



JOINING ORGANIZATIONS

It's no big secret that success in the business world is based just as much on who you know as what you know. Fortunately for individuals at all stages of their careers and lives, cultivating both areas at the same time is entirely possible by selecting a professional organization and getting involved.

Just a few of the numerous benefits of joining a professional organization, whether it's specific to your industry, one with which you share common ground otherwise, or an opportunity to branch out from familiar territory, are as follows: Building your network will allow you to make important and lasting connections. Oftentimes you'll gain a friend, mentor, or ally along the way. Expanding your horizons and trying something new that might be a little outside of your comfort zone, such as an after-hours networking event or presenting to a group, is a surefire way to put yourself in a situation where you'll learn and grow. Getting together for a community service project or to attend a seminar or conference has the exact same result. Finally, there's no better place to find out all of the need-to-know information than in a group of fellow business professionals. From sharing leads to facilitating the connection between those seeking jobs and those looking to fill them, the conversation between like-minded individuals naturally leads to the good stuff. Collectively, rest assured the return is well worth the time and effort you'll invest.

All told, there are organizations and associations representative of nearly every profession, industry or special interest group and many have national, regional, state and/or local chapters who would love to have you as a member.

You may even want to consider being a member of an industry-specific group as well as a business-oriented organization with a broader focus and membership base. On one hand, you will be contributing to the progress being made in your respective industry and keeping up with advances in your field while learning from others who may have more experience or who will expose you to new ideas. On the other, you will have the opportunity to interact with people outside of your industry sphere who are involved in other fields, which can be an eye-opening experience. Both will greatly enhance your business profile, personal brand, and visibility in your community, making you even more of an asset to your employer as well.

Ultimately, why consider membership in a professional organization? The bottom line is that creating professional relationships truly is fundamental to your future success and joining an organization allows you to step outside of the workplace, meet new people and make new connections, gain access to invaluable information and opportunities, and to support and help one another in reaching your goals.

If you're looking to join an organization or want to know more about what's out there, keep reading – we've highlighted some excellent options and encourage you to reach out directly to learn more about how you can get involved!

The Rotary Club of Omaha (Downtown Rotary) is a place where new and emerging leaders meet and interact one-on-one with established leaders in our community. Our mission has always been the same: Leaders in our community working together to put service above self and the eradication of Polio. We do this by:

Rotary Club of Omaha



- Weekly Speakers – Dynamic, relevant and informative.
- Operation Hippocrates – We arrange for Omaha cardiac surgeons and hospitals to provide heart surgery and follow-up medical care for children in Belize.

- Eradication of Polio – In 1985, Rotary boldly launched the first global campaign to immunize the world's children against polio.
- Outland Trophy – We co-sponsor the annual Outland Trophy award dinner for college football's outstanding lineman.
- Community Service – We offer numerous opportunities for community service.
- People with Disabilities – We support projects for the disabled and we sponsor J.P. Lord School in the "Adopt a School Program."

For more information about Downtown Rotary, visit our website, www.omaharotary.org, email info@omaharotary.org or call (402) 342-0281.

Date: Thursday, March 1, 2018
Frequency: MONTHLY
Circulation: N/A
Clip Size: 86.52 sq. inches
Ad Rate: \$N/A
Page/Section: 38

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