Welcome from our SITE Chicago President, Lorraine Bellas, CIS, CITP

Taking the mantle as the incoming 2021 President for SITE Chicago is exciting and I know we are all cautiously optimistic now that the World is starting to open up. I look forward to the fresh start and new possibilities of 2021 and to meeting you all.

Your SITE Chicago Board of Directors has been reimagining all of our Educational and Networking opportunities this year. Some events we are bringing back, like our award-winning Holley Trolley and we have brand new ideas as well! We are in the process of creating a new Ambassador Program so that we can be more inclusive of our Members in neighboring states to the North: Wisconsin and Michigan. Also, SITE Chicago is hitting the road in the Fall, bringing our team and sponsors to the Greater area! We are anxiously looking forward to the Networking and fun that we all have been missing!

Thank you for your commitment and participation in SITE Chicago! I will do my very best to support you all and I thank you for the opportunity!
March 2021

The Newsletter of SITE Chicago

2021 SITE Chicago Upcoming Events

- Spark & Speak Series – Virtual – April, May, and June
- Young Leaders Mentor / Mentee Adventure – Virtual – April or May
- Webinars – Virtual – "Confidence in an Unconfident World", a 2-Part Series in April, "Back to Business" in July, and "Empowerment" in October or November
- Board of Directors Meeting – Live & In-Person – April
- Top Golf Networking Event – Live & In-Person – Late June
- Road Trip! – Wisconsin, Chicago, and Michigan – A day of education and networking in each destination! – Live & In-Person – September 21st to 23rd
- 7th Annual Holly Trolley - Live & In-Person – December

*Please note all live events are subject to COVID-19 restrictions and protocols.
**Stay tuned for more details, including specific dates and registration!

2021 SITE Chicago Board of Directors

It’s our pleasure to introduce your 2021 SITE Chicago Board of Directors!

- Lorraine Bellas, CIS, CITP – President
- Colleen Brzozowski, CIS, CITP – Immediate Past President & 2021 – 2023 SITE International Board of Directors
- Rose Hippert, CIS, CITP – Director of Administrator & President-Elect
- Justin McCray – Co-Director of Media
- Marcella Zuniga, CIS, CITP – Co-Director of Media
- Bonnie Coop, CIS, CITP – Director of Education
- Diane Murray, CMP, HMCC, CIS, CITP – Treasurer & Acting Secretary, 2019 Past President
- Lisa Crolius, CIS – Director of Membership
- Alexandra Bakalis – Director of Young Leaders

6th Annual Holly Trolley

Our award-winning event, the 6th Annual Holly Trolley took place virtually on Thursday, January 7th.

We had a wonderful time and would like to congratulate our winners once again!

- App Leaderboard: Tina Chambers, Tami Beehner, and Seth Ryan
- Most Liked Post on the App: Joy Molinari
- Bingo One Row Winner: Aileen Laracuente
- Bingo Full Card Winner: Susana Chao
- Best Food Spread: Kelly Fuller
- Best Dressed Male: Dana Weaver
- Best Dressed Female: Annette Rullman
- Best Roast (Meme) of 2020: Susan Barnes
- 50/50 Raffle: Margie McCartney

Special thanks to those who contributed to the raffle and raised $652 for our SITE Chicago Scholarship Raffle. We look forward to seeing you again next year. Please keep an eye out for more information regarding sponsorship opportunities, venue opportunities, and our 2021 date.
SITE Hybrid Conference
February 2-3, 2021

Our global conference took place virtually and it was definitely the place to be as we had more people attend in digital time than we have had at an in-person global conference in our history. Congratulations to our SITE Chapter Excellence Awards winners, given at the Global Conference! A special shoutout to our own chapter for clinching two awards in Special Events and Young Leaders!

- Chapter of the Year: SITE Texas
- Excellence in Virtual Engagement: SITE Canada
- Excellence in Education: SITE Texas
- Excellence in Membership: Site Texas
- Excellence in Special Event: SITE Chicago
- Excellence in Sustainable Event: SITE Poland
- Excellence in Young Leaders: SITE Chicago
- Rising Star Award: SITE Africa

SITE Chi Connections

Thank you to all who applied to be a member of the 2021 SITE Chi Connections mentor/mentee program. The purpose of Chi Connections is to match Young Leaders with experienced professionals to share career path coaching, networking, and leadership development through one-on-one meetings and organized engagements. Chi Connections applications are closed for 2021. For additional questions about the Young Leaders or to support a Young Leaders initiative, please reach out to Alex Bakalis, Director of Young Leaders for SITE Chicago, at SITEChicagoYoungLeaders@gmail.com.
Farewell
Colleen Brzozowski, CIS, CITP

Hello SITE Chicago,

And just like that, my term as Chapter President has come to a close, and since I didn’t have the opportunity to share my regards in person, I wanted to take a moment to do so in this newsletter.

Most importantly, I want to say THANK YOU! Thank you for trusting me to serve in a leadership role well before we knew what a crazy year it would be. Thank you for supporting me during a roller coaster year. Thank you for choosing to attend yet another Zoom because it was SITE Chicago and you wouldn’t miss it. Thank you for looking out for each other, being a resource to your fellow members, and keeping in touch with us - it truly meant a lot. I am honored to have served in this capacity and hope I served you well!

It always amazes me how much our Chapter’s history reflects that of our City’s story. As the Great Chicago fire nearly destroyed the city in 1871, our Chapter nearly faced extinction around 2015-ish. But like the visionaries back then; a few key individuals stepped up and prevented that from happening. Dana Weaver, Rebecca Wright, Patricia Sahin, and others took charge to regroup and become better than before. To think that in just 5+ years, we have become a globally recognized award-winning chapter says a lot about the perseverance and vision of our past leadership. During Chicago’s recovery after the fire, support came in from other cities, states, and even countries to help with the rebuild. We found that other SITE Chapters were willing to come to our aid to help us succeed, and that collaboration continues today. The "Second City" became even better than what it was before; out of devastation came innovation.

And our SITE Chapter followed in those footsteps by becoming a leading chapter in the Global organization. Pretty amazing similarities when you think about it! #SITEChicagoStrong

As I pass the gavel to Lorraine Bellas, I am confident that the Chapter will continue to see growth and accomplish great things. With much gratitude and appreciation for this opportunity - it truly was a highlight of my career!

Cheers!

Colleen Brzozowski, CIS, CITP

2021 SITE Chicago Sponsorship Prospectus
CLICK HERE