

Welcome to Philadelphia!

We are thrilled to be hosting the [2017 HBA Annual Conference](#) and extend a warm welcome to each of you joining us in the “City of Brotherly Love.”

Yes, you already know that Philly is home to the Liberty Bell, the Declaration of Independence and Philly cheesesteaks, but did you know that Philadelphia is also a city of firsts?

Many of the great American institutions established here include...

- the founding of Pennsylvania in 1681
- the first hospital – [Philadelphia Hospital](#) in 1751
- the first medical school – [The University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine](#) in 1765
- the country’s first daily newspaper – [The Philadelphia Packet and Daily Advertiser](#) in 1784
- America’s first zoo – [The Philadelphia Zoo](#) in 1874
- the first general purpose computer – [University of Pennsylvania’s Moore School of Electrical Engineering](#) in 1946



With so many [firsts to claim](#), we can only imagine the drive and “G.R.I.T. – Gratitude, Resilience, Influence and Tenacity” on which Philadelphia was built and that is still pervasive in this thriving metropolis today.

These pioneering milestones continued to evolve over the years, particularly in healthcare, as the Philadelphia metropolitan area has more than 100 hospitals and six medical schools, as well as schools for nursing, dentistry and pharmacology.

As if that wasn’t enough, there’s so much to see and do, we encourage you to add as much time as you can spare to the start and/or end of your conference experience to take advantage of all the history, arts and athletics the city has to offer.

Here’s a few more interesting facts and places to explore while you are here:

Arts

[Philadelphia Museum of Art](#) – Maintains a world-renowned collection containing over 240,000 objects including major pieces from Europe, America and Asia.

[The Barnes Foundation](#) – Established to “promote the advancement of education and the appreciation of the fine arts and horticulture,” holds one of the finest collections of impressionist, post-impressionist, and earlier modern paintings and more.

[Walnut Street Theatre](#) – Founded in 1809, is America’s oldest running theatre.

Food

[Reading Terminal Market](#) – Philadelphia’s historic public market including all the best tastes of Philly (including cheesesteaks). The HBA is holding a [reception here on Tuesday night \(7 November\)](#).

[Franklin Fountain](#) – Old fashioned ice cream and soda fountain parlor.

[Philadelphia Brewing Company](#) - One of the largest brewing companies in Philadelphia.

Check out [all of the great restaurants in Philadelphia](#).

History

[Independence National Park](#) - See Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell.

[Elfreth's Alley](#) - The nation's oldest residential street.

[Penn Museum](#) - One of the world's great archaeology and anthropology research museums.

Science

[Mutter Museum](#) - America's finest museum of medical history, helps the public understand the mysteries and beauty of the human body and to appreciate the history of diagnosis and treatment of disease.

[Franklin Institute](#) - One of America's leading museums in science and technology.

Sport

[Boathouse Row](#) - A row of 15 boathouses for social and rowing clubs and their racing shells.

[Rocky Statue](#) - Placed at the base of the 72 stone steps before the entrance of the Philadelphia Museum of Art the steps have become known as the "Rocky Steps" and running them has become a metaphor for an underdog or an everyman rising to a challenge.

About HBA Greater Philadelphia

The HBA [Greater Philadelphia chapter \(HBA GP\)](#) was founded in 2006 and achieved 1,000 members in the Delaware Valley and South Jersey areas by August 2010. We were also recognized as Philadelphia's **#1 Networking Organization for the Enhancement of Women's Careers in Healthcare** by the *Philadelphia Business Journal*.

Our diverse membership draws from all aspects of healthcare—from leading pharmaceutical, biotech, healthcare and managed care companies to publishers, advertising, medical education and communications agencies, and other service providers. The HBA GP chapter empowers members as they develop and hone their personal leadership agenda, knowledge and skills. We provide a variety of opportunities to learn and connect through in-person programs, webinars and networking events. We are committed to helping our members remain at the cutting edge of market trends and create a network of contacts that are instrumental in achieving career goals.

The HBA GP chapter has more than 12 live educational events scheduled for the upcoming year, plus a variety of webinars, dine-arounds, executive breakfasts and more, tailored to developing women's leadership skills.