



OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2026 OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TOURISM SUMMIT

Playhouse Square Cleveland
In the Westfield Insurance Studio Theater (WIST)
Thursday, October 15, 2026

11:45AM - 12:30PM Speaker and Sponsor lunch

12:30 – 12:40PM Conference Welcome

- Matt MacLaren, Director of Travel and Tourism Policy, Ohio Chamber of Commerce

12:40 - 1:10PM Entertainment: On Stage Performance!

1:10 - 1:30PM Keynote Speaker

- Nic Barlage, CEO of Rock Entertainment Group, Cleveland Cavaliers, Monsters, Charge, and Rocket Arena Board Member

1:30 – 2:15PM Panel of legislators on supporting Ohio’s growing tourism industry

- Rep. Mike Dovilla (confirmed)
- Rep. Haraz Ghanbari (invited)
- Rep. Bride Rose Sweeney (confirmed)
- Moderator: Matt MacLaren, Ohio Chamber of Commerce

2:15 – 3:00PM Industry Panel on “Visit, Live, and Work” messaging

- Bryce Riggs, CEO, Seneca County Collaborative
- Destination Cleveland Speaker TBD
- Todd Kleismit, Executive Director, America 250-Ohio
- Moderator: Liz Kennedy, VP of Client Engagement at Fahlgren Mortine/The Shipyard

3:00 – 3:45PM Industry Panel on Performing Arts

- Chad Whittington, CEO, CAPA
- Craig Hassall, CEO, Playhouse Square
- Devin Sudman, Executive Director, Stuarts Oprea House
- Wendy Wharff Brewer, Executive Director, People's Bank Theatre
- Moderator: Ethan Schaffer, Ohio Chamber of Commerce

3:45- 5:00PM Reception and entertainment at Playhouse Square

Sponsors:

Destination Cleveland, Fahlgren Mortine, Kalahari Resorts,
Playhouse Square, Rocket Entertainment Group