

# 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

DIGITAL PROGRAM BOOK

*May 21, 2024*

at



CHICAGO  
HISTORY  
MUSEUM



*At our core, we are an organization that is defined by its people and communities accelerating change. It is in this spirit that we invite you to join Delta Institute in a toast at our 25th Anniversary Celebration!*

Pictured: Delta Institute co-founder Tim Brown hugs current CEO Bill Schleizer at Delta's 20th anniversary celebration



# AGENDA

## Cocktail Hour and Museum Galleries

**6:00pm - 7:30pm**

Guests enjoy access to the museum's second floor exhibits:

*Back Home: Polish Chicago*

*Chicago: Crossroads of America*

*City on Fire*

*Designing for Change*

**6:00pm - 7:45pm**

Live music by the Joe Policastro Trio in the Morse Genius Room

**7:00pm**

Chicago Taco Stand in the Morse Genius Room

## 25th Anniversary Celebration Remarks

**7:45pm**

Haroula Kyriacou & Grace Snider

*Delta Emerging Leaders Co-Chairs*

Eira L. Corral Sepúlveda

*Commissioner, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago*

*Board Director, Delta Institute*

Aina Gutierrez

*Executive Director, Rebuilding Exchange*

Bill Schleizer

*CEO, Delta Institute*

## Music Party

**After remarks**

DJ Risky Bizness

## Closing

**9:45pm**

Bars close

**10:00pm**

End of evening

# MENU

## Passed hors d'oeuvres

**6:00pm**

Fresh spring rolls with pea shoots, poached asparagus, radishes, and avocado – Green Goddess vinaigrette (vegan) (gluten free)

Mini color block avocado toasts with shaved radish, asparagus tips and cherry tomatoes (vegan)

Tequila – lime shrimp skewer with achiote crema (gluten free)

Guajillo beef tamale bite with avocado pico de gallo (gluten free)

Grilled lime and cilantro-rubbed chicken polenta cake with avocado salsa

Maryland lump crab cake with lime aioli

Cheesecake bites

*Donated by Eli's Cheesecake*

## Chicago Taco Stand

**7:00pm**

Beer-battered Lake Michigan whitefish tacos, lime crema & cabbage slaw

Carne asada tacos, cotija, cilantro, salsa roja & pickled onions

Sweet potato black bean taco, lime crema and fresh cilantro

Vegan elote, chipotle, cilantro and pickled red onion

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limelight

This evening's catering is provided by Limelight, a local caterer with a commitment to sustainability. Food scraps from this evening will be composted as part of the caterer's "food to farm" composting service, which composts an average of 16,000 gallons of food scraps annually. They were Chicago's first caterer to use a green commercial dishwashing system and the first Chicago caterer to purchase renewable energy credits from wind & biomass. Limelight is a certified Women's Business Enterprise (WBE).



# DRINK MENU

## SIGNATURE COCKTAILS



### Great Lakes Swimmer

Vodka, Apologue  
Aronia, Lemon, Ginger  
Beer, Orange Peel



### Busy Bee

Gin, Lemon,  
Apologue Persimmon,  
Honey



### Sometimes I Wonder

Tequila, Lime,  
Grapefruit,  
Jeppson's Malört, Soda

## SPECIALTY COCKTAILS

Hoste Cocktails

## SPIRITS

Tito's Vodka, Beefeater Gin, Jim Beam  
Bourbon, Jack Daniels Whiskey, Dewar's  
Scotch, Bacardi Silver Rum, Patron Tequila

## WINES

Canyon Road Sauvignon Blanc  
Canyon Road Cabernet  
Simonet Brut Sparkling

## LOCAL BEER

### Begyle Brewing

Begyle Blonde (5.4% ABV)

### Off Color Brewing

Beer for Lounging (5.0% ABV)  
Eat Prey Mango (5.8% ABV)

### Revolution Brewing

Cold Time (4.8% ABV)  
Fist City Chicago Pale Ale (5.5% ABV)  
Anti Hero IPA (6.7%)

### Sketchbook Brewing

The Cooldown (4.3% ABV)  
Double Coastal (8.5% ABV)  
Session Coastal (4.8% ABV)

## NON-ALCOHOLIC

San Pellegrino Mineral Water  
Coca-Cola Soft Drinks  
Cranberry, Grapefruit, Orange, or  
Pineapple Juices

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Special thanks to our in-kind donors this evening for donating your tasty drinks for us to toast to!  
Thank you to Apologue Liqueurs, Begyle Brewing, Hoste Cocktails, Off Color Brewing, Revolution  
Brewing, and Sketchbook

# Invested in our community

William Blair is proud to support Delta Institute and its 25th anniversary celebration. Delta Institute's mission to address Midwestern environmental, economic, and climate challenges today so that our region is more resilient, equitable, and innovative tomorrow is an inspiration to us all.

[williamblair.com](http://williamblair.com)

*William Blair*



Photo / [Alan Scott Walker via Wikipedia](#)

## About tonight's host



Since its founding in 1856, the Chicago History Museum has served as the “primary destination for learning, inspiration, and civic engagement to connect people to Chicago’s history and each other.” Delta Institute is proud to partner with the museum, a fellow 501c3 nonprofit organization, to celebrate our history.

## 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Thank you for volunteering to make tonight's event a success - and for all you do through your partnership with Delta Institute!

**Kevin Dick**  
Principal, 389nm

**Doug Fogelson**  
Founder/Director, One Year for Earth (1y4e)

**Ghian Foreman**  
President/CEO, Emerald South Economic Development Collaborative

**Aina Gutierrez**  
Executive Director, Rebuilding Exchange

**Allison Hannon Holly**  
Director of Strategy, Pattern Energy

**Kirsten Melling**  
Sustainability Associate, Buro Happold

**Henrietta "Hank" Saunders, CFA**  
Former Board Director, Delta Institute

**Sam Schiller**  
Co-founder/CEO, Carbon Yield

**Travis Solberg**  
Chief Sustainability Steward, Solberg MFG

**Erik Varela**  
Executive Director, Illinois International Port District

**Jeff Williams**  
Former Board Director, Delta Institute

Every decision-from our founding to today- has been focused on **building a digital future that matters.**

Learn more at [westmonroe.com](http://westmonroe.com)

# 80%

More than 80% of all expenses related to tonight's event were paid to vendors who are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, MBEs ("Minority's Business Enterprises"), and/or WBEs ("Women's Business Enterprises"). We prioritized these types of businesses - especially those with commitments to environmental sustainability - throughout the event planning process.

# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

## MISSION MAKER

Anonymous

## CLIMATE CHAMPIONS

*William Blair*

## IMPACT INVESTORS



## QUARTER CENTURY CIRCLE



BUILDERS VISION



THE CHICAGO  
COMMUNITY TRUST

EQUITY • OPPORTUNITY • PROSPERITY



SPAULDING RIDGE

## PLANET PROTECTORS



*Delta Institute's Board Chair  
Emeriti Sponsorship*



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

## (CONTINUED)

### ANNIVERSARY ALL-STARS

*Anonymous*



*Kevin B. Dick  
and Kelly A.  
Delaney*

*David and Stacy  
French Reynolds*

*Niharika  
Hanglem*



*Henrietta  
Saunders and  
Richard Day*



WALTER S. MANDER  
FOUNDATION

### VIP GUESTS

*Jaré Akchin*

*Allison Hannon Holly &  
John Holly*

*Kevin Kalus*

*Jean Pogge*

*Andy Weidner & Compeer  
Financial Appraisal  
Department*

*Brad White*

### SUSTAINABILITY SUPPORTERS

*Madeline Demo*

*Laura Derks*

*Christine and  
Andy Plautz in  
honor of Jaré  
Akchin*

*Kate Tomford*

*Naomi Schauer*

### IN-KIND DONORS



HOSTE  
COCKTAILS





## *Proceeds from this evening support Delta Institute's work across three programs*

Delta Institute collaborates with communities to solve complex environmental challenges throughout the Midwest. We address Midwestern environmental, economic, and climate challenges today, so that our home and region are more resilient, equitable, and innovative tomorrow. Your support helps Delta Institute further this vision by providing operating support of our overarching mission, furthering our work across three program areas where the need is greatest:



### **Nature-Based Climate Solutions**

Delta Institute assists municipalities by integrating natural climate solutions and Green Infrastructure (GI) to reduce climate change impacts by capturing 100 million stormwater gallons and leveraging \$100 million in municipal GI investment. We focus on communities that are disproportionately affected by flooding and climate change, to collaboratively improve their environmental indicators, mitigate local impacts of climate change, and strengthen their neighborhoods' resilience.



### **Resilient Agriculture**

Delta Institute supports 1,000 farmers as they transition to sustainable and regenerative practices, thus improving the environment, mitigating the impacts of climate change, and strengthening a farmer's bottom line. We forecast that by 2025, one million Midwestern agricultural acres will successfully transition to conservation-focused farming practices, so our region's primary economic driver can be more environmentally and financially sound.



### **Sustainability and Support Services**

Delta Institute prides itself on being responsive to the needs of its partners and responding to what they define as being the most important goal, activity, project, or taking a new approach to improving their local environmental and economic outcomes. Our Sustainability and Support Services are designed to respond to invitations to participate in community-led plans, which include a wide array of sectors in which Delta Institute has sizable experience. We forecast that by 2025, Delta Institute will work with more than 250 partner communities while securing \$40 million in external investment and creating 100 practical tools, resources, strategies, and municipal/county-level plans.





**1,000**

Farmers supported



**100**

Sustainability tools & strategies



**\$100 Million**

Invested in municipal Green Infrastructure



**1 Million**

Metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent sequestered



**100 Million**

Stormwater Gallons Captured



**1 Million**

Acres of more sustainable farmland



**500**

Partner communities



**5 Million**

Midwesterners impacted



Platinum  
Transparency  
2024

**Candid.**

Charity  
Navigator



★ FOUR-STAR ★



## *GIVE WITH CONFIDENCE*

Delta Institute is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a Platinum Seal of Transparency from Candid (also known as GuideStar), a recognition received by fewer than 1% of all 1.5 million registered nonprofits nationally. We also maintain a Four-Star "Give with Confidence" rating from Charity Navigator. All sponsors will be provided with a tax receipt for their records regarding the tax-deductible portion of their contribution.









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Program Director, Ed Kaplan Family Institute for Innovation and Tech Entrepreneurship at Illinois Institute of Technology

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Clean Energy/Sustainability Advisor, South Ventures, LLC

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Intersectional Environmentalist

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Lead Data Analyst (Business Intelligence and Data Science), Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

### **Jack Whalen**

Adjunct faculty, Harold Washington College

### **Micaela Wu**

Strategic Communications Coordinator, The Global Foodbanking Network



# STAFF



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*Lead, Nature-Based Climate Solutions*



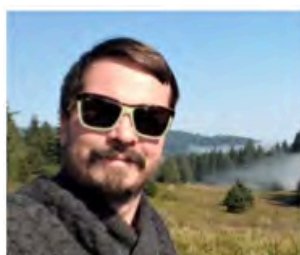
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**Lucas Chamberlain**  
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**Sidney (Sid) Freitag-Fey, CFRE**  
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**Maha Issa, PhD**  
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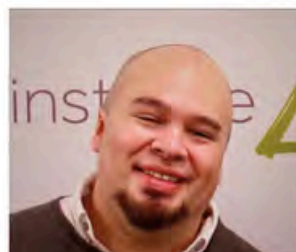
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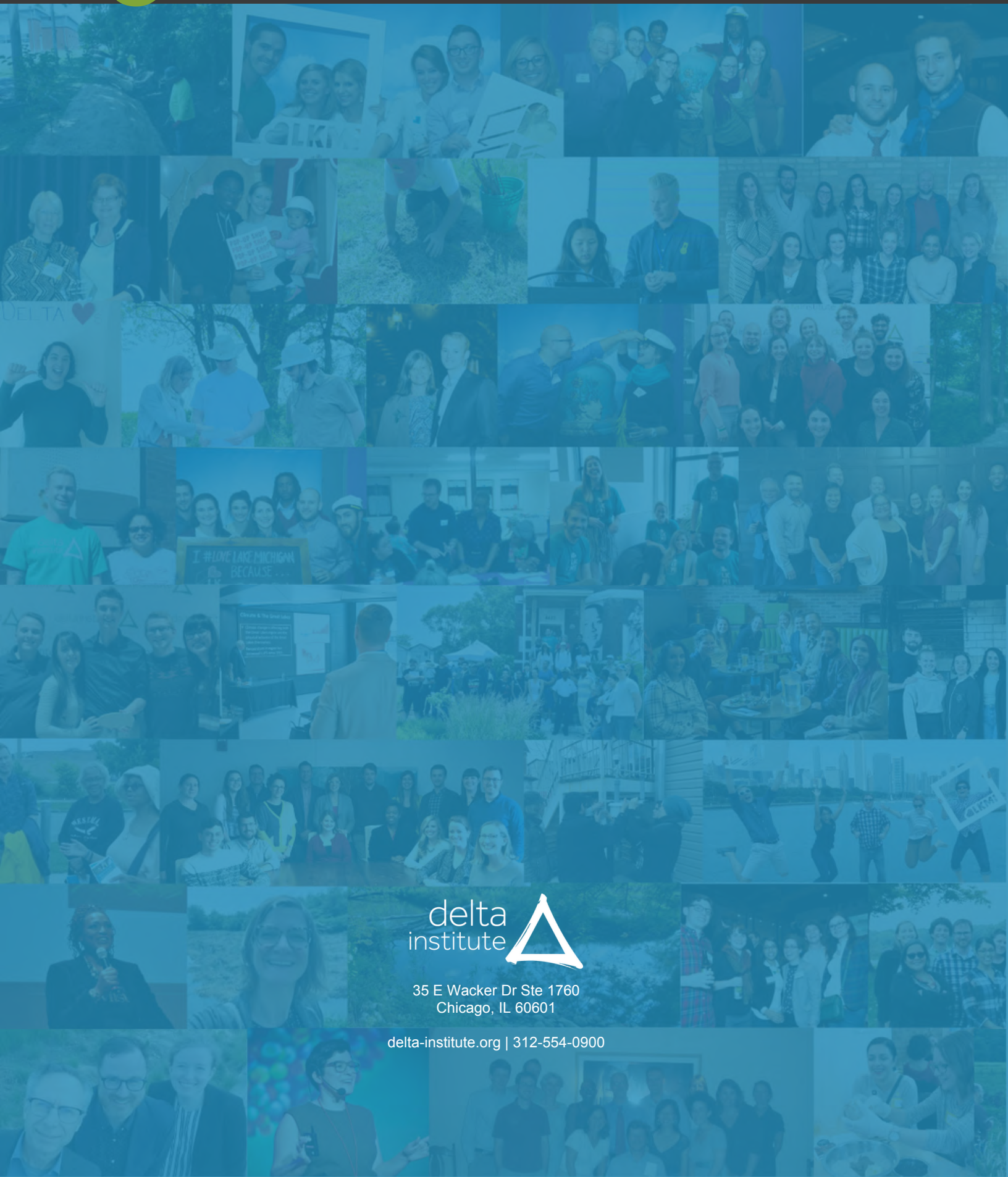


**William (Bill) Schleizer**  
*CEO*



**Katherine Schultz**  
*Senior Lead, Finance and Operations*

# 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



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