

## From the Publisher



**From** QCity Metro <editor@qcitymetro.com>  
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## Glenn Burkins

Publisher

Hey, QCity!

Each year QCity Metro proudly shines a spotlight on 28 Black Charlotteans -- leaders, creators, advocates and change agents -- who make our city a better place to live, work and play. We call them **The Great 28**.

On Wednesday, May 21, we'll host our official celebration, and I hope you'll join us.

[Get tickets!](#)



## Get tickets!

The Great 28 is more than a list; it's a reflection of Charlotte's spirit and the power of individuals to uplift our communities.

This year our Great 28 Celebration – actually, it's more like an after-work party – will have a new location, a new caterer and a new band playing your favorite soul and R&B.

### Your \$59 ticket includes:

- 🍴 Food (think taco bar, BBQ buffet, Italian table & more)
- 🍷 An open bar with top-shelf brands like Blade & Bow Whiskey
- 📸 A 360 photo booth to capture your best look
- 🎤 Live music and dance floor
- 🗣️ A chance to greet old friends and meet new ones

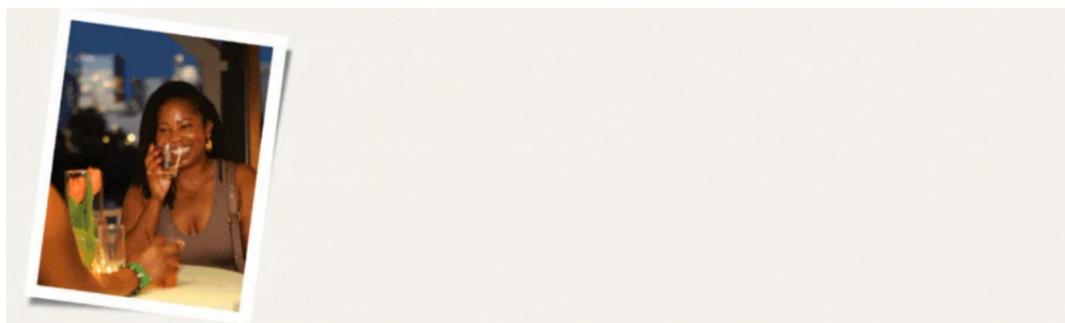
### Details:

- 🕒 Doors open at 6 PM
- 🏆 Honoree recognitions begin at 6:45 PM
- 👤 Attire is after-work casual

So, come raise a glass with us to celebrate this year's [honorees](#), Black Charlotte and the future we're building together.

### [Get Your Tickets Now](#)

With gratitude,  
**Glenn Burkins**  
Publisher, QCity Metro



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[Blade & Bow, Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whisky](#) pays homage to the artful passion and renowned craftsmanship of the legendary Stitzel-Weller Distillery in Louisville, Kentucky.



[A.C.E. Academy](#), located in Harrisburg, North Carolina, is a tuition-free public charter school serving grades K-8. Founded in 2014 by entrepreneurs Shawn Smalls, Laila Minott, and Shannon Martin, the academy is dedicated to fostering academic excellence, character development, and entrepreneurial skills among its students.



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**THE  
BRANDUSCRIPT  
AGENCY**

[The BrandUscript Agency](#) is a full-service public relations and brand management firm based in Charlotte, NC, founded and led by J. Hill—a Charlotte native whose family has been rooted in the city for over 100 years. Known for its tailored "scripts" that fuse strategic planning with powerful storytelling, the agency helps businesses and nonprofits build authentic brands and generate real impact. Under Hill's leadership, BrandUscript has become a trusted partner across industries while remaining deeply committed to the Charlotte community, spearheading initiatives like The Power Mixer series and corridor revitalization efforts that reflect a legacy of service, connection, and culture.

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