Yanous Barner Named Executive Director of Gateway Campus

New Executive Director of Georgia International Convention Center, Gateway Center Arena, and Historic College Park Golf Course





College Park, Georgia Sep 25, 2025 (<u>Issuewire.com</u>) - The City of College Park is proud to announce the appointment of Yanous Barner as Executive Director of the Gateway Center Arena, Georgia International Convention Center (GICC), and the Historic College Park Golf. Course. Barner steps into this role after an impactful period as Interim Executive Director, where he guided the Gateway Center Campus through significant growth and transition. With several years in leadership positions within the Gateway Campus, Barner brings a proven record of operational excellence, innovation, and relationship-building.

With more than 30 years of experience in hospitality, tourism, and event management, Barner has played a pivotal role in transforming the Gateway Campus into one of the Southeast's most vibrant destinations for meetings, conventions, entertainment, and sports. His strategic vision and dedication have earned him respect both locally and nationally.

"Yanous Barner brings a wealth of experience and a deep understanding of our industry that will continue to elevate the GICC, Gateway Center Arena, and College Park Golf Course as premier destinations for meetings, conventions, and events," said Mercedes Miller, President of the ATL Airport District Convention & Visitors Bureau. "I am confident that under Yanous' leadership, the Gateway Campus will continue to grow, innovate, and deliver exceptional experiences for our clients, partners, and community."

Barner's leadership has been instrumental in both hosting major conventions and securing sports partnerships, notably establishing the Gateway Center Arena as the home of the College Park Skyhawks, the NBA G League affiliate of the Atlanta Hawks.

"Yanous has been there every step of the way since the College Park Skyhawks first moved to Gateway Center Arena in 2019," said Janice Koon, Atlanta Hawks Senior Vice President of NBA G League and 2K League Operations. "He has a unique ability to build authentic relationships and has been a trusted partner and friend to our franchise. We could not be more thrilled for him in this well-deserved honor."

As Executive Director, Barner will oversee operations, strategic planning, and business development across the Gateway Campus. His focus will include expanding the facilities' global reach, enhancing guest experiences, and strengthening community impact through innovative partnerships and programming.

"It is a true honor to step into this role and continue building on the strong foundation of the Gateway Campus," said Yanous Barner. "I am deeply committed to upholding the Gateway by advancing our mission of excellence, creating unforgettable experiences for our guests, and ensuring that College Park remains a premier destination for business, entertainment, and recreation."

Barner's appointment demonstrates the City of College Park's ongoing commitment to growth, innovation, and excellence in its hospitality, tourism, and entertainment sectors.

About the Georgia International Convention Center (GICC)

The GICC has the largest ballroom in Metro Atlanta and is a premier destination for meetings,

conventions, and events. Together with Gateway Center Arena and the Historic College Park Golf Course, it anchors the Gateway Campus, a vibrant hub for business, entertainment, and recreation in the ATL Airport District.

The Gateway Campus is the place to M.E.E.T Meet. Entertain. Enjoy. Transform! To learn more about the Campus, visit our websites, https://gatewaycenterarena.com/ https://gatewaycenterarena.com/ https://gatewaycenterarena.com/, and https://gatewaycenterarena.com/, and https://www.gicc.com/.

Media Contact

Wallspop Group

******@wallspopgroup.com

(678) 373-3417

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