

SD NEWSLETTER | June

DEPARTMENTAL NEWSLETTER ° UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA OFFICE FOR
SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

SUPPLIER SPOTLIGHT

Minnesota Minority Goods & Services Association

By N. Simmons, Program Specialist



What MMGSA Stands For

The Minnesota Minority Goods & Services Association (MMGSA) is a professional collaborative of minority-owned businesses comprised of service provider's, consultants, supplier of goods & services located in the metropolitan area of Minneapolis / St. Paul Minnesota. The Association of companies have clients in several market types including commercial, governmental, public and private. market sectors are varied, primarily serving clients in Healthcare and Construction/

Building. Members within the association are provided with opportunities to network, support other member

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organizations, and to meet organizations that can purchase their goods &/or services.

Benefits to Its Members

Cultivating partnerships with government agencies and for-profit organizations that were committed to providing equitable access to revenues for goods and services offered by minority owned businesses are only one benefit of becoming a member of the MMGSA. Support from the their members including *ICI Ideal Commercial Interiors* Rick Harris, *Strong & Starlike Consulting Inc.* Tisidra Jones, and more pass on their business knowledge and experience to all. Learn more on becoming a member on their website [here](#).

Supporting Each Business

A list of products sold by minority-owned businesses can be found on the association website, using such increases their participation in projects. MMGSA continues to strengthen their partnerships with organizations that are committed to ensure their members have access and are best positioned to receive revenue-generating opportunities. In 2020, MMGSA had over 100 committed members of minority-owned organizations that sell goods and services. With many of these businesses located in the Twin Cities, diversifying your supply chain with



**Office for
Supplier Diversity**

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

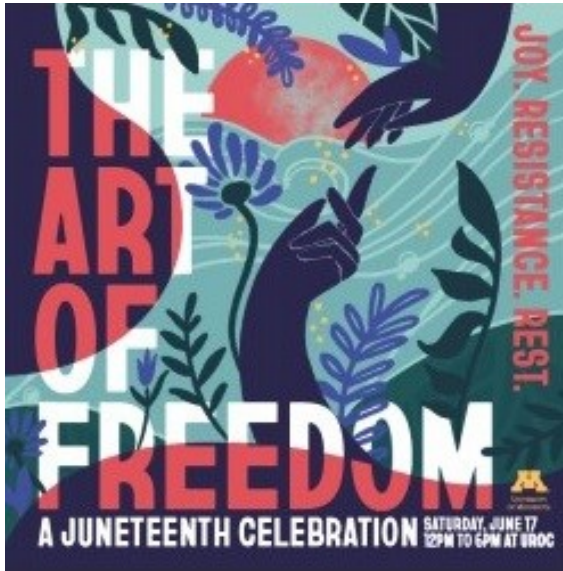
The Office for Supplier Diversity works with businesses owned by women, minorities, and persons with disabilities, and with other underserved businesses, to facilitate their integration into the University supply chain. By providing support to underserved local businesses and connecting them with University purchasers, The Office for Supplier Diversity leverages the University's resources to build powerful economic partnerships in our communities.

a list of excellent vendors gives back to the community you live.

> Learn more about the Minnesota Minority Goods & Services Association at www.mmgsa.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Art of Freedom: A Juneteenth Celebration



The University of Minnesota will host its second annual Juneteenth Celebration block party and commemorative march in North Minneapolis on Saturday, June 17, 2023, from noon to 6 pm. This free event – centering on the theme of The Art of Freedom: Joy. Resistance. Rest. – will feature Black vendors, speakers, workshops, poster showcases, storytellers, musicians, performers, DJs, roller skating, books, free food, free haircuts, art-making, a bouncy house, a petting zoo, and more. The event will begin with a commemorative march, which will start at noon and leave from the University’s Robert J. Jones Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC). The march will end where the outdoor block party will take place (1-6 pm). This event, led by Professor Terresa Moses, is presented by the Office for Equity and Diversity and the College of Design.

Date: Saturday, Jun 17
Time: 12:00pm
Location: 2001 Plymouth Ave N

No registration needed! Click the link below
<https://events.tc.umn.edu/event/11860-the-art-of-freedom-a-juneteenth-celebration>

UOFM | MCNAMARA ALUMNI CENTER

Twin Cities Campus Farmers Market

The Twin Cities campus Farmers Market is back for the 2023 season! Come to Gateway Plaza for seasonal produce from local vendors such as Peter's Pumpkins, Straight River Farm, Ge's Chemical Free Produce, and more. Free and open to the public.

- * Wednesdays, July 12 through September 27 9:30 am to 1:00 pm
Weather permitting (canceled if inclement weather)
- * Live Music: A variety of musical performances will take place during the Farmers Market.
11:45 am to 1 pm



EBT, cash, and credit cards accepted!

New Matchmaking Opportunity at Construction Pre-Proposal Meetings

We are excited to announce the rollout of a new feature for Targeted Business (TGB) matchmaking at the University of Minnesota. Effective immediately, a document will be posted at construction and design services RFP pre-proposal meetings where suppliers can indicate themselves as either seeking to partner/subcontract with a targeted business or vice versa for the project. This document, called the TGB Matchmaking Sheet, will be uploaded to MBid under the project's attachments after the meeting.



The intent of this feature is to encourage business-to-business relationship development for bids and beyond. Our office, the Office for Supplier Diversity, highly encourages all interested businesses to attend pre-proposal meetings and utilize this feature.

Please note that inclusion in this document does not imply endorsement of a business, service, or product by the University of Minnesota. The matchmaking document is not obligatory nor is it a part of the award decision-making process. This feature may not be immediately available at satellite campus/facility projects.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Claire Rung, Supplier Diversity Manager for Construction, at rungx006@umn.edu. We look forward to seeing this feature grow, and potentially with

About Mbid:

All U RFPs for construction are available on Mbid, the U's e-sourcing procurement portal. If you've not already done so, you can sign up on Mbid and be notified when new RFPs are issued. Most RFPs will have a Supplier Diversity Questionnaire as part of the evaluation, which can give targeted businesses like yours a competitive advantage to their proposals. Learn more and sign up for an Mbid account at the University's Purchasing website.

Call for Applications - Elevate Business Construction Working Capital Cohort

Offered by Hennepin County, the Elevate Business Construction Working Capital Cohort brings expert resources to help small and growing contractors get ready for larger jobs and business expansion.

In this cohort, participants will:

Learn ways to improve multiple aspects of their construction business

- Create a plan to succeed and scale through a customized work plan, one-on-one training, and group learning sessions
- Build capacity to take on bigger jobs
- Gain access to working capital and partner with the largest bonding company in the country.

Capacity is limited. View requirements and additional information, and express your interest by emailing Noah Her at noah@nextstagemn.org.