

PRESIDENT & CEO

Visit Cincy | Cincinnati, OH





CINCINNATI

Where Cultures Unite

Welcome to the Cincy Region - where Cincinnati's midwestern, urban vibrancy meets Northern Kentucky's southern charm & funky flavors. Our cultures collide, creating wildly different, yet easily accessible experiences for your next getaway.

Cincy Region Neighborhoods - One of a Kind Neighborhoods in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky

The Cincy Region is a vibrant tapestry of communities, each weaving its own unique story through the streets of over 50 neighborhoods in Cincinnati and the charming cities of Northern Kentucky.

From the contemporary cuisine to Bourbon and craft beer heritage to iconic professional sports teams to one-of-a-kind attractions to vibrant arts culture to the cherished culinary traditions that echo the area's rich heritage—experience every corner of Cincy offering a distinct flavor of life. Take a drive. Take a walk. Explore somewhere new and discover all that's within reach in Cincy.

[North](#) [West](#) [East](#) [The Corridor in NKY](#) [Downtown](#) [Uptown](#) [Florence](#) [Newport](#) [Covington](#)

Things To Do

The Cincinnati Reds, Skyline Chili, museums, the Cincinnati Ballet, craft beer, bourbon, the list goes on. Depending on who you ask, the Cincy Region is known for a lot of things. More importantly, there's an abundance of things to do in Cincy.

Whether you're on a mission to meet our beloved Fiona at Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, cheer on the home team at Great American Ball Park, explore [Mainstrasse Village](#), seek inspiration from the vibrant [art](#) and [music](#) scene, taste your way through Over-the-Rhine's unique eateries and [breweries](#), [museums](#) and more, it's easy to fill your days in Cincy. Cincy Culture is everywhere, and you've just gotta be here to see it, taste it, revel in it.

[Attractions](#) [Arts & Culture](#) [Family Fun](#) [Outdoor & Recreation](#) [Events](#) [Bars & Nightlife](#) [Downtown](#) [Shopping](#)

About Visit Cincy

Visit Cincy is a destination marketing organization that drives travel to create ongoing economic impact and vitality for the Cincy Region's people, businesses, and communities in which we serve.

Whether for leisure travelers or meeting professionals, Visit Cincy promotes distinctively memorable experiences that attract, delight, and connect people to the diverse heritage, rich history, deep culture, and values that are uniquely Cincinnati.

Our overall goal: supporting the residents of the Cincy region through increased tax revenue and direct spending in area businesses by visitors, meeting planners, and convention goers. This goal is accomplished through strategic sales, marketing, event services, destination leadership, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and tourism industry engagement strategies.

POSITION SUMMARY

Visit Cincy is seeking a dynamic and visionary President & CEO to lead the destination at a transformational moment for Cincinnati's visitor economy. With the recent completion of a newly renovated convention center and the planned development of a major headquarters hotel adjacent to the facility, Cincinnati is uniquely positioned to expand its presence in the highly competitive meetings and conventions marketplace.

The next President & CEO will have the opportunity to build on this momentum by strengthening Visit Cincy's strategic direction, driving convention and group business, and aligning the region's hospitality, business, and civic leaders around a shared vision for growth. This leader will play a pivotal role in elevating Cincinnati's national profile as a premier destination for meetings, conventions, and major events while maximizing economic impact for the community.

The ideal candidate will bring a strong convention and group sales mindset, exceptional stakeholder leadership, and the ability to inspire collaboration across a broad coalition of partners. Working closely with the Board of Directors, hospitality industry leaders, and community stakeholders, the President & CEO will position Cincinnati to compete at the highest levels in the meetings and conventions industry and ensure Visit Cincy continues to serve as a catalyst for economic development and destination growth.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Strategic Leadership

- Lead the development and execution of Visit Cincy's strategic plan, aligning organizational priorities with measurable economic impact outcomes.
- Partner with the Board of Directors to establish strategic direction, policies, and performance metrics for the organization.
- Identify opportunities to strengthen Cincinnati's competitive position as a premier destination for conventions, meetings, and events.

Convention and Visitor Economy Growth

- Provide leadership and strategic oversight of convention sales, tourism marketing, and destination development initiatives.
- Work closely with hotel partners, the convention center, and hospitality stakeholders to drive convention bookings, room nights, and visitor spending.
- Position Cincinnati to compete for major meetings, conventions, and citywide events that generate significant economic impact.

Organizational Leadership

- Provide executive leadership to the Visit Cincy team, including senior leaders responsible for sales, marketing, finance, and operations.
- Evaluate organizational structure, strengthen team performance, and ensure alignment around strategic priorities.
- Foster a culture of accountability, collaboration, innovation, and high performance.

Financial Stewardship

- Oversee financial management of the organization, including budget development, financial reporting, audits, and long-term fiscal planning.
- Ensure responsible stewardship of organizational resources and alignment of investments with strategic priorities.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Build and maintain strong relationships with hotel partners, business leaders, government officials, community organizations, and tourism stakeholders.
- Serve as a visible active leader in the community.
- Act as the primary spokesperson for the organization and the destination.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES (CONT.)

Board Relations and Governance

- Serve as chief advisor to the Board of Directors and Executive Committee.
- Provide regular reporting on organizational performance, strategic initiatives, and economic impact.
- Support the Board in governance, planning, and policy development.

Industry Representation

- Represent Visit Cincy at key regional, national, and international tourism and convention industry events.
- Maintain strong relationships with industry associations and professional organizations.

EXPERIENCE & REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree in Business, Marketing, Hospitality, or a related field required; advanced degree preferred; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Minimum of 10–15 years of progressively responsible leadership experience in the hospitality, tourism, meetings, or convention industry.
- Demonstrated success leading high-performing teams and managing complex stakeholder environments.
- Strong understanding of destination marketing, convention sales, and visitor economy development.
- Professional industry certifications, such as CDME (Certified Destination Management Executive), are valued.

IDEAL BACKGROUND

- Senior leadership experience within a Destination Marketing Organization (DMO), convention center, or comparable visitor economy organization, ideally in a mid- to large-size market with a strong convention focus.
- Proven convention and group sales leadership, with a track record of driving room nights, securing major events, and increasing economic impact through meetings and conventions.
- Strong business and financial acumen, including experience managing budgets, overseeing organizational performance, and aligning strategy with measurable outcomes.
- Extensive stakeholder engagement experience, including working with boards, hotel partners, civic leaders, and community organizations in complex public-private environments.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Dynamic, outward-facing leader and ambassador who is highly visible and comfortable representing the destination publicly.
- Collaborative consensus builder with strong political acumen and the ability to align diverse stakeholders.
- Strategic and visionary thinker who brings fresh ideas and inspires teams and partners to elevate the destination's competitive position.
- High emotional intelligence and strong interpersonal skills, including transparency, authenticity, and the ability to build trust internally and externally.

TOP PRIORITIES

- Drive convention and group business by aggressively positioning the newly renovated convention center and future headquarters hotel to increase bookings, room nights, and economic impact.
- Assess and strengthen the organization by evaluating the team, filling key leadership roles, and aligning internal culture, structure, and processes for performance.
- Engage and align key stakeholders across the destination, including hotels, the convention center, community leaders, and partners.
- Establish a clear strategic vision and measurable goals for Visit Cincy that strengthen the destination's brand and competitive position in the meetings and conventions market.



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If interested in learning more about this great opportunity, please send your resume to our SearchWide Global Executive, Kellie Henderson.

SearchWide Global is a full-service executive search firm primarily for companies in the travel, tourism and convention, and hotel and lodging industries. We specialize in C-Level, Director and Management level executive searches for companies ranging in size from Fortune 500 corporations to mid-sized public and private companies.