



MEMBER MEETUP



[October 29th, 2025](#)

Agenda



1. Bagels & Coffee
2. Intros
3. Keeping up with ID
4. Upcoming Events & Offerings for Members
5. **ID Member Spotlight:** Renetta Gunn- Stevens from Sophisticated Press
6. **ID Member Resource:** Christine Kickels from Innovation DuPage

Keeping up with ID:



- CO2CEO Recruitment
- Ed tech cluster meeting on **November 12th**
- Midwest Innovation and Entrepreneurship Summit: **Moved to February 26, 2026**
- Clean Energy Incubator Program:
 - Fill out the Connect Form
 - Connect with Bill Payne and Mike Varon

Scan the QR code to keep up with the news:



Member Offerings:

NaperLaunch Academy Growing a Business

During this four-week series, attendees will:

- Learn how to write a business and strategic marketing plan
- Explore library resources for entrepreneurs
- Master six key professional sales skills



OCT
29
2025

6:30 - 8:30pm



Register Today!



Member Offerings:



Leadership & Confidence

Thursday, November 6th, 2025: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.



Jules Wilhelm

- Overcoming imposter syndrome
- Developing an authentic leadership style
- Negotiation skills and advocating for yourself



Register Today!



Upcoming Workshop:



Workshop Name: Lead with a Story

Date: November 12th

Time: 1:00 - 4:45 P.M.

Where: Innovation DuPage

Presented by: Scott Hubbard from Hubbard Communications

SPACE IS LIMITED!

Register Today!



Resources and Workshops



Additional Resources



Strategic Business Advisor

Mike Varon
Innovation DuPage



Executive-in-Residence

Bill Payne
Innovation DuPage



MEMBER MEETUP



ID Member Spotlight:

Sophisticated Press
Renetta Gunn-Stevens



**We spearhead self-publishing for
Entrepreneurs so they can create multiple
streams of income while building global
relationships.**

CEO

www.sophisticatedpress.com

Renetta Gunn-Stevens



Our Story



www.sophisticatedpress.com

Our Story



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SOPHISTICATED
P R E S S

About Us

Sophisticated Press LLC was founded in 2018 in Elmhurst IL. Now we are located in Glen Ellyn, IL. Our portfolio includes:

- Sophisticated Press Publishing House
- Sophisticated Sentences Non-Profit
- Sophisticated Sentences Podcast
- Six Federal Trademarks
- Apparel Line
- Sophisticated Press Author Academy (Online Courses)

We Believe

"Every business should have a book
and every book is a business."

Renetta Gunn-Stevens



www.sophisticatedpress.com



OVER 200 TITLES





Sandy Self-Published A Book



WWW.SOPHISTICATEDPRESS.COM

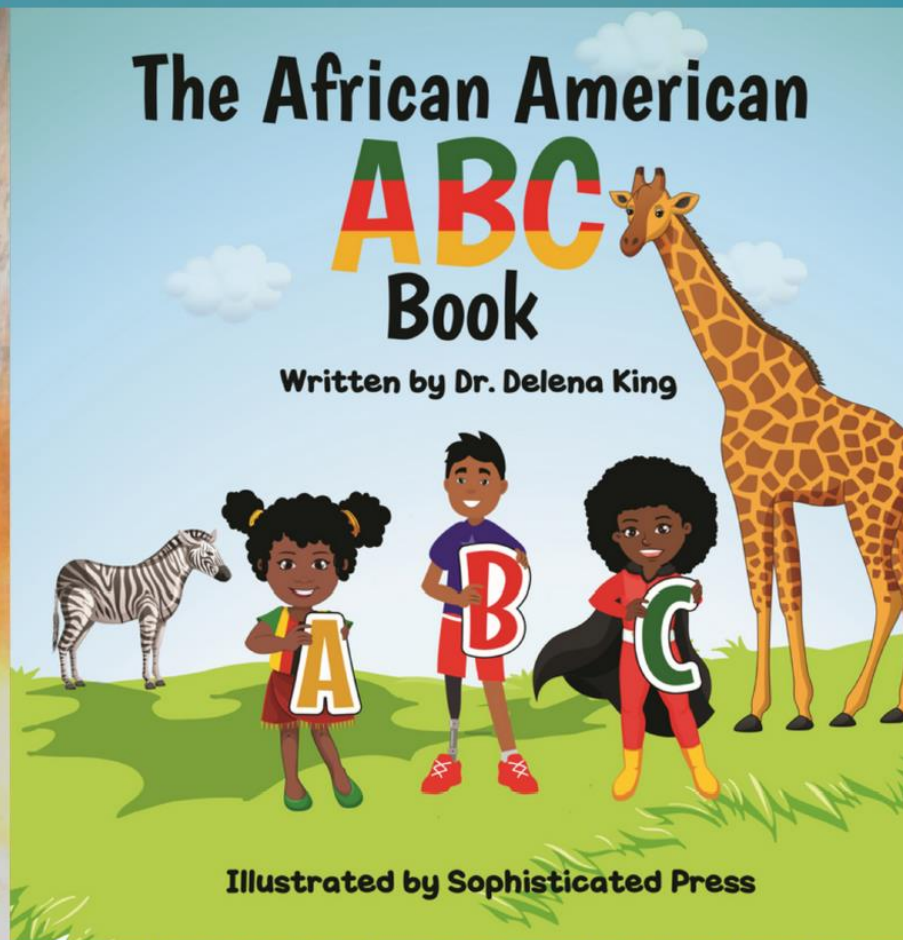
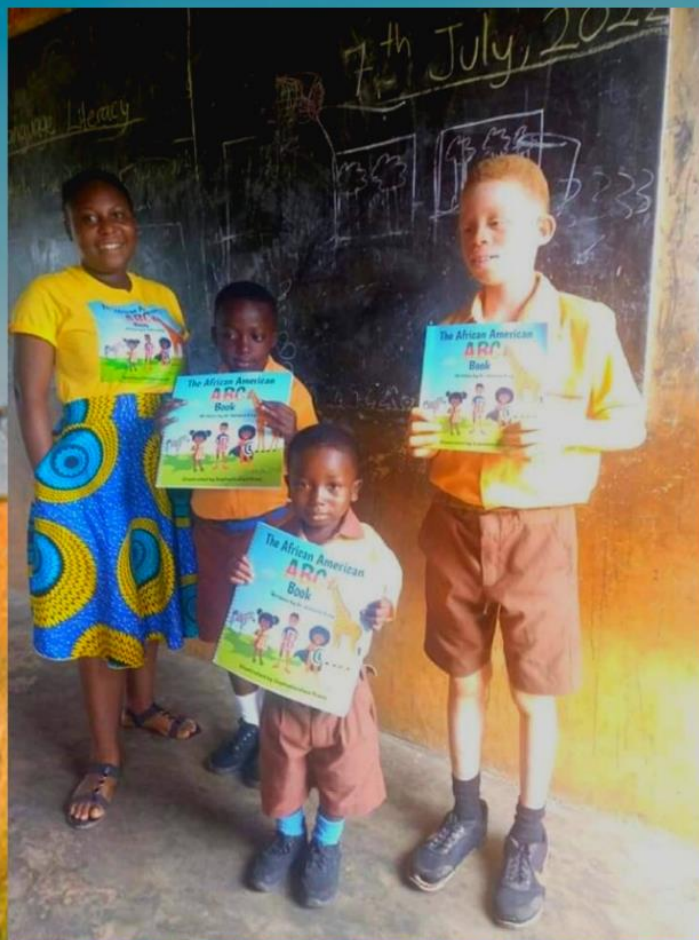


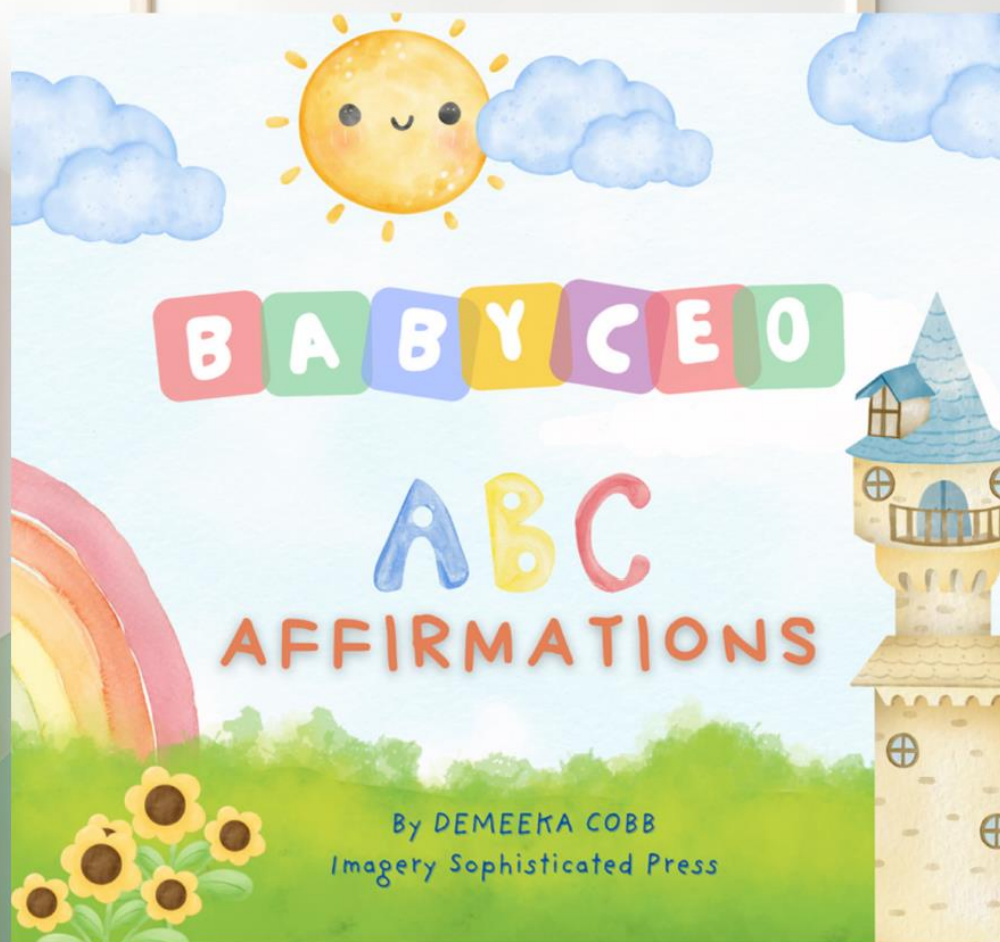
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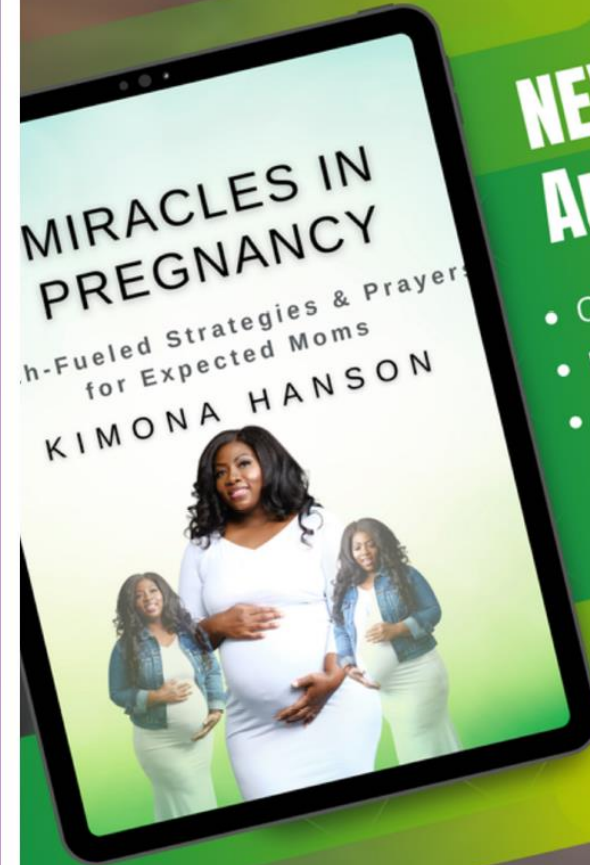
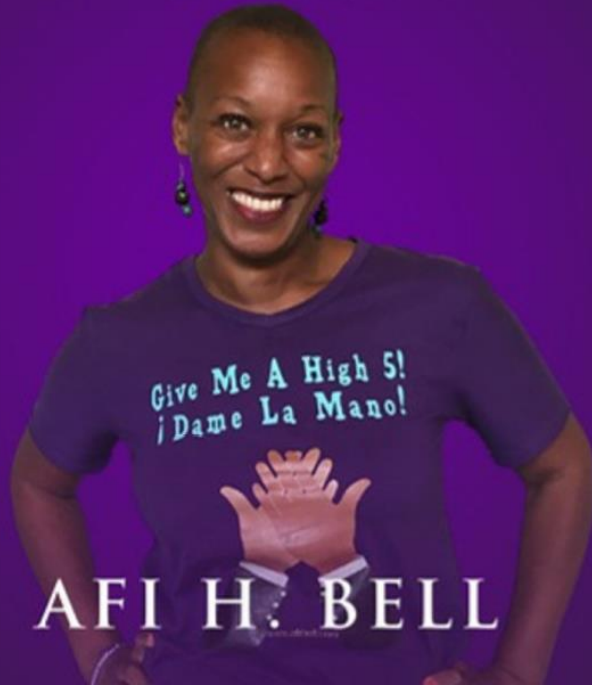
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*Inviting
God
on The
Journey*

APRIL
GRIFFITH



OUR BOOKS FOR ENTREPRENEURS

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101
ANSWERS

to FAQs about
Public Health



LATONYA BYNUM, MPH, CHES®

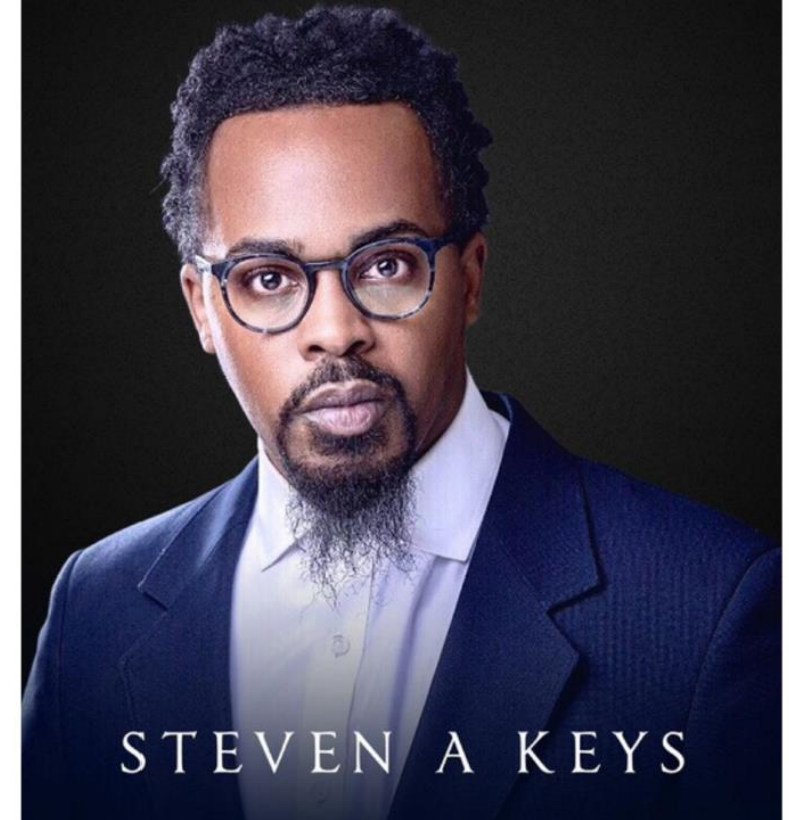
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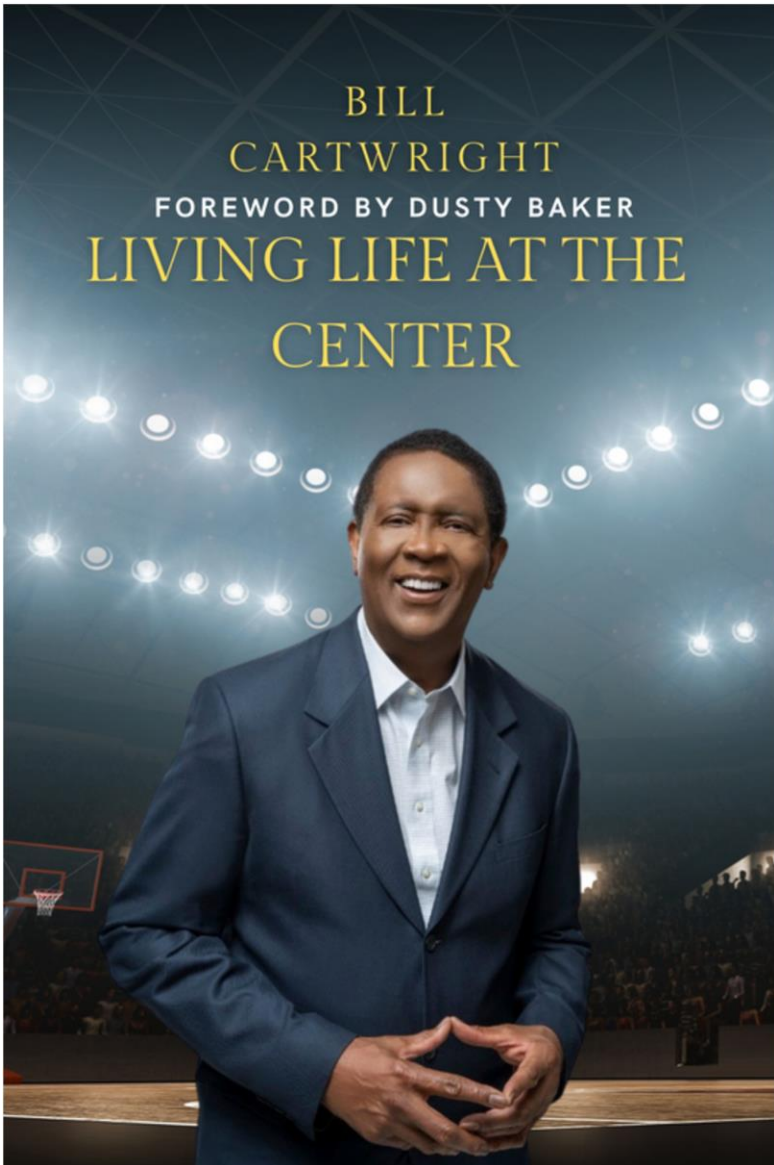
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PRESS LLC

THE **EPITOME** OF GREATNESS



STEVEN A KEYS

OUR BOOKS FOR ENTREPRENEURS





OPPORTUNITIES

U.S. BOOK INDUSTRY FAQ

- The U.S. Book industry is worth \$40.5 billion and will grow to \$46.5 billion by the end of the year 2025 per IBISWorld.
- Over 5 million new self-published books were published in 2023-2024 (Bowker).
- Print sales have declined by 1.6%, while eBook sales have grown by 2.4%, and audiobook sales have increased by over 13% in 2024, reaching \$2.22 billion in US revenue.
- About two-thirds of bestselling self-help books are written by men, while one-third are written by women. However, women represent the majority of the genre's readers-about 62% of total self-help readers are women. Women account for only 10-15% of bestselling business book authors in recent years, with the percentage declining from 13% in 2018 to 8.5% in 2020 and remaining low afterward.
- U.S. children's book revenue was estimated at around \$3.3 billion in 2023 and annual sales surpassed 1 billion books in 2024.

Phil Knight
CEO of NIKE



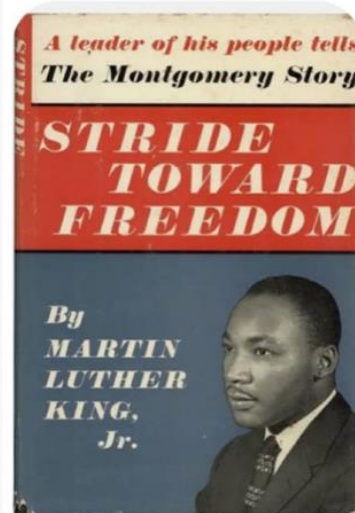
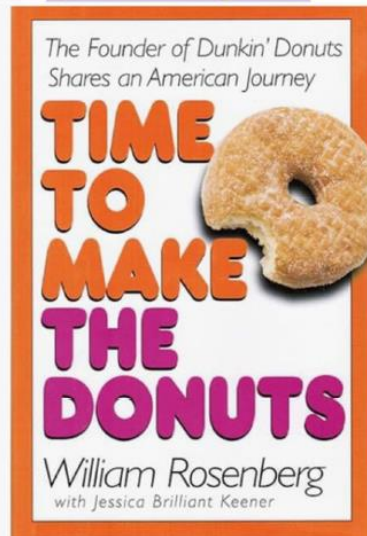
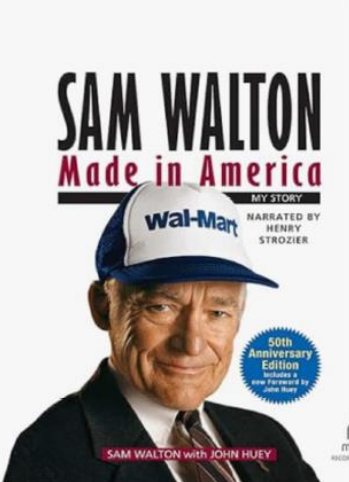
Oprah
Winfrey



Mark
Cuban



THOUGHT LEADERS THAT READ AND PUBLISH



We Can Help You...

- Spearhead a Self-Published Book for your Brand
- Strategize 21 streams of income from your book
- Have them as a guest on the Podcast

ID Members Can Help Us.....

- Self-publish a book for your brand
- **Refer Clients (\$500 Bonus)**
- Attending some of our networking events and workshops at the new location starting in November



CONTACT US



630-755-5580



sophisticatedpress@gmail.com



P.O. Box 831 Elmhurst IL, 60126



www.sophisticatedpress.com



MEMBER MEETUP



ID Member Resource:

College of DuPage
Christine Kickels

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College of DuPage Library

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SYMPOSIUM**



Mastering the Art of Reading
BOOK DISCUSSION, READ-IN & WORKSHOPS



**Student Laptop,
Hotspot & Webcam**

News & Announcements

Interlibrary Loan Paused Over Winter Break

Posted: December 3, 2024

Catch the Catchbox

Posted: November 20, 2024

Unlock Your Creativity with Green Screen Technology in the Media Lab!

Posted: November 7, 2024

Equipment for Off-Campus Presentations

Posted: October 14, 2024

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- Reference Solutions
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- Mintel
- Statista
- Business Source Complete
- Mergent Intellect
- Wall Street Journal

Reference Solutions

- Database of over 23 million verified businesses
- First choice for generating lists of businesses
- Generate lists by lifestyle and location
- **No email addresses**
- Download up to 500 records at once

U.S. Businesses

22 Results

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NEW!

☐	Company Name	Executive Name	Street Address	City, State	ZIP	Phone	Corp. Tree	
☐	Airtite Inc	Brad Sampson	343 W Carol Ln	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 530-9001		↑
☐	Brightview Landscape Svc	Steve Davis	727 N Church Rd	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 279-1020		↑
☐	De Carlo Construction	Frank Decarlo	175 N Maple Ave	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 832-5250		
☐	Diaz Group LLC		747 N Church Rd # G7	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(773) 725-8644		
☐	E & K Co Inc	Jeff Shelton	343 W Carol Ln	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 530-9001		↑
☐	English Construction Co Inc	Jud Dalton	615 N Church Rd # 2	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(434) 845-0301		
☐	G Brouwer Construction	George Brouwer	107 E Butterfield Rd	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 279-2466		
☐	Green Light Restoration LLC		604 W Gladys Ave	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(312) 970-4520		
☐	Interior Protection Inc	Pam Fese	111 N Maple Ave	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 530-4920		
☐	J C Anderson Inc	James Schumacher	834 N Church Rd	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 834-1669		
☐	JNW Construction & Consulting		370 N Addison Ave	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 617-9811		
☐	Me Olson Construction Inc	August Malecha	601 S IL Route 83	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 832-6443		
☐	Morfin Construction	Francisco Morfin	730 N Larch Ave	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(708) 345-0672		
☐	Mueller Construction		740 S Bryan St	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 941-7659		
☐	Premium Disposal Inc	Paul Sterenberg	205 E Butterfield Rd # 287	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 530-9118		
☐	Promar Exteriors	Darius Margis	431 S Kenilworth Ave	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 607-1181		↑
☐	Sport Court Midwest	Lance Hite	747 N Church Rd # G10	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 350-8652		↑
☐	Stecor Construction Corp		714 S Saylor Ave	Elmhurst, IL	60126	Not Available		
☐	Sun Construction Building Corp	Pravin G Patel	638 S Sunnyside Ave	Elmhurst, IL	60126	(630) 758-0880		

Active Electrical Supply Co Elmhurst, IL

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Location Info

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Active Electrical Supply Co

655 W Grand Ave # 130

Elmhurst, IL 60126

Phone (847) 289-5600**Fax** (847) 289-1078**Toll Free Number** *Not Available*[active-elec.com](#)**V Verified Record****County** Du Page**Metro Area** Chicago-Npvl, IL**Census Block Group** 1**Census Tract** 840705**Legal Name** *Not Available*

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Industry Profile

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SIC Code	Descriptions	
7319-08	Distribution Services	✓ Primary
1731-01	Electric Contractors	
5063-19	Lighting Fixtures-Wholesale	
5063-30	Electric Equipment & Supplies-Wholesale	
5063-31	Electric Motors-Distributors (Whls)	
NAICS Code	Description	
54187005	Advertising Material Distribution Services	✓ Primary
23821007	Electrical Contractors And Other Wiring Installati	

IBISWorld

- Source for over 700 market research reports
- “Deep dive” reports, 30-40 pages
- Includes business environment profile
- Global and US focus
- Illinois specific reports

Retail Trade in the US ⓘ US 44-45

Brigette ThomasAnalyst • New York • Published: Oct 2024 [Standard](#) ⓘ

At a Glance

Key Takeaways

Performance

Retailers have contended with volatile spending habits and inflationary pressures over the past five years. To combat these challenges, businesses have gravitated toward omnichannel strategies, product and service diversification and investments in automation.

Rising consumer confidence, facilitated by falling inflation and interest rates, will drive retail spending in the next few years. Spending on high-margin products and big-ticket items will sustain profit.

Over the coming years, retailers will increasingly target younger consumers with innovative technologies. Brands will employ AI for inventory management and extended reality to build upon the omnichannel experience.

[Go to chapter](#)

External Environment

Revenue

\$7.6tr'19-'24 ↑ 3.2 %'24-'29 ↑ 3.3 %

Employees

20m'19-'24 ↑ 2.7 %'24-'29 ↑ 3.1 %

Businesses

3m'19-'24 ↑ 3.2 %'24-'29 ↑ 2.8 %

Profit

Chapters

[At a Glance](#)[Performance](#)[Products and Markets](#)[Geographic Breakdown](#)[Competitive Forces](#)[Companies](#)[External Environment](#)[Financial Benchmarks](#)

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Mintel

- Consumer market intelligence
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Automotive

Auto Maintenance: DIY vs Servicing – US – 2025

The auto aftermarket is evolving with a growing emphasis on DIY vehicle maintenance, professional servicing innovation, and value-driven consumer decisions.

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Streaming Media

Technology

Streaming Video – US – 2025

As the streaming industry faces mounting pressures, it's time to disrupt the status quo and redefine what made streaming revolutionary in the first place.

[View Databook](#)

Household Care

Household Surface Cleaners – US – 2025

The surface cleaner market needs to pivot. Focus on wellness, eco-friendly and private label for profit, not just germ claims.

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Leisure & Entertainment

Location-based Entertainment – US – 2025

Economic uncertainty and convenient in-home leisure options challenge LBEs. However, they can act on consumers' underlying desire for social experiences.

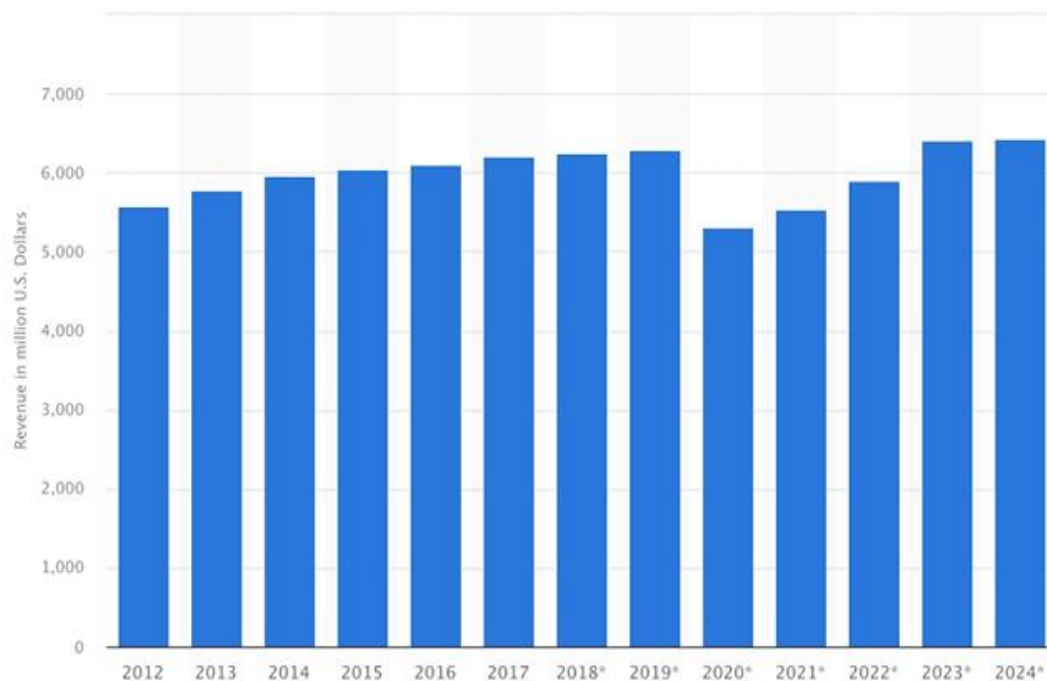
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Statista

- “A million points of data”
- Downloadable
- Market Research Reports
- Trends

Retail & Trade

Industry revenue of "florists" in the U.S. from 2012 to 2024

(in million U.S. Dollars)

Details: 2012-2017

© Statista 2023

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Sources

Statista; US Census Bureau

Survey by

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Liaison for Business Division, Careers, and Philanthropy

kickels@cod.edu

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Business Databases



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Collaborate • Scale • Succeed



INNOVATION
DUPAGE