

Letter from the (Interim) CEO

Welcome to September, all.

Thank you for the great work across the organization for a successful PAX West 2024! What a terrific four days: Seattle sunshine, guests enjoying an event on the SCC campus and, thanks to Keith Hedrick and his crew, an exciting Pike-Pine Party on 9th with food trucks sponsored by Seattle Theatre Group (STG).

Appreciation goes to the efforts of everyone at the Center. Our team was ready in all areas of the operation and on all fronts with an efficient crowd management approach to keep attendees safe. SCC, together with Edlen, ARAMARK, Encore and Smart City, really made a team effort. Thank you to all the team members who helped, especially Krystal Rich, who managed her first PAX.

Seattle has been busy this summer, with tourism numbers up, the Seattle Aquarium project complete, and a record number of cruise sailings this season. Summit tours continue to be popular, and more people are coming to enjoy our city, Seattle attractions, and the Center.

Four new Link light rail stations opened north of Northgate station, extending service almost nine miles further. If this addition to our region's public transportation system has you thinking you'd like to use public transit instead of driving, remember SCC offers a subsidized Orca card program. Those interested should contact Elizabeth Hall, Payroll Accountant in Finance, to learn more and sign up.

A new rotating art exhibit will be installed on Arch Level 2 in the Phyllis Lamphere Gallery this month. Art adds interest for event attendees, and the neighborhood residents make it a point to come by to see what's new. I hope you also get an opportunity to enjoy it.

The board is in the final steps of selecting a new CEO, and we look forward to the upcoming announcement. Please welcome Erwin Vidallon, the new CFO, who will start on September 16.

The way our teams and individuals work together, offer encouragement, and support one another is incredible. Please know that Jon Houg and I appreciate all the effort that goes into running things smoothly during this very busy fall season.

Linda Willanger
Interim CEO

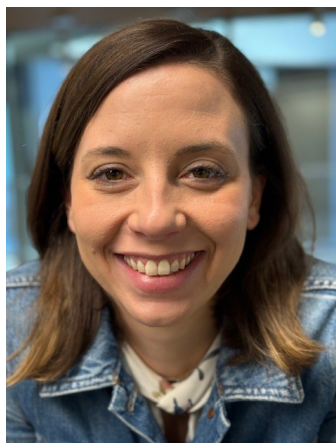


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Celebrating Employees

Featured Employee | Katie Castle, Executive Assistant to the President and Board



Katie Castle stepped into the role of Executive Assistant to the President and Board in the summer of 2023, and trained with Lorrie Starkweather, her predecessor, for six weeks before Lorrie's retirement.

Katie's main job is to assist with anything the president, the vice presidents, and the board of directors may need to do their jobs. This includes coordination of board meetings and other meetings, typing notes, agendas, and drafts, and various other tasks. She believes the executives and the board are successful due to strong leadership, clear communication, and a shared commitment to our service goals. Katie admires the group's ability to adapt and excel in challenging situations and describes them as resilient and dedicated.

There are times when the executive-associated tasks feel like a "high-stakes game." Situations and priorities can change quickly, and Katie relies on her ability to pivot seamlessly from one plan to another. She must remain calm under pressure, maintain

a high level of organization, communicate with others, pay attention to detail, and perhaps most importantly, use her emotional intelligence.

Over the years, she has worked to understand people, why they make the decisions they do, and how she can connect with them. By incorporating smart psychological and sociological practices, she has developed skills she employs at work and in life.

As an extension of her interest in human behavior, Katie loves to watch true crime documentaries and immerse herself in the stories. She also enjoys going to festivals and shows with her husband, who doubles as her best friend. She likes trying new restaurants around Seattle, playing Zelda, reading books, and singing Karaoke. Some of her best weekends are spent visiting with her loved ones, especially her nieces and nephews. She has many of them, and she swears that being an aunt is one of the best things in the world.

Half-a-Dozen Questions | Max Parker, Sales Administrative Assistant

Q What's your favorite vehicle?

A *Any Volvo station wagon! I never understood why somebody would buy a sedan when clearly a wagon is way cooler.*

Q What song do you listen to most?

A *The music playing on my iPod is usually by La Roux, CHVRCHES, Peaches, Phantogram, B-52's, The Knife, or Policia.*

Q If you were a character in a movie, who would you be

A *I've been told I'm the theme song/ scene-change-noise in Seinfeld, but I don't see the resemblance.*

Q What is the best dish you cook?

A *I've been known to heat up a mean chicken nugget.*

Q What's your favorite food?

A *Currently we're going to have to go with blueberries, seeing as I'm typing this with one hand and shoving fistfuls of them lil suckers in my mouth with the other.*

Q If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?

A *Right here! The PNW is full of silly looking alien plants and casual massive mountain views. I moved here recently and feel like I found my place!*




Event Calendar


EVENT	VENUE	ATTENDANCE	DATES
Amazon Accelerate 2024	Arch & Summit	5,800	9/10-9/20
People for Pellicciotti - Elect Mike P Luncheon	Summit	400	9/10
Garba & Dandiya Night Dance	Arch	2,000	9/14-9/15
Raas Garba Dance	Arch	1,000	9/20
bbcon 2024 - Blackbaud, Inc.	Summit	2,200	9/21-9/26
Microsoft HR Global Summit 2024	Arch	1,800	9/21-9/26
Visit Seattle - Community Engagement Workshop	Arch	105	9/24
Unreal Fest 2024 - Epic Games, Inc.	Summit	2,000	9/27-10/4
El Centro de la Raza's Building the Beloved Community Gala 2024	Summit	600	9/27-9/28
Halo Infinite World Championship 2024 - Esports Engine, LLC	Arch	3,250	9/30-10/7
smartsheet ENGAGE 2024	Summit	4,100	10/4-10/11
WSCAI 2024 CA Day	Arch	500	10/4-10/5
King County Executive's Small Business Awards	Arch	250	10/7
Bob Ferguson for Governor Luncheon	Arch	1,500	10/8-10/9
LAI Labor Law & Arbitration Conference - Labor Arbitration Institute	Arch	310	10/10-10/11





Thanks!


Monthly Prize Winners


To: Larry Spangler
Parking Fee Loss Prevention.
Loss & spillage is an issue for parking. Larry installed a post and cable to have our cones secure and anchored. Thank you for the quick action and response.
From: **Joy MacGregor** 

To: **Sydney Cain** 
Your dedication, hard work and flexibility during PAX 2024. I appreciate your valued participation! You're an "ace" team player. Big thanks!
From: Liza Ampoan

To: **Januario Campanano** 
Thank you for your awesome leadership during Pax West 2024. Your attention to detail and efficient planning of tasks made the show a success!
From: Bek Hassanov

To: Jules Miller
Bringing critical issues forward immediately and creating awareness.
From: **Renee Wasisco** 

To: **Ricky Viken** 
Thank you for your amazing work with waste flow management during busy Pax days! Excellent job!
From: Bek Hassanov

To: Husam Al-Shabbani
Thanks for quickly repairing our Ops roll-up door issue at Summit! Appreciate the fast response!
From: **Earl Taylor** 

PAX West



PAX West attendees waiting outside the Arch Expo hall on level 4.



27,000 attendees fill SCC on Saturday. Here attendees play games in the Summit Flex Hall.



9th Ave. blocked off for the second annual party that once again coincided with PAX West.



PAX West took place across both Arch and Summit on the first weekend of September.

Intern Farewell



Aubrey Rhoadarmer, Event Services intern, presented an updated summary of the Center's history.



Harrison Leu, Sales intern, presented research on competing convention and meeting venues.



On Tuesday, August 27, SCC's two interns presented their summer research project to an audience of admin staff.



SCC Director of HR, Melina Bermudez, thanks the interns for their contributions to the organization.

Thanks! Monthly Prize Winners

To: **Halimo Ali** 

Thank you for excellent teamwork, and attention to detail, and efficient work with event maintenance during Pax West 2024.

From: Bek Hassanov

To: **Luis Montes** 

Thanks for quickly repairing the wheel on the mega brute container!

From: Earl Taylor

To: **Jeffrey Misiasz** 

Outstanding job keeping Summit building clean and presentable for our guests at all times during Pax West 2024. Thank you!

From: Bek Hassanov

To: **Connie Dela Cruz** 

Your dedication, hard work and flexibility during PAX 2024. I appreciate your valued participation! You're an "ace" team player. Big thanks!

From: Liza Ampoan

Client Compliments



I was visiting Seattle after a cruise on 8/30/2024. I was in search of the hop on hop off bus stop near the convention center. My wife and I stopped and asked someone where this stop might be. We were introduced to the head of security for the convention center. He not only told us where it would be, but he actually took us to the actual stop. This was above and beyond what I could have expected. Not only did he do this, but it was in the middle of the day the gamer convention was to start.

I want to say thank you to this man and hope he gets the recognition he deserves.

It has put a wonderful light on your beautiful city.

Thank you for your time and his patience.

Jerry Scala



The Meetings and Events Team of the American Psychological Association cannot thank you enough for your collaboration to ensure a successful APA 2024 Convention, August 8-11, 2024. Your partnership, participation and patience assisted in the effective execution of APA's annual convention. We couldn't have been successful without the work and commitment of you and your team. From the pre-planning, to the onsite and now in the post-con stage, we appreciate your commitment to excellence.

Thank you, Seattle, and I hope each of you has had an opportunity for rest and relaxation.

Be Well.

American Psychological Association



Hi Cathy,

Did I tell you I LOVE working with you?!

Rena McGrath, Microsoft HR Global Summit



Dear Krista and Curt,

We were thrilled to be in Seattle and reconnect with your community. The intersection of 'Strategy, Purpose, Play' theme was more than evident from the impetus of our discussions, the impeccable planning and ultimately throughout the entire experience. Together we did not just produce an incredible event, we created an event that is a model of how events should be staged to increase engagement, build community and drive business outcomes.

We are fortunate to have incredible partners - and many new friends - throughout the Seattle community. Your team clearly demonstrated how business events truly shine and produce economic opportunities that drive prosperity for your residents and all participants. We connected, explored, challenged conventional thinking, built upon existing business relationships, and found new ones - and we had fun in the process.

On behalf of Teams CEMA and PCMA, congratulations! Please enjoy the CEMA Summit wrap video.

My very best,

Sherrif Karamat, CAE, President & CEO
PCMA and CEMA



Cathy,

Thank you so much for everything you did for Team ABA last month. Everything at the Center went flawlessly thanks to you. I had such a fond memories of the WCC from 2019 and now I remember why!

I'm so glad our paths crossed and I hope they do again. Until then take care.

With gratitude,

American Bankers Association