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***Reconnect, Refresh, Recharge***

***A Virtual Conference with the option to Zoom***

***from the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront***

**VLGMA 2021 Summer Conference, June 16-18**

Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel

3001 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

**Wednesday, June 16**

10:30 am–12:45 pm VLGMA Executive Committee Meeting

1:00–3:30 pm Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**Pre-Conference Workshop Repacking Your Bags After the Pandemic**

Felicia Logan, Director of Leadership Development, ICMA

*If volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity have dominated your life in the past year, stop and ask yourself have you been carrying baggage that no longer works for you? Let’s take some time to unpack the last year together and create a course of action that will serve you better as you go forward. This workshop is designed to help you take a breath and re-evaluate your personal values, vision and purpose. Through self-assessment and peer review you will formulate an action plan to move you from the VUCA world to one that has fresh meaning and intentionality.*

3:30-5:00 pm Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**American Rescue Plan Act**

Emily Brock, Director, Federal Liaison Center, GFOA; Reid A. Wodicka, PhD, Interim City Manager, City of Lynchburg and John Edwards, Town Manager, Town of West Point.

*GFOA’s federal advocacy efforts in Washington include interpreting federal legislation and applying it at the local level. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, GFOA’s efforts in Washington DC have included advocacy to federal legislators to draft and pass the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and other infrastructure efforts as well as to members of the administration in their implementation efforts. Join this session to hear about the federal efforts have impacted local communities and to prepare for what’s ahead.*

5:30-7:00 pm Courtney Terrace - Socially distanced reception at the Hilton (in-person)

**Thursday, June 17**

8:00–9:00 am Peacock Ballroom Salon B - Continental Breakfast (in-person)

7:30–8:15 am Civic Engagement Committee Meeting

8:30–9:00 am Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**Welcome, Marsha Marshaw Outstanding Assistant Award Presentation (Derek Stamey) and Hero Award, In Memoriam** - – includes notice of Juneteenth holiday (6/18)

**Cindy Mester**, President, VLGMA, and Deputy City Manager, Falls Church and VA Beach Representative

9:00–10:15 am Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**Keynote “In Awe, Rediscover Your Childlike Wonder”**

John O’Leary, National Bestselling Author and Speaker

*In 1987, John O’Leary was a curious nine-year-old boy. Playing with fire and gasoline, John created a massive explosion in his home and was burned on 100% of his body. He was given less than a 1% chance to live.*

*This epic story of survival (first showcased in 2008 with his parents’ acclaimed book Overwhelming Odds) has never felt more relevant than as we live through the COVID-19 pandemic together.*

10:15–10:30 am Break

10:30–11:30 am Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**The Art of Moving Forward**

Antoinette Allen, PhD, Chief Storyteller and owner of Two Cups of TLC, LLC.

*This inspirational session will challenge you to think creatively about ways to keep yourself motivated in difficult times. Dr. Allen will share her newly developed F.I.S.T model that provides an arts-based method to overcome adversity, increase resilience, confront negative emotions, and pursue healing. The past 18 months have challenged the best of us to think and react creatively as we are thrust into unprecedented change. This talk is timely and provides practical tips to lift spirits and encourage people to, “Keep Moving Forward.” Music and visual elicitation techniques will provide participants a unique perspective to access your current state and encourage you to visualize a positive future state.*

11:40 am–1:00 pm Peacock Ballroom Salon B - Lunch (in-person)

11:40 am–12:50 pm (Virtual) **Book Discussion – “In Awe”** by John O’Leary

 Jim Taylor, Summer Conference Co-Chair and Deputy County Administrator, Hanover County

 *John’s second #1 national bestselling book, “In Awe”, is a powerful guide to reclaim your childlike curiosity and excitement as you pursue a life of meaning and joy. Join Jim for a discussion about “In Awe” and how it shows us how to seek fresh insights, reach for new solutions, connect with those around us, and live our best lives.*

1:00–2:15 pm Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**Ethical, Character-driven Leadership**

Dick Ayres, Director of the Center for Labor & Management Studies, Fredericksburg

*At this time in America, and in the rest of the world, the critical need for moral leadership has become increasingly apparent. Faced with unprecedented demands to respond effectively and appropriately to their escalating roles and responsibilities, employees urgently need leaders who can inspire them, help shape them morally, and spur them on to purposeful action.*

*This presentation, “Ethical, Character Driven Leadership: Leading to Make a Difference,” will examine how today’s executives can become such leaders – those who can supply the moral encouragement that will arouse and stir their employees to behave in the right manner, working together to ensure an ethical, character driven organization that can effectively carry out its mission.*

2:15–2:30 pm Break

2:30–3:15 pm Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**How I Lead**

Bryan Hill, County Executive, County of Fairfax

*Often a favorite session at the summer conference, “How I Lead” offers a glimpse into the day in the life of one of our managers. This presentation touches on leadership style, management techniques, and lessons learned, and can be especially useful to new or aspiring managers. This year we are pleased to have Bryan Hill, Fairfax County Administrator (and formerly with James City County) to share his perspectives.*

3:15–4:15 pm Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**Council/Board Management**

John Thomas, Managing Partner, DecideSmart, LLC and Charles Hartgrove, Associate Director, Virginia Institute of Government

*This session will focus on the manager/board relationship and highlight several aspects that are key to success, including new board member orientation, board rules and management, and strategic planning. John and Charles will share their perspectives (and even some tips and tricks) in working with boards and councils.*

6:30 pm Dine Around Virginia Beach (in-person)

**Friday, June 18**

7:45–8:45 am Peacock Foyer - Continental Breakfast (in-person)

8:00­–8:45 am Member Support Committee Meeting

9:00-9:15 am Peacock Ballroom Salon A

President Remarks and Announcements – includes notice of Juneteenth holiday (6/18) and ICMA Updates, VRSA and VACORP prize drawings

9:15–10:00 Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**Resiliency Matters – For Your Health & Productivity**

Sandra Shaklan, LCSW-C | Behavioral Clinical Account Manager, Cigna

*It is a challenging time, and all Americans are feeling the impact. But according to the Cigna Resilience Index survey, Government workers may be feeling it even more. In fact, they are significantly less likely than other full-time U.S. workers to rate their physical health and social life as very good or excellent. However, there are simple ways we can help build resilience. Learn what the data has shown and strategies for building your own resilience as well as that of your organization.*

10:00 am Break

10:15 -11:00 am Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**Contemporary Virginia Politics: From Blue to Red and Back Again**

Bill Bolling, former Lieutenant Governor and Visiting Professor of State and Local Government and Politics, VCU and George Mason University

*Former Virginia Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling will discuss Contemporary Virginia Politics: From Blue to Red and Back Again. This timely presentation will discuss how political influence in Virginia has gone from Democrats to Republicans and back to Democrats over the past 50 years; and the factors that have influenced the rise of the modern Democratic Party in Virginia, and the corresponding fall of the GOP.*

11:00 – 11:15 am Break

11:15 – 11:45 am Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**Marcus Alert**

Alison Land, DBHDS Commissioner; Stacey O’Toole, Director, Behavioral Health Division, City of Virginia Beach and Cheryl St. John, LPC, CSAC, CPSC, Emergency and Crisis Services Supervisor, Crisis Management Unit, Behavioral Health Division, City of Virginia Beach

*An Overview of Virginia's efforts to build a comprehensive crisis system of behavioral health services to include progress on the statewide implementation of the local "Marcus Alert" system. Stacey and Cheryl will share about their Mobile Co-Responder Team (MCRT) that has been part of the Marcus Alert implementation in Virginia Beach.*

11:45 am – 12:15 pm Peacock Ballroom Salon A

**Pandemic Lessons Learned & Thoughts Moving Forward**

Dr. Danny Avula, MD, MPH​, Virginia Vaccination Coordinator and Director, Richmond and Henrico Health Districts and Craig Fifer

*Description coming*

12:15 pm Peacock Ballroom Salon A

VLGMA Business Meeting (virtual)