



Tonya Bessillieu Williams
Principal, TBW Consulting Group, Inc.

With 20 years combined experience in the hospitality industry and event management, Tonya Bessillieu Williams launched TBW Consulting Group in the fall of 2005 to expand her scope of services in meeting the comprehensive needs of her clients. Known as one of Atlanta's premier conference and event planners, Williams specializes in providing creative and innovative concepts tailored to her clients needs; unrivaled attention to detail; and unparalleled professional service.

Prior to founding TBW Consulting Group, Williams served as vice president of Special Events and Conventions at Events, Inc., one of the South's leading convention management and communications agencies, where she worked for 10 years. While at Events, Williams was responsible for oversight of the special event, convention management and creative divisions. She served as the lead project manager for many of the firm's major clients, including the National Association of Securities Professionals (NASP), The Coca-Cola Company, Rémy Martin, Coors Brewing Company, Fulton County Government, City of Atlanta - Department of Aviation, The King Center and General Motors, and enabled the firm to garner its reputation as one of the best agencies of its kind.

Williams has produced such notable events as Atlanta Life Financial Group's Centennial Gala, Congressman John Lewis' 65th Birthday Celebration with Senator Barack Obama, the annual Celebration of Survival for Breast Cancer Awareness featuring Patti LaBelle, Maya Angelou, and Sinbad. The Center for Democratic Renewal's "Faces of Triumph" Dinner honoring civil rights icons Andrew Young, Coretta Scott King, C.T. Vivian and Joseph Lowery. Rémy Martin's 2004 XO Excellence Awards and 2005 1738 Awards which honored some of Atlanta's most influential and interesting residents including National Black Arts Festival founder Stephanie Hughley and Über producer Jazzy Pha. The Celebrity Tribute to Dr. Maya Angelou featuring Tyler Perry, Lynn Whitfield, Quincy Jones and a host of other celebrities who gathered to honor Maya Angelou on her 80th Birthday and to raise funds for the Andrew and Walter Young Family YMCA.

Her experience with conference planning is varied and extensive. She has planned two international aviation conferences for the City of Atlanta and Jane Fonda's GCAPP (Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention) Conference featuring Oprah Winfrey. For the past 5 years, Tonya has planned the Annual Pension and Financial Services Conference for the National Association of Securities Professionals (NASP) - the premier professional organization for people of color and women on Wall Street - co-founded by the late Mayor Maynard Jackson. For 19 years this annual gathering has attracted an impressive group of investment professionals, including corporate treasurers, key public trustees, asset allocation experts and world-recognized economists.

Williams began her career in the hospitality industry with the Marriott Corporation as a member of the team that opened the 1,674 room Marriott Marquis in Atlanta, Georgia, the largest convention hotel in the southeast. A born entrepreneur, she later co-founded *Company's Coming*, a catering business that specialized in not just preparing and serving gourmet food, but catering to the needs of the entire event with the service you would expect from a five-star establishment.

Her hard work, creativity and expertise led her to comprehensive special event planning and convention management where she honed her skills in the creation of image-enhancing communications tools and the development of state-of-the-art event management systems. Williams is an expert at defining her client's needs and customizing programs to meet them.