

# REDEFINING INDUSTRY

BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF INDUSTRY • TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026

## HONOREE BIOS



### **CHRISTINA BETANCOURT JOHNSON** **STANDARD WELLNESS MARYLAND**

Christina Betancourt Johnson is the CEO and Founder of Standard Wellness Maryland, a woman- and minority-owned, vertically licensed cannabis company. Christina brings more than 15 years of executive leadership to the cannabis industry and currently holds leadership roles on the U.S. Cannabis Roundtable and the National Hispanic Cannabis Council's Board of Directors. In Maryland, she serves as the Chair of the Board of CANMD (the Maryland wholesaler trade association) and was appointed by Governor Wes Moore to serve on the Advisory Board on Medical and Adult-Use Cannabis in Maryland. Prior to the cannabis industry, Christina raised more than \$60 million annually for national and international nonprofits as the Director of Marketing for the Combined Federal Campaign, served as the Executive Director for Conscious Capitalism, led a national affordable housing organization, and served in the C-suite for a regional mixed use and multi-family real estate development firm.



### **NICK CULBERTSON** **TECHSTARS AI HEALTH**

Nick Culbertson is the Managing Director of Techstars AI Health Baltimore, powered by Johns Hopkins University and CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield. The mission of the Techstars AI Health Baltimore accelerator is to empower AI healthcare startups to achieve rapid commercial traction through mentorship, resources, and network access, accelerating their path to market leadership and sustainable impact. Prior to joining Techstars, Nick co-founded, led, and sold Protenus, a Baltimore-based AI company that brought automation and risk reduction to healthcare compliance. Nick is a lead contributor to over 20 patents and co-author of several peer-reviewed articles. Nick served eight years in the U.S. Army as a highly decorated U.S. Special Forces Operator (Green Beret) and Advanced Tactical Practitioner. Nick volunteers with several Baltimore initiatives focused on entrepreneurship and innovation in the Baltimore tech community.



### **BEN NICHOLS** **HARKINS BUILDERS**

Ben Nichols is the President & CEO of Harkins Builders, a 100% employee-owned construction management company founded in 1965 and deeply rooted in the Baltimore community. He leads Harkins' strategic vision, centered on people, growth, and innovation, with a hands-on approach that prioritizes relationships among employee-owners, clients, designers, trade partners, and the communities that Harkins supports. Beyond Harkins, Ben serves on the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) National Construction Task Force, the USO Mid Atlantic Executive Board, and The Harkins Foundation Board. A U.S. Naval Academy graduate, Ben previously served as a Marine Corps Engineer combat officer, leading military construction projects across the U.S., Spain, the Philippines, and Afghanistan. That experience continues to shape his disciplined, values-driven leadership approach. Ben has been recognized as an ENR "Top 20 Under 40" and a Baltimore Business Journal "Top 40 Under 40" professional.

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**TAMLA OLIVIER**  
**BGE**

Tamla Olivier is the president and chief executive officer of Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE), a subsidiary of Exelon Corporation. Starting in 2021, Olivier served as the chief operating officer for Exelon's Pepco Holdings, the parent company of Atlantic City Electric, Delmarva Power, and Pepco. Prior to her role at Pepco Holdings, Olivier was BGE's senior vice president of Customer Operations and chief customer officer. Earlier in her career, Olivier spent a decade in senior leadership roles in the home energy sector, along with human resources and organizational development roles at T. Rowe Price, Constellation, United Defense, and Wells Fargo. She is a MedStar Health board member and also serves on the Quality, Safety & Professional Affairs (QSPAC) Committee and Finance Committee. She is a board member of Century Aluminum, Greater Baltimore Committee, Baltimore's Promise, and the Downtown Partnership of Baltimore. She is the vice-chair of the Maryland Governor's Workforce Development Board and the vice-chair for Catholic Charities of Maryland. Olivier's extensive board service underscores her deep commitment to the Baltimore community, where she works to expand opportunity and improve quality of life for local residents.



**DR. JAMES WEST**  
**JOHNS HOPKINS WHITING SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING**

Dr. James West is a Professor at Johns Hopkins University Whiting School of Engineering and formerly a Bell Laboratories Fellow, at Lucent Technologies. His pioneering research on charge storage and transport in polymers (the electrical analogy of a permanent magnet) led to the development of electret transducers for sound recording and voice communication. Almost 90% of all microphones built today are based on the principles he first published in the early 1960s. West holds more than 60 U.S. and about 200 foreign patents on various microphones and techniques for making polymer electrets and transducers. He was inducted into The National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1999 for the invention of the electret microphone. West was awarded the National Medal of Technology and Innovation in 2006 by President George W. Bush, and is also the proud recipient of the Benjamin Franklin Medal in Engineering (2010). West is the recipient of the Acoustical Society of America's Silver (1995) and Gold (2006) Medals in Engineering Acoustics. He is currently advising a local startup, Sonavi Labs, which is developing a life-changing smart digital stethoscope with machine-learning algorithms to diagnose respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.