



FOUR PILLAR

QUALITY | RESPONSIBILITY | VISION | INTEGRITY



COUNCIL
for QUALITY
GROWTH

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

Council for Quality Growth to Honor Ed Bastian at 34th Annual Four Pillar Tribute

Governor Brian Kemp and Mayor Andre Dickens to Deliver Special Remarks on October 12

ATLANTA, GA – On October 12, 2023, the [Council for Quality Growth](https://www.councilforqualitygrowth.org) will honor Ed Bastian, Chief Executive Officer of Delta Air Lines, with its 34th annual [Four Pillar Tribute](#). The 2023 reception and dinner are presented by American Express, the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, Chick-fil-A, Delta Air Lines, Georgia Power, the New York Stock Exchange – An ICE Exchange, and UPS. Over 1,500 guests, including Council for Quality Growth members, business executives, elected officials, corporate companies, philanthropic organizations, industry partners, and other local leaders from across the region and state, are expected in the Georgia Ballroom of the Georgia World Congress Center to honor Bastian.

In its 34th year, the Council's Four Pillar Tribute honors an extraordinary leader for their economic and philanthropic contributions to our region and state. Ed Bastian recognizes Delta's critical role in driving economic value to the City of Atlanta, being the anchor of the world's busiest airport. He sees the airport as the "front door" to the city and strives to create customer experiences that continue to elevate Atlanta as a global business leader and travel destination. "Ed's contributions to this region go far beyond the airport," said Rob Ross, 2023 Chairman of the Council for Quality Growth and Senior Vice President of Kimley-Horn. "In addition to ensuring people enjoy travelling to Atlanta, Ed continues to pour investment into our city, our communities, and our people, ensuring they also have a reason to stay."

Ed Bastian has displayed a career-long commitment to people and community. His chosen theme of his Four Pillar Tribute is *Leading with Purpose*, which, for the CEO of Delta Air Lines, refers to the Delta team of 100,000. His purpose, however, is clear. Since becoming CEO in 2016, Bastian has been a champion of true servant leadership, continually putting Delta people and their customers first. Even while navigating an airline through a global pandemic, he prioritized health and well-being, job preservation, community service, and championing equity. Through his commitment to people, Bastian has led the airline, led the hospitality industry, and led our region to find a greater purpose of our own. "Taking care of the 100,000 people of Delta Air Lines is the greatest calling of my lifetime. It's an honor to serve them," said Bastian. "I'm both grateful and humbled to accept this extraordinary award on their behalf."

"Ed perfectly embodies the Council's 'Four Pillars' of leadership," said Council for Quality Growth President & CEO, Michael Paris. "He's a leader who has built a sense of community and purpose among the 100,000 people of Delta worldwide, and he's done so while making ongoing contributions to the quality of life here in the Atlanta region, the state of Georgia, and beyond." A special group of Tribute Speakers have been selected to speak on the 'Four Pillars' of leadership in Bastian's life. Speaking on *Quality* is Ginni Rometty, Former Chairman, President & CEO of IBM, on *Responsibility*, John Hope Bryant, Founder, Chairman & CEO of Operation HOPE, on *Vision*, Ambassador Andrew Young, Founder & Chairman of the Andrew Young Foundation, and on *Integrity*, Daniel H. Bastian, Vice-President & Co-Founder of Progressive O&P, Inc.

Georgia's 83rd Governor, Brian Kemp, and Atlanta's 61st Mayor, Andre Dickens, will deliver remarks ahead of Bastian's Four Pillar Tribute. Frank Blake, Former Chairman and CEO of The Home Depot, will serve as the

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Master of Ceremonies, and Pastor Kevin Myers of 12Stone Church will provide the invocation. The evening will also feature special musical tributes by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Tenor Timothy Miller. An esteemed group of Tribute Chairs have been selected to pay tribute to Ed Bastian for his impactful leadership among Atlanta and beyond, including:

David Abney	Larry Gellerstedt III	John Maxwell	Pam Shipley
Leona Barr-Davenport	James Hannan	Terry McGuirk	Alex Taylor
Daniel H. Bastian	Virginia Hepner	William Pate	Carol B. Tomé
Frank Blake	Doug Hertz	Billy Payne	Kathy Waller
Arthur M. Blank	Tommy Holder	James Quincey	Chris Womack
Paul Bowers	Donna Hyland	Tony Ressler	Ambassador
John Hope Bryant	Katie Kirkpatrick	Bill Rogers	Andrew Young
Dan T. Cathy	Milton Little	Ginni Rometty	
Walt Ehmer	Ryan Marshall	Michael Russell	

Each year, the prestigious Four Pillar Award recognizes an outstanding individual who demonstrates the ‘Four Pillars’ of leadership – Quality, Responsibility, Vision, and Integrity – and exemplifies the Council’s mission of promoting balanced and responsible growth. The Council for Quality Growth commends the work Ed Bastian and Delta are doing each day to making Atlanta a better place to live, to work, and to visit. The Council is incredibly proud to continue its annual tradition of recognizing extraordinary leaders in our region and state by adding Bastian to the prestigious list of Four Pillar Award honorees. Find out more about Ed’s Tribute by visiting www.FourPillarTribute.com.

What: Council for Quality Growth’s 34th Annual Four Pillar Tribute Honoring Ed Bastian

- Special Remarks
 - Governor Brian Kemp, State of Georgia
- Welcome
 - Mayor Andre Dickens, City of Atlanta
- Master of Ceremonies
 - Frank Blake, Former Chairman & CEO, The Home Depot
- Invocation
 - Kevin Myers, Founding Senior Pastor, 12Stone Church
- Tribute Speakers
 - Ginni Rometty, Former Chairman, President & CEO, IBM
 - John Hope Bryant, Founder, Chairman & CEO, Operation HOPE
 - Ambassador Andrew Young, Founder & Chairman, Andrew Young Foundation
 - Daniel H. Bastian, Vice-President and Co-Founder, Progressive O&P, Inc.
- Musical Tributes
 - Atlanta Symphony Orchestra
 - Timothy Miller, Tenor
- Other Featured Speakers
 - Rob Ross, Chairman, Council for Quality Growth
 - Michael Paris, President & CEO, Council for Quality Growth

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When: Thursday, October 12, 2023



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- 6:00 p.m. – Cocktail reception
- 7:15 p.m. – Dinner and Tribute presentation

Where: Georgia World Congress Center's Georgia Ballroom

Attire: Black-tie Optional

Tickets are required for guests and are available at www.FourPillarTribute.com.

Press are invited to attend with prior registration. Please RSVP to Kathryn Jones at kj@councilforqualitygrowth.org.

[Download the full 2023 Four Pillar Invitation Here.](#)

AMERICAN EXPRESS | Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation | Chick-fil-e | DELTA | Georgia Power | NYSE | UPS

PRESENT THE
Council for Quality Growth's
2023 FOUR PILLAR TRIBUTE
HONORING
ED BASTIAN
LEADING WITH PURPOSE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023
6:00 PM | GEORGIA BALLROOM
GEORGIA WORLD CONGRESS CENTER

2023 TRIBUTE CHAIRS

David Abney	Doug Hertz	Bill Rogers
Leona Barr-Davenport	Tommy Holder	Ginni Rometty
Daniel H. Bastian	Donna Hyland	Michael Russell
Frank Blake	Katie Kirkpatrick	Pam Shipley
Arthur M. Blank	Milton Little	Alex Taylor
Paul Bowers	Ryan Marshall	Carol B. Tomé
John Hope Bryant	John Maxwell	Kathy Waller
Dan T. Cathy	Terry McGuirk	Chris Womack
Walt Ehmer	William Pate	Ambassador
Larry Gellerstedt III	Billy Payne	Andrew Young
James Hannan	James Quincey	
Virginia Hepner	Tony Ressler	

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PRESENT THE
Council for Quality Growth's
2023 FOUR PILLAR TRIBUTE
HONORING
ED BASTIAN
LEADING WITH PURPOSE

Thursday, October 12, 2023
6:00 p.m. Reception | 7:15 p.m. Tribute
Georgia Ballroom | Georgia World Congress Center
285 Andrew Young International Blvd., NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30313 | Parking is available in the Red Deck

MUSICAL TRIBUTES
Timothy Miller, Tenor
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

SPECIAL REMARKS
The Honorable Brian Kemp
Governor, State of Georgia

WELCOME
The Honorable Andre Dickens
Mayor, City of Atlanta

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Frank Blake
Former Chairman and CEO | The Home Depot

INVOCATION
Kevin Myers
Founding Senior Pastor | 12Stone Church

TRIBUTE SPEAKERS
Ginni Rometty
Former Chairman, President, and CEO | IBM

John Hope Bryant
Founder, Chairman, and CEO | Operation HOPE

Ambassador Andrew Young
Founder and Chairman | Andrew Young Foundation

Daniel H. Bastian, CP
Vice-President & Co-Founder | Progressive O&P, Inc.

Black Tie Optional • \$175 Per Person • Tables Available. Purchase tickets online at www.fourpillartribute.com

For more information, please visit www.FourPillarTribute.com.

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About the Council’s Four Pillar Tribute:

For 34 years, the Council for Quality Growth has paid tribute to an outstanding individual in the metro Atlanta region who exemplifies the Council’s mission of promoting balanced and responsible growth through an annual leadership tribute gala that recognizes the ‘Four Pillars’ of leadership – Quality, Responsibility, Vision, and Integrity.

The Four Pillar Award and Tribute is an unparalleled honor that allows the opportunity for the metro Atlanta region and State of Georgia to celebrate the recipient’s significant contributions to quality of life, community leadership, and economic development. The gala and award have come to be known as the highest honor bestowed for the contributions. The event provides a platform to align the honorees’ impacts on the region and the state with the Council’s ambitions and serves as a beacon of inspiration to perpetuate our economic prosperity. More information about the annual Four Pillar Tribute can be found at www.FourPillarTribute.com.

Past recipients of the Council’s Four Pillar Award include:

1990	Steve Reynolds	2001	Louise Radloff	2012	Sam Massell
1991	Wayne Shackelford	2002	George Busbee	2013	John Portman
1992	J.W. Benefield	2003	F. Wayne Hill	2014	Steve Selig
1993	D. Scott Hudgens	2004	Charlie Brown	2015	Dan Cathy
1994	Wayne H. Mason	2005	Senator Johnny Isakson	2016	Jenny Pruitt
1995	Virgil R. Williams	2006	John Wieland	2017	Governor Nathan Deal
1996	Paul A. Duke	2007	John A. Williams	2018	Paul Bowers
1997	Jim Cowart	2008	Tom Cousins	2019	Larry Gellerstedt
1998	J.D. Caswell	2009	Mayor Shirley Franklin	2020	Doug Hertz
1999	A. Ray Weeks	2010	Arthur M. Blank	2021	Amb. Andrew J. Young
2000	Richard L. Tucker	2011	R. Charles Loudermilk, Sr.	2022	Carol B. Tomé

About the Council for Quality Growth:

The Council for Quality Growth is a trade organization that works to ensure continued growth and economic success for generations to come by providing advocacy, information, and education to its members. For 38 years, the Council has been committed to the mission of promoting balanced and responsible growth and is proactively involved in the formulation of policy and legislation critical to the growth and development industry. The Council addresses, head-on, strategic economic planning, infrastructure needs, and tough quality-of-life issues throughout the metro Atlanta region and state. Visit www.councilforqualitygrowth.org for more.

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