

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

1:00pm Attendee Registration / Check-In. First Floor Registration.

3:00pm Breakout Session, Churchill A1

**Title:** “Beyond the Offer Letter: Recruiting and Retaining MBA Talent for the Long Game”

Attracting top MBA talent and ensuring their long-term success go hand in hand. If you're a corporate partner recruiter, a university partner, or a professional looking to better understand today's MBA talent, this session is for you. Join us for a panel that brings together current MBA students and recent alumni to unpack the full journey from first recruiting touchpoint to long-term retention. Students will share what makes a recruiting process stand out (and what turns them off), alumni will reveal why they stayed with—or left—their first employer, and corporate partners will gain insight into building career paths that keep high-potential hires invested.

6:00pm University and Corporate Partner Reception, Churchill D

For Corporate and University Partners. Join us for impactful conversations and strategic connections. Exchange ideas, share recruitment and outreach strategies, and explore ways to deepen support for LGBTQ+ inclusion. Connect with fellow partners, LGBTQ+ leaders, and Reaching Out MBA Board members as we work toward a more inclusive future in business and education.

7:00pm Trans, Nonbinary, GNC Reception. All are welcome. Cambridge.

8:00pm Welcome Reception, sponsored by **Wells Fargo**. Mark Twain Courtyard.

## **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

8:00am Conversation Zone. Grand Ballroom D.

*Only for those partners who reserved a Semi-Private Conversation Space*

8:00am Friday Breakfast Plenary: From NOLA to the Nation. Grand Ballroom.

***Sponsored by Bain & Company***

Rooted in a city known for its cultural richness, entrepreneurial spirit, and history of resilience, this plenary features business and LGBTQ+ community leaders from New Orleans and the Gulf South. In a region that has weathered natural disasters, economic disruption, and systemic inequities, panelists will speak to how local leadership has cultivated sustainable businesses and strong communities often without robust institutional support. Drawing on New Orleans' legacy of improvisation and innovation, they will share insights on leading through uncertainty, advancing inclusive growth, and creating impact with limited resources. These lessons, shaped in the Gulf South, offer powerful inspiration for the LGBTQ+ business community nationwide.

9:30am Breakout Sessions. See agenda online or in app for details. Until 12:00pm.

12:30pm Friday Lunch Plenary: The Rhythm of Leadership. Grand Ballroom.

***Sponsored by McKinsey & Company***

Today's leaders must do more than react, they must stay composed under pressure, lead with clarity, and stay grounded in their values amidst complexity. This lunch plenary features senior executives who have built purposeful careers by leading with authenticity, adaptability, and impact. As LGBTQ+ students and

professionals navigate shifting expectations and uncertainty, these leaders will share how they've balanced risk with responsibility, empowered those around them, and made hard decisions without losing their core. Grounded in real-world experience, this conversation offers practical insights and inspiration for the next generation of business leaders ready to lead with resilience and intention.

2:15pm Career Expo. Grand Salon.

6:00pm Women's Reception. All are welcome. Churchill D.

8:00pm Friday Evening Fun: Big Freedia + Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra

***The Orpheum Theater, 129 Roosevelt Way, New Orleans, Sponsored by Grindr***

Join us at the historic Orpheum Theater for an unforgettable ROMBA 2025 experience as Big Freedia, the Queen of Bounce, teams up with the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. This high-energy fusion of bounce and symphonic sound celebrates the spirit of New Orleans, showcasing homegrown talent and uplifting the local LGBTQ+ community. Registered conference attendees can snag discounted tickets for just \$15—don't miss this one-of-a-kind night of culture, pride, and music.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

8:00am Conversation Zone. Grand Ballroom D.

*Only for those partners who reserved a Semi-Private Conversation Space*

10:30am Breakout Sessions. See agenda online or in app for details. Until 12:00pm.

12:30pm Saturday Marquee Lunch + Perspectives. Grand Ballroom.

***Sponsored by Boston Consulting Group***

Perspectives has long been one of the most popular sessions at our conference- so this year it's coming to the main stage! Perspective speakers are masterful storytellers who give a 10-minute Ted-talk style presentation that share their personal and professional journeys. These stories inspire attendees and offer an authentic insight into being LGBTQ+ in the business world.

2:45pm Breakout Sessions. See agenda online or in app for details. Until 3:45pm.

5:00pm MBAs of Color Reception. All are welcome. Churchill B1.

5:30pm Veterans Reception. All are welcome. Cambridge.

8:00pm Closing Celebration. Badge required!

***Mardi Gras World, 1380 Port of New Orleans Place, New Orleans***

Experience the magic of Mardi Gras at ROMBA 2025's Closing Celebration at Mardi Gras World! Tour the legendary float den for an exclusive look at over 500 dazzling parade creations, then enjoy lively music, festive drinks, and classic New Orleans bites in a vibrant indoor-outdoor setting. Dress in your New Orleans best and celebrate where the magic begins!

**TO CONFIRM ALL DATES AND TIMES, PLEASE CHECK OUR CONFERENCE APP.**

**ALWAYS WEAR YOUR BADGE.**