

The logo for the Young Professionals Council of Akron (YPC) features the letters 'Y P C' in a large, white, serif font, spaced out across a black rectangular background. Below the letters, the full name 'YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL OF AKRON' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL OF AKRON

Young Professionals Council of Akron

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Summary: **Newly Formed Young Professionals Council of Akron Calls Upon All YP Organizations to Join Together For Common Goals**

Akron, Ohio, February 20, 2007 — The Young Professionals Council of Akron (YPC) is capitalizing on the momentum of Akron's YP movement by calling on all young professionals organizations in the Greater Akron to join together to support common goals.

Following the hype from Next Generation's consultant Rebecca Ryan's study of Akron's needs for attracting and retaining young talent to the area, individual YP organizations saw the need to collaborate in order to further the cause. The YPC unofficially began meeting in 2006 while planning "A Night in the Tropics," a YP event with the Greater Akron Chamber held in June 2006. Since then, the YPC has held regular monthly meetings to establish short-term and long-term goals of the collaboration.

"Akron is a unique community where many YP organizations have co-existed for many years with noteworthy success," said Margaret Lazzerini, president of the YPC of Akron. "The YPC brings us all together to work toward our common goals of keeping YPs in Akron and empowering them with the skills they need to become the next generation of leadership."

Numerous YP organizations – some long established and others new to the scene – have committed to membership in the YPC. (Complete list attached.) All young professionals organizations, including political and religious groups, are invited to become members of the YPC. The YPC is a nonpartisan, nonreligious organization where all types of affiliations are welcome. Groups wishing to participate in the YPC should contact Margaret Lazzerini at ypcakron@gmail.com or 330.972.7360.

The YPC will serve as a gateway for building awareness about YP organizations in Akron and for communicating between organizations and the surrounding community. One goal for the YPC is offer members of organizations participating in the collaboration a way to be better informed of networking events, developments in the business community, job opportunities, and volunteer needs. To keep the momentum going, the YPC hopes to work together to host one large networking event for YPs in Akron each year, similar to the event held in June 2006.

Though the YPC is a partnership of Akron organizations, the group will aim to continue collaboration with Cleveland organizations to promote regionalism. In November 2006, the YPC teamed up with Cleveland 20/30 to host "Networking in the Middle," an opportunity for Cleveland and Akron YPs to network in Independence. Artists from Cleveland and Akron – including Akron's own Apollonova – showcased their talent to a crowd of nearly 600 people.

Elections for leadership positions were decided at the group's January meeting, and the following positions were assigned:

President – Margaret D. Lazzerini, JD, MS (University of Akron)
Vice President for Community Relations – Brian Fortney (Cleveland Magazine)

Y P C

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Vice President for Enrichment & Professional Development – Michele A. Tomer
(Summit County Prosecutor's Office)

Secretary – Tessa L. Baxter (Greater Akron Chamber)

Treasurer – Tessa L. Baxter (Greater Akron Chamber)

Events Chair – to be determined

Marketing & Public Relations Chair – Elizabeth A. Galambos (Brott Mardis & Co.)

The mission of the Young Professionals Council of Akron is to strive to retain and empower young professionals by fostering networking and professional development opportunities through our service as ambassadors to the Greater Akron community.

For more information, contact the YPC at ypcakron@gmail.com.

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Young Professionals Organizations Participating in the YPC

Akron Jaycees	Michele A. Tomer tomerm@odjfs.state.oh.us	330.643.2740
Akron Urban League Young Professionals	Tammy Monroe Lynda Nation aullnation@aol.com	330.434.6997
Alzheimer's Young ProfessionALZ	Pam Schuellerman pam.schuellerman@alz.org Lindsay Fairchild lindsay.fairchild@alz.org	330.864.5646
ArtCetera	Margaret D. Lazzerini mdl@uakron.edu Beth Galambos elizabeth@brottmardis.com	330.972.7360 (w) 330.819.1777 (c) 330.762.5022
FirstEnergy YP Organization	Nikki Farrell nfarrell@firstenergycorp.com	330.384.4724
Greater Akron Chamber	Tessa Baxter baxter@greaterakronchamber.org	330.237.1244
Torchbearers	George Van Horne IV gvh@uakron.edu Terry H. Link II tlink@ralaw.com	330.972.8255 330.849.6755
United Way Young Leaders	Brian Fortney fortney@clevelandmagazine.com	216.771.2833
University of Akron New Alumni Club	Jeremy Butler jbb2@uakron.edu	330.972.8414
Young Professionals of Akron	Heather Davis hdavis@meadenmoore.com	330.315.4423