



Embracing Spring's Spirit of Growth and Blooming: A Message from the Vice President

Dear Esteemed Members,

As we welcome the vibrant season of Spring, I find myself reflecting on the profound parallels between nature's renewal and our journey within the purchasing community. Spring brings forth a sense of rejuvenation, growth, and blooming possibilities, reminding us of the boundless potential that lies ahead.

Just as flowers burst forth from the earth, stretching towards the sun, so too do we have the opportunity to stretch ourselves, to grow, and to thrive in our roles within the Purchasing field. Spring serves as a powerful reminder that change is not only inevitable but often a catalyst for growth and innovation.

Within our chapter, I encourage each of you to embrace this spirit of growth and renewal. Let us use the energy of Spring to reinvigorate our passion for procurement, to seek out new opportunities for collaboration and learning, and to cultivate relationships that will support our professional development.

As Vice President, I am committed to fostering an environment where each member feels empowered to flourish and bloom in their respective roles. Together, let us plant the seeds of progress, nurture them with dedication and diligence, and watch as they blossom into achievements that benefit not only ourselves but our entire community.

May this Spring be a season of abundant growth, both personally and professionally, for each and every one of us. Together, let us embrace the opportunities that lie ahead and cultivate a future filled with success and prosperity.

With warm regards,
Lisa Robbins, CPPB
Vice President

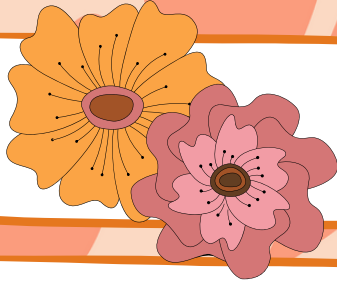
Upcoming Events

- April 4th - Monthly Webinar with Lourdes Coss
- April 25th - Zoo Field Trip @ Sedgwick County Zoo - Limited to 20 KAPPP members - Don't forget to sign up to attend the zoo field trip. There are still a few openings.
- May 2nd - Monthly Webinar with Lourdes Coss
- May 17th - NIGP Business Council Presentation
- June 13th - Monthly Webinar with Lourdes Coss
- July 11th - Monthly Webinar with Lourdes Coss
- July 19th - Virtual Guest Speaker

FOR MORE DETAILS,
CHECK OUT THE KAPPP
WEBSITE:

<https://www.kappp.org/events>





FLOWER POWER

Groovy things happening at KAPPP!

NATIONAL PROCUREMENT MONTH CELEBRATIONS

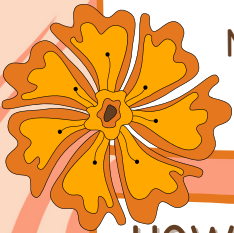
Procurement professionals deserve this acknowledgement, playing vital roles in the public sector. Check out these agencies and KAPPP members we recognized on our social media platforms this month.

City of Wichita, KS -Proclamation & City Council recognition

City of Lawrence, KS - Fun mugs for their staff

NIGP's Leadership Summit attendees - Lisa Robbins and Kathleen Burrows

Johnson County, KS - Proclamation

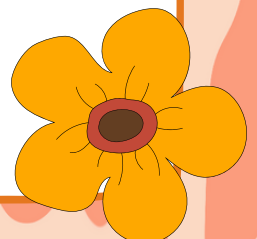


HOW DO WE COMMUNICATE WITH YOU?

We heard from members that communication with you is important. We recognized that many agencies have internet firewalls that were blocking emails being sent to you via the Mailchimp platform. We have chosen to move in a different communication strategy. Robin Lynes will primarily be sending you information, but you may be hearing from any of our Board members. We want to bring you up-to-date information and valuable events in a timely manner. Don't forget to check out the Facebook and LinkedIn pages as we are updating those weekly.

COMING SOON

If you haven't heard, NIGP is working with every chapter to try and move them to one consistent platform for all chapter websites. KAPPP will soon be releasing that website. It is currently under development with Club Express. As we transition to the new platform, we will be sure to communicate those changes. If you are wanting to participate in the website development committee, please reach out to any of the Board members.





Interview with Alena Croy NIGP AREA 7 CHAPTER AMBASSADOR

Tell us about yourself.

I hail from Oklahoma, holding a bachelor's degree in finance and a master's in business administration. I have worked a decade at the City of Oklahoma City. Embracing continuous growth, I have more letters behind my name than are in it. Currently, I serve as the Treasurer at the Oklahoma Association of Public Procurement and act as a Chapter Ambassador with NIGP. A passionate athlete, I am a 3x IRONMAN finisher and President of our local triathlon club. Lastly and certainly not least, I am the mother to four children, supported by my wonderful husband of fourteen years, Brandon.

What brought you to procurement?

My journey into procurement was spurred by the wise counsel of a mentor while working in accounting. Recognizing the compatibility of my skillset with procurement, they encouraged me to explore opportunities in this field. Acting on their advice, I pursued a position in procurement, a decision that has since proven immensely rewarding.

What excites you about your career?

What excites me most about my career is the opportunity to make a tangible impact every day. I have the chance to find innovative solutions that directly contribute to the success of my city. I love the dynamic nature of the work, where each day presents new challenges to solve and opportunities to learn and grow. Additionally, being able to collaborate with diverse teams and stakeholders, both internally and externally, keeps things engaging and fosters innovation. Ultimately, knowing that my efforts play a vital role in driving efficiency, sustainability, and value for my organization is incredibly fulfilling and motivates me to continually strive for excellence in my work.

What are the biggest hurdles you experience with procurement and how do you overcome them?

One of the biggest hurdles I often encounter in procurement is helping departments understand the value that good procurement practices bring to them. Some departments may view procurement as merely a bureaucratic process, rather than recognizing its potential. To overcome this hurdle, I prioritize communication and education. I engage with departmental stakeholders to explain how effective procurement can directly benefit their operations. Additionally, I offer training to empower departments with the knowledge and skills necessary to engage effectively in the procurement process and leverage its benefits to achieve their objectives. By fostering a better understanding of the value proposition of procurement, I overcome this hurdle and cultivate stronger collaboration and support from departments.

REMINDER TO REGISTER NOW

KAPPP PRESENTS

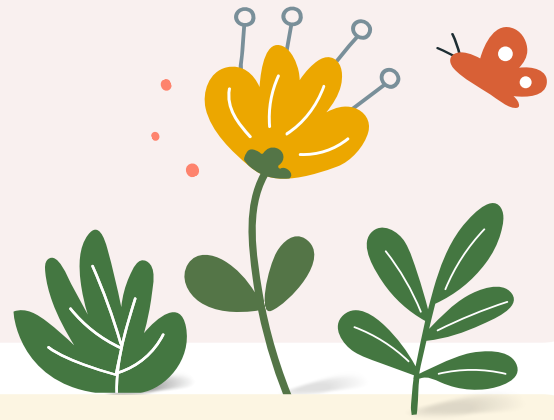
ZOO FIELD TRIP

KAPPP WILL BE HOSTING A MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ZOO IN WICHITA, KS ON APRIL 25TH FROM 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. THIS MEETING IS LIMITED TO 20 KAPPP MEMBERS SO CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO REGISTER NOW.



REGISTER NOW

SPRING INTO ACTION



Spring is a great time to make your career and education a priority. Check out these engagements below to interact with your fellow procurement colleagues.

* GIFT CARD

OPPORTUNITY

All KAPPP Members who have paid the membership fee by April 15th, TAX DAY, will be entered into a drawing for a gift card. Please tell all your procurement friends.

NIGP FORUM

NIGP Forum is August 25-28, 2024 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Early registration pricing ends on May 31st.

Visit

<https://www.nigp.org/events/annual-forum-and-products-exposition/forum>
for registration details.

NIGP BUSINESS COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Speakers Shelley Vineyard and Kim Abrego, from Disaster Recovery Services will be presenting to KAPPP members on Innovative Federal Procurement Strategies. Mark your calendars for May 17th at 12:00 PM for this virtual presentation.

KAPPP HOSTED NIGP COURSE

Introduction to Procurement
Virtual Course offering
September 19th - September 20th, 2024
Register now at
<https://www.nigp.org/course/introduction-to-public-procurement-091924-olathe-ks-354245>

