



joliet region
CHAMBER of COMMERCE
& industry

2026 ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER &

2025

CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

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TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 24
2026



THE
RENAISSANCE
CENTER

PROGRAM

Cocktails

Invocation

BROTHER JAMES
GAFFNEY

National Anthem

ERIK SCHELLING, Joliet
Junior College - Clean
Energy Incubator,
Business Advisor

Dinner

Introduction of Host

DR. KIP KLINE, Joliet
Region Chamber of
Commerce & Industry
Board Chair & Lewis
University Vice President
of University
Advancement

Young Professional of
the Year

SARAH REES, Joliet
Region Chamber of
Commerce & Industry
Director of Marketing &
Events

Ambassador of the
Year

MIKE PAONE, Joliet
Region Chamber of
Commerce & Industry
Executive Vice President

Category Awards

CHAMBER BOARD
MEMBERS

Small, Large & New
Business of the Year

DR. KIP KLINE

Chamber Foundation
Award

JEN HOWARD, Joliet
Region Chamber of
Commerce & Industry
President

Brother James Gaffney
Award of Excellence

JEN HOWARD

Rabbi Hershman
Community Service
Award

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Thank You Remarks &
Anniversaries

MIKE PAONE

Conclusion

DR. KIP KLINE

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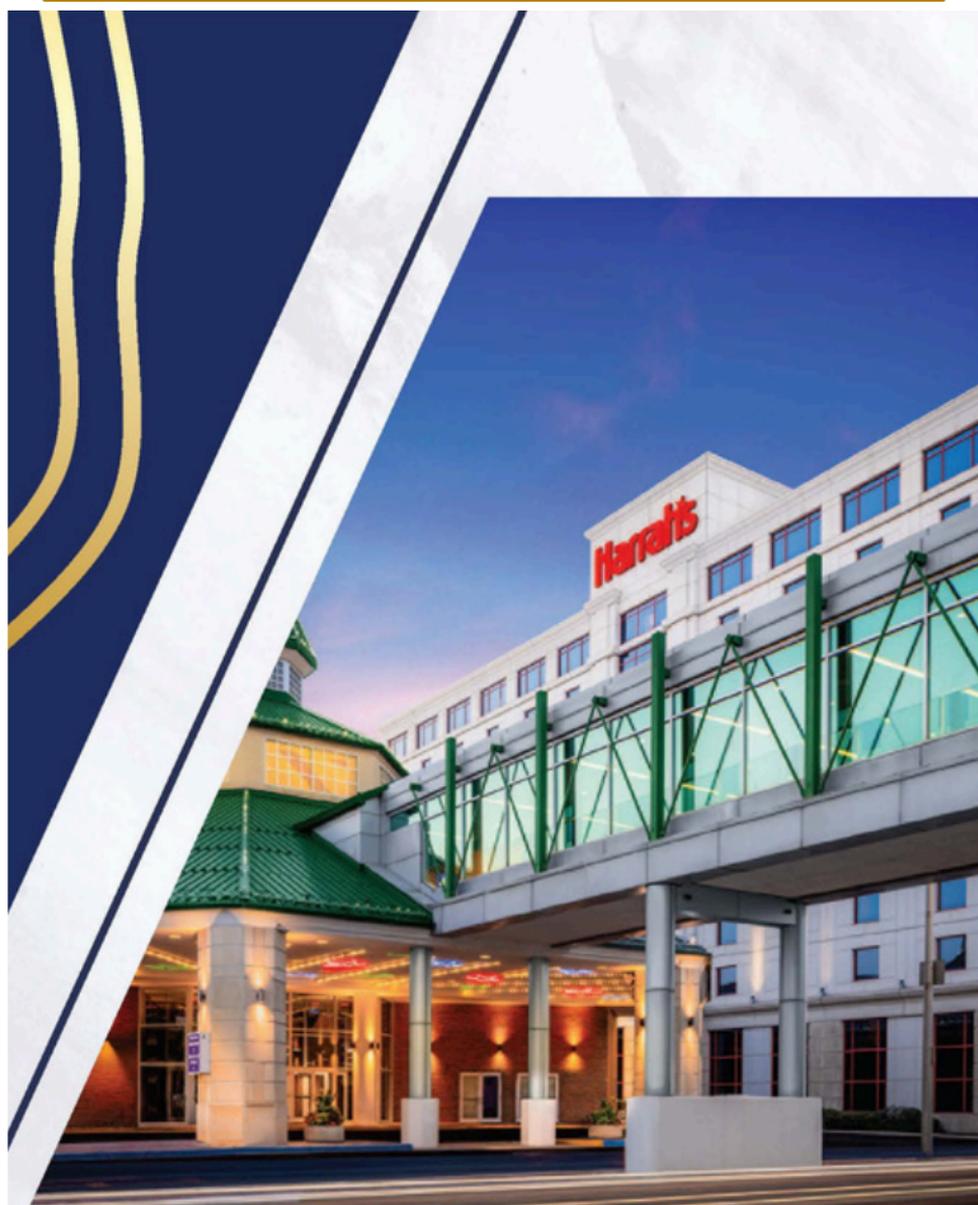


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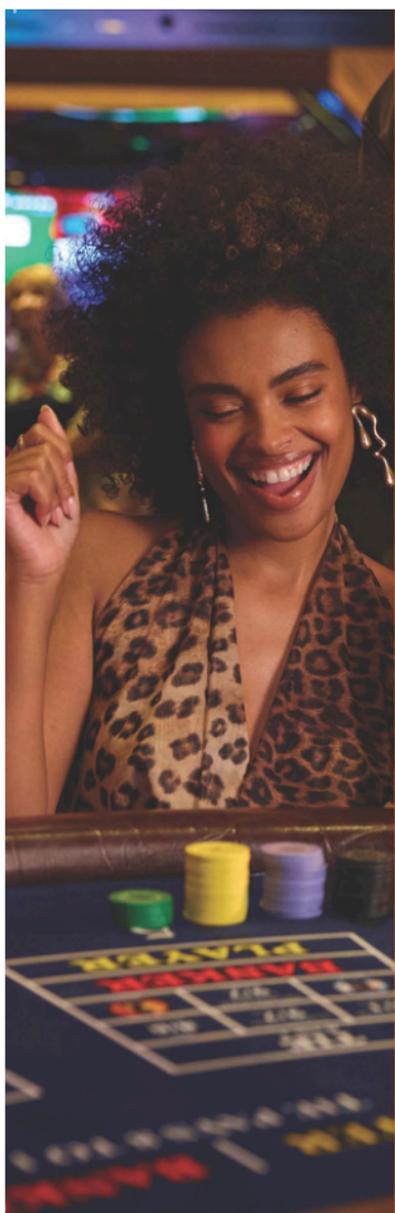
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RME Audio Video, Inc. is a family-owned and operated, Joliet-area small business, serving both local and regional companies as well as not-for-profits. RME AV is a proud supporter and employer of the Joliet Stage Hands IATSE Local #124.

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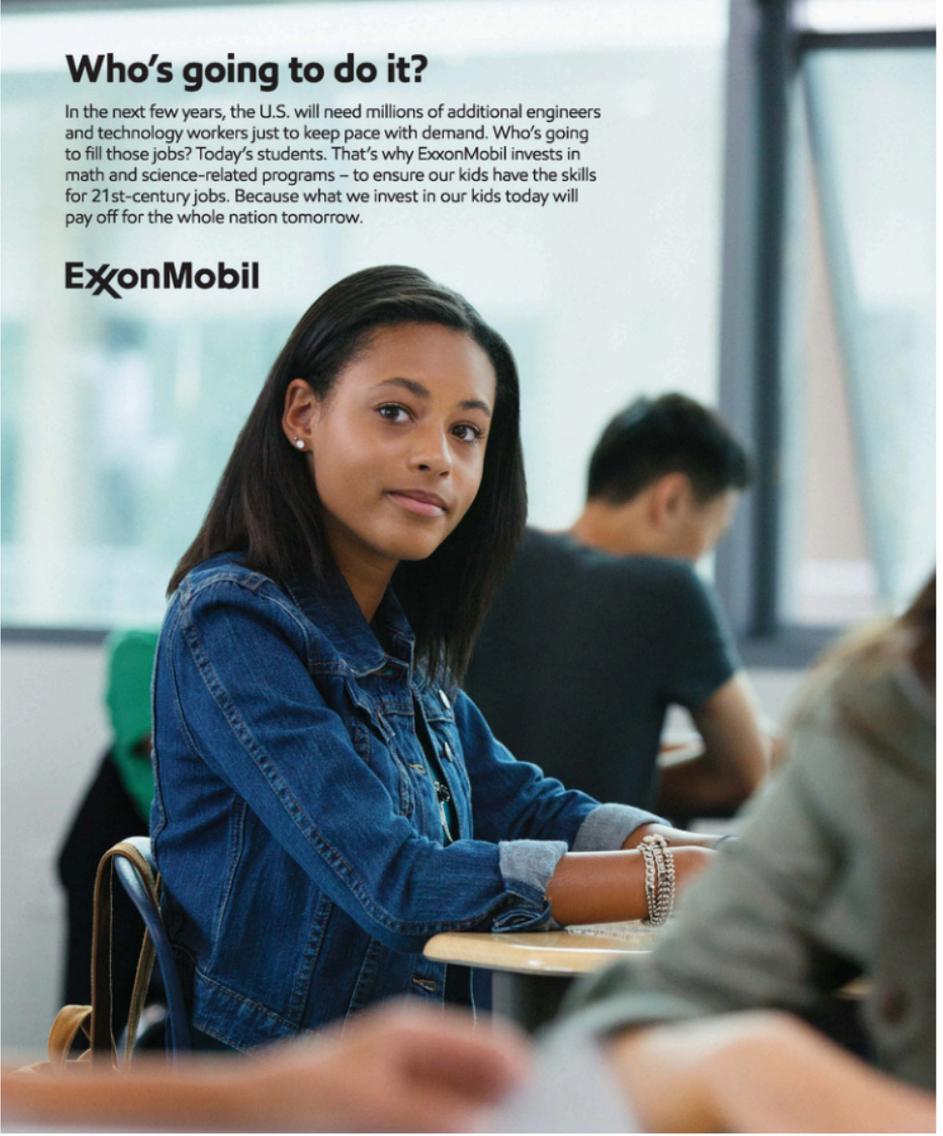
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A Night to Celebrate!

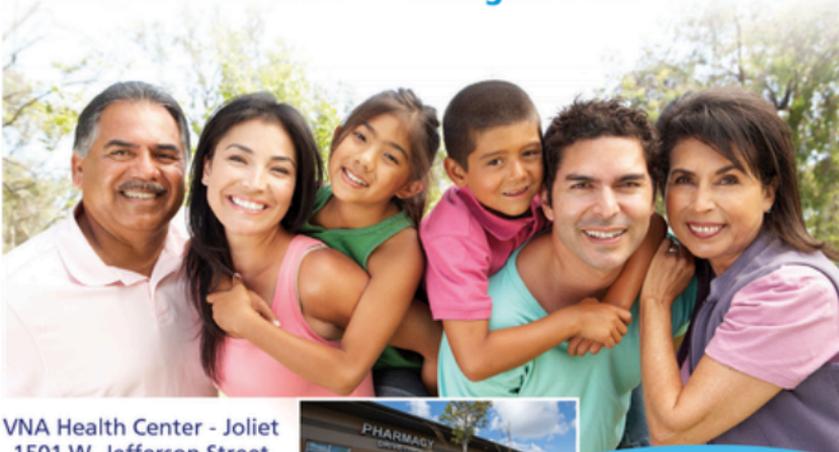
Turk Furniture is honored to sponsor the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner. Tonight, we celebrate the leaders, volunteers and families who help our community thrive. Congratulations to this year's honorees!



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2026 Annual Awards Dinner & Celebration of 2025 Success

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Ed Dollinger

Financial Advisor
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Matt Dollinger

Financial Advisor
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Joliet, IL 60435
(815) 246-3854

John Gillmann

Financial Advisor
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(815) 246-3856

Paul Kalafut

Financial Advisor
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Mark Karner

Financial Advisor
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Scott Segobiano

Financial Advisor
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Joliet, IL 60435
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Nick Tyrell

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Evie Cora

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Congratulations to all nominees and winners at the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce & Industry Annual Awards Celebration!



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- Labor relations
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- Professional lobbying
- Government relations
- Marketing
- Networking
- Industry Promotion

Our membership includes leading contractors and suppliers serving the Joliet, Morris, and Chicago suburban area ranging from large national firms, to smaller family owned companies.

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- Gary Fuqua – Discount Technology Workforce
- Krystin Gilbert – ComEd
- Kristen Hamilton (Immediate Past Chair) – Environmental Design International Inc.
- Jen Hannon – CITGO Petroleum Corporation
- Debbie Highland – Harrah's Joliet Casino & Hotel
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- Kristen Kronland – Hollywood Casino Joliet
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- Katy LeClair – Greater Joliet Area YMCA
- Megan Millen (Member & Program Services Chair) – Joliet Public Library
- Scott Paddock – Silver Cross Hospital
- Jason Pilon (Treasurer) – Martin Mechanical Corporation
- Doug Pryor – Will County Center for Economic Development
- Phillip Raush – NRG
- Scott Segobiano, CFP®, ChFC® – Edward Jones
- Jim Testin (Special Events Chair) – Cullinan Properties, Ltd.
- Megan Vinson – Saint Joseph Medical Center

Ex Officio Representation:

- Molly Babyak (CWW Chair) – Three Rivers Association of Realtors
- Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant – Office of the Will County Executive
- Christa Desiderio – City of Joliet
- Tom Grotovsky (Ambassador Chair) – Curator's Cafe
- Garland Mays – Office of the Will County Executive
- Blaine Meadows (JAYP Chair) – Performance Services
- Meghan Preston (Corporate Counsel) – Voorn, Jaworski, & Preston, PLLC

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 - Shannon Brown (Programs Chair) – University of St. Francis
 - Angie Caldwell (Community Engagement Chair) – Pink Heals Joliet Area Chapter
 - Mary Chignoli – Grundy-Kendall Regional Office of Education
 - Elizabeth Delrose (Secretary) – Delrose Homes at Keller Williams Infinity
 - Jen Hannon – CITGO
 - Kelly Kuyawa – Saint Joseph Medical Center
 - Stacy Larisey (Immediate Past Chair/Treasurer/Special Events Chair) – Old National Bank
 - Colleen Lyons (Membership Chair) – Old Second National Bank
 - Amy Vicioso – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Will & Grundy Counties
-

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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- Evie Cora (Chair Elect, Social Co-Chair) – Chignoli Auto Sales
- Kate Gillmann (Community Service Chair, Social Co-Chair) – Heritage Corridor Destinations
- John Gillmann, CFP®, AAMS® (Secretary) Edward Jones – Financial Advisor
- Kenneth Guldenbecker – United Way of Will County
- Patrick Hall – Joliet Junior College
- McKinley Kruger (Treasurer) – Heartland Bank and Trust Company
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- Blaine Meadows (Board Chair) – Performance Services
- Katherine Smith – Joliet Junior College
- Kayla Sorensen – Will County Center for Economic Development
- Bryan Wellner – Mahoney, Silverman & Cross, LLC

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- Matthew Dollinger, CFA®, CFP® – Edward Jones
- Kate Gillmann – Heritage Corridor Destinations
- Genaro Guerrero – IKEA Customer Fulfillment
- Robert Herling – Cornerstone Services, Inc.
- Scott Jarus – Window World of Joliet
- Mark E Koenig – The Koenig Group – Real Estate Services
- Mike Lambiase – City Wide Facility Solutions
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- Emily McGuire – City of Joliet
- Kristin McWilliams – Silver Cross Hospital
- Robert Miranda – Joliet Bank & Trust
- Carla Montagano Liburdi – Contractors Association of Will & Grundy Counties
- Jim Murray – Signs by Tomorrow
- Chris Osterfund – Old National Bank
- Ed Pizzo – Edward Jones – Financial Advisor
- Bill Rooney – Community Digital Displays
- Michelle Sebasco – Governors State University
- Howard Wright – State Farm Insurance

2025 DEI Council

- Verenise Alvarez-Gloria – Troy CCSD 30-C
 - Luz Aranda – Guardian Angel Community Services
 - Troy Cicero – MulticultuReal Communications, Inc
 - Monique Clayborne – Joliet Junior College
 - Mason Crawford – Guardian Angel Community Services
 - Escortina Ervin (Co-Chair) – Joliet Junior College
 - Marcie Flores – Joliet Township High School Dist. 204
 - Megan Foltz – ExxonMobil Corporation
 - Mirthea Fournier – IKEA Customer Fulfillment
 - Deborah Glenn – University of St. Francis
 - Kristen Hamilton (Co-Chair) – Environmental Design International Inc.
 - Vernita Hayden – IKEA Customer Fulfillment
 - Pam Heavens – UCP-Center for Disability Services
 - Kevin Hegarty – IKEA Customer Fulfillment
 - Debbie Highland – Harrah's Joliet Casino & Hotel
 - Claudia Lopez – VNA Health Care
 - Jim Mallon – ExxonMobil Corporation
 - Leslie Newbon – Silver Cross Hospital
 - Gregory Peerbolte – Joliet Area Historical Museum
 - Meghan Preston – Voorn, Jaworski, & Preston, PLLC
 - Shykira Richards – Youth Guidance
 - Aracely Rubio – Greater Joliet Area YMCA
 - Gabe Vazquez – Silver Cross Hospital
 - Ted Winfrey – ExxonMobil Corporation
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BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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- Dr. Lisa Caparelli-Ruff - Will County Regional Office of Education
- Donnie Chestnutt - Greater Joliet Area YMCA
- Troy Cicero - MulticultuReal Communications, Inc
- Dr. Tamela Daniels - Fairmont School District 89
- Bill Freeman - University of St. Francis
- Chantel Gamboa - G.W. Buck Boys & Girls Club of Joliet
- Krystin Gilbert - ComEd
- Kenneth Guldenbecker - United Way of Will County
- Dr. Karla Guseman (Chair) - Joliet Township High School Dist. 204
- Dr. Nicholas Henkle - Channahon School District 17
- Nikki Kanzia - Catholic Education Foundation, Diocese of Joliet
- Dr. Kip Kline - Lewis University
- Dr. Michael Merritt - Rockdale School District #84
- Tina Musselman - The Pointe, Inc
- Kim Nichols - Abri Credit Union
- Dr. Tim Page - Elwood CCSD #203
- Laura Pahl - Joliet Catholic Academy
- Paul Preuss - Will County Regional Office of Education
- James Quaid - Catholic Education Foundation, Diocese of Joliet
- Amanda Quinn - Joliet Junior College
- Robin Randall - Legat Architects
- Tanya Rico - Joliet Township High School Dist. 204
- Dr. Theresa Rouse - Joliet Public School Dist. #86
- Dr. Joe Salmieri - Laraway C.C.S.D. 70-C
- Craig Schmidt - Governors State University
- Dr. Paul Schrik - Troy Community Consolidated School District 30-C
- Steve Vanisko - The Herald News
- Robert Wroble - Legat Architects

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 - Sam Balark - A T & T
 - Netali Chopra - Bridgeview Clinical Services
 - Mark Griglione - First Secure Community Bank
 - Howard Hamilton - Environmental Design International Inc.
 - Kristen R Hamilton - Environmental Design International Inc.
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 - Katy LeClair - Greater Joliet Area YMCA
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 - Heather Winter - CITGO Petroleum Corporation
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BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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- Rick Cronholm - Johansen & Anderson, Inc.
- Robert Desiderio - Joliet Police Department
- Gary Fuqua - Discount Technology Workforce
- Debbie Highland - Harrah's Joliet Casino & Hotel
- Stacy Larisey - Old National Bank
- Jennifer Lynch - Will County Circuit Court Judge Jennifer Lynch
- Marcus Mars - CCS
- Thelma Matthews - Century 21 Circle
- Jason Pilon - Martin Mechanical Corporation
- Ken Plante - Plante & Associates, Inc
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- John Simpson - John Simpson
- Richard Stygar - Joliet Police Department
- Jim Testin - Cullinan Properties, Ltd.

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- Jim Deiters - Joliet Public Library
- Victoria Dutkiewicz - Greater Joliet Area YMCA
- Michelle Fisher (Chair) - Silver Cross Hospital
- Genaro Guerrero - IKEA Customer Fulfillment
- Stacy Larisey - Old National Bank
- Naurice Moffett - Joliet Township High School Dist. 204
- Ryan Quigley - Joliet Catholic Academy
- Amy Stevens - Joliet Junior College
- Michelle Stiff - Workforce Services Division of Will County



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