
Tips to Prepare for Sage City

Tuesday, July 23, 2013 | 4 p.m.–6:30 p.m.



SAGE CITY

The Collaborative Meetup at Sage Summit

Sage City is the ultimate collaborative meet-up at Sage Summit. It will provide the opportunity to connect with people from your field, be inspired by great ideas, get excited about the future of your business, and empower you to become an agent for change in your organization. To have the most successful Sage City experience, do a little advance prep work using these ten easy tips.

Get the skinny on Sage City.

This is going to be a networking event unlike any other you've likely experienced, so make sure you understand its ins and outs before you go. What's a village? What does a village host do? What exactly is a chat wall? Visit our [YouTube](#) channel, where you'll find a series of videos profiling Sage City. Read the [Sage City FAQ](#) to get answers to these questions and many more!

Choose the village(s) you'd like to visit.

Sage City will be comprised of eight villages based on business roles. Villages provide the primary means to locate other attendees who share common goals, backgrounds, challenges, and perspectives. Villages include: Accounting/Bookkeeping; Business Intelligence, Insights, and Strategy; Construction and Real Estate; Financials and Reporting; HR, Benefits, and Payroll; Information Technology; Operations and Inventory Management; and Sales and Customer Management. Suggested business interests for each village can be found on [SageSummit.com](#).

Reach out to your business partner.

Your business partner can be a valuable resource to you as you start to plan your Sage City experience. We recommend carving out some time before July to ask your business partner to help you determine the Sage City villages to attend and hot topics of interest.

Search attendees on Sage Summit mobile app.

We've upgraded the Sage Summit mobile app, and it now includes numerous opportunities to connect with fellow attendees. Download the Sage Summit mobile app prior to arriving in Washington, D.C. and familiarize yourself with its many features. The app will be available on the Apple and Android app stores in late June.

Get to know Sarah Michel.

Sarah Michel is a networking expert and featured speaker at Sage Summit. At the kickoff of Sage City, she will provide tips that will help you break the ice, ask the right questions, and get the most out of your Sage City experience. Learn more about Sage City and watch some of her [quick tip videos](#) under the "See Sage City" section.

Pick your hot topics.

Within each Sage City village, we will form small groups of five to eight people based on hot topics or business challenges. Thinking about the hot topic you'd like to discuss in advance of the conference will save time once you arrive.

Think ahead and answer some questions.

Think about your challenges related to the hot topic. Your small group will need to narrow the discussion down to one to two key issues. Before the conference, ask yourself questions such as:

- What is the top problem that dominates my agenda (related to the hot topic)?
- What specific experiences have I had that I can share?
- Have I had any success dealing with the challenge?

Remember, what you give is as important as what you get.

Before the Sage City event, ask yourself:

- How can I be a resource to others? What experiences, talents, skills, or lessons learned do I have to share with others?
- How can others be a resource to me? What connections, resources, information, or ideas do I need to perform my job better?

Plan to attend Idea Xchange sessions.

Idea Xchange sessions are the antithesis of standard breakouts. The topics for these workshops will be created on the fly based on the feedback and suggestions we receive from Sage City attendees. Look for signs at the conference announcing topics. Idea Xchange sessions take place Thursday morning.

Plan to have breakfast in the City.

We're keeping Sage City going all week long! As you plan your schedule for the week, make sure to note that breakfast will occur in Sage City every morning from Wednesday, July 24, through Friday, July 26. Each morning, head back to the Potomac Ballroom to review the chat walls, meet up with old and new friends, and enjoy a delicious meal.