CFBN: Building Connections & Helping Our Industry Grow

Since our founding, CFBN has been partnering with companies large and small across Chicagoland. Our long partnership with MARS Wrigley is an exciting example of how established companies and CFBN can work together to collaborate.

Recently CFBN and MARS collaborated during the launch of their new Seeds of Change Accelerator (SOCA). CFBN was excited to connect MARS SOCA with emerging brands from across the Midwest region as they built out their inaugural class. Participating in the CFBN Founders Series event back in May, MARS presented their brand new accelerator to an insider audience of start-ups and
emerging brands and introduced their new “center of plate” focus and abundance of resources!

Our partnership continues as CFBN’s Innovation Breakfast returns in September with a very special breakfast event hosted by MARS Wrigley to be held on-site at their facility on Goose Island.

As Lisa Saxon Reed, the Director of Global Sensory on the MARS Wrigley team, notes:

“The Wrigley and MARS Chocolate teams that combined to create MARS Wrigley in 2017 have a long and proud history in Chicago. As we look to create 'better moments that make the world smile' the events curated by CFBN help us connect with Chicago area innovators and thought leaders that we might have never met. Our associates come away from each CFBN event with fresh perspectives to help them create 'more smiles'.

We are happy to ‘give back’ and host the CFBN Innovation Breakfast on Thursday, September 12th at our Goose Island Global HQ.”

We are looking forward to this exciting event, with a great conversation featuring Lisa, Andrew Livermore of Curion, and more. Keep an eye out for a Save the Date and additional event details!

Thank you again to MARS Wrigley for their continued partnership, and we look forward to seeing everyone in September at the return of the Innovation Breakfast series.

If you and your company would like to explore membership and partnership with the Network, reach out, we’d love to work with you!

HOT TOPICS

FoodBytes! Chicago

See 15 of the most promising global food & Ag startups take the stage. Plus, network with corporates, investors, media and industry game changers. From closed-loop dairy processing and next-gen animal infection treatment, to cutting-edge climate-resistant crops and upcycled pet treats, the startups selected for
FoodBytes! Chicago are innovating across the food value chain.

One of the selected startups set to pitch at this event is our member TeaSquares - Producer of delicious, superfood snacks developed with nutritionists to help overcome the valleys of fatigue and provide immediate, sustained energy. Congratulations!

Learn more about Foodbytes! Chicago here

Why Hire a Contract Packager or Manufacturer?

Are you considering hiring a contract packager or manufacturer for your business? CPA, The Association for Contract Packagers and Manufacturers, provides the pros and cons to be mindful of when considering hiring a contract packager or manufacturer. Learn More

And if you are interested in Co-Packing and Co-Manufacturing - join us for an in-depth conversation on the topic at our next Founders Series event on September 25th!

"ConnectFood: Made Easy" Webinar

Watch this webinar for a crash course on how to use ConnectFood to help you write and maintain your HACCP / PC plans faster.

Every Thursday at 12pm CST

In this 30 minute live webinar designed for food companies and establishments, you'll learn:

- Prerequisites checklist.
- How to use plan templates.
- How to modify a process flow.
- Add Hazards, Controls and Critical Limits.
- Maintain Logs and Records.

Register for these sessions here.

Intel Distillery

The Intel Distillery, brought to you by CFBN founding member Bader Rutter, systematically analyzes the most important food industry news and trends. Check out this excerpt from their latest edition of "Friday by Noon.”
The UN on Land: Last week, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), part of the United Nations, released a report detailing the relationship between land management, climate change and the global food supply. This landmark report emphasized reducing food waste, human diets, and the trade-offs between concentrated food production and land use.

Dieting to Death: It’s an endless cycle: new diets claim results that are too good to be true. We noted five last week alone, each promising or debunking a different health benefit. Recent coverage includes ultra-processed food’s effects on the microbiome, diets to regulate hormones, intermittent fasting and calorie density.

Food Packaging: As we dug into stories about sustainable packaging solutions some food companies are testing, it became apparent that messaging sometimes trumps true environmental stewardship. Find out why molded fiber bowls and efforts to phase out single-use plastics like straws and bottles are some of the hot topics today.

Subscribe here to cut through the clutter on food, beverage and agriculture every Friday, by noon.

SOCIAL CONNECT: CFBN Gallery

CFBN networking events, outings and panel discussions are a great opportunity for Chicagoland foodies to meet, connect and learn about industry trends from our special guest speakers. Wanna get in on the action? Check out our updated photo gallery of our event highlights.

EVENTS

JUST ANNOUNCED:

The Founders Series: Operations (Self Manufacturing vs. Co-Manufacturing)

Date: September 25, 2019, 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Location: Pre Brands, 308 W. Erie St., Suite 200, Chicago, IL 60654
Join us in September for the 3rd event in our **Founders Series** - a new CFBN series presented in partnership with **C.A. Fortune (formerly known as JB Chicago), Fifty Gazelles**, and **PreBrands**. This 5-part series of events focuses on creating conversations and connections for founders’ from the growing and scaling companies of the Chicagoland start-up food scene. The Founders Series combines food, cutting edge conversation, and a bit of networking for a happy hour well spent.

**Register Now**

**CFBN Networking & Cocktails: At the 7th Annual Food Safety Consortium Conference & EXPO**

**Date:** October 1, 2019, 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center
Hotel 1551 N. Thoreau Drive Schaumburg, Illinois 60173

CFBN has partnered with the 7th annual Food Safety Consortium Conference & Expo, Oct. 1-3 in Schaumburg, IL to offer a special one-day pass to the Expo and a **Networking Reception at the end of Tuesday’s event**! This is an excellent opportunity to explore this great expo (including educational and training sessions) and then gather with fellow CFBN members and industry colleagues to network and enjoy a few drinks!

**Register Now**

**Industry Events!**

**FEATURED PARTNER EVENT**

**Emotional Intelligence: The Secret Sauce of Professional Success and Personal Excellence**
Sept. 5, 2019

By now, everyone has heard of Emotional Intelligence, but not everyone knows what it really is and how to use it to improve your effectiveness, both personally and professionally.

Please join nationally acclaimed Leadership Coach, Brenda Knapp on September 5, as she shares insights, based on current research and 20+ years of business experience, coaching and consulting with high performing individuals and teams to develop greater “Emotional Intelligence” or EQ.

With her signature humor and practicality, Knapp will share the importance and fundamental components of EQ as well as provide actionable strategies, and resources to grow your emotional self-awareness and social intelligence at work and beyond.

Register for this event here

Speaker
Brenda Knapp
President
Knapp Development Group LLC

Hatchery Networking with Vital Proteins
August 20, 2019

CLICK HERE to register

The Hatchery is excited to announce that Kurt Seidensticker Founder and CEO of Vital Proteins, will be our featured guest this month! Come learn about Kurt’s journey starting Vital Proteins and what’s next for the Chicago startup.

FoodBytes! Chicago
September 19, 2019

CLICK HERE to register.
Join us in Chicago to see 15 of the most promising global food & Ag startups take the stage. Plus, network with corporates, investors, media and industry game changers. From closed-loop dairy processing and next-gen animal infection treatment, to cutting-edge climate-resistant crops and up-cycled pet treats, the startups selected for FoodBytes! Chicago are innovating across the food value chain.

Pack EXPO Las Vegas & Healthcare Packaging EXPO
Sept. 23 - 25, 2019
CLICK HERE to register

The unrivaled depth and breadth of Pack EXPO Las Vegas makes it the packaging industry’s premier source for innovation, crossover technologies and never-before-seen solutions in North America. Taking place in odd-numbered years, Pack EXPO Las Vegas unites suppliers with manufacturers, delivering game-changing ideas for multiple vertical markets.

ACG Chicago 10th Annual Food Industry Conference
September 26, 2019
CLICK HERE to register.

This year's conference will provide you with unparalleled opportunities to hear from key industry leaders and network with forward-thinking professionals who are driving growth within the food industry.
2nd Annual Taste of the Good Food Accelerator

September 26, 2019

CLICK HERE to register.

FamilyFarmed's Good Food Accelerator program and its Associate Board will hold its 2nd annual Taste of the GFA fundraiser and tasting event on Thursday, September 26. Details to come, but expect more delicious samples from graduates of our five-year-old entrepreneur development program and great local chefs who serve Good Food. Save the date!

7th Annual Food Safety Consortium Conference & EXPO

October 1 - 3, 2019

CLICK HERE to register.

FamilyFarmed's Good Food Accelerator program and its Associate Board will hold its 2nd annual Taste of the GFA fundraiser and tasting event on Thursday, September 26. Details to come, but expect more delicious samples from graduates of our five-year-old entrepreneur development program and great local chefs who serve Good Food. Save the date!

Anuga Trade Show in Cologne, Germany

October 5 - 9, 2019

CLICK HERE to register.

Anuga – one of the largest global trade shows for the food and beverage sector is hosting an event that could be your opportunity to network with over 7, 400 exhibitors from 107 countries. The trade show covers all segments of the industry: Fine Food, Frozen, Meat, Chilled and Fresh Food, Dairy, Bread & Bakery, Organic, Culinary Concepts, Hot & Cold Beverages.

Our food & beverage industry wide events calendar is updated regularly and 2019 promises to have an exciting roster of events!
August Highlights

- PROCESS EXPO Announces Student and Young Professional Opportunities. The QUAD, a student-oriented section of the PROCESS EXPO exhibit hall will feature information on the FPSA Job Board, an AMSA e-Poster Exhibition, the meeting point for student tours, and much more. Access the full post [here](#).

- For the better part of a decade, Big Food has been in a scramble to restructure and reinvent itself amid a massive shift in consumer preferences that's given rise to gluten-free, low-sugar, non-GMO and "clean" options. Read the full article [here](#).

- Rice Krispies Treats first debuted their Love Notes in 2017 by creating wrappers for their sweets with a small space for parents to write a note. Then, in 2018, Rice Krispies made the Love Notes more inclusive by partnering with the National Federation of the Blind to create Braille stickers. Read the full article [here](#).

- **C.A. Fortune** (CAF), a consumer products sales and marketing agency headquartered in Chicago, is proud to announce its recent rebrand. The modern aesthetic features a new logo, website and updated focus to be “The Consumer Brands Agency.” Read the full article [here](#).

Have news? We regularly post news and updates from around the industry on our CFBN news - make sure to include them in your daily reading, and drop us an email if your company has any newsworthy updates!

**CAREER CENTER**

Check out new opportunities in the Chicagoland area!

Our members are always looking for talented candidates to fill positions within their organizations. We’re here to connect you to those wonderful opportunities. Check out these latest postings from our members! And don't forget to visit our full job site for all of the current opportunities.

**International Program Manager - World Business Chicago**

Responsibilities Include:
• Lead or provide support to CSCI’s key initiatives, including: the annual Global Gateways Symposium; the Global Youth Ambassadors Leadership Summit; and the Chicago Consular Corps Gala
• Manage volunteer sister city committees and guide a diverse group of projects in the fields of International Business, Cultural Arts and Tourism, Global Education, and Government Relations
• Develop and manage project and committee budgets
• Create itineraries for international delegations in collaboration with city, public and private sector representatives
• Work with internal teams on strategies for fundraising, communications and logistics
• Act as a liaison with the Mayor’s Office of the City of Chicago, international contacts, consular corps representatives, ethnic communities, and other Chicago-area institutions

Take me to the Career Board

Corporate Legal Manager - FONA International

Responsibilities Include:

• Providing company-wide correspondence with external legal counsel
• Serving the shareholders, employees and customers of the organization with excellence and confidentiality
• Supporting the Account Executives via SalesForce.com to draft confidentiality and other typical agreements with customers, with approved legal verbiage that protects FONA
• Maintaining all legal, corporate, litigation, real estate, historical, and IP files
• Manage Intellectual Property (IP) registrations, Trademarks, and related renewals
• Actively working with in-house Legal Counsel on legal documents and other legal projects, with proactive action to streamline legal operations and assist customer/vendor interactions

Take me to the Career Board

MEMBERSHIP

CFBN Member Profile: Brooks Hickman, Lockton Companies

Why I joined Chicagoland Food & Beverage Network
Lockton wanted to be more involved in the growth of the food and beverage industry in the Chicagoland area, as well as find a network that brings together industry professionals to share ideas, expertise and solutions. The Chicagoland Food & Beverage Network has provided those opportunities and more.

*Lockton is a supportive partner of CFBN, thank you again for your well wishes!*

**CORNERSTONE MEMBERS**

[Logos of ADM, BMO, curion, DMI, FONA, and Pre]

**SUPPORTING PARTNERS**
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OUR MISSION
To drive inclusive economic growth in Chicagoland by bringing together the region’s food and beverage industry stakeholders to pursue collaborative opportunities.

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