

DCRE CONFERENCE

JULY 23 - 24, 2026

EMPOWER. ELEVATE. EDUCATE.



DCRE GRADUATE STUDENT
INFORMATION TOOLKIT

Greetings!

We are pleased to announce the **8th Annual DCRE Conference on Thursday, July 23, 2026 - Friday, July 24, 2026!**

Over the past several years DCRE has gathered over 2,500+ professionals and business owners to participate in our preeminent conference focused on the current and future state of the CRE industry.

The DCRE Conference is a premier gathering for professionals in commercial real estate, bringing together industry leaders, investors, and developers to explore market trends, investment opportunities, and innovative strategies.

The conference features expert-led discussions on capital raising, deal structuring, property development, and emerging real estate technologies.

Attendees gain valuable insights from top executives and finance professionals while expanding their networks with key decision-makers in the industry. With a focus on actionable strategies and deal-making, the event provides a dynamic platform for fostering partnerships and driving business growth.

Whether you're an experienced investor or looking to break into the industry, the DCRE Conference offers essential knowledge and connections to accelerate success.

We hope to see you at the conference alongside an audience of industry professionals, developers, investors, lenders, policymakers, and members of the academic community.



ADEOLA ADEJOBI

FOUNDER, DCRE & AVANT-GARDE NETWORK

*For information regarding bulk tickets, discounts and general conference questions, please email us at info@avantgardenetwork.com.

*Please note this event will be in person and virtual.

For information about sponsoring the DCRE Conference, please fill out the **conference sponsorship form** or **HERE** to contact **Linda Ndhlovu, Director of Programs** at **admin@avantgnetwork.com**

To receive updates on the conference agenda and DCRE Conference updates, join the DCRE mailing list **HERE**

DCRE CONFERENCE

EMPOWER. ELEVATE.
EDUCATE.

POWERED BY: AVANT-GARDE NETWORK

WHO WE ARE

DCRE is focused on commercial real estate, real estate investing, technology, opportunity zones and more! This conference is the place for attendees to focus on talent, business opportunities, networking and to learn about issues that affect commercial real estate development in New York State and around the nation.



WHY PARTICIPATE IN DCRE?

The conference brings together nearly 1,000+ participants from across the nation, from multiple disciplines as it relates to commercial real estate. A wide range of sessions will reach individuals of every level of expertise with timely impactful topics.

This conference presents a unique opportunity to network with business professionals and recruit talent. You wouldn't want to miss this gathering and the chance to meet and learn from industry leaders and peers!

WHAT WE DO

DCRE is a premier platform dedicated to advancing careers, entrepreneurship, and investment opportunities in commercial real estate. Our mission is to increase access to capital, support capacity building, and create pathways for professional growth.

Through dynamic programming and industry leading speakers, DCRE offers attendees the opportunity to network, build partnerships, and gain critical insights into the challenges and opportunities shaping commercial real estate development nationwide. Our speakers represent a wide array of expertise, from development and finance to law and public policy.

We are committed to equipping professionals with the tools, connections, and strategies needed to lead and thrive in the commercial real estate industry, whether as executives, investors, or entrepreneurs.



COMPANIES WE'VE WORKED WITH!



J.P.Morgan



2026 DCRE CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2026

DCRE PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS

10AM - 2PM EST

INVESTORS AND DEALMAKERS POWER BREAKFAST
(INVITE-ONLY)

(*SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED*)

2PM - 6PM EST

DCRE CONFERENCE CLEs

6PM - 8PM EST

VIP RECEPTION AND SPEAKER MEET AND GREET

(*VIP TICKET REQUIRED)



FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2026

DCRE CONFERENCE

10AM - 4PM EST

DCRE CONFERENCE
WORKSHOPS & MASTERCLASSES

6PM - 8PM EST

DCRE POST-CONFERENCE VIP RECEPTION

VIP TICKET REQUIRED



UPCOMING AND PAST SPEAKERS



TAMMY K. JONES

CEO & FOUNDER,
BASIS INVESTMENT
GROUP



DARYL J. CARTER

FOUNDER,
CHAIRMAN & CEO,
AVANATH CAPITAL
MANAGEMENT, LLC



**GOVERNOR
WES MOORE**

GOVERNOR,
MARYLAND



**H. JEROME
RUSSELL**

PRESIDENT, H. J.
RUSSELL & COMPANY &
RUSSELL NEW URBAN
DEVELOPMENT, LLC



**DR. GINA
MERRITT**

PRINCIPAL,
NORTHERN
REAL ESTATE
VENTURES L.L.C



**PAMELA
WEST**

MANAGING DIRECTOR &
PORTFOLIO MANAGER,
IMPACT INVESTING,
NUVEEN REAL ESTATE



**MAGGIE
O'SULLIVAN**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY IMPACT,
GLOBAL DEI,
J.P. MORGAN



**MARGARET
ANADU**

SENIOR
PARTNER,
VISTRIA GROUP,
REAL ESTATE



**BUWA
BINITTIE**

MANAGING
PRINCIPAL,
DANTES PARTNERS



**DAWANA
WILLIAMS**

FOUNDER
& MANAGING PRINCIPAL,
DABAR
DEVELOPMENT PARTNER



**EN JUNG
KIM**

MANAGING DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT TAX
CREDITS, J.P. MORGAN



**YVONNE
NELSON**

RETIRED HEAD OF
REAL ESTATE, NYC
OFFICE OF THE
COMPTROLLER



**JAMES
SIMMONS**

MANAGING PARTNER
& CEO,
ASLAND CAPITAL
PARTNERS LLC



**JOHN
CROSSMAN**

CEO,
CROSSMAN AND
COMPANY



**JEFF
MONGE**

MANAGING
PARTNER,
MONGE CAPITAL



**JESSEL
AMIN**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BANKING –
INTERMEDIARIES LENDING,
J.P. MORGAN



**ERNIE
JARVIS**

VICE CHAIRMAN,
SAVILLS NORTH
AMERICA



**WARNER
WALKER**

DIRECTOR,
GLOBAL STORE
DEVELOPMENT,
STARBUCKS

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK WITH DCRE



RECRUITING

Expand your access and reach a pool of talented professionals. Our events will help you get direct access to high-level talent and thought-leaders for your company.

SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES

We provide valuable opportunities to advance thought leadership for you to elevate your executives and employees to share their knowledge and expertise with new audience.



DIGITAL PROGRAMMING

Engage with our audience via unique webinars, workshops, and events.

SPONSORSHIP AND BRANDING OPPORTUNITIES

Shape how your brand is perceived by prospective employees, consumers, and clients.

ADVANCE COMPANY GOALS

Pioneer your company as an organization, showcasing your commitment to helping employees grow their skill sets and knowledge base.



EMPOWER YOUR EMPLOYEES & ADVANCE YOUR COMPANY'S SUPPORT OF REAL ESTATE INITIATIVES

- ✓ Professional development
- ✓ Content rich sessions focused on real estate, best practices in leadership, technology, entrepreneurship, innovation, economic policy and shaping the future workforce in the commercial real estate industry.
- ✓ Networking opportunities to form meaningful connections for professional support
- ✓ Sharing gained knowledge with others in the workplace upon return.



DCRE MEDIA FEATURES

CRAIN'S
NEW YORK BUSINESS

REAL ESTATE
WEEKLY

yahoo!
finance

CNBC

Entrepreneur



**here&
Now**

NATIONAL REAL ESTATE
Investor

BISNOW

CRE REPORT
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE NEWS, TOOLS, AND INSIGHTS

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MANN
PUBLICATIONS

DCRE CONFERENCE

OPPORUNTIES FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS AT DCRE CONFERENCE

- Enhanced Job Opportunities
- Networking and Mentorship
- Exposure to Industry Experts
- Professional Development
- Empowerment and Community Building



OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS AT DCRE CONFERENCE

1. Enhanced Job Opportunities:

The DCRE Conference brings together a range of employers, recruiters, and industry professionals who are actively seeking to promote inclusion within their organizations. By attending the conference, students have the opportunity to network with potential employers and learn about job openings, internships, and career pathways. This can significantly enhance their job prospects and increase their chances of securing employment opportunities aligned with their career goals.

2. Networking and Mentorship:

The conference offers a unique platform for students to expand their professional networks. They can connect with other like-minded individuals, including peers, professionals, and alumni, who can serve as mentors, advisors, and sources of inspiration. Building a strong network of contacts within their field of interest can provide valuable guidance, support, and future collaboration opportunities.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING: THE WAY FORWARD



**BUWA
BINITIE**
MANAGING PRINCIPAL,
DANTES PARTNERS



**JEFF
MONGE**
MANAGING PARTNER,
MONGE CAPITAL



**CONGRESSWOMAN
JOYCE BEATTY**
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE,
OHIO 3RD CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT & CHAIR,
CONGRESSIONAL
BLACK CAUCUS (CBC)



**KARIM
HUTSON**
FOUNDER
& MANAGING MEMBER,
GENESIS COMPANIES, LLC



**MICHAEL
NYAMEKYE**
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR,
DANTES PARTNERS



3. Exposure to Industry Experts:

DCRE attracts renowned speakers and industry experts who deliver keynote addresses, lead workshops, and participate in panel discussions. Attending these sessions allows students to gain insights into industry trends, emerging practices, and cutting-edge research. They can learn from the experiences and expertise of established professionals, which can greatly enhance their knowledge and help shape their career trajectories.

4. Professional Development:

The conference offers a range of professional development workshops, seminars, and skill-building sessions tailored specifically to the needs of students. These sessions cover topics such as underwriting, access to capital, and leadership development. By participating in these activities, students can acquire valuable skills and knowledge that will benefit them in their future careers.

5. Empowerment and Community Building:

DCRE Conference provides a supportive and inclusive environment for students , where they can share their experiences, challenges, and successes with individuals who understand and appreciate their unique perspectives. This sense of community can be empowering and inspiring, fostering a greater sense of belonging and self-confidence. Students can develop lifelong friendships and create lasting connections that extend beyond the conference itself.

6. Access to Resources and Community:

DCRE Conference offers access to resources and by attending the conference, students gain access to these resources, which further support their academic and professional pursuits. It not only enhances their professional growth and job prospects but also fosters a sense of community and empowerment that can have a lasting impact on their personal and academic lives.



WHAT ATTENDEES ARE SAYING ABOUT THE DCRE CONFERENCE



"The DCRE Conference was phenomenal! The substantive information that I've left with, alongside the connections that I made, was well beyond the value of my ticket. The best part is these exchanges were with like minded people who looked like me. I, unfortunately, do not have these experiences in my 9 - 5 - but definitely will attend next year!"

Samantha A.

"DCRE Conference was a unique experience, in that it took on the very bold and necessary task of bringing together some of CRE's most important players to engage in dialog about the industry and more specifically the value that diversity brings to commercial real estate. The panelist were incredibly engaging, the discussions were informative, and the energy was electric!"

Claudeen P.



"DCRE is the best conference I attended last year. It was very eye opening to see all the accomplished speakers from my community. Bring your note pads because the information discussed came from REAL PRACTITIONERS in the real estate space. Very Inspiring because representation does matter. Immediately after, I sent the site to my colleagues to make sure they attend the next one!"

Andrew G.



DCRE ATTENDEE COMPANIES

ATTENDEE COMPANIES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

A L REALTY ACQUISITIONS & DEVELOPMENT	CAMPBELL ASSET MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC.
A.BRUCE WILLIAMS & ASSOCIATES	CAPALINO+COMPANY
A&A REHAB LLC	CAPITAL ONE
ACCENTURE LLP	CAPITAL ONE BANK
ACORN FINANCIAL SERVICES	CAPITAL STRATEGIES ADVISORY GROUP, LLC
ADVENT EQUITY GROUP	CBRE
AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FOR COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY	CENTURY 21 COMMERCIAL
ALL NEW YORK TITLE AGENCY, INC.	CHOICE HOTELS
ALL RENOVATION CONSTRUCTION LLC	CITI BANK
AOL	CITY OF ATLANTA
AORA DEVELOPMENT	CITY OF DALLAS
APEX BUILDING COMPANY	CLEAR NATIONAL TITLE AGENCY
ARABELLA ADVISORS	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
ARCHSTONE GROUP	COMMUNITY PRESERVATION CORPORATION
ARCHSTONE/AREAPROBE	COMPASS
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY	COMPASS
ARL INVESTORS	CONVENTION CENTER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
ARLEATHA WILLIAMS WEALTH MANAGEMENT	CORNERSTONE GROUP
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP	COSTAR GROUP
ARROWPOINT LAW PLLC	COX COMMUNICATIONS
ARTEMIS REALTY GROUP	CREA, LLC
ASHER CAPITAL HOLDINGS LLC	CRP BUILDERS
ASLAND CAPITAL PARTNER	CUSHMAN AND WAKFIELD
ATLANTIC EMPIRE REALTY, LLC	DANFORTH REAL ESTATE GROUP
ÄU DEVELOPMENT	DANIEL WOODS REAL ESTATE COMPANY
AUBURN UNIVERSITY	DANTES PARTNERS
AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES, INC.	DELOITTE
AYA ENTERPRISES	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AYOREALTY LLC/REDFIN	DIMES CAPITAL GROUP
B&D HOLDINGS REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT FIRM	DIVERSIFIED LENDING SOLUTIONS
BAIRD & WARNER	DOMAIN COMPANIES
BAKER COLLINS & CO.	DOMINION REAL ESTATE ADVISORS
BALLARD SPAHR	DOUGLAS ELLIMAN
BANK OF AMERICA	DOUGLAS PARK ASSET MANAGEMENT
BANK OF AMERICA MERRILL LYNCH	DUVAL & STACHENFELD
BARA EX NIHILO HOLDINGS, LLC (BENH)	EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT
BARTON MALOW BUILDERS	EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT
BASTOGNE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS	ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BCH HOLDINGS	ESRA REALTY PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
BCP DEVELOPMENT AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT, LLC	EXACT CAPITAL
BEDFORD STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORPORATION	FAMU/BLACKROCK
BEDROCK REAL ESTATE INVESTORS	FIVE POINTS AB
BELLEDERE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT	STRACT, INC
BELMONT HOUSING	FREDDIE MAC
BENCHMARK CONSTRUCTION CONSULTING AND MANAGEMENT LLC	FUNDED FIRST LLC
BENCHMARK TITLE AGENCY	GAUNTLET PRIVATE INVESTMENTS
BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY	GENESIS COMPANIES
BERNIZ REAL ESTATE GROUP	GENWORTH
BOSS BUILDING COMPANY	GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BOSTON TRUST REALTY GROUP	GLOBAL IMPACT INDUSTRIES
BOTTOMLINE CONSTRUCTION & DEVELPMNENT, LLC	GOLDMAN SACHS
BRIDGE INVESTMENT GROUP	GOLDSTEIN HALL PLLC
BRIDGESTREET DEVELOPMENT	GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF STORM RECOVERY
BRIGHTVIEW SENIOR LIVING	GREATER JAMAICA DEVELOPMENT COPORATION
BROOKLYN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	GREENBRIAR CAPITAL CORP.
	GREENLAW CAPITAL
	GREYSTONE AFFORDABLE DEVELOPMENT
	GUGGENHEIM PARTNERS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, LLC

NOVUS EQUITIES LLC
NOVUS EQUITIES LLC
NUVEEN REAL ESTATE
NYC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
NYU LEONARD N. STERN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
ONE HOME AWAY
ONYX LEGACY GROUP
OPHIR REALTY PROPERTIES & ESTATES
ORACLE
PACIFIC WESTERN BANK
PARK AVENUE PROPERTIES
PARK ROYAL CAPITAL
PATTON REAL ESTATE VENTURES LLC
PAUL HASTINGS LLP
PERKINS COIE LLP
PGIM
PHYSICIANS REALTY TRUST
PINNACLE BLUEPRINT
PRATT
PWC
REAL ESTATE ADVISORY PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL
ROSEWOOD STRATEGIES LLC
RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
RXI REALTY
RXR
S & S CAPITAL PARTNERS
SCOTLAND WRIGHT ASSOCIATES (SWA)
SONY MUSIC
SOUTHBANC
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER
STARBUCKS COFFEE
THE BROOKLYN MANSION
THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION CORPORATION
THE CORCORAN GROUP
THE CORPORATION FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING
THE MINORITY RESOURCE
THE WADE ENTERPRISES
THE WOMEN'S CENTER FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
TOWERLEVY REALTY LLC
TRACFLO
TRINITY FINANCIAL
TROUTMAN SANDERS LLC
TRUFUND FINANCIAL SERVICES
TURNER CONSTRUCTION
UBS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT
UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP
UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE (UNCC)
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LAW SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
UNUM INVESTMENT GROUP
URBAN DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
VENTURE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENTS
WALKER & DUNLOP
WELLS FARGO
WELLS FARGO
WEWORK
WHARTON SCHOOL
WILLKIE FARR & GALLAGHER

HALSTEAD
HARPIA ASSET MANAGEMENT
HARTSFIELD-JACKSON ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL
HEALOGICS/NYU LANGONE MEDICAL
HENRIES CO.
HOLLAND & KNIGHT
HOPE COMMUNITY CAPITAL
HOUSTON ASTROS
HSBC
ICON COMMERCIAL
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KEYSTONE REALTY
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KIPP FOUNDATION
KPMG
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LENDLEASE
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MICROSOFT
MILES & STOCKBRIDGE P.C.
MONADNOCK DEVELOPMENT LLC
MONGE CAPITAL ADVISORS
MONTFORT REAL ESTATE
MORGAN STANLEY
MYRIAD CAPITAL INVESTMENT
NAI GLOBAL
NATIONAL GRID
NATIONAL STANDARD ABSTRACT
NELSON MULLINS RILEY & SCARBOROUGH LLP
NEW YORK CITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORP.
NEW YORK COMMUNITY BANK
NEW YORK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
NEW YORK GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF STORM RECOVERY
NIXON PEABODY LLP
NONPROFIT FINANCE FUND
NORTHGROUP REAL ESTATE
NORTHWELL HEALTH



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ENTREPRENEURS, EXECUTIVES,
AND LEADERS OF TODAY AND TOMORROW!

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