

THE DAILY COLLABORATOR

OFFICIAL GRAND RAPIDS LEADERSHIP VISIT NEWSLETTER | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2023

PRESENTED BY:  **Central Bank**

Final Day in Grand Rapids Focuses on Writing Lexington's Future Story

We hope you had a great time exploring Grand Rapids yesterday during elective tours and engagement lunches. We would also like to express our thanks and appreciation to our local banks that sponsored last night's signature Bank Reception & Dinner at the Bissell Tree House. Please take a moment to thank your banker when you see them today!

We will kick off this final day with a session entitled "Leading Forward" by a speaker who is well known as a person who brings people together and gets things done in the Grand Rapids area. **Doug DeVos** is Co-Chair of the Board of Directors for Amway and the founder of Continuum Ventures, an investment company. He is a big proponent of collaboration, so you'll see several new faces in the room this morning. About 20 business leaders from Grand Rapids will be joining us for Doug's session and interacting with our delegation. Please watch for our guests and introduce yourselves.

Throughout these last few days, we've seen how leaders in Grand Rapids have intentionally crafted their story to achieve success. In our previous *Daily Collaborator* newsletters, we highlighted what people inside and outside of our market think about Lexington from a recent perception study conducted by DCI. The results of that survey showed that most people had neither a positive nor a negative view of Central Kentucky. They simply didn't know much about the area at all. So, that presents an awesome opportunity to tell the story we want people to know about Lexington.

During our final session in Grand Rapids, **Vitale Buford Hardin**

will lead us through an interactive activity that will discuss Lexington's current story and help us craft our future story together. As the thoughts and ideas are flowing in the room, local Lexington artist and animator, **Bryce Oquaye**, will be listening to the conversation through Zoom and will create a graphic illustration in real-time that reflects the story we'd like the world to know about Lexington.

Individual Activity:

- What do you want Grand Rapids to know about Lexington?
- What would you show Grand Rapids if they came to Lexington?
- What is Lexington's best kept secret?

Group Activity:

- Think of your children & grandchildren – what do you want Lexington to look like?
- Why will other cities visit the Lexington region in the next 10-15 years?
- What do you want Lexington to be known for in 2035?

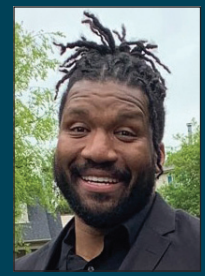
It's been a wonderful three days in Grand Rapids, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank our presenting sponsor Central Bank, as well as all of our sponsors and participants for making the 2023 Leadership Visit a success!



Scan QR code for more about Bryce Oquaye & his work

SPOTLIGHT ON BRYCE OQUAYE:

Bryce Oquaye is an illustrator, comic artist and animator. His comic and graffiti styled approach have placed him within a wide range of projects. From comic to cover art for publishers like Z2 Comics, illustration for Zox and Netflix, and animation for companies like Group Nine Media, Bryce has placed a focus on story-based illustration and sequential work. A resident artist at the Loudoun House and Lexington Art League, he operates a studio he calls MADHUNDREDS, where he self-publishes comics and small animation projects as a freelance creator. While listening to our thoughts about Lexington through Zoom, Bryce will create a graphic illustration that reflects the story we'd like the world to know about Lexington.



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SPECIAL THANKS:

Blue Grass Airport

TODAY'S SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS:



Leading Forward with Doug DeVos

8:30 - 9:15 a.m.

Today's schedule will begin with Doug DeVos and a session entitled "Leading Forward." He is a globally recognized leader whose focus on entrepreneurship and providing opportunities for people around the world to build businesses of their own has been a lifelong passion. Doug is Co-Chair of the Board of Directors for Amway, the world's largest direct selling company with more than \$8 billion in revenue. Doug, along with his wife Maria, is the Founder of Continuum Ventures – an investment company for The Doug & Maria DeVos Family. **Special Note:** You will see some new faces in the room this morning. About 20 business leaders from Grand Rapids will be joining us for Doug's session and interacting with our delegation. Please watch for our guests and introduce yourselves. We appreciate the Grand Rapids Chamber for helping make this happen and look forward to meeting these folks.



Did You Know?

Grand Rapids was the first city in the U.S. to add fluoride to its drinking water (1945).

WEDNESDAY'S NEWS TO KNOW:

Meeting Room WiFi:

Sponsored by Hanna Resource Group, you'll be able to connect your device to WiFi in the JW Marriott's International Ballroom using the following information:

Network: Leadership23

Password: hanna2023



Luggage Drop for Wednesday:

For those who would like to store luggage on Wednesday morning, we have reserved the **Gangnam Gu Room (note this is a change from what is in your printed briefing book)**, which is the same room where you picked up your luggage during hotel check-in. Participants are responsible for retrieving their own bags from storage or their room, placing their luggage on the shuttle bus, and carrying it through security at the airport.

Airport Shuttles:

After lunch today, shuttles to the airport for our return trip to Lexington will begin at 12:15 p.m. There are no pre-assigned buses. Shuttles will depart every 15 minutes until the last shuttle leaves at 12:45 p.m. Remember to retrieve your luggage from your hotel room or storage in the Gangnam Gu Room, and bring them to the bus.

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Ask Questions Using SLIDO:

During our sessions at the hotel on Tuesday and Wednesday, you'll be able to ask questions right from your mobile device using SLIDO. Follow these instructions.

1. Go to **www.slido.com** on your device.
2. Enter code **GrandRapids** in participant box.
3. **Tap the arrow** to join the event.
4. **Select a session** & ask a question.