



## Notice for media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Dayton Area Chamber marks 111 years with annual meeting** *Awards given for Diversity & Inclusion, chamber supporters and more*

DAYTON, Ohio – Nearly 450 guests attended the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce’s 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Tuesday, April 24, 2018, celebrating the organization’s successes of 2017, and much excitement yet to come.

In 2017, the chamber launched DaytonWorkforce.com, an online tool that provides career data on the six fastest growing industries in the Dayton region. By providing career pathway information and access to educational institutions offering related courses, DaytonWorkforce.com will help bridge the needs of the business community with those preparing to start or change their career paths. And in order to help member businesses with their recruitment efforts, the chamber launched the ‘Hello Dayton’ video series, which introduces recruits to the Dayton region’s many assets.

“Our businesses are quickly growing, but nearly half of our member businesses identified finding skilled workers as the number one issue that will affect their success. We’ve spearheaded these projects and more to fill the gaps, which is crucial to our region’s continued advancement,” said Phil Parker, president & CEO, Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce.

2017 was also an active year for the chamber’s business advocacy team. The chamber’s lobbyists celebrated a win with the ‘Brunch Bill’, which allows for earlier Sunday morning alcohol sales in Dayton’s precinct 1-B. The ‘Brunch Bill’ came to life in the summer of 2017 after restaurants in the Oregon District brought the issue to the chamber’s advocacy team. The chamber also took early opposition to Ohio Issue 2, the prescription drug bill, joining the successful statewide coalition against the legislation.

The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce’s efforts did not go unnoticed during its 110<sup>th</sup> year. In April of 2017, the Better Business Bureau of Dayton presented the chamber with the Community Award, and in June 2017, the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE), named the chamber a Chamber of the Year finalist, a national recognition.

Chamber members also took advantage of sizeable cost savings in 2017, putting \$6.7 million back toward their bottom lines by taking advantage of member discount programs.

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## **Award Presentations**

Each year, the chamber recognizes the businesses, community partners and volunteers that help us reach its vision and mission. This year, the chamber awarded the following:

- Learn to Earn Dayton - John H. Patterson Corporate Partner Award
- DATV – Jonathan Dayton Public Partner Award
- Marsha Schneider, Elements IV Interiors – Jack Moore Ambassador of the Year
- Bill Deas, Partner, Porter, Wright Morris & Arthur (Retired) – Volunteer of the Year
- Battle Sight Technologies – Soin Award for Innovation
- Dayton Metro Library – Premier Health Diversity & Inclusion Award

## **About Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce**

*The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce brings together more than 2,400 businesses and organizations in a 9 county area surrounding Dayton, Ohio. The Chamber strives to improve the region's business climate and overall standard of living through public policy advocacy, economic development initiatives and providing networking and training opportunities for its members. Nationally awarded with "5-Star Accreditation" from the United States Chamber of Commerce, the Dayton Chamber is widely recognized for its innovative programs and outstanding contribution to positive change in the region. Information about the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce is available at [daytonchamber.org](http://daytonchamber.org) or 937-226-1444.*

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