



CONNECT & COLLABORATE

Staying Connected: Partnerships on the Pike

Our Team



Kim Klingler
Executive Director

Kim Klingler is a community leader and experienced professional who is passionate about convening and connecting stakeholders across Arlington County, and throughout the Region. She currently presides over the Columbia Pike Partnership as the Executive Director. Kim has also served as the Chair of both Arlington's Emergency Preparedness Advisory Commission (EPAC) and Arlington Committee of 100.

Kim was named to Arlington's Inaugural 40 Under 40 Class and is an alumna of the Leadership Arlington Class of 2007. Kim is a graduate of the Sorensen Political Leadership Program (PLP) at the University of Virginia (UVA) and has a BS from James Madison University (JMU).



- 1) **Welcome & Introductions**
- 2) **Resources from Our Partners**
- 3) **Ways to Become a Partner & Benefits**
- 4) **Insights from Our Partners**
- 5) **Questions & Answers**
- 6) **Announcements**
- 7) **Community Advisory Council Closed Session**

Our Team



Stephen G. Smith
Program Director

Stephen Gregory Smith is a long time resident of Arlington, for 21 years Stephen has built incredible professional experience in a variety of fields, from Landscape Design, Landscape Team Leader, Dog Daycare Manager, Film Series Curator, Actor, Director, Writer, and Podcast host, Stephen's multifaceted experience brings a broader understanding of business management, culture and diversity vital to the Columbia Pike Partnership.

Stephen joined the Columbia Pike Partnership in 2016 and has been an unstoppable force creating and promoting events and spaces to connect our beloved community of businesses and residents.

Our Team



Andrea Avendano
**Marketing & Communications
Specialist**

A dedicated and results-driven advertising and marketing specialist with over eight years of experience, Andrea holds a Bachelor's degree in Advertising and is very passionate about crafting innovative advertisements that not only are impactful to and for our partners and residents but that create positive and profound changes in the community.

Andrea joined the Columbia Pike Partnership team in September 2021. She is a resident of the Columbia Pike corridor in Fairfax County and is fluent in English and Spanish.

Community Advisory Council (CAC)



Ana Arias, Volunteer
Christina Armstrong, Bridges to Independence
Caitlin Brosseau, Resident
Chanda Choun, Resident & Activist
Tim Clark, Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse
Portia Clark, Green Valley
Hannah Dannenfelser, Resident & Activist
Cristina Diaz-Torres, Arlington School Board
Henry Dunbar, Resident & Activist
Angie Fox, Resident & Activist
Paty Funegra, La Cocina VA
Emily Gage, Phoenix Bikes
Greg Greeley, Resident & Activist
Dahlia Hamza Constantine, Education Advocate
Adam Henderson, Pike Presidents Group
Anika Kwinana, Arlington for Justice
Austin McNair, Arlington Mill Civic Association
Charlie Meng, Arlington Food Assistance Center
Reggie Nixon, Resident & Activist

Kourtney Pompei, Arlington Village
Rita Rutsohn, Resident & Activist
Claudia Salazar, Café Sazón
Chris Slatt, Transportation Commission
Tracy Smith, Neighborhood College
JD Spain, NAACP Arlington
Scott Taylor, Black Heritage Museum of Arlington
Pinaki Vaidya, Virginia Hospital Center (VHC)
Nancy White, Arlington Free Clinic
Edie Wilson, Shirlington Civic Association
Jessica Yanez, Los Chamacos
Juan Zabala, Latino Economic Development Center
Bethany Zecher Sutton, Randolph PTA
Mitch Opalski, Resident & Synergy HomeCare
Nikki Macdonald, Resident & Financial Planner
Scott Fink, Community Preservation Partners – East
Zakiya Worthey, K. Lamb LLC
Allyson Kennedy, Resident & National Science Foundation

Welcome New CAC Members



Allyson Kennedy, PhD
**Resident & National Science
Foundation**



Scott Fink
**Community Preservation
Partners – East**



Zakiya Worthey
K. Lamb LLC.

Resources from Our Partners



Mike Rosenow

**Senior Director of Membership
Arlington Chamber of Commerce**



The Small Business Accelerator Program, presented by Amazon, was created to support verified [Small, Women and Minority-owned \(SWaM\)](#) businesses. As the Presenting Sponsor of this program, Amazon will sponsor half of the membership dues for these businesses located in Virginia joining the Chamber for their first year of membership.

Resources from Our Partners



Veronica Santos

**Community Affairs Consultant
Comcast - Comcast Rise Program**



Recently, small businesses have been dealing with the ongoing impact of the pandemic, social unrest, and environmental events. Small businesses owned by people of color or women have been some of the hardest hit. **Comcast RISE was created to invest in the success of these critical businesses by providing valuable and practical support.**



Questions & Answers



Ways to Become a Partner

Our work relies on the partnerships we develop to get things done. Our mission statement is clear: Columbia Pike Partnership exists to be the convening body representing the interests of all those who live, work and visit Columbia Pike. We convene partners – citizens, businesses, fellow nonprofit organizations, and Arlington County departments – to accomplish our goals and realize our vision together.

Visit: columbiapike.org/partner for more information



Make a Donation

Every dollar you give is spent on programs and initiatives that serve Columbia Pike residents and businesses.



Become a Volunteer

We are always in need of volunteers to support our efforts in community events such as the annual Blues Festival, Movie Nights, or Paws on the Pike.



Share Our Work

Follow us on social media and sign up for our weekly newsletter to share information with your network about what's happening on Columbia Pike, learn about our upcoming events, and more.



Reach Out

Are you a new business or resident? Are you a nonprofit looking for help with a new initiative? Do you have information you'd like us to share with the community. Don't hesitate to reach out to our dedicated team for assistance or guidance.

Order Your Free Partner Sticker Today!



Share a photo of your window on social media
and tag us!

[@ColumbiaPikeVA](#) [#proudpartner](#)

Our Partners



Benedicto & Jessica Yanez
Owner of Los Chamacos Restaurant

“Our story begins with the encounter of two stranded immigrants who find themselves along the way. By merging traditional techniques with modern cuisine, the chef Benedict Yanez and her wife Jessica Yanez (originally from Mexico D.C but truly raised in Aguas calientes). Benedict migrated from El Salvador in 1996, looking for a brighter future in Texas, learning along the way all the necessary skills for running a restaurant. By chances given to him by wonderful people, he worked for over 24 years in different European and American restaurants creating in him the dream to own his own.”

Our Partners



Mihee Pansiri
Owner of Rincome Thai Cuisine



“We are a small, family-run restaurant that aims to serve you authentic and delicious Thai food. When you come through our doors, we strive to make you feel welcome and to provide you an enjoyable dining experience because you are family, and we expect nothing but the best for family. Come join us. We look forward to seeing you!!

Since 1985, our mission has been to provide delicious Thai food and friendly hospitality, so our guests can experience the flavors and warmth of Thailand.”

Our Partners



Diana Nakarmi
VP & General Counsel, Co-Founder
of Pentagon MMA



Together with Kru Vivek, Diana founded Pentagon MMA in 2012. Diana has been training in Muay Thai under Vivek Nakarmi since 2008, when she moved to the DC metro area. Diana has a JD from the University of Michigan School of Law, an M.B.A. from Florida International University, and a B.S. in Marketing from Florida State University. Before joining the Pentagon MMA family, she was an employment litigator at an international law firm in DC for almost five years. Diana now serves as Pentagon MMA's in-house counsel and office manager, making sure that everything runs smoothly. Kru Vivek and Diana have two beautiful boys and are also parents to Rocky, a very large German Shepherd pup who loves hanging around Pentagon MMA.

Partner Discussion






Questions & Answers



STATE OF THE PIKE

Thursday, February 10th
3:00 - 4:30 PM



COLUMBIA PIKE

PROGRESS LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 21st
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM



CAC Closed Session

Community Advisory Council (CAC)



Ana Arias, Volunteer
Christina Armstrong, Bridges to Independence
Caitlin Brosseau, Resident
Chanda Choun, Resident & Activist
Tim Clark, Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse
Portia Clark, Green Valley
Hannah Dannenfelser, Resident & Activist
Cristina Diaz-Torres, Arlington School Board
Henry Dunbar, Resident & Activist
Angie Fox, Resident & Activist
Paty Funegra, La Cocina VA
Emily Gage, Phoenix Bikes
Greg Greeley, Resident & Activist
Dahlia Hamza Constantine, Education Advocate
Adam Henderson, Pike Presidents Group
Anika Kwinana, Arlington for Justice
Austin McNair, Arlington Mill Civic Association
Charlie Meng, Arlington Food Assistance Center
Reggie Nixon, Resident & Activist

Kourtney Pompei, Arlington Village
Rita Rutsohn, Resident & Activist
Claudia Salazar, Café Sazón
Chris Slatt, Transportation Commission
Tracy Smith, Neighborhood College
JD Spain, NAACP Arlington
Scott Taylor, Black Heritage Museum of Arlington
Pinaki Vaidya, Virginia Hospital Center (VHC)
Nancy White, Arlington Free Clinic
Edie Wilson, Shirlington Civic Association
Jessica Yanez, Los Chamacos
Juan Zabala, Latino Economic Development Center
Bethany Zecher Sutton, Randolph PTA
Mitch Opalski, Resident & Synergy HomeCare
Nikki Macdonald, Resident & Financial Planner
Scott Fink, Community Preservation Partners – East
Zakiya Worthey, K. Lamb LLC
Allyson Kennedy, Resident & National Science Foundation

Welcome New CAC Members



Allyson Kennedy, PhD
**Resident & National Science
Foundation**



Scott Fink
**Community Preservation
Partners – East**



Zakiya Worthey
K. Lamb LLC.

CAC Questions



- 1) **How we might strengthen and/or enhance our Current Partnerships?**
- 2) **Who else we might Partner with, who is in alignment with our Values (Inclusiveness, Connectivity, Heritage & Prosperity)?**
- 3) **Why are you a Columbia Pike Partner and how have you strategically enhanced and expanded your relationships and Partnerships?**

Current Partnerships:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pweU0_dsCuGQQRTt3bcTPNO1Pdpy3hPc/edit?usp=sharing&oid=108014845264151575609&rtpof=true&sd=true

"Partnership" Insights & Connections Document:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/16aL4RE-rOlu3AtI3KUVIxbdYjd9_z5V2EMAIvRbGZ8M/edit?usp=sharing



2611 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA 22204
703-892-2776 | partner@columbiapike.org

www.columbia-pike.org