

CHICAGO, IL

GERMAN AMERICAN APPRENTICESHIP CONFERENCE

GACC APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

Nov 14, 2023

08:00 AM

Welcome and Networking Breakfast

09:00 AM

Welcoming Remarks

Speakers:

Michael Ahrens Consul General of Germany in Chicago

Mark Tomkins President & CEO, German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest

09:30 AM

10 Years MAT² Apprenticeship Program Celebration

Speakers:

Chris Hunt Technical Training Manager, Brose

Bradley Knoll Industrial Engineer, Brose

10:00 AM

German American Apprenticeship Award Ceremony

10:30 AM

Panel I:
Redefining Recruiting: Apprenticeships as the Answer to Skilled-Worker Shortages

We will be having a closer look at recruiting strategies and strategically cultivating apprenticeship talent to tackle skills shortages and retention.

Speakers:

Alex Pompa Manufacturing Training, Apprenticeships, CLAAS of Omaha, Inc.

Verena Walther Senior HR Generalist, Buhler Inc.

Zach Speas Talent Acquisition Coordinator, Endress + Hauser Inc.

11:15 AM

Coffee Break

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Panel II:

Breaking Stereotypes: Evolving Perspectives on Apprenticeships

Apprentice graduates reflect on their own changing perceptions of apprenticeships, as well as those of their peers and parents, throughout the years.

Speakers:

Trivia Barnes	E Mobility Technician, ZF
Bradley Knoll	Industrial Engineer, Brose
Omar Lopez	Automation Engineer, Buhler
D'Andre Malave	Swiss Lead Machinist, J&E Precision Machining

12:30 PM

Lunch & Networking

1:45 PM

German American Apprenticeship & Education Foundation Announcement

2:00 PM

Panel III:

The Big Picture: Apprenticeships as a Holistic Workforce Solution

Exploring the status quo of apprenticeships in the US as an answer to workforce needs across industries.

Speakers:

Dave Langdon	Deputy Director of Policy, US Department of Commerce
Sarah Hartwick	Vice President of Education & Workforce Policy, Illinois Manufacturers Association (IMA)
Eric Dunker	Chief Innovation Officer, National Center for the Apprenticeship Degree, Reach University

2:45 PM

Conclusion Panel Discussions

3:00 PM

Coffee Break

3:30 PM

ICATT Apprenticeship Graduation