

Aaron D. Wolowiec, MSA, CAE, CMP Fellow

Founder & President | Event Garde

Volunteer & Leadership Experience | Updated: February 2025

Professional Memberships

- ⇒ Dallas/Fort Worth Association Executives (DFWAE) | January 2021 to January 2024 | Member of both the Programs & Education Committee and the A-Day Committee, as well as frequent presenter at the annual Association Day
- ⇒ Texas Society of Association Executives (TSAE) | December 2019 to Present | Member, roundtable facilitator, session presenter, author of several published magazine articles, TSAE board of directors' strategic plan facilitator, and DEI Committee Chair
- ⇒ ToP Network (ToPN) | July 2017 to Present | Member, certified facilitator, mentor trainer, Annual Gathering presenter, and professional development series presenter
- ⇒ Michigan Society of Association Executives (MSAE) | August 2009 to Present | Member, CAE exam proctor, CMP Prep Course lead instructional/curriculum designer and facilitator, frequent content contributor (e.g., Association Impact) and presenter (i.e., both the annual conference and various stand-alone events/webinars), speaker coach (e.g., Ignite sessions), meeting planning community of practice facilitator, MSAE board of directors' strategic plan facilitator, past chair of the Emerging Professionals Committee (EPC), past chair of the ORGPRO Program Committee, and radio show guest/contributor
- ⇒ American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) | August 2008 to Present | Member, Diversity Executive Leadership Program (DELP) scholar, frequent content contributor (e.g., Associations Now) and presenter (e.g., Great Ideas Conference, Annual Meeting), Great Ideas Conference speaker coach and Learning Circle guide, Healthy by Association (HBA) liaison/health and wellness collaborator, past chair of the Professional Development Section Council (PDSC), past chair of the Tours & Guest Activities Committee for the 2015 Detroit Annual Meeting, past chair of the Young Association Executives Committee (YAEC), and Xperience Design Project (XDP) team leader

Volunteer Service

Outside of volunteering with those organizations in which Aaron holds professional membership (noted above), following are two additional representative examples of his volunteer service:

- ⇒ NIGP: The Institute for Public Procurement | July 2015 to February 2020 | Thought Leader on the Talent Council and Liaison to the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) | The Institute's governance structure, known as NIGP 2.0, is comprised of four governing bodies and several committees and taskforces. The Talent Council is one of these governing bodies and is charged with volunteer selection/placement, oversight, recognition, and evaluation.
- ⇒ Michigan Meetings + Events (MiME) | May 2013 to October 2017 | Member on the Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) | The expertise and insights of board members are leveraged in helping to shape a publication that best serves the meeting/event planners and suppliers in Michigan, as well as in selecting the annual Hall of Fame inductees.

Civic & Community Affairs

- ⇒ Financial donations in the amount of \$5,000 annually and \$25,000 in total to organizations of importance to the Event Garde team, including American Cancer Society, ASAE Foundation, ASAE Political Action Committee, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Children's Miracle Network, Eliminating Racism & Creating/Celebrating Equity, Gift of Life Foundation, Michigan Disability Rights Coalition, National Center for Transgender Equality, Texts to Table, United Way, and several others.
- ⇒ Annual supporter of the Black Tie Dinner, the nation's largest non-profit fundraising dinner for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) community. The organization annually supports up to 20 North Texas beneficiaries and a national beneficiary, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation. Since 1982, Black Tie Dinner has distributed more than \$32 million.
- ⇒ Member of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), the largest national lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer civil rights organization representing more than three million members and supporters nationwide.
- ⇒ Volunteer and past chair of the East Lansing Relay for Life, a community-based fundraising event of the American Cancer Society (ACS).
- ⇒ Annual promotion of the #GivingTuesday movement via *The Guardian Blog*, *The Guardian eNews*, and social media platforms.
- ⇒ Past member and Michigan District leader of both Circle K International, a collegiate service organization affiliated with Kiwanis International, and Key Club International, the oldest and largest student-led service program for high school students.