



MARYLAND

BLOCKCHAIN ASSOCIATION

Winter 2025

Breaking News



The Maryland Blockchain Association is excited to announce its creation of The American Blockchain Center, an innovative hub designed to provide access to resources that support economic growth, adult learner development, and consumer education to learn about the applications of decentralized technologies. If you would like to partner with the American Blockchain Center, please reach out to discuss college programs and business development grants.

Strategic Partnership

Capitol Technology University



Laurel, Maryland—In a special Pi Day (3.14) announcement, Capitol Technology University and the Maryland Blockchain Association (MDBA) have entered into a new partnership promoting awareness of blockchain and cryptocurrency technology, educational opportunities, and careers. Through this collaboration, MDBA and Capitol Tech will benefit from sharing mutual resources in support of their learners and students, including promotion of and participation in events, workshops, and hack-a-thon competitions, as well as exploring the establishment of a blockchain academy.

*“This partnership advances blockchain education and fosters innovation in the DMV and beyond,” stated **Jacqueline Cooper**, MDBA CEO.*

MDBA works with industry leaders and policy makers to ensure Maryland is a national and global champion in Bitcoin, blockchain, Web3, and emerging technologies. MDBA offers workshops, seminars, and courses to educate the public to help demystify blockchain technology and encourage adoption of its potential applications.

Capitol Tech offers higher education and opportunities for career advancement in STEM fields of study, notably cybersecurity, intelligence and global security, computer and data science, and more, providing relevant learning experiences that lead to success in the evolving global community.

Together, MDBA and Capitol Tech aim to forge further avenues for academic excellence and drive Maryland's leadership in emerging technologies forward.



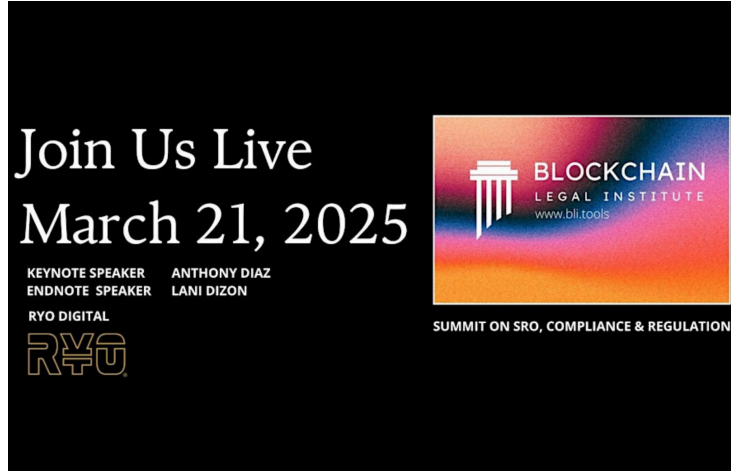
Maryland Blockchain Association is now a proud observing member of the Global Blockchain Business Council (“GBBC”).

Global Business Blockchain Council (GBBC) is the trusted non-profit association for the blockchain, digital assets, and emerging technology community. Founded in 2017 in Davos, Switzerland, GBBC comprises more than 500 institutional members and 283 Ambassadors across 124 jurisdictions and disciplines. GBBC furthers adoption of blockchain and emerging technologies by engaging regulators, business leaders, and global changemakers to harness these transformative tools for more secure and functional societies.

GBBC industry verticals: Financial Services, Global Commerce/Supply Chain, and Commodities, underpinned by AI, digital identity, governance, hardware, infrastructure, policy, regulation, and security.

GBBC initiatives: BITA Standards Council (BITA), Food for Crisis, Global Standards Mapping Initiative (GSMI), International Journal of Blockchain Law (IJBL), InterWork Alliance (IWA), and U.S. Blockchain Coalition (USBC).

Observing Members of GBBC represent governments, academia, non-profits, central banks, and regulators. Observing members play an invaluable role as the organization works to maintain a vibrant global network that bridges the blockchain, regulatory, and business worlds — keeping the channels of communication open and facilitating substantive worldwide partnerships across sectors.

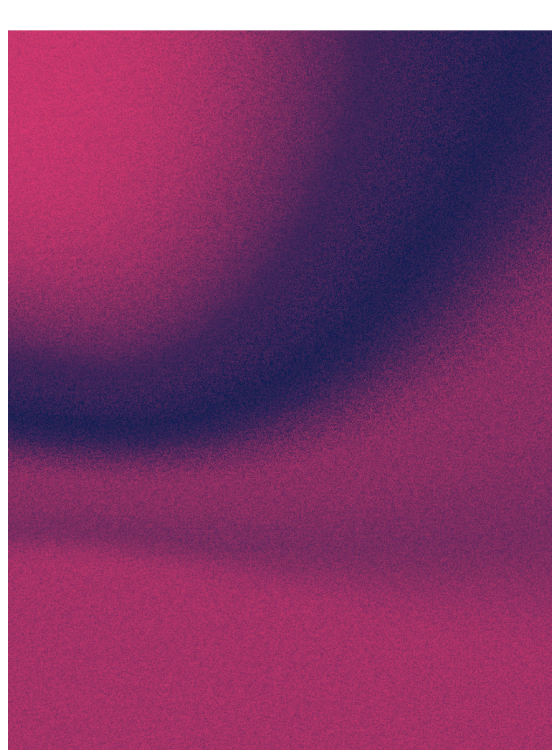


Jacqueline Cooper (Founder, Maryland Blockchain Association) is co-hosting a Global Summit on Sandboxes, SROs & Economic Zones with another international citizen from Maryland, Lani Dizon (Co-founder and President of Zenza Capital and RYO Coin).

Founded in 2017, RYO Digital is a pioneering blockchain ecosystem project, designed within Japan's rigorous regulatory framework to uphold security, transparency, and ease of use, ensuring a seamless experience for all users. With its multi-faceted ecosystem designed for mass adoption, RYO Digital is at the forefront of compliance-driven innovation, fostering a blockchain landscape built on transparency, trust, and accessibility.

Lani Dizon, Co-Founder and President of RYO Digital, stated, “This partnership is about building trust through compliance, inclusivity, and ease of use. Mass adoption happens when blockchain is secure, simple, and accessible to all. Our partnership is a natural step forward in ensuring that businesses, regulators, and consumers alike have the tools, knowledge, and structure to navigate this evolving industry.”

Sponsor News



Strategic Partners

2025

RYO Digital

RYO Digital and MDBA are committed to empowering blockchain businesses by advocating for clearer regulatory standards, ensuring that compliance remains a blueprint, not a hindrance, to blockchain's success. Watch the [live stream](#) of the Global Summit on March 21st to learn more about global applications of blockchain technology.

MDBA On The Move



Jacqueline Cooper, CEO of the MDBA, and National Board Certified Special Educator, attended Council for Exceptional Children conference. This year the CEC created a special vertical to provide professional development for educators about the applications of artificial intelligence. Jacqueline spoke to the exhibitors about MDBA and soon MDBA will be consulting with many of those in attendance.

The MDBA Team visited Denver and consulted with blockchain gaming businesses, compliance companies, developers, @regulators.



The MDBA Team traveled to the Miami WAGMI conference and interviewed blockchain developers.

The Team met Enzo Villani, creator of the Alpha Liquid Terminal powered by AI (watch for upcoming Talk Show interview). Upcoming conferences on the schedule for the MDBA Team include

Consensus & Vegas Bitcoin.

Feature Member News



A new member of the Maryland Blockchain Association is Daniel Keller. Daniel Keller is the Co-Founder and CEO of InFlux Technologies Limited (Flux), a leading decentralized Web3 cloud infrastructure platform. With over 25 years of experience in technology, healthcare, and nonprofits, Keller has established himself as an adept entrepreneur and visionary in transformative technologies.

He co-founded InFlux Technologies in 2018 under its original name, Zelcore Technologies, and has since spearheaded the development of innovative solutions like FluxOS, FluxNodes, and Zelcore Wallet. Keller holds a Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology from Capella University and has completed leadership programs at Penn State University and Harvard Business School. His expertise spans strategic planning, blockchain integration, decentralized infrastructure, and project management. Known for his charismatic leadership, Keller emphasizes decentralization as a means to empower individuals and transform industries.

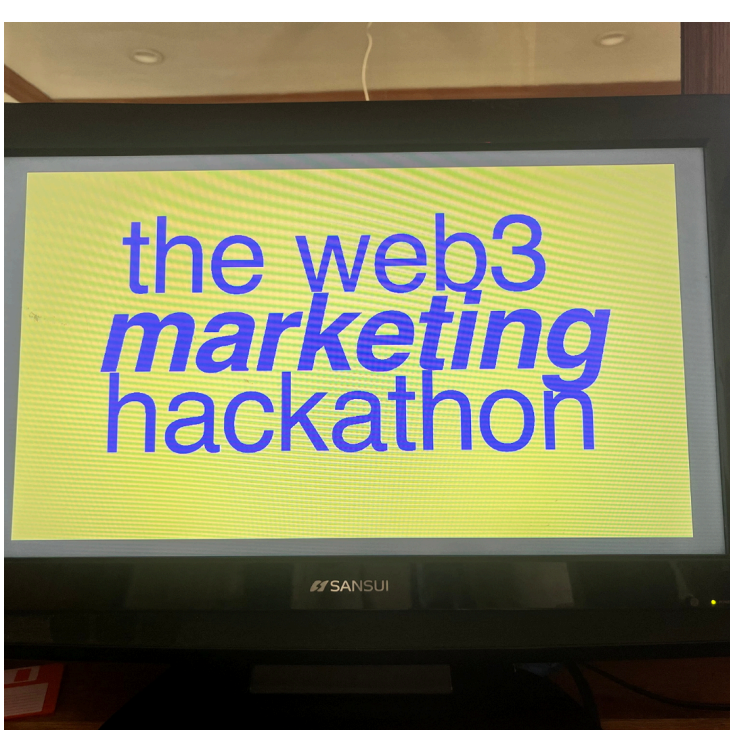
Under his leadership, Flux has grown into the world's largest decentralized compute network, with over 13,000 nodes across 81 countries. The platform addresses challenges in cloud computing by leveraging distributed GPU resources for AI, IoT, and blockchain applications. Keller's work reflects his commitment to building a free internet "for the people, by the people."



Creator of an innovative Blockchain Legislative Tracker, Attorney Jillian Hishaw brings 25 years of distinguished experience spanning five countries, emerging as a leading authority in agricultural law and asset protection. Her career expanded in 2020 when she became a certified FINRA Arbitrator, followed by her entry into blockchain innovation through her NFT creation in 2021. Her authored publications on agricultural and property protection include influential works such as "Don't Bet the Farm on Medicaid," "50 State Farm Tax Credits," and additional titles. Her forthcoming publication "Banks, Land and Crypto" explores blockchain financial frameworks and property protection methods for landowners. Her work has garnered acclaim from notable institutions including the MacArthur Foundation, Farm Aid, and Clif Bar, with coverage in ELLE Magazine, the Atlantic, and scholarly publications like the Food Law & Policy Journal, Environmental & Energy Law & Policy Journal, and beyond. In 2024, Hishaw was happy to join the Blockchain Legal Institute, a US-based non-profit dedicated to blockchain research and policy advancement.

As Founder of Family Agriculture Resource Management Services (F.A.R.M.S.), she has safeguarded over \$15 million in farm assets while implementing innovative food security and emergency response programs worldwide. Her professional journey began with agricultural positions at local, state, and federal governmental agencies. At Hishaw Law, she led significant litigation against the Department of Justice regarding improper farm seizures, assisted clients in clearing millions in debt through bankruptcy proceedings, and facilitated property preservation through strategic estate planning. The Food Tank organization distinguished her in 2019 as one of 14 "Women Revolutionizing Food Systems Globally."

Volunteer News



This past month, Richard Goodhue participated in the ETHDenver Hackathon alongside other Maryland Blockchain Association volunteers. The event provided a great opportunity to collaborate with other developers, contribute to innovative blockchain projects, and expand his network within the Web3 space. Beyond just coding, ETHDenver was a chance to learn from others, exchange ideas, and gain new insights into the evolving blockchain ecosystem.

Lately, Richard has been making steady progress toward becoming a full-stack Web3 developer. He has been honing his Solidity skills, working on smart contract development, and gaining experience with front-end technologies to build fully functional decentralized applications. Each new challenge is helping him refine his expertise and broaden his understanding of blockchain development as a whole.

In addition to his independent projects, Richard is currently interning with the Dereg Alliance, where he is contributing to the programming of their test rig and assisting with community engagement efforts. This role has given him hands-on experience with real-world applications of blockchain technology while also allowing him to help foster a growing community around the project.

Between ETHDenver, his internship, and his continued development work, Richard remains focused on advancing his skills and deepening his involvement in the Web3 space.



Porsche S Dorsey, MPA, traveled the world to a blockchain conference in South Africa. Blockchain Africa - November 20 & 22, 2024**

The Blockchain Africa conference took place over two days, with the primary event just north of Johannesburg on November 20th, followed by a Meetup and Networking event hosted by Binance in Cape Town on the 22nd.

Key themes included Regulations and Compliance, Stablecoins, and Payments. South Africa has a strong cryptocurrency market, with an estimated 10-13% of the population owning digital assets, making it a leading adopter in Africa. Nigeria continues to be a global leader in crypto adoption, with approximately 75% of the population reportedly owning digital assets.

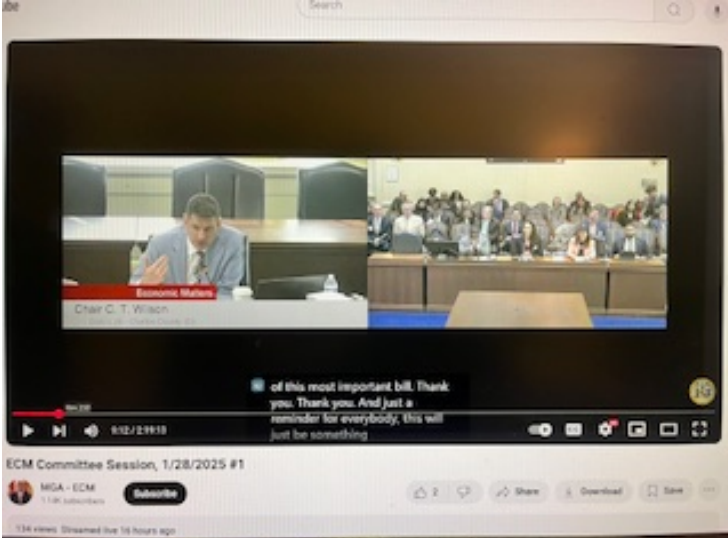
The conference emphasized Africa's potential, particularly South Africa's, to utilize blockchain technology for economic resilience, financial inclusion, and innovation. It underscored the continent's growing importance in the global blockchain landscape.

The conference featured a comprehensive program, including 19 sessions, 37 speakers, and 3 workshops.

Keynote speakers included Stafford Masie (Ex-CEO of Google Africa), Ernest Mbenkum (Founder and CEO of Interstellar Inc. and Founder of the Bantu Blockchain Foundation) and Cardano Founder and CEO of IOHK, Charles Hoskinson.

News Around Maryland



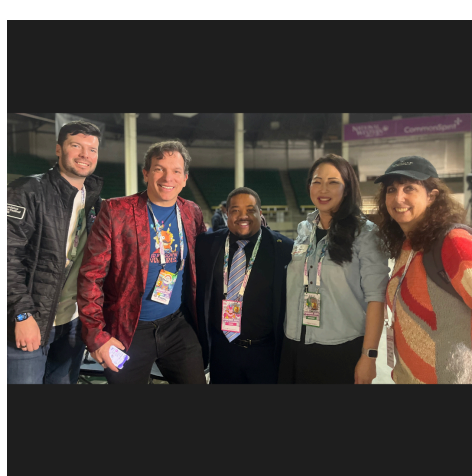


Testifying in front of Maryland General Assembly in support of the creation of a Maryland Blockchain Task Force. The Maryland Blockchain Association team of volunteers included Jacqueline Cooper, Erlinda Doherty & John Reusing.

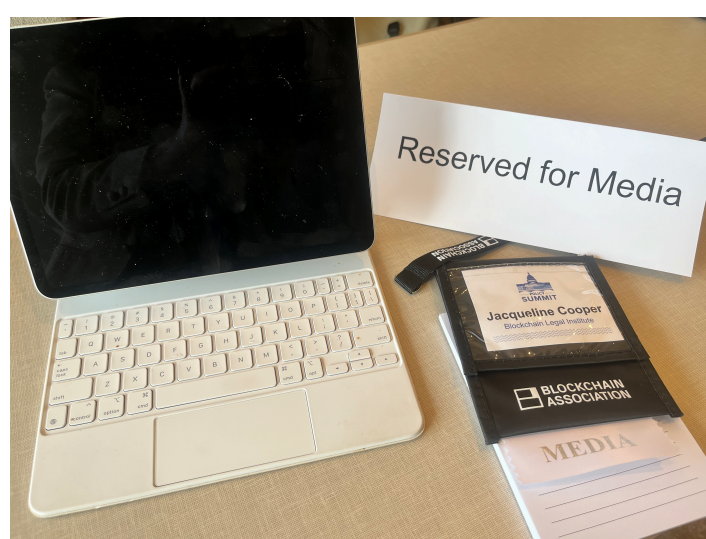


Erlinda Doherty is a seasoned public policy expert with over 20 years of experience advising leaders on emerging technology issues like AI, blockchain,

InFlux TECHNOLOGIES
New Member of the Maryland Blockchain Association



Gerald Gallagher (VA Blockchain Council), Russ C (ETH Denver Founder), Anthony Howell (Bermuda), Arry Yu (NABA), Jacqueline Cooper (MD Blockchain Association)



Testimonial from Richard Goodhue

Joining MDBA has been an incredibly valuable experience, especially in helping build strong connections within the blockchain community. I've had the opportunity to network with a diverse group of professionals, developers, and enthusiasts who share a passion for blockchain technology. These interactions have not only expanded my professional circle but also fostered a sense of belonging in the space.

Engaging with others who are equally committed to innovation has provided me with new insights, ideas, and opportunities to collaborate on exciting projects. MDBA has created an environment where I can ask questions, share knowledge, and continuously grow both personally and professionally.

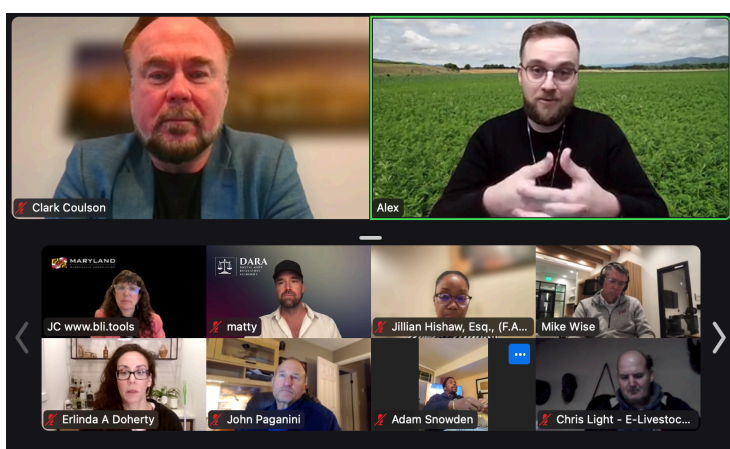
One of the most impactful experiences was attending the Bitcoin Conference with MDBA, where I was able to deepen these connections on a larger scale. Interacting with industry leaders and emerging voices gave me a broader perspective on the future of blockchain and strengthened my commitment to advancing my skills. Since joining, I've also increased my focus on Web3 programming, improving my proficiency in Solidity, JavaScript, and blockchain frameworks.

Being surrounded by a motivated and knowledgeable community has encouraged me to take my work more seriously and approach the space with a professional mindset. Overall, MDBA has played a crucial role in my growth. It has not only provided me with essential resources but also a supportive community that motivates me to continue learning and contributing to the blockchain ecosystem.

Lets Work Together...

Are you curious about, or working within any of these areas:
Artificial intelligence? Bitcoin Mining? Application Development?
Cryptocurrency? Real World Assets? Non-Fungible Tokens?

Visit www.marylandblockchainassociation.org and reach out to us.



The MDBA hosted an event about the internet of Things (IoT) enabled devices and how data analytics and blockchain are driving efficiency, sustainability, and transparency in farming practices. The BLI Innovative Legal Tech Series highlighted cutting-edge agritech solutions revolutionizing the farming industry, real-world IoT applications enhancing agricultural productivity & insights into the future of smart farming and digital agriculture.

Thank you to our sponsors: The Family Agriculture Resource Management Services, <https://30000acres.org/>.

and digital assets, while also shaping policy through strategic relationships and advocacy campaigns at both the state and federal levels. She recently has been supporting the MDBA as the MDBA Team have been meeting with Maryland General Assembly members.

Grant Updates

If you are looking to start something new, important, and attention-worthy, message us to learn about public and private resources. - this info is free to members!

[Resources](#)

Maryland Blockchain Association Meet-ups



Partnership Signing Day MDBA & Capitol Technology University

Maryland Around the Globe



Blockchain Legal Institute

Want to network with Legal Experts in Blockchain? BLI serves as a comprehensive library of decentralized resources, accessible to anyone interested in exploring

FED Legislative Updates

Our research team is monitoring trends in compliance, regulations and court cases across the U.S.A. If you are doing business in Maryland or elsewhere, we can research your questions.

Contact us.

Networking Opportunities

If you are interested in learning about our community, join our virtual Maryland Blockchain Association Meet-up as well as others around Maryland:

- Baltimore Bitcoin Group
- AI Innovators Network - Tysons - DC, Nova, MD
- Baltimore Tech Meetup Group
- Bitcoin Annapolis
- Rainwater Growth LLC - DMV Tech Upskilling
- DMV Bitcoiners
- Hyperledger Foundation Hyperledger Maryland
- Cryptocurrency Meetup Group



innovative technologies. Whether you're a consumer or an entrepreneur, you can find valuable research and insights at www.bli.tools.

Hackathon News

Hackathons

Can you imagine winning thousands of dollars of Bitcoin and learning valuable lessons at the same time? Join the BLI Legal Tech Hackaton by visiting www.marylandblockchainassociation.org



MARYLAND
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Constellation

Special Thanks to Patrina Pelton-Smith of the [Business of Charity](#) as well as Cameron Browne of [Darren Advisors](#) for their support in the development of the Maryland Blockchain Association.

Conferences

You can visit with the Maryland Blockchain Association's team as they travel to local, national and international conferences throughout the year.

CBDC

CRUISE - NOV 16 2024
www.cbdcruise.com



Volunteers, Sponsors, Supporters:

The Maryland Blockchain Association recognizes all of the volunteers, sponsors and supporters who contribute to our educational outreach efforts.



Stay Tuned For Updates

info@marylandblockchainassociation.org

Join As A Member

Each newsletter will feature different Maryland State Departments, local County or City offices work-ing within the blockchain community. Stay tuned for these features. Send information to feature your local community, to our email.



Know someone in Maryland who likes blockchain tech? Forward them this email.

Member Spotlights

Benjamin Diggles
Co-Founder; Chief Strategy Officer
Constellation Network, Inc.
<https://constellationnetwork.io>

PORSCHÉ S. DORSEY
Co-Founder and CEO
Verada

Chris Light
CEO and Founder
E-Livestock Global
www.e-livestockglobal.com

Saz Mining
<https://www.sazmining.com/>

Kyle Langham
Director, Data and Analytics | DFINITY
<https://dfinity.org/>

Christine Urban
StellarMadic
www.stellarmadic.com
Web3 Consulting



Sunny Oller, MBA, Co-Founder & CEO of Meta Space Lab & CFO of CEIF

www.metaspacelab.xyz
www.ceif.io

Strategic Groups USA LLC
<https://www.strategicgroupsusa.com/>

ASSOCIATION BENEFITS
INCLUDE YOUR ACCESS TO:

- THE AMERICAN BLOCKCHAIN CENTER
- CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES
- IN PERSON EVENTS
- DISCOUNT CONFERENCE TICKETS
- PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- NETWORKING WITH MD POLITICIANS
- HACKATHONS

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2025 MEMBER

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