

Beyond the Conference

Ways to Partner with ROMBA

A YEAR-ROUND, TRUST-BASED PARTNERSHIP

Reaching Out MBA's (ROMBA) mission is to increase the influence of the LGBTQ+ community in business by educating, inspiring, and connecting MBA students and alumni. We welcome and value the participation of everyone, including allies, colleagues, and individuals of all backgrounds and identities, who share our commitment to building workplaces rooted in inclusion, respect, and belonging.

A ROMBA partnership doesn't have to start, or live, at the conference. At a time when many companies are reexamining how they build inclusive, trusted workplaces and brands in a rapidly shifting landscape, we partner with corporations in a range of ways to strengthen inclusive leadership pipelines over years, not months. Whether or not conference sponsorship is the right fit for your organization right now, there are meaningful ways to stay engaged, visible, and connected to our community throughout the year.

WHY THIS MATTERS NOW

Over the past year, many in our community have described a period of increased caution: students opting not to share parts of their identity publicly, fellows hesitant to be featured, campus clubs facing funding or space constraints. This is precisely the climate in which a partner's consistency matters most. A company that shows up across the calendar, in workshops, at Summer Treks, in everyday ERG support, sends a different signal than one that shows up once a year. The companies building the deepest trust with talent right now are the ones treating this as a sustained, mutually beneficial relationship.

FUND THE PROGRAMS THAT BUILD TOMORROW'S LEADERS

ROMBA's impact doesn't start and end at our flagship conference. Throughout the year, we run programs that develop MBA talent at different stages of their journey, from prospective students considering business school, to first-year students finding community, to established leaders shaping what's next. Funding these programs is an opportunity to invest directly in the pipeline of leaders your organization will one day recruit, hire, and promote.

We'd welcome the opportunity to talk with you about which program aligns best with your goals, and what a meaningful, visible funding partnership could look like.

SUMMER TREKS

\$5,000 (\$2,500 for current ROMBA Conference Partners)

Summer Treks bring incoming and prospective MBA students into companies for an authentic, early look at workplace culture, often before they've even started business school. For students, it's a first, formative connection to what an inclusive workplace can look like. For partners, it's an early relationship with future talent, well ahead of the recruiting cycle.

2026 Summer Treks included New York City, Chicago, and Boston, with 188 resumes shared with our Trek partners and 85 students placed.

CLUB LEADERSHIP SUMMIT (SPRING 2027)

Starting at \$5,000

The Club Leadership Summit brings together leaders of over 50 LGBTQ+ MBA business clubs from campuses across the country to build skills, share strategy, and strengthen their communities. For corporate partners, it's an opportunity to build relationships with influential student leaders at schools where they are recruiting – and to support the people helping shape campus communities and connect their peers to opportunities.

At a time when many campus clubs are facing funding and space pressures, the Summit is also a critical source of stability and connection for student leaders navigating that landscape.

Funding opportunities include:

- **Presenting Partnership** (\$10,000) **Exclusive – one available**
- **Saturday Meal Partner** (\$5,000) **Exclusive – one available**
- **Club Competition Partner** (\$5,000)
- **Welcome Reception Partner** (\$5,000)

ROMBA FELLOWSHIP RETREAT

Partnership opportunities starting at \$2,500

ROMBA Fellows are high-achieving MBA students selected by their universities for their leadership, academic achievement, and potential to make an impact in business. The annual Fellowship Retreat brings incoming Fellows together just before they begin business school, giving corporate partners early access to some of the most promising talent across ROMBA's network of Fellowship schools.

Each year, 150+ Fellows are selected by their business schools based on leadership potential and commitment to strengthening LGBTQ+ communities. Through leadership development, community building, and meaningful connection, the Retreat helps Fellows begin their MBA experience with a strong national network – while giving partners the opportunity to build relationships with them before recruiting gets underway.

Partnership opportunities include:

- **Fellowship Retreat Host** (\$10,000) **Exclusive – one available**
 - **Fellowship Retreat Dinner Partner** (\$5,000)
 - **Fellowship Retreat Lunch Partner** (\$2,500)
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STUDENT ACCESS FUND

Starting at \$500 (this supports travel costs for one ROMBA student)

For some students, the cost of getting to the ROMBA Conference and other critical year-round events is the barrier standing between them and a room full of mentors, peers, and opportunity. The Student Access Fund helps close that gap by covering conference travel costs for students who would otherwise be unable to attend, ensuring that financial hardship never determines who gets access to this community.

Since its launch, both the number of students supported and the amount of funding distributed have grown steadily.

2025 Student Access Fund Snapshot:

- **278 students applied**
- **164 students funded**
- **66 students unfunded due to limited resources**
- **\$93,925 awarded directly to students**

Demand continues to grow as many graduate programs reduce funding for identity-focused leadership opportunities. This most significantly affects students facing financial barriers—including first-generation graduate students, international students, and students from communities that have historically had less access to graduate education, particularly women, trans and nonbinary students, and students of color.

LET'S BUILD A PARTNERSHIP AROUND WHAT MATTERS TO YOU

Every organization's goals are different. Whether you're looking to fund one program, support all four, or explore a multi-year commitment, we'll work with you to design an approach, and a recognition strategy, that reflects your investment.

Reach out to our team at sponsorship@rombaconference.org to start the conversation.

CONTACT US

We welcome conversations at any level and are glad to discuss a custom, multi-year arrangement built around your organization's goals.

REACHING OUT MBA, INC.

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