

# Palm Beach Atlantic University to Honor Local Philanthropists

WEST PALM BEACH – Palm Beach Atlantic University (PBA) is set to host its 2024 Women of Distinction (WOD) luncheon, honoring local philanthropists Denise Hanley and Sheila Rinker for their leadership, outstanding commitment and service to the Palm Beach County community.

The annual celebration will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024, at 11 a.m. at The Breakers Palm Beach.

“Women of Distinction celebrates the legacy of incredible women—and

future leaders—who dedicate their time, energy, and resources to others,” said Frances Fisher, event chair. “We are grateful to carry out this time-honored tradition.”

For more than 30 years, the Women of Distinction luncheon has honored exemplary women in leadership who cherish community and family and want to preserve these ideals for others. Proceeds from the luncheon raise scholarship funds for female PBA students who demonstrate outstanding academics, service and leadership.

“At PBA, we cherish the opportunity to celebrate incredible women who have impacted Palm Beach County and beyond,” said President Dr. Debra A. Schwinn. “Denise and Sheila have exemplified service and integrity throughout their careers and civic responsibilities. Both mirror the values that PBA holds dear. By focusing on serving others, giving back, and shining a light, we can create a brighter, stronger future for all.”

Women of Distinction is one of several initiatives

from PBA that supports the community and works to create a brighter future—especially as Palm Beach County continues to grow. The university’s most recent notable pursuit has been the launch of its God-Sized Dreams campaign, a major expansion plan that will enable PBA to better respond to marketplace changes, expand program offerings, and build innovative spaces for students, industry leaders, and the public.

The university’s priority is to build the state-of-the-art Marshall and Vera

Lea Rinker Business Hall. This 120,000-square-foot facility will meet the growing demand for students pursuing business or finance, with a curriculum rooted in Judeo-Christian values and the American Free Enterprise system. The six-story building will also house the LeMieux Center for Public Policy, which continues to bring a grounded perspective to important issues for students and the local community.

The God-Sized Dreams campaign coincides with historic growth at PBA,

which just welcomed a record-breaking incoming class at a time when many institutions face declining enrollment. PBA’s location in downtown West Palm Beach enables students to intern and work with esteemed businesses in tech, energy, finance, and health care, as demand grows for well-rounded young professionals who exemplify integrity, faith, and a commitment to service. Around 91 percent of PBA graduates enroll in graduate school or hold a full-time job within six months of graduation.

## SWA Targets Small Businesses with Dec. 1 Business Opportunity Forecast Conference

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County’s (SWA) Equal Business Opportunity Office (EBO) is hosting a conference to offer tips to small businesses on how to win or be a part of SWA contracts. Both prime and subcontractor small businesses are encouraged to attend the Projects 2024

Business Opportunity Forecast Conference on Friday, Dec. 1.

The Conference begins at 8 a.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 1601 Belvedere Road in West Palm Beach, with a delicious buffet breakfast and meet-and-greet networking session. Participants will then engage in the

main session where they will learn about:

Projects and major purchasing opportunities in 2024;

Benefits of being a registered SWA vendor;

Benefits of being a Certified Small/Minority/Women Business Enterprise;

Developing a business

plan; and

Winning procurement contracts.

The Conference will wrap up at noon.

Interested business representatives should register for the Projects 2024 Business Opportunity Forecast Conference at [swa.gob2g.com](http://swa.gob2g.com) under the “Events” tab. Call 561-

640-4000, ext. 4532, with questions.

If a business representative can’t attend this conference, they can still register to be an SWA vendor and get push notifications for opportunities to bid on specific contracts and services. To be put on the bidder’s list as an SMWBE for future business opportunities, visit B2Gnow.

About the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County’s Equal Business Opportunity Program

The mission of the EBO is to promote equitable bid opportunities for Small/Minority/Women Business Enterprises (S/M/WBEs) and to eliminate barriers to their participation in contracts with the SWA. The key objectives of the program are to:

Encourage S/M/WBEs to participate in the SWA’s purchasing process;

Promote the business development of S/M/WBEs through education and outreach to Prime Contractors, Subcontractors, Suppliers, certified S/M/WBEs and SWA staff;

Encourage firms to get Certified as a S/M/WBE and take advantage of Affirmative Procurement Initiatives (narrowly tailored S/M/WBE goals) in Solicitations that may increase their access to contract opportunities; and

Ensure that Prime Contractors fulfill their S/M/WBE subcontract commitments by contract monitoring and tracking.

Note: The SWA does not administer a “Certification Program” but

accepts firms certified by State of Florida entities that have adopted certification standards and procedures similar to those of the EBO Program such as the County, School District, and Water Management District.

About the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA or Authority) is a Dependent Special District that was created by the Florida Legislature in 1975. Since then, the SWA has developed an award-winning integrated solid waste management system to handle the county’s waste and recyclables. We call ourselves AWAY: whether you throw it, recycle it or flush it AWAY, we put your waste to work. Each year, we:

Process 100,000 tons of recyclables

Combust approximately 1.8 million tons of trash to generate electricity at renewable energy facilities

Produce enough electricity to power approximately 90,000 homes

Recycle more than 130,000 tons of wastewater treatment residuals (sludge from flushes) into an environmentally-friendly fertilizer amendment

Safely recycle or dispose of almost 4.9 million pounds of home hazards

Collect rainwater from the roofs of Renewable Energy Facility 2 and store it in a 2-million gallon cistern, which is used as part of the energy making process

# No waste collection in unincorporated Palm Beach County on Thanksgiving Day

Garbage, recyclables, yard waste and bulk waste will NOT be collected on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 24, for residents living in unincorporated Palm Beach County. Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA) transfer stations, Home Chemical & Recycling Centers, landfill and administrative offices will be closed. In addition, Customer Service team members will not be on duty.

There will be no make-up collection day for garbage, recycling, yard waste or bulk waste. Waste collection for unincorporated residents impacted by the holiday will resume on their next regularly scheduled service day:

Garbage collection: Monday, Nov. 27

Recycling, yard waste and bulk waste collection: Thursday, Nov. 30

With the increase of garbage around the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, there are special holiday provisions in the collections contract for residents living in unincorporated Palm Beach County, as follows:

Garbage

Per the collections contract, on the Friday, Saturday and Monday following Thanksgiving, and from Dec. 26 through Jan. 1, excess garbage can be placed outside of the stan-

dardized SWA garbage cart at the curb for pick up

Excess garbage placed outside of the standardized SWA garbage cart must be properly secured in plastic bags weighing less than 50 pounds when filled

All waste should be placed curbside by 6 a.m.

Recycling

Oversized or excess cardboard may always be placed beside the yellow recycling bin for collection

All non-cardboard packing material must be removed

Yard waste

Remains limited to six cubic yards on the next yard waste collection day

Bulk waste

Remains limited to three items at the curb on the next bulk waste collection day

SWA administrative offices will also be closed the Friday (Nov. 24) after Thanksgiving.

However, the transfer stations, Home Chemical & Recycling Centers, and landfill will be open and waste collection will occur as scheduled. There will also be a limited number of Customer Service team members available to assist residents with their questions or concerns. The SWA Customer Service team can be reached at 561-697-2700, 866-792-4636 (toll free) or contact-

cis@swa.org.

Residents in unincorporated Palm Beach County can see their updated collection schedule, set reminders and sign up for collection information through the “My Pick-Up Days” tool on the SWA website.

Residents who live in one of Palm Beach County’s 39 municipalities should contact their municipality directly for holiday collection schedule information. A list of municipal contacts can be found online.

There are only two observed holidays during which residents in unincorporated Palm Beach County will not receive garbage service:

Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, Nov. 23, 2023

Christmas Day: Monday, Dec. 25, 2023

There will be normally scheduled collection services for unincorporated residents on the following days:

Christmas Eve: Sunday, Dec. 24, 2023

New Year’s Eve: Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023

New Year’s Day: Monday, Jan. 1, 2024

Visit the SWA’s website for more information on holiday collection, as well as SWA facilities and hours.

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