

Presents
The Raymond V. Haysbert, Sr.
Entrepreneurship Lecture Series

Entrepreneurs Panel Discussion

Monday, April 14, 2025 • 12 - 1 p.m • University Center 312

Co-sponsored by the Career Services Center



Steve Chu '12

Chef and Owner of Ekiben

B.S. Economics, UMBC

As the co-owner and executive chef of Baltimore's acclaimed Ekiben restaurants, Steve has earned a reputation as one of the most creative and community-driven chefs in the culinary world. A James Beard Award semi-finalist, he's known for his inventive take on Asian fusion cuisine. His work has been featured in Bon Appétit, Food & Wine, The New York Times, Food Network, ABC, and other outlets. Steve will dive into how Ekiben was born and how he's applied entrepreneurial strategy and innovation to help his line of restaurants thrive in an ever-evolving market.



Josey Schwartz '11

Co-Owner and Operator of Suspended Brewing Company

B.A. Interdisciplinary Studies, Social Sustainability, UMBC
M.A. Sustainability Management, American University

Josey has always known he wanted to change the world. After learning about the pay-it-forward tradition of suspended coffee in Italy, something clicked; he could operate a values-first company to "pay forward" goodwill to current and future generations. Josey teamed up with UMBC alum Yasmin Karimian to start brewing his own craft beer at home. Suspended Brewing is a tiny, socially focused brewing company doing everything it can to address climate change. It has evolved from very humble starting plans to brew in a warehouse to current efforts to renovate a 19th century brick building into a low embodied carbon net-zero energy brewery and taproom in Hampden.



Marian Saunders White '87

President of The Refinery, LLC

B.S. Information Systems Management, UMBC
MBA Technology Management, University of Phoenix
DBA Doctor of Business Administration, William H. Taft University

Marian began her career as a Programmer with a Naval Defense Contractor. She has utilized her unique combination of technical and soft skills, along with her 25+ years' experience, to hone her expertise in Business Operations, Human Resources, Contract Administration, and Leadership Development & Training. It is these same areas of support that are the foundation of her Business & Management Consulting firm that's been in operation since 2012. Marian also owns an automated retail business and produces retreat and travel events. She loves sharing her thoughts on the many paths, perspectives, and potential pitfalls of entrepreneurship.

The Raymond V. Haysbert, Sr. Entrepreneurship Lecture Series provides a platform for successful entrepreneurs to candidly share their experiences and insights with UMBC students, faculty, alumni and the Baltimore business community. The series highlights experiences, lessons learned and unique issues and challenges faced by entrepreneurs in the creation of a new enterprise.

Questions?



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