

December 2023

The Monthly

SHARING IS CARING

**LIKE
&
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for more

 Small & Minority Business Enterprise

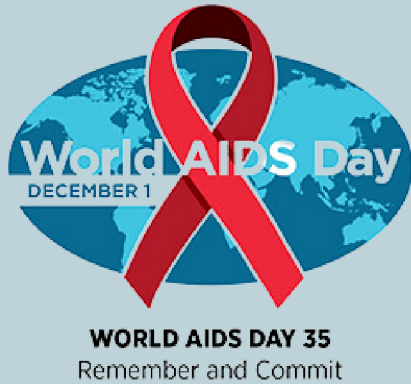
 SMBEOFBPT

 Small and Minority Business Enterprise

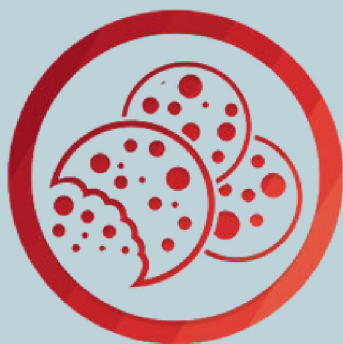
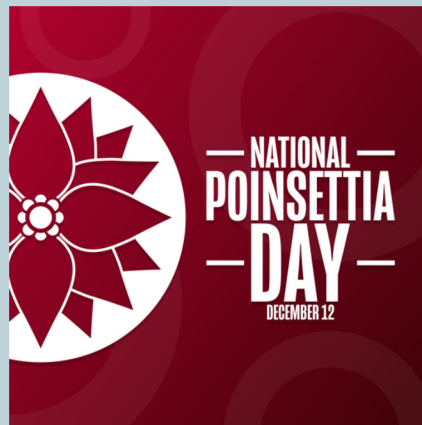
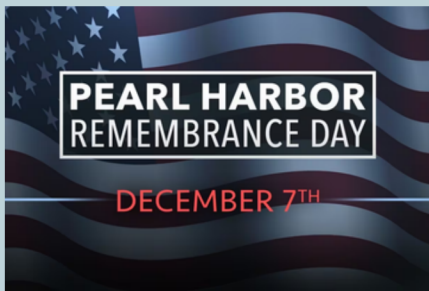
**SMALL & MINORITY
BUSINESS ENTERPRISE**

Margaret E. Morton Government Center
999 Broad Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604 - (203) 576-8473

December



NATIONAL BROWNIE DAY
DECEMBER 8



NATIONAL
COOKIE DAY
DECEMBER 4



HUMAN RIGHTS DAY
DEC 10TH



Monthly Business Highlight



Listen up, beer fans! There's a new kid on the block and it's causing a stir in Bridgeport, CT. We're talking about Berlinetta Brewery, the craft beer hub that's shaking things up in the beer world! With a passion for innovation and lip-smacking flavors, the founders have created a snug and buzzing brewery where beer enthusiasts can unite for a great time. So, whether you're a local or a tourist, grab your beer mug and head on over to Berlinetta Brewery for a taste of the good stuff!

**Berlinetta Brewing Co. LLC
90 Golden Hill St.
Bridgeport, CT 06604**

Brewery and brewpub in Bridgeport CT. Craft Beer and vintage LP records for sale in a bright comfort

Finance & Funding

Small business owners have several funding options, each with unique pros and cons. One widely used alternative is debt financing, which allows companies to borrow loans or credit lines from financial institutions. Equity financing, on the other hand, involves selling shares of the business to investors in exchange for capital. Crowdfunding and grants are also viable financing alternatives for small business owners.

It's crucial for small business owners to weigh their funding options carefully and select a funding source that aligns with their business goals and financial needs. With the right funding in place, small businesses can achieve long-term success and continue to grow and thrive.

Here are 10 current small business and minority-owned business grants and loan programs, along with their websites:

1. **Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)** - <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program>
2. **Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)** - <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/economic-injury-disaster-loan-emergency-advance>
3. **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** - https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/communitydevelopment/programs
4. **Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Business Center Program** - <https://www.mbda.gov/businesscenters>
5. **Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program** - <https://www.sbir.gov/>
6. **Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program** - <https://www.sbir.gov/about/about-sttr-program>
7. **SBA HUBZone Program** - <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/hubzone-program>
8. **SBA 8(a) Business Development Program** - <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/8a-business-development-program>
9. **SBA Microloan Program** - <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/microloans>
10. **SBA Express Loan Program** - <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/lender-match>

Staying Connected

RISING STAR-ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Presented by: 

BRBC Awards Gala Sponsored by: 

BRBC Awards Gala Hosted by: 



DARWIN LARA

Darwin is recognized for his business accomplishments, and demonstrated success in entrepreneurship, growth, customer service and community involvement with personal commitment to make the Greater Bridgeport region a better place.

You're Invited!

SMALL & MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT

"TOGETHER WE THRIVE"
A CELEBRATION OF BRIDGEPORT'S SMALL BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023
9:30AM-11AM

JOIN US AT THE "TOGETHER WE THRIVE" EVENT TO CELEBRATE AND SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BRIDGEPORT BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS. THIS PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO RECOGNIZE AND APPRECIATE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

SPECIAL THANKS TO:






Margaret E. Morton Government Center
999 Broad St. Bridgeport, CT 06604

SEE YOU THERE!




<p>FAIRFIELD COUNTY CHILDREN'S CHOIR: GENERATIONS OF HOLIDAY CLASSICS</p>  <p>SUN. DEC 3, 2023 3:00PM</p>	<p>THE MEET AND GREET ART EXHIBITION</p>  <p>THURS, DEC 7, 2023 6:00PM-8:00PM</p>	<p>FORWARD TOGETHER: A MORAL MESSAGE FOR BRIDGEPORT</p>  <p>FRI. DEC 8, 2023 7:00PM</p>
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BRIDGEPORT P.A.L. 73RD CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

DECEMBER 2ND TO DECEMBER 23RD

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY: 4-8 P.M.
THURSDAY - SUNDAY: 1-8 P.M.

ALSO, MONDAY DECEMBER 18TH - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23RD 1-8 P.M.

ADMISSION:
\$5.00 PER PERSON FOR AGES 12 TO ADULT
\$2.50 PER PERSON FOR INFANTS TO AGE 11

PHOTO WITH SANTA \$10.00

BRIDGEPORT PAL COMPLEX
2 QUARRY ROAD,
TRUMBULL, CT. 06611

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
P.A.L OFFICE (203) 576-7604
VISIT: WWW.BRIDGEPORTPAL.COM
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:
BRIDGEPORT PAL

Dear Business Owners, we at SMBE would love to help promote your upcoming events, promotions, or flyers. Please feel free to share any information with us so that we can spread the word to our community.

Staying Connected

Dear Registered Businesses at the SMBE,

As we approach the end of 2023, it's time to look back at all that you've accomplished this year. Despite the challenges thrown your way, you persevered and continued to strive for success. Your hard work and determination have not gone unnoticed.

But with the end of one year comes the beginning of another, and there are even greater opportunities waiting for you in the new year to come. It's time to leave behind any setbacks or failures of the past and focus on the brighter moments ahead.

Remember that success is not always about achieving your goals, but also about the journey you take to get there. Every step you take is a step in the right direction, and every obstacle you overcome is a testament to your strength and resilience.

So keep moving forward, and don't be afraid to dream big. With determination, hard work, and a positive attitude, you can achieve anything you set your mind to. The future is bright, and I have no doubt that you will continue to do great things in the coming year.

Wishing you all the best for the new year ahead.

Sincerely,

SMBE Staff

Fred D. Gee Jr. - Director

Jason Chandersingh - Assistant Special Projects Manager

Maritza Gutierrez - Admin.



As the year 2023 comes to a close, it leaves behind memories and moments like a fiery sunset on the horizon - vivid, breathtaking, and unforgettable.