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40 2022 HAMILTON

UNDER FORTY BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

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WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT

John G. Bassindale

Millar Kreklewetz LLP

Amie Burdett

Tripemco Insurance Group

Blake Cameron

H2GO

Paul Ciapanna

KPMG LLP

Miranda Dias

Carmen's Group

Gregory Fast

Special Event Rentals

Giancarlo Salvatore Ferko

Plaza Nissan

Natalie Fraser

Pro Form Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation & lululemon

Giancarlo Frisina

Stoney Creek Rehab & Wellness Centre

Rachel Elizabeth Green

Bodega Wellness and Clouded

Anthony Grilli

Ferrell Builders' Supply LTD.

Krista Halliday

Ray Management Group

Khadija Hamidu

Workforce Planning Hamilton

Shene Harris

Ross & McBride LLP

Bryan Herechuk

Hamilton Health Sciences

Eric Johnston

Actor and Stand up Comedian

Thea Laidman

Mohawk College

Eddie Lartey

Anchor Rehab/HYP

Chengyao Liu

Open Knowledge DAO

Ban Markos

You and I Paint Inc.

Brian Melo

Brian Melo Entertainment Inc.

Marisa Mercanti-Gagnon

The Daydream Diaries

Nicole Meriano

Fig & Lemon by Carmen's Group

Ann Merritt

You and I Paint Inc.

Abygail Montague

BLK OWNED Hamont

Alexandria Montague

BLK OWNED Hamont

Ashleigh Montague Moseley

BLK OWNED Hamont

Mario Salvatore Nesci

AlMar Property Holdings

Neva Marie Novakovic

Novakovic Law Professional Corporation

Shana Otter

WBC Cares Canada

Jilda Perez

Pettinelli Mastroluisi LLP

Joshua Rocci

Driven Brands, Inc.

James Seraphin

Fix My Brick

Jennifer Rose Smith

Hamilton Health Sciences

Mike Spadafora

Hamilton Kiltz B's Jr Hockey Club

Daniel Trombetta

Titan Mortgage Group

Denise Tulk

Denise Tulk Insurance Agency Inc

Shannon Elizabeth Tymosko

Lady Voltz

Betsy Wang

Betsy Wang Team RE/MAX

Steven Zecchin

Emco Corporation

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THIS YEAR WINNERS!



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CONGRATULATIONS YOU DESERVE IT

BUSINESS LINK MEDIA GROUP CONGRATULATES YOU

Each 40 Under Forty Business Achievement Award is given to an individual under 40 years of age who consistently makes their mark in business and contributes regularly to their respective communities.

On behalf of Business Link Media Group, we would like to offer our sincere congratulations to the 40 business people honoured here tonight. We present these awards to recognize the challenges you have overcome, and the strides you make each day towards strengthening the Great Hamilton Region.

A sincere “thank you” goes out to all those who took the time to nominate these outstanding individuals. Without your efforts, these people may not have received the recognition they deserve.

ALL THE BEST IN YOUR CONTINUING EFFORTS!

*40U40 Hamilton Event Committee
Chair, Marilyn Tian & Co-Chair, Charlie Agro*

40 UNDER FORTY ITINERARY

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1520 STONE CHURCH RD E, HAMILTON

RECEPTION

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

WELCOME, REFLECTION, & DINNER

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM



ABOUT

BUSINESS LINK MEDIA GROUP

Founded in 2003, The Business Link specializes in enhancing the reach, impact, and effectiveness of business marketing, outreach, and representation within both the traditional web, and the rapidly emerging Web 3.0 online environments. We help businesses to navigate the constantly evolving world of modern marketing and business development.

As a community builder, we have developed deep roots in the Greater Hamilton of Ontario, and are actively growing new ones in the shape of fully digital Metaverse communities.

We are serving a global community, however we actively collaborate with and give back to our home region of Hamilton, Canada. One such collaboration is our annual ‘40 Under Forty Business Achievement Awards’, which is proudly in its 9th year as of 2022.

Our media platforms include digital publications, live events, television programs, virtual landscapes, and much more!

We are built upon the foundation of providing your business/organization with the resources, messaging, and the solutions to not only reach your audience, but also make a meaningful impact.



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40 Under Forty Alumni ('21)

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Director, Business Development & Marketing,
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DANIEL OTTER

40 Under Forty Alumni ('18)

Managing Director, ABC Enterprises
Chair, Three Lions Promotions





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JOHN G. BASSINDALE



John Bassindale is proudly Hamilton born and raised. He graduated with an Honours Bachelor of Commerce from McMaster University, which included a 1-year internship with the Canada Revenue Agency at their Hamilton office. John left Hamilton attend Osgoode Hall law school, but returned to work in Hamilton during the summer, and to complete his articling placement with one of the city's largest law firms. John has served as Chair of the Ontario Bar Association's Taxation Law Section, and he is now a partner at Millar Kreklewetz LLP, a top-ranked boutique law firm focusing on Canadian indirect tax, customs, and trade matters.

COMPANY: MILLAR KREKLEWETZ LLP
TELEPHONE: 416-864-6200

AMIE BURDETT



Amie Burdett is a dynamic and driven account manager with Tripemco Insurance Group. Amie joined the firm in 2016, coming to the brokerage with more than five years of experience in the insurance industry. She assisted in the substantial development, growth, and management of a specialized complex commercial insurance sector working with mobile cranes. She now manages a significant insurance portfolio and assists with operational leadership and growth at Tripemco. Tripemco Insurance Email: group@tripemco.com

COMPANY: TRIPEMCO INSURANCE GROUP
TELEPHONE: 905-664-2266

BLAKE CAMERON



Starting his business career in 2011, Blake Cameron has been a driving force behind the rapid growth and development of H2GO. Working side by side with his long-time trusted business partner Richard Caetano, the two have built a growing group of companies that has now transformed into Canada's first and leading Mobile Wash Franchise. Groundwork is currently being laid out to expand the H2GO brand into the United States with the creation of their additional company Birch Lake Capital LTD in early 2017. H2GO and its franchisees now have access to in house financing on vehicles & equipment, eliminating the need for outside third-party leverage. When congratulated on the 40U40 achievement Blake was exceedingly kind and thankful but assured us in saying that the mission is still far from over.

COMPANY: H2GO
TELEPHONE: 289-339-9488

PAUL CIAPANNA



Paul is an Audit and Assurance Partner based out of the KPMG Hamilton Office. After finishing his Bachelor of Commerce Degree at McMaster University, Paul has been with KPMG and is going on his twelfth year in public practice. Paul is a trusted advisor for clients of all sizes and risk profiles including listed companies, large multinational corporations, local not for profit organizations and municipalities and other government affiliated entities. At KPMG, he is a national facilitator for audit methodology and outside of work, Paul is heavily involved in the Hamilton community holding board positions for the CYO, Super crawl: Hamilton's Music and Arts Festival, and Hamilton Celtics Basketball. He is also a proud member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1454 and CIBPA Hamilton Halton Chapter.

COMPANY: KPMG LLP
TELEPHONE: 905-523-2228

MIRANDA DIAS



Miranda Diaz is the Director of sales at Carmens banquet and event center. Through caring commitment and tenacity, Miranda has led the sales and event team out of lockdown. Celebrating her "sweet 16th" year in event planning and sales, she has had the pleasure of working with clients such as Sony pictures, TIFF, Spence Diamonds, Bakardi, Much Music , Goodlife fitness etc. Miranda is committed to her clients vision and brings it to life with honesty, care, integrity and respect for tradition. She is passionate about bringing people together for memorable experiences that will entertain and delight.Miranda and the team at Carmen's are thrilled to welcome the city of Hamilton back through our doors to make more magical memories.

COMPANY: CARMENS GROUP
TELEPHONE: 905-387-9400

GIANCARLO SALVATORE FERKO



Giancarlo was born and raised in Hamilton. He is proud to call Hamilton home where he continues to live with his wife and three boys. He still has a strong connection to his Italian Slovenian heritage and tries to keep their cultural traditions alive. Giancarlo works for Plaza Nissan. Initially he was a Sales Associate, then an Exchange Specialist before he moved to his current role of Sales Manager. Giancarlo's favourite quote is "Life's not about how hard of a hit you can give, it is about how many you can take and still keep moving forward." He uses this in his daily life and as he encourages and motivates his staff to keep striving forward through all obstacles. Giancarlo is the past recipient of a Reader's Choice Award for Car Salesman of the Year and has also participated in charitable events such as the Easter's Seals Dancing with the Stars.

COMPANY: PLAZA NISSAN
TELEPHONE: 905-928-5890

GREGORY FAST



Gregory Fast is an accomplished event designer and entertaining expert hailing from Burlington, Ontario. Growing up in a home always bustling with parties, mixers, and socials, Gregory's passion for events bloomed, and his keen eye for seeing opportunities to enhance guest experiences that impress and delight. With a talent for making even the smallest moment special, Gregory graduated from Mohawk College in Advertising with a specialty diploma in Event Management. Gregory quickly made a name for himself planning some of Southern Ontario's most noteworthy at-home parties, celebrations, weddings and more for some of the region's biggest movers and shakers. Through these experiences Gregory was able to pursue the purchase of Special Event Rentals in Burlington and with the help of his family and team, has transformed the event rental experience with stylish event rentals accessible to all.

COMPANY: SPECIAL EVENT RENTALS
TELEPHONE: 905-681-1444 EXT. 262

NATALIE FRASER



Natalie graduated from Acadia University with a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Human Diabetics. She began her career at lululemon as a part time seasonal educator in November 2019. Natalie quickly grew within the company, staying on with the team to become a Key Leader at both Lime Ridge Mall and the Mapleview Mall location. Her critical thinking skills and ability to learn quickly gave her the skill set to take on the Assistant Store Manager of Operations position at Mapleview Mall. In her spare time, she practices her other passion as Registered Dietitian at ProForm Sports and Rehabilitation Clinic.

COMPANY: PRO FORM SPORTS MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION & LULULEMON
TELEPHONE: 905-467-3111



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GIANCARLO FRISINA



Doctor Giancarlo Frisina, has always been fascinated by chiropractic care, having been exposed to it at such an early age. With his father Angelo being a chiropractor as well, and clinic director of Stoney Creek Rehab and Wellness Centre, he has learned the importance of putting patients first. His passion for helping others paved the way for his career path, and his drive to help his surrounding community. Dr. Frisina graduated with a four-year degree with a Bachelor of Science in Biology at D'Youville University in Buffalo, New York. Following his undergraduate degree, he completed an additional four year Doctor of Chiropractic degree at D'Youville University. His internship took place at the University at Buffalo Neurosurgery Clinic and Erie County Medical Centre. He furthered his education by completing training from the McMaster University Neuromusculoskeletal program.

COMPANY: STONEY CREEK REHAB & WELLNESS CENTRE
TELEPHONE: 905-664-1660

RACHEL ELIZABETH GREEN



Rachel Green, an entrepreneur, and mental health activist is the Founder and sole owner of Bodega Wellness, a premium Holistic Health Store. Rachels desire for helping others inspired her to create one of Canada's top selling CBD brands, LAMM CBD. Rachel is committed to supporting the mental & physical wellbeing of her community, using CBD Oils. Her brand, LAMM CBD has proven to help people struggling with chronic pain, inflammation, anxiety, autoimmune diseases, depression, pain, insomnia, and more. Her genuine passion for others is what makes the foundation of Bodega Wellness so victorious. Rachel Green puts people before profit, which is her motto. In addition to Rachel's celebrated entrepreneurship, she is also a well-known philanthropist, in her local Hamilton community. Rachel tackles Hamilton's ongoing Homeless population by collecting clothing, promoting food drives, and even wrapping gifts with handwritten cards at Christmas for over five hundred homeless people, every year.

COMPANY: BODEGA WELLNESS AND CLOUDED
TELEPHONE: 647-633-5212

ANTHONY GRILLI



Anthony Grilli is a third-generation employee of the family owned and operated Ferrell Builders' Supply Ltd. Starting at an early age, he witnessed the passion and dedication involved in the business, and fell in love with the industry, choosing it as his career path. He continued his education at Mohawk College, choosing to stay close to home and continue to grow within his role at Ferrell. After completing double diplomas in both Business and Business Administration, Anthony continues to grow with his seat on the board of directors at Ferrell, supporting and contributing to various charities within the community, as well as an active member in home building associations. While proud of the mark he has made thus far in the building supply industry, Anthony will tell you he is most focused on the year ahead. In 2023, he gets to marry his best friend, Mary-Frances, and welcome their first child into the world!

COMPANY: FERRELL BUILDERS' SUPPLY LTD.
TELEPHONE: 905-387-1948

KRISTA HALLIDAY



Hamilton raised Krista Halliday launched her first company at twenty-eight years old, Global Edge Brands and grew it to be Canada's leading retail and brand consulting company that worked with world renowned brands like Gerber Baby, The Honest Company, Disney and many more. Currently operating under Ray Management Group (RMG), Krista is the CEO with purpose and intention to support, create and launch products that lead with integrity and prioritize social good. A serial entrepreneur gaining speed in the local and national marketplace, Krista has leveraged her leadership, innovation, and business prowess to launch three additional Hamilton based businesses; Little Sprouts Day-care, Nest Coworking, and retail shop Luv La Vie, two of which have won Reader's Choice Awards for three years running. Each of Krista's businesses whether national or local have a give back component that is deeply rooted in the community.

COMPANY: RAY MANAGEMENT GROUP
TELEPHONE: 416-728-8740

KHADIJA HAMIDU



Khadija Hamidu is the Executive Director of Workforce Planning Hamilton and Founder of Melanin Market Hamilton. Over the past eight years, Khadija has been a community developer in the Hamilton region focusing on community connections, Black creative expression and ownership while envisioning a prosperous and diverse Hamilton community. With her experience working with Hamilton non-for-profit organizations such as SPRC, Community Living, YMCAHB, and Wesley, Khadija plans to continue to foster community partnerships and collaborations from an equitable and inclusive Labour Market lens.

COMPANY: WORKFORCE PLANNING HAMILTON
TELEPHONE: 647-270-0777

SHENE HARRIS



Shene is an Associate Lawyer at Ross & McBride LLP, where she practices in Civil Litigation with an emphasis on construction law and all areas of corporate and commercial litigation, including matters related to contract breaches, shareholder and partner disputes, and property disputes. Shene is an active member of Hamilton's legal community, and a member of the Hamilton Law Association, Ontario Bar Association and Canadian Bar Association. She is also a dedicated supporter of local businesses and development, and a member of West End Hamilton Builders' Association.

COMPANY: ROSS & MCBRIDE LLP
TELEPHONE: 905-526-9800

BRYAN HERECHUK



A lifelong Hamiltonian and enthusiastic health care leader, Bryan is a strategic, versatile, and high impact leader within the Hamilton hospital sector with more than fifteen years of progressive and unique health leadership experiences, including leading portfolios in quality improvement, strategic planning, governance, information technology, clinical operations, regulatory compliance, and redevelopment/capital equipment management. Enthusiastic in growing and enhancing health leadership capacity, Bryan has been highly active in local and national governance of Canadian College of Health Leaders and is the current Board of Directors Vice Chair. An adoptive parent of two, Bryan is also Chair of Beginnings Family Services Board of Directors.

COMPANY: HAMILTON HEALTH SCIENCE
TELEPHONE:

ERIC JOHNSTON



Eric Johnston is an award-winning comedian, actor, and emcee that delivers a one-of-kind high-energy comedy experience. Fresh from his Coast to Coast "Run with The Bull" Comedy Tour, Johnston has performed across Canada and the United States, featured on MTV, JFL42, The Laugh Factory, The House of Blues, and The Comedy Store in Hollywood. From stories about being raised by a professional wrestler, to jokes about thriving and surviving in his hometown of Hamilton, Ontario, Johnston's comedy is both outrageous and relatable, and will leave you begging for more.

COMPANY: ACTOR AND STAND UP COMEDIAN
TELEPHONE: 905-870-1419

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THEA LAIDMAN



Thea Laidman is Director of International Recruitment at Mohawk College. She works with international students, partners, and institutions around the world to support global learning, while championing a welcoming and inclusive environment on campus. An enthusiastic global citizen, she has travelled, volunteered, or worked in more than thirty-five countries and has been recognized by Mohawk as an 'Everyday Hero' for her contributions to the college and community. In June 2020, she co-founded Helping Hampers, raising over \$50,000 to provide food and essentials to students in need during the pandemic. Thea is pursuing her Masters in Higher Education Administration and continues to find ways to connect the world.

COMPANY: MOHAWK COLLEGE
TELEPHONE: 905-575-1212 EXT 4761

EDDIE LARTEY



Eddie Larney is a graduate of McMaster's Political Science and Labour Studies and from Sheridan College's HR Management. Eddie is truly passionate about community building. He blends this passion with spoken word where he uses the art of storytelling and heartfelt wordplay to connect communities across Hamilton and beyond. Eddie is currently the national Spoken Word Champion but he is more than the arts, Eddie's talents have led him to work alongside Anchor Rehab, where he fosters an amazing work culture and leads recruitment and retention. When Eddie isn't serving clients or communities, you can always catch him sharing a great laugh.

COMPANY: ANCHOR REHAB/HYP
TELEPHONE: 289-439-8682

CHENGYAO LIU



I learned about blockchain from 2019 and became addicted to it but I wasted a lot of time on some invalid information during the initial learning period. I understand the importance of addressing information fragmentation, and I am keen to make Web 3.0 accessible to more beginners quickly and efficiently. This is my passion and the reason why I am building OpenKnowledgeDAO. The Web 3.0 industry is not just speculative, for example, DAO can further liberate members' productivity, reduce labour costs, but enhance organizational democracy. My dream is to make more people understand this emerging field and work on developing applications that truly enable Web 3.0 ideas and technologies that can apply to people's lives.

COMPANY: OPEN KNOWLEDGE DAO
TELEPHONE: 289-887-5620

BAN MARKOS



My name is Ban Markos, born and raised in Baghdad, Iraq and arrived in Canada in 2001. I went to school for Architectural Technology, at Mohawk College and worked in the industry for more than ten years until I discovered I had a calling for a little more. Just before the pandemic hit, I started my own company with my sister Ann, You and I Paint Inc; where we host upscale Sip and Paint for private, public and corporate events since both of our passions included art and painting. Pivoting during the pandemic became an art on its own, but we could not give up since we both have little girls of our own looking up to us as businesswomen. Fast forwarding to today with a team of eight incredible women we are looking to expand our service behind the golden horse!

COMPANY: YOU AND I PAINT INC
TELEPHONE: 289-808-9361

BRIAN MELO



Born and raised in Hamilton- his heart is here in his home town. He thrives on making a positive impact on his local communities through music. Brian's musical journey began in high school in a band called Stoked, where they performed at local bars. I'm 2007, he decided to audition for Canadian Idol and won the title. From there his career took off! Over the last several years Melo had the opportunity to share the stage with some great artists such as Queen, Maroon 5, Rihanna, Bon Jovi, Alanis Morissette, Chicago and fellow American Idol Kelly Clarkson. Since Brian moved home in 2019, he's launched a mentoring program "Beyond the Melody," where music mentoring meets personal development. He mentors students on performance state of mind, songwriting, creative thinking, building a dynamic show and discovering their artistry.

COMPANY: BRIAN MELO ENTERTAINMENT INC.
TELEPHONE: 905-902-1425

MARISA MERCANTI-GAGNON



Marisa is the travel and lifestyle blogger behind the website, The Daydream Diaries. She has been in the digital space for over ten years now and has worked with brands such as Fairmont, Walmart, Swoop Airlines, and several Tourism Boards both near and far. Her website features Destination Guides, Hotel Spotlights and Travel Hacks to help you travel more easily. She collaborates with companies to highlight their products, businesses, or destinations and creates engaging content for them through blog posts, photos, videos, and social shares. Though she loves to travel and has lived in various cities, she is proud to have settled in her hometown of Hamilton, Ontario with her husband and their two daughters, Chloe, and Gemma. You can follow her adventures at @thedaydreamdiaries or on her website at www.thedaydreamdiaries.com

COMPANY: THE DAYDREAM DIARIES
TELEPHONE: 416-561-2926

NICOLE MERIANO



"It's all in the details" perfectly encapsulates Nicole Meriano, Sales & Event Manager for Fig & Lemon, one of Hamilton's most premium off-site catering companies. Nicole has developed a meticulous eye with over ten years of experience in the fast-paced, evolving world of marketing, event planning and execution worlds, while keeping an articulate focus on the big picture. Nicole has built successful events and lasting relationships with clients, many of whom have become friends. With an infectious smile and a passion for delivering a client's vision, Nicole orchestrates every detail to ensure a culinary experience that is beautiful, memorable, and delicious.

COMPANY: FIG & LEMON BY CARMEN'S GROUP
TELEPHONE: 905-746-7166

ANN MERRITT



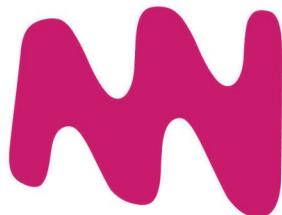
Ann Merritt born and raised in Baghdad, Iraq and arrived in Canada in 2001. She studied Architectural Technology at Mohawk College and worked in the industry for more than ten years. Ann worked mostly in the civil and mechanical engineering sectors where she met her husband and had two beautiful children. Just before the pandemic hit, she took the leap by quitting her nine-to-five job and joined with her sister Ban to start their own company, You and I Paint Inc; where they host Upscale Sip and Paint for private, public, and corporate events. Both of their passions included art and painting. Running a brand-new business during the pandemic had its challenges but they had to pivot and went completely virtual until they were able to do in-person events. Fast forwarding to today with a team of eight incredible women, Ann and Ban are looking forward to expanding their service behind the golden-horse and hopefully someday international!

COMPANY: YOU AND I PAINT INC.
TELEPHONE: 905-870-1419

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ABYGAIL MONTAGUE



Abygail Montague is a mover and shaker within her community and a leader amongst her peers! Consequently, Abygail was elected as the second Black-Woman President of the Student Council at St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School. In 2020, Abygail Co-Founded Janus Skills for success and led a team of ten students to host two curbside food and clothing drives. She also facilitated online film and discussion workshop topics on Anti-Racism and Youth Mental Health in her community. She co-launched the BLK OWNED HAMONT platform to highlight and support Black-owned businesses. In 2021, Abygail received an award for the prestigious Loran Award and was named a McCall MacBain Loran Scholar of the year. She now studies Kinesiology at Western University, where she is year-round peer support for first-year students and an executive member of the Black Student Association.

COMPANY: BLK OWNED HAMONT
TELEPHONE: 905-978-1092

ASHLEIGH MONTAGUE MOSELEY



Ashleigh Montague is enthusiastic about impacting the communities in which she lives, learns, and works. Ashleigh's love for community shows through the initiatives and non-profit organizations she has co-founded; Janus Skills 4-Success, Operation Feed the Homeless, and Nu Omega Zeta - Canada's second Black-focused sorority. Ashleigh embodies what it means to be a "True Hamiltonian". In 2020, she co-founded BLK OWNED, a platform designed to celebrate, showcase, elevate and support Black-owned businesses. In a time of instability, she used this platform to redirect traffic to Black-owned businesses in Hamilton through effective and innovative free marketing. Now, BLK OWNED is a registered non-profit with a focus on helping Black youth entrepreneurs through education, advocacy, and research! As a Connection Specialist, her life's mission is to motivate and inspire youth through the art of connecting with self, others, and community. She will be using these tools in her new role as a Graduation Coach for Black Students at Saint Thomas More!

COMPANY: BLK OWNED HAMONT
TELEPHONE: 905-978-1092

ALEXANDRIA MONTAGUE



Across Canada, Alexandria Montague has dedicated hours to creating and supporting empowering spaces throughout her professional career. Alexandria contributed to the cultural hub Stackt Market as their Arts + Community Coordinator in Toronto and managed the daily operations of a profile of over ninety stores for Sunrise Records. Alexandria produced engaging content as a Content Coordinator for Pela Case in Kelowna, BC. In 2020, she co-founded BLK OWNED, a platform created to celebrate, highlight, and support Black-owned businesses in Hamilton. BLK OWNED has created a database of over 150 Black businesses and entrepreneurs. Through the power of advocacy, BLK OWNED has provided opportunities, marketing, and educational support for over one hundred entrepreneurs. As a community builder, Alexandria is currently a Project Coordinator at McMaster, where she supports Black Faculty initiatives.

COMPANY: BLK OWNED HAMONT
TELEPHONE: 905-978-1092

MARIO SALVATORE NESCI



Mario Salvatore Nesci is an entrepreneur who thrives from new ventures. His interest in business fostered through the footsteps and guidance of his father. Mario collaborated with his father in his early career and learned how to run a business from the ground up, which later inspired him to begin his own profession as a business owner. This was possible by partnering with like-minded people and allowed Mario to have his hands in multiple businesses and Real-estate ventures. Mario is the proud owner of a variety of businesses in the Hamilton area, which include, Almar Property Holdings, Harper's Garden Centre, MJM Equestrian Centre, Ruffin's Pet Centres, as well as Smoking Barrel. His interests lie in the development and restoration of a project which keeps him continuously seeking new professional opportunities.

COMPANY: ALMAR PROPERTY HOLDINGS
TELEPHONE: 905-971-3265

NEVA MARIE NOVAKOVIC



Born and raised in Hamilton, Neva has so much love for this city. She went to high school at Glendale and completed her undergraduate degrees at McMaster University, in Humanities and Philosophy. She then moved away to Sydney, Australia to complete her law degree. While Australia was a beautiful journey, she could not wait to come home. Social justice will always be a passion for Neva. She completed her articling term at Animal Justice Canada, a charity which will always be close to her heart. Neva now has her own real estate and family law practice in the heart of downtown Hamilton.

COMPANY: NOVAKOVIC LAW PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
TELEPHONE: 905-928-6382

SHANA OTTER



Shana Otter, proud Hamiltonian, raised in a family of diligent workers, was brought up on many lessons of kindness and giving back. In 2008 Shana graduated with a bachelor's degree from McMaster University and has since worked as a successful Account Executive. Although incredibly happy in her career, this mother of two has a passion for giving back. Through her philanthropic activities, Shana was the Canadian Chair for WBC Cares Canada in 2018. She has hosted over twenty events, raising over \$150,000 for local and international charities, giving back to the youth of our communities. Shana is a regular blood donor, runs yearly holiday drives, and is always looking for new ways to collaborate and give back to the community.

COMPANY: WBC CARES CANADA
TELEPHONE: 905-902-7429

JILDA PEREZ



Jilda has over ten years of experience serving small to medium size businesses in various industries. She has experience in public accounting and began her career in Hamilton working for a national accounting firm for several years. Jilda brings a deep understanding of financial reporting, corporate and personal income tax compliance knowledge to help serve her clients.

COMPANY: PENELLI MASTROLUISI LLP
TELEPHONE: 905-522-6555

JOSHUA ROCCI



Joshua, born and raised in Hamilton, attended McMaster University, got his CPA, and joined Driven Brands in 2019. He has been instrumental in helping grow the collision and glass businesses through strategic planning, analytics, and targeted development. Joshua's focus in his current role of Director of Strategy & Analytics, is creating data-driven guidance for Driven's U.S. glass business. This includes a focus on identifying new growth levers and leading the strategic planning for acquisitions which has resulted in Driven becoming the second largest auto glass business in North America in just nine months.

COMPANY: DRIVEN BRANDS, INC.
TELEPHONE: 905-741-1449



6.
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JAMES SERAPHIN



James Seraphin is the owner and operator of "Fix My Brick," a masonry company based out of Hamilton Ontario. James has over a decade of experience in brick repair. He started "Fix My Brick" in his early twenties as a side business while still working full time for his father's building restoration company. James prides himself on knowing all the latest innovations and improvements within the field of masonry so "Fix My Brick" can keep up with client's preferences and needs providing the best service possible. Years later "Fix My Brick" has become a successful family run business, providing quality services with a team of experts you can always count on.

COMPANY: FIX MY BRICK
TELEPHONE: 905-531-0404

MIKE SPADAFORA



Mike Spadafora is the President of the Hamilton Kilty B's Junior Hockey Club and the GM of the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club. Mike and his wife Joanna have been married for thirteen years and have three beautiful children. Born and raised in Hamilton, Mike has been a community leader and is looking to continue to improve our city as he runs for city councillor of Ward 14 in the upcoming election. In addition, Mike previously worked as the Business Development Manager for PPG-Dulux Paints, as well as a small business owner in the contracting industry. Mike also sits on the Tiger town council with many other members of the business and local community.

COMPANY: HAMILTON KILTY B'S JR HOCKEY CLUB
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DANIEL TROMBETTA



Daniel joined his family business, Titan Mortgage Group at an early age, working tirelessly as a young teen, learning from his parents everything that makes for a respectable, dependable business that values its customers. He learned at a youthful age how important it is to take care of the community and place clients first to be sure they get the best mortgage possible. His love for the business grew and he eventually obtained his license to officially join the brokerage. Over the years Daniel has won multiple awards in the industry. Daniel is determined to make your mortgage experience seamless and quick. Whether you are a first-time buyer or repeat customer, he will obtain for you the best rates, mortgage terms and products possible.

COMPANY: TITAN MORTGAGE GROUP
TELEPHONE: 905-906-8049

DENISE TULK



Denise began her insurance career in 2010 and immediately realized she wanted to be her own boss. After years of challenging work, building relationships, and gaining experience in the industry, her efforts were rewarded by opening her Desjardins Insurance Agency in Stoney Creek in 2018. Since then, Denise has continued to grow her business and expanded to a bigger location in Winona this year. Denise believes in the importance of giving back to the community; she volunteers with several non-profit organizations in the area. She is enthusiastic about helping her clients protect their assets and more importantly, their families, with customized insurance plans.

COMPANY: DENISE TULK INSURANCE AGENCY INC.
TELEPHONE: 905-643-1188

SHANNON ELIZABETH TYMOSKO



Shannon Tymosko is a 3rd year Electrical Apprentice and proud sister of the IBEW Local 105; Hamilton. She is also a Skilled Trades Ambassador, Motivational Speaker, and an Advocate for Mental Health. She originally completed a Child and Youth work diploma where she found a compassion and understanding for people, along with the challenges of mental health. Being an ambassador has allowed Shannon to combine her passion for people, with her new love for the trades. She uses her voice, story, and platform to encourage, motivate and inspire change in the industry and the minds of the young and old.

COMPANY: LADY.VOLTZ
TELEPHONE: 905-251-3840

BETSY WANG



Betsy Wang, recognized nationally as a leader of a Top 10 RE/MAX Team in Canada. She has closed over two-hundred fifty real estate transactions with career sales of over \$200 Million. Majority of her business comes from direct referrals and repeat business. Her ongoing success has driven her ability to attract, nurture, and retain genuine relationships with her clients. Betsy graduated from Brock University in 2009 and has been working in the real estate industry for over ten years. She prides herself on running her business with the utmost care, dedication, and enthusiasm.

COMPANY: BETSY WANG TEAM RE/MAX
TELEPHONE: 905-984-9798

STEVEN ZECCHIN



Steven emigrated from Lake Como, Italy to study at McMaster University where he received a degree in Chemical Engineering and Management. He joined the plumbing division of Emco Corporation, one of Canada's largest plumbing distributors and is now the Profit Centre Manager of Emco Hamilton Mountain. Steven is enthusiastic about Italian arts and culture and serves as Vice-President of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy Trieste Lodge and as board member of Fest Italia. He also founded the cultural radio show La Vita e' Bella that broadcasts to the Hamilton community.

COMPANY: EMCO CORPORATION
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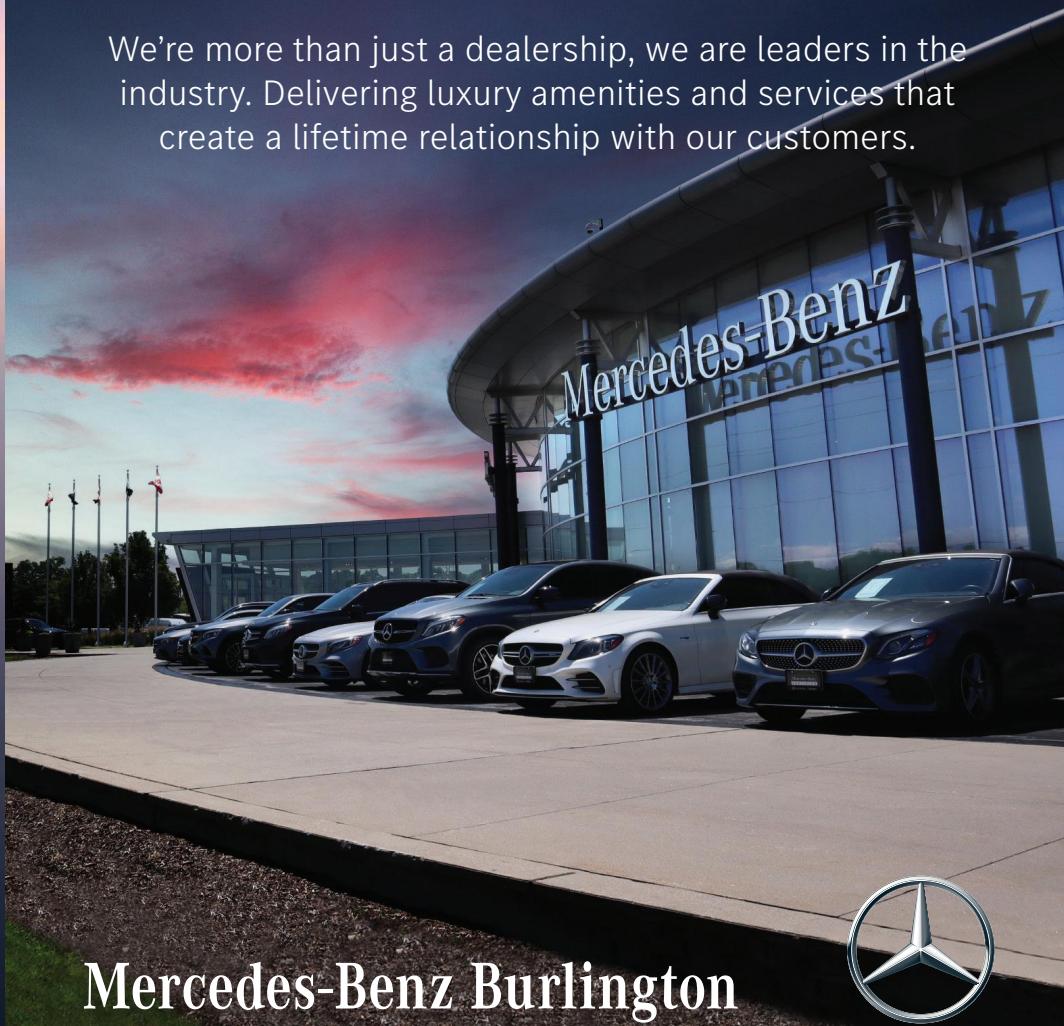


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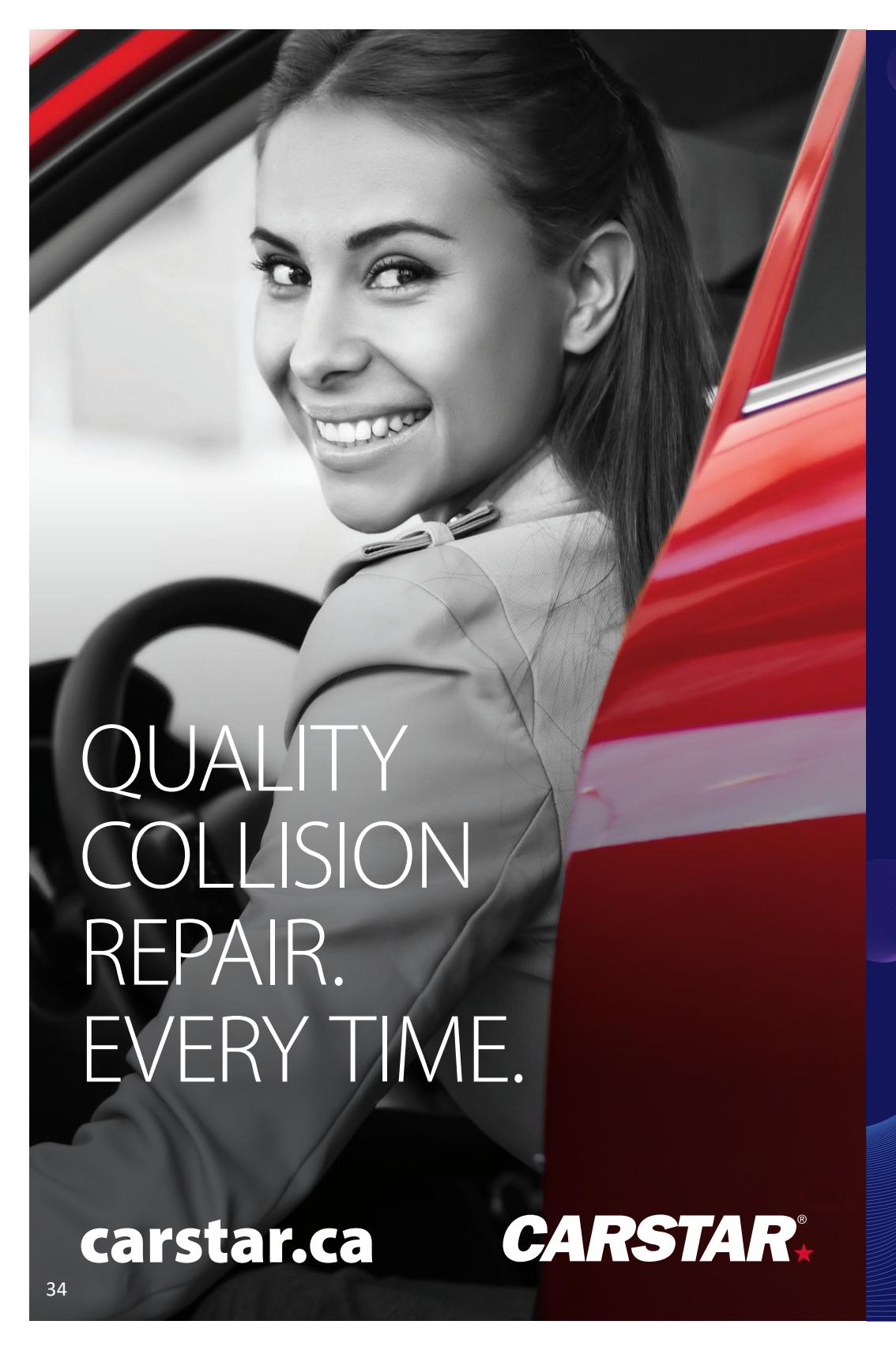
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