



## **Black Enterprise Entrepreneurs Summit has a tasty Thursday planned**

Prepare for a rich array of regional cuisines served up by 20 four-star food truck vendors, kick back and listen to your favorite music and enjoy Charlotte's uptown flavors.

If you're looking for a fun event for the entire family, you may want to try Black Food Truck Thursday.

This event is part of the Black Enterprise Entrepreneurs Summit, a three-day business event tailored to both established business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs. There were more than 1,000 attendees at last year's summit. This year, it will be held from Wednesday, June 6, to Saturday, June 9, at The Charlotte Convention Center.

"Black Enterprise reached out to me about adding my event to their summit, and I of course was elated to join forces with them," Cathay Dawkins, chief executive officer of Black Business Owners of Charlotte, said. "The original idea was to showcase African American entrepreneurs and showcase an array of foods. We are more than soul food."

Black Food Truck Thursday will provide summit registrants and the public an opportunity to support black-owned businesses while enjoying plenty of great foods.

"We hear from black entrepreneurs about being excluded from major opportunities," Dawkins said. "Black Food Truck Thursday provides them an opportunity to see that the community supports them and BBOC has their back."

Each year Black Enterprise selects one major city to host their annual entrepreneurs summit. The summit brings together entrepreneurs from across the nation who attend an array of sessions and workshops geared at providing them valuable information about subjects like ways to connect to distributors, marketing strategies, and branding resources.

“I am expecting to engage with like-minded entrepreneurs and learn from those who have accomplished far more than myself,” Dawkins said. “Entrepreneurs need mentors and this summit will give us an opportunity to share and receive vital information that will catapult us forward.”

Dawkins also hopes to showcase BBOC and show that there is an organization that supports entrepreneurs, no matter if it’s in its grassroots phase or well-established.

Black Food Truck Thursday, and BBOC’s other signature events like Charlotte Black Restaurant Week, is an opportunity for the community to come together to fellowship and patronize black entrepreneurs.

Admission is free for Black Enterprise Entrepreneurs Summit registrants, but BBOC is asking for donations from the public. Proceeds benefit BBOC’s entrepreneurial programs.

Black Food Truck Thursday will be held at East Martin Luther King Blvd and South Brevard Street June 7 beginning at 6 p.m. More information and registration for the Black Enterprise Summit can be found at <http://www.blackenterprise.com/entrepreneurssummit/>.

If you have an inspiring story to share, please email Kevin Campbell, WSOC-TV/WAXN-TV community affairs manager, at [kevin.campbell@wsoc.tv](mailto:kevin.campbell@wsoc.tv).