

The Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce has implemented three goals in our new strategic plan. Two of our goals are to attract and serve a diverse group of members from all industries representing businesses in Greater Bethesda and to grow awareness of the Chamber among both members and the public.

Living up to these principles, we invite you to celebrate Black History Month with us through our third annual member spotlight series. This special feature helps our communities learn more about some of its leaders and their impacts they make every day.

Today, we would like you to get to know Eamoni Collier, Founder & CEO of Urban Garden Brewing LLC.

Urban Garden Brewing is a Black Woman-owned beer brand dedicated to the art of craft beer-making, and passionate about producing high-quality, flavorful brews. Our inspiration comes from the ancient Egyptian women who believed that beer had powerful healing properties. Urban Garden pays homage to those traditions by creating beer blends that embody the aromatic and flavorful blends of flowers, herbs, and spices found in tea. Through approachable recipes and collaborative events, Urban Garden Brewing is changing the way craft beer is experienced in our community.

We asked Eamoni three questions surrounding leadership and goals. Read her responses below.

1. As you look back over your life, at what point did you begin to think of yourself as a leader?

I embody the spirit of a pilot more, as I am good at creating roadmaps for getting things done. However, from a young age, I've always taken on leadership roles, like starting my own business, in third grade, or leading activism through spoken word and poetry. My leadership spirit has been a driving force in my life and has always been a part of who I am. I found that this drive has led many people around me to act in their lives.

2. Do you have a vision that guides your body of work? If so, has it changed over time or remain the same?

I strive to use my skills and experiences to inspire positive change in the world and empower marginalized communities. My vision has evolved over time as I've gained new perspectives and learned from my experiences, but the core of it remains the same: to make a difference and leave a lasting impact. I believe that staying true to this vision is what gives my work purpose and meaning.

3. Does the work you do now play a part in the legacy you wish to leave behind? If not, describe what tools you need to help you achieve your goals.

As the owner of the first Black Woman-owned brewing company in the nation's capital, I understand the significance of this achievement and the doors it opens for generations to come. I am proud to pave the way for others and to demonstrate that anything is possible with hard work and determination. My goal is to not only run a successful business but to inspire and empower others

to follow their biggest dreams. I believe that the work I do today will have a lasting impact, not just on my own life, but on the lives of many others for years to come.

Visit www.urbangardenbrewing.com to learn more about Eamoni and the Urban Garden Brewing movement.