

# 2026 EVENT CALENDAR

AS OF 12.04.25. SUBJECT TO CHANGE. View next page for event details and contacts.

SMART  
BUSINESS  
E·V·E·N·T·S

FEB 5	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	NASHVILLE	HILLWOOD COUNTRY CLUB	Contact: Suzi Linn	AUG 6	SMART AWARDS 50	COLUMBUS	EXCHANGE AT BRIDGE PARK	Contact: Lisa Dore
FEB 12	SMART BUSINESS EVOLUTION OF MANUFACTURING VIP LUNCHEON	CLEVELAND	ALLIANCE SOLUTIONS GROUP	Contact: Lisa Dore	SEP -	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	D.C. CAPITAL REGION	WESTWOOD COUNTRY CLUB	Contact: Danielle Catteau
FEB 19	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	PITTSBURGH	GRAND WYNDHAM PITTSBURGH DOWNTOWN	Contact: Danielle Catteau	SEP -	IFAMILY BUSINESS CONFERENCE	CLEVELAND	CORPORATE COLLEGE EAST	Contact: Lisa Dore
FEB 26	SMART BUSINESS EVOLUTION OF MANUFACTURING CONFERENCE	CLEVELAND	CORPORATE COLLEGE EAST	Contact: Lisa Dore	SEP -	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	PHILADELPHIA	UNION LEAGUE CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA	Contact: Danielle Catteau
MAR 5	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	BOSTON	THE WESTIN COPLEY PLACE	Contact: Danielle Catteau	SEP -	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	COLUMBUS	HILTON COLUMBUS DOWNTOWN	Contact: TBA
MAR 26	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	DALLAS	LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB	Contact: TBA	OCT -	CASCADE CAPITAL CORPORATION BUSINESS GROWTH AWARDS PROGRAM	CLEVELAND	JOHN S. KNIGHT CENTER	Contact: Lisa Dore
APR 9	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	DETROIT	THE TOWNSEND HOTEL	Contact: Danielle Catteau	OCT -	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	MINNEAPOLIS	HYATT REGENCY	Contact: Danielle Catteau
APR 23	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	BALTIMORE	WOODHOLME COUNTRY CLUB	Contact: Suzi Linn	OCT -	SMART 50 JUDGING	CLEVELAND	FIT TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE	Contact: Lisa Dore
APR 30	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	ST. LOUIS	FOREST HILLS COUNTRY CLUB	Contact: Suzi Linn	OCT -	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	CHICAGO	UNION LEAGUE CLUB	Contact: TBA
MAY 6	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	ATLANTA	ATLANTA ATHLETIC CLUB	Contact: TBA	OCT -	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	DENVER	WESTIN DOWNTOWN	Contact: Suzi Linn
MAY 13	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	CLEVELAND	HOTEL CLEVELAND	Contact: Danielle Catteau	NOV -	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	CHARLOTTE	CARMEL COUNTRY CLUB	Contact: TBA
MAY 28	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	CENTRAL FLORIDA	HILTON TAMPA DOWNTOWN	Contact: TBA	NOV -	SMART 50 AWARDS	CLEVELAND	EMBASSY SUITES CLEVELAND	Contact: Lisa Dore
JUN 4	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	NEW YORK	NEW YORK ATHLETIC CLUB	Contact: Danielle Catteau	NOV -	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	HOUSTON	MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOUSTON	Contact: TBA
JUL -	Smartwomen BREAKFAST + CONTENT + AWARDS	CLEVELAND	THE WESTIN CLEVELAND DOWNTOWN	Contact: Lisa Dore	NOV -	SMART BUSINESS Dealmakers CONFERENCE	SOUTH FLORIDA	FORT LAUDERDALE MARRIOTT HARBOR BEACH RESORT & SPA	Contact: Danielle Catteau
JUL -	SMART 50 JUDGING	COLUMBUS	HYLANT	Contact: Lisa Dore	DEC -	The PILLAR AWARD COMMUNITY SERVICE	CLEVELAND	EMBASSY SUITES CLEVELAND	Contact: Lisa Dore

# NETWORKING EVENTS

SMART  
BUSINESS  
E·V·E·N·T·S

SMART BUSINESS  
**Dealmakers**  
CONFERENCE

SMART BUSINESS  
**EVOLUTION**  
OF MANUFACTURING

smartwomen  
BREAKFAST • CONTENT • AWARDS

SMART 50  
INNOVATION  
IMPACT  
SUSTAINABILITY

FAMILY  
BUSINESS  
CONFERENCE

CASCADE CAPITAL CORPORATION  
**BUSINESS GROWTH**  
AWARDS PROGRAM

 THE  
**PILLAR**  
AWARD  
FOR  
COMMUNITY SERVICE

## EVENT CONTACTS:

### SMART BUSINESS DEALMAKERS CONFERENCE

A coming together of top entrepreneurs, investors and advisers from the region for a one-day conference focused on identifying and optimizing opportunity. This conference will include a series of keynote speakers, roundtables, panels, one-on-one networking and awards.

### EVOLUTION OF MANUFACTURING CONFERENCE & AWARDS

The eVolution of Manufacturing Awards recognizes manufacturers and technology companies that have adapted to a global economy through improved operations, products or services.

### SMART WOMEN BREAKFAST & AWARDS

The Smart Women Awards recognizes the achievements of leading businesswomen, inspiring male advocates and effective women's programs. It combines a live event and content—digital and print—to address today's issues facing women in the workplace.

### SMART 50 AWARDS

The Smart 50 Awards recognizes the top executives of 50 prominent companies in the region for their ability to effectively build and lead savvy organizations in the areas of innovation, impact and sustainability.

### FAMILY BUSINESS CONFERENCE & AWARDS

An interactive forum with leading industry experts that provides the type of actionable insights necessary to plan for a smooth transition of family businesses. This networking breakfast and interactive workshop will offer perspectives from both industry experts and actual family business owners to address this and other issues facing family-owned enterprises.

### CASCADE CAPITAL BUSINESS GROWTH AWARDS

The Business Growth Awards, presented by Cascade Capital Corp., honor businesses in the Akron/Canton area that have achieved significant sales or employment growth over a 5-year period.

### PILLAR AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Pillar Award for Community Service honors businesses and individuals dedicated to making their region a better place to live while demonstrating the tie between the for-profit and non-profit worlds.

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