program and social recognition.
Mayor's Breakfast Sponsor EXCLUSIVE	\$6,000	Exclusive. Named breakfast event, tabletop signage, brief remarks opportunity, logo on all menus.
Networking Reception Sponsor	\$5,000	Day 1 evening reception naming rights, custom signage, branded items distributed to all reception guests.
Wi-Fi & Tech Sponsor	\$4,000	Custom Summit Wi-Fi network name, digital recognition on the event app, logo on all tech signage.
Lanyard / Badge Sponsor	\$3,500	Your brand on every attendee badge and lanyard — the highest-impression item at any Summit, worn for two full days.
Program Book Sponsor	\$3,000	Full-page advertisement in the printed Summit program distributed to all 400–700 attendees at registration.
"Mayors on the Move" Panel Sponsor	\$3,000	Named sponsorship of the flagship panel session featuring rapid case studies from 4 sitting Arkansas mayors.
Skill Lab Sponsor	\$2,500	Named sponsorship of one 45-minute rotating skill lab session with handout branding and session-opening remarks.
Gala Live Auction Sponsor	\$5,000	Presenting sponsorship of the Gala live auction benefiting city youth pilot projects — stage recognition, auctioneer intro.
Youth Scholarship Fund EXCLUSIVE	Custom	Named scholarship for youth delegates — tax-deductible, mission-forward, announced from the Gala stage.

In-Kind Sponsorships

In-kind contributions are welcomed and receive recognition and benefits equivalent to their cash-value tier. Priority in-kind needs include audio/visual production services, catering and food & beverage contributions, hotel room blocks for speakers and out-of-state mayors, printing and graphic production, and event technology.

Full Comparison Sponsor Benefits At A Glance

A full comparison of benefits across all major sponsorship levels. All sponsor levels receive a detailed post-Summit impact report. Customized activation packages are available at every level.

BENEFIT	TITLE \$50K	PLATINUM \$25K	GOLD \$10K	SILVER \$5K	BRONZE \$2.5K
Summit naming rights	✓	—	—	—	—
VIP Gala seats	10	6	4	2	—
Full Summit passes	20	12	6	4	2
Main stage logo placement	✓	✓	—	—	—
Exhibit / display space	Premier	Large	Standard	Table	—
Program advertisement	Full page	Full page	Half page	Logo	Logo
Keynote introduction	✓	—	—	—	—
Panel participation	✓	✓	—	—	—
Branded breakout room	✓	✓ (½ day)	✓ (1 session)	—	—

BENEFIT	TITLE \$50K	PLATINUM \$25K	GOLD \$10K	SILVER \$5K	BRONZE \$2.5K
Sponsor reception access	✓	✓	✓	✓	—
Social media recognition	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Co-branded press release	✓	—	—	—	—
12-month digital placement	✓	—	—	—	—
Named scholarship option	✓	—	—	—	—
Post-Summit impact report	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



First-Come, First-Served Become a Sponsor

Sponsorships are confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis. Title, Gala, and Youth Track levels are exclusive and expected to close early. We encourage interested partners to reach out as soon as possible to discuss your preferred level and any customization options.

How to Secure Your Sponsorship



1. Contact our sponsorship team to confirm availability at your desired level.
2. Review and execute the sponsorship agreement (standard terms, room for customization).
3. Submit your brand assets — logos, ad copy, and representative bio as applicable.
4. Receive confirmation, payment instructions, and your sponsor portal login for updates.
5. We handle the rest — and keep you informed every step of the way.

Key Sponsorship Deadlines

EARLY COMMITMENT (Best Activation)	STANDARD DEADLINE (Full Benefits)	FINAL DEADLINE (Program Recognition)
July 1 st	September 4 th	October 1 st

Contact Us

SPONSORSHIP INQUIRIES

Frank Bateman

Executive Director

Arkansas Black Mayors Association

Fbateman@ar-blackmayors.com

(501) 913-2136

SUMMIT INFORMATION

October 9–10, 2026

DOUBLE TREE HOTEL, LITTLE ROCK, AR

[Summit Website URL]

[Social Media Handles]

