



DISTRICT BRIDGES

2018 Annual Meeting

Our Mission

To enrich neighborhood vitality by bridging community engagement and economic development opportunities so individuals, businesses, and organizations can thrive together.

Our Story

District Bridges was born out of a collaborative grassroots effort, known as the Columbia Heights Initiative (CHI). CHI started as a group of neighbors who shared a vision of building inclusive relationships and having fun! In 2005, these founding members organized the first Columbia Heights Day Festival. After ten years, the CHI board built the foundation for an organization that would serve the community year-round. With this broader vision, changed our name to District Bridges, and expanded to serve the neighborhoods of Columbia Heights, Mount Pleasant, Petworth, Park View and Pleasant Plains.

Our Main Streets

We manage the Columbia Heights/Mount Pleasant and Lower Georgia Avenue Main Street Grant programs funded in part by the DC Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD). Through these programs, we support community-based economic development across all five neighborhoods.

Here's What We've
Been Up To...

Lower Georgia Avenue Main Street Grant Award

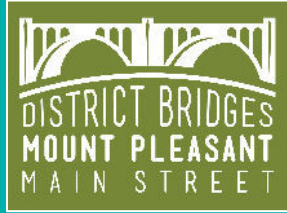


Lower Georgia Avenue Main Street Program Launch

- LGA Neighborhood Strategy Council
- Community Survey
- Transformation Strategies: Neighborhood serving retail with an art & culture overlay
- Market Study
- Directory on Website



District Bridges Neighborhood Strategy Councils



Technical Assistance & Leveraging Resources

- Business Health Checks & Development Plans
- District Bridges Small Business Grants
- SB Works Grants
- LEDC ProBiz support
- 965 FL Ave Grants
- Great Streets Ready Initiative
- IGNITE Your Business
- Marketing Workshops
- Corner Store Conversion Pilot
- Individual Support

Leveraging Resources

To date, District Bridges has given or leveraged over \$80,000 in direct grants to small businesses. Through our Great Street Ready initiative we stand to leverage an additional \$700,000 for our corridor by the end of this year. Some of the direct grants we've provided or assisted on include the following:

- Awarded 9 District Bridges Small Business Grants for up to \$2,000 for interior/ exterior improvement and equipment purchases
- Wrote three successful SB Works Small Business Challenge Grants for three Lower Georgia Avenue businesses totaling \$20,000
- Assisted 6 businesses with successful grants awarded from the 965 Florida Avenue PUD totally \$44,621.00
- Currently working with 12 businesses on Great Streets Grant applications for up to \$50,000 through DMPED.

Events & Promotions

By the end of 2018 we will have planned and executed 26 community events promoting our neighborhoods and local businesses.

Through these events we have worked with over 200 businesses and created unique opportunities to promote our neighborhoods as destinations and help local residents connect or reconnect with local businesses in the area.



Community Safety Walks

Community Outreach Events



District Bridges Office Open House



ANC1A & District Bridges Happy Hours

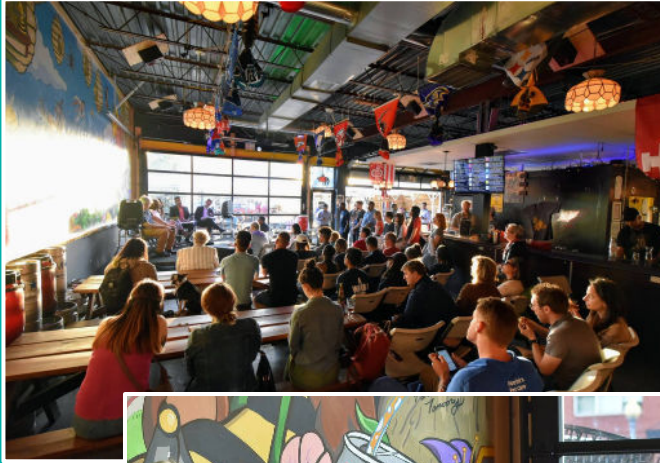


Coffee with a Cop

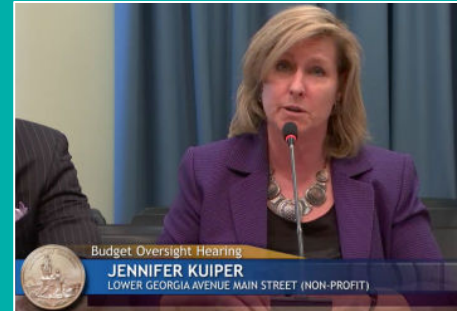


Community Engagement Meetings

Community Engagement



DC Main Streets



Columbia Heights Day





Columbia Heights Day





Columbia Heights Tree Lighting Extravaganza + Happy Holiday Hours



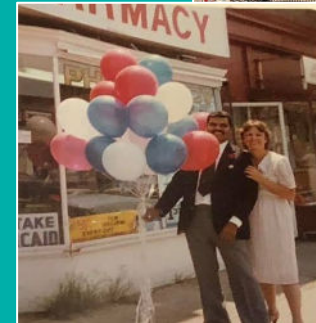
Sponsored Partner Events



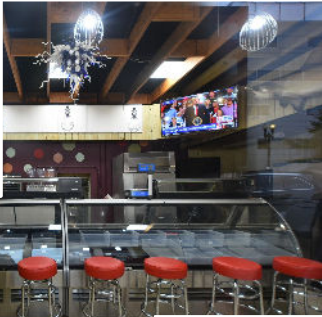
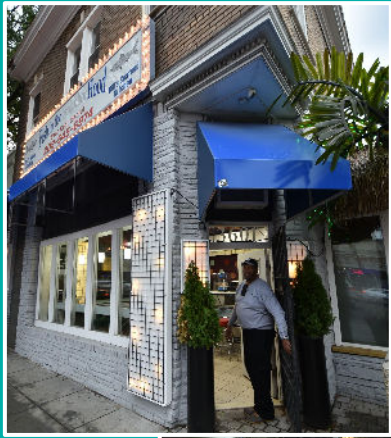
**DC SMALL
BUSINESS
WEEK 2018**
APRIL 30 - MAY 4



Supporting Small Business



Supporting Small Business



Supporting Small Business



Still To Come...



NOV 30

DEC 7TH


DISTRICT BRIDGES

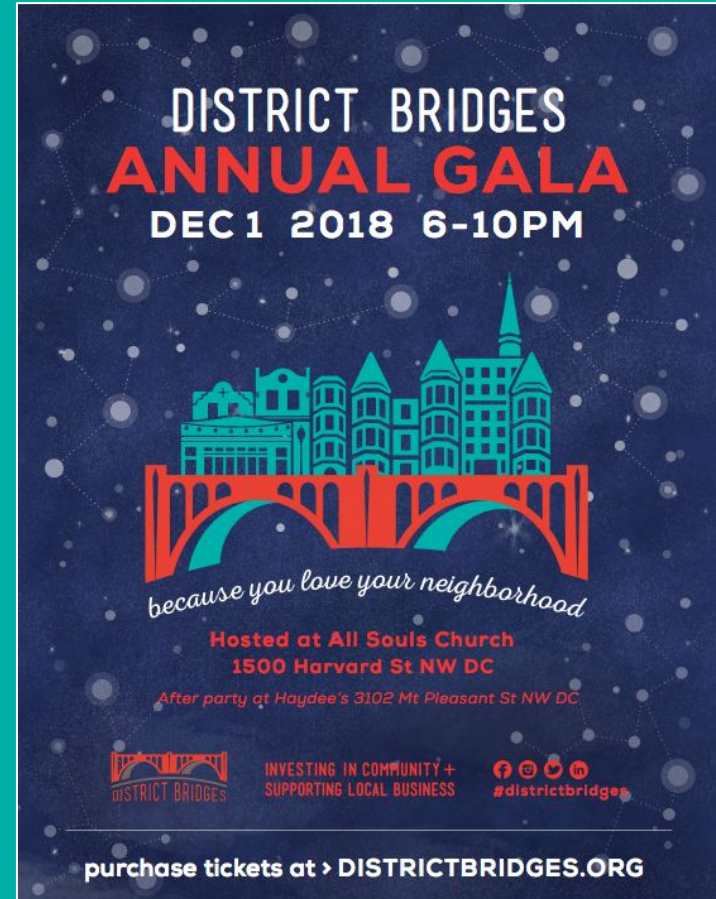
TREE
LIGHTING
EXTRAVAGANZA
AND HOLIDAY
MARKETS

INVESTING IN COMMUNITY +
SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS

FRIDAY NOV 30th at 6:30PM
COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CIVIC PLAZA
AT 14TH & KENYON ST

FRIDAY DEC 7th at 6:30PM
LOWER GEORGIA AVENUE EVENT
3701 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE NW

FOR DETAILS > [DISTRICTBRIDGES.ORG](https://districtbridges.org)     #districtbridges



DISTRICT BRIDGES
ANNUAL GALA
DEC 1 2018 6-10PM





because you love your neighborhood

Hosted at All Souls Church
1500 Harvard St NW DC

After party at Haydee's 3102 Mt Pleasant St NW DC

DISTRICT BRIDGES

INVESTING IN COMMUNITY +
SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS

    #districtbridges

purchase tickets at > [DISTRICTBRIDGES.ORG](https://districtbridges.org)

Join Us!

Action Teams

- Technical Assistance
- Promotions & Events
- Streetscape & Design
- Vacancy
- Grant Selection Committee
- Research & Policy Team

FY19 Technical Assistance Highlights

- Online Technical Assistance Platform
- Technical Expert Referral Network
- Small Business Grants
- Online Business Newsletter
- Marketing Workshops
- Special Event Planning Guide
- Great Streets Ready

FY19 Events

- Small Business Saturday
- Tree Lightings & Holiday Markets
- Annual Gala
- Chili Cook-off
- Columbia Heights Day
- Monthly Meet-ups with Community Partners
- First Fridays with Georgia Avenue Thrive & Petworth Arts Collaborative
- Taste of 14th Street in partnership with Uptown Main Street
- Columbia Heights Civic Plaza Cultural Tour Nights
- Celebrate Petworth
- Fiesta del Barrio
- Partnership Opportunities: neighborhood movies, monthly happy hours, Celebrate Petworth, Howard University Commencement/Move-in Day/Homecoming, Porch Fest

FY19 Design & Promotion Priorities

Design Priorities

- Cleanliness - Support for GAT's monthly clean-ups on LGA, coordination with Clean Teams
- Holiday Decorating Competition
- Vacancy strategy

Promotional Priorities

- Neighborhood Maps
- Neighborhood Facebook Pages
- Smart City Kiosk Pilot

Something New...

Research and Policy

- Collecting data to identify patterns and challenges facing small businesses in DC Property costs: rents, lease negotiations, property taxes
- Supportive Services: seeking strategy for day facility
- Workforce development: employment opportunities, formalizing partnerships

For Information...

Brianne Dornbush

brianne@districtbridges.org

202-450-4415

Jennifer Kuiper

jennifer@districtbridges.org

202-450-4409

DistrictBridges.org

info@districtbridges.org