

THE AGA COMMUNIQUE

2025-2026 PROGRAM YEAR
WINTER



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A Message from the President

Dear Members, Colleagues, and Friends,

Our chapter began the year with strong engagement, meaningful collaboration, and impactful professional development opportunities.

The new year has already brought renewed energy across the AGA Montgomery/Prince George's Chapter community. Special welcome to all our new members!

As we continue the 2025-2026 program year, our chapter remains focused on this year's theme, **Connecting Communities, Expanding Impact**, by bringing together professionals across government, industry, and academia to strengthen accountability and advance excellence in public sector financial management.

In January, our chapter hosted the webinar "**Strengthening Accountability and Internal Controls in Today's Government Environment.**" The session featured valuable insights from some of our sponsors: Moderator Clive Webb (ACCA) and Panelists Kayla Futch (KPMG US), Reza Mahbod (RMA Associates, LLC), and Phillip Moore (Kearney & Company), who shared practical perspectives on strengthening governance and internal control practices in today's evolving government environment.



Ms. Carol-Ann Boothe, President
AGA MPGC Chapter



Connect with us!



President's Message

Continued

In February, we had the privilege of partnering with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) to host "GAO Standards in Action: Fraud Risks and Audit Excellence." This impactful program welcomed more than 100 in-person attendees and over 200 virtual participants from across government, regulatory organizations, and the professional services community. We extend our appreciation to the outstanding presenters Michael Bingham, Nick Weeks, and Brooke Linsenbardt, Ph.D., and to Rebecca Shea for facilitating the session. We were also honored to have opening remarks from Ann Ebberts (AGA CEO), Johana Ayers (GAO FAIS), and Dominique McCreary (Bureau of the Fiscal Service), with closing remarks from Curtis Joachim, The Joachim Group.

Building on this momentum, March was equally exciting for our chapter. We participated in the Technology Transformation Summit 2026, where we hosted a booth in the Solutions Hall and engaged with attendees on how emerging technologies are transforming government financial management. Many participants joined in the fun at our prize wheel, with several winning complimentary seats to upcoming chapter events. We also hosted our CGFM Celebration 2026 at George Washington University's Foggy Bottom Campus. This energizing event brought together current and aspiring Certified Government Financial Managers to network, explore career pathways, and gain valuable insights into preparing for the CGFM exams. In addition, members connected at a networking event at Beat the Bomb and at a chapter networking dinner.

These successful programs are made possible through the dedication of our volunteers, the engagement of our members, and the generous support of our chapter sponsors. We extend our sincere appreciation to our sponsors for their continued partnership and commitment to our chapter's mission.

I encourage you to explore the many professional development, networking, and community service opportunities highlighted throughout this newsletter and on our chapter calendar. Your participation helps ensure that our chapter continues to grow, innovate, and make a meaningful impact.

Thank you for your continued support, engagement, and commitment to AGA MPG. Together, we will continue connecting communities and expanding our impact.

With gratitude and commitment,

Carol Ann Butler

President, AGA Montgomery/Prince George's Chapter



Carol-Ann with Ann Ebberts and Paul Lionikis at GAO Update Meeting

2025-26 AGA MPGC Chapter Leadership



Carol-Ann Boothe
President



James Gregg
President - Elect,
Communications



Oluwatoyin Ojumu
Immediate Past
President, NCC Rep



Olayinka Afolabi
Secretary



Wilson Kayo
Treasurer



Bridgett Downs-Tucker
Assistant Treasurer



Jeff Cole
Historian



Brett Parris
Accountability



Kathleen Sobieraiski
CGFM Certification



Freda Jackson
Community Service



Jessica Kissoon
Community Service



Alpha Odimegwu
Student Rep



Felix Sithiphone
Early Careers



Rodney Green
Early Careers,
Communications



Jing Maggie Huang
Education



Farryn Jones
Education



Jatin Wahi
Education



Meili Niu
Education



Tanequa McQueen
Membership



Brian Frey
Membership



Sia Jasmine Wonday
Awards & Recognition



Janice Codrington
Awards & Recognition



Jillian Manning
ACE Reporting Chair



Kelli Davis
Communications



Scott Cogburn
Communications



Shehreen Farhan
Communications



Nicholas Garrard
Sponsorship

Vision

AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability. AGA defines government accountability as a government's obligation to the people for its actions and use of resources.

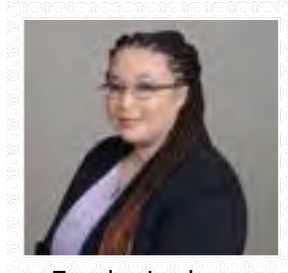
Mission Statement

AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability.

2025–26 AGA MPGC Executive Mentoring & Technical Advisory Council (EMTAC)



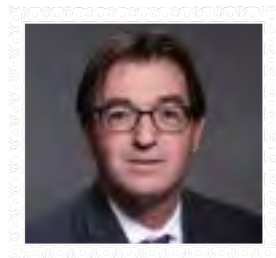
Nicholas Garrard
TFC Consulting



Freda Jackson
Sikich



Doreen Shute
Retired



Yehuda Schmidt
Sikich



Andrew Lewis
KPMG LLP



Christine Turner
USDA



Marlon Perry
KPMG LLP



Kimberly Penn
CliftonLarsonAllen

Vision

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AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability.

Our Sponsors – Thank You!

Gold Level



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Silver Level



Bronze Level



Think Ahead



If you are interested in becoming a 2025-2026 sponsor, please reach out to our Sponsorship Committee.

Member News

CGFM PREP

Are you interested in or currently preparing to take the CGFM exam? Now is a great time to prepare for the CGFM! This year's CGFM program will featured **quarterly webinars**—one for each section of the CGFM exam—followed by a **comprehensive summary session**.

Why Attend?

- Meet Certified Government Financial Managers (CGFMs)
- Learn strategies for CGFM exam preparation
- Explore career pathways in government financial management
- Build connections in the public finance community



Certified Government Financial Manager® (CGFM®) is a professional certification awarded by AGA, demonstrating competency in governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels.

For more information on becoming a CGFM, [click here](#).

For information on maintaining your CGFM, [click here](#).

Cheers to Our Incredible New Members!

Let's raise our glasses and celebrate the amazing new members joining us! Welcome aboard!

Manas Apte*
Srikara Sai Junnuri*
LaToya Oates
Hannah Kannan*
Dhvani Khatri*
Yash Rajesh Mahajan*
Emmanuel Osuntuyi*
Tanvi Sawant*
Kriti Shahi*
Langston John Walker*
Morgan Denise Wray
Ryan Zablocki

*Denotes new student member

Whether you've been part of the community for a decade or just a few years, we are grateful for your continued support. Your commitment makes us stronger. Here's to many more years together!

We are looking forward to the great things we will accomplish together!



In honor of CGFM Month, all online CGFM study guides are 25% off. For more information, [click here](#).



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- GSA OASIS+ Total Small Business, Management & Advisory Domain, Contract No. 47QRCA25DS817
- GSA Multiple Award Schedule, Contract No. GS-23F-0057W

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- + Administrative access for select staff



Follow the link in the QR code for more information including a downloadable copy of our government capabilities statement.



Member Spotlight



Farryn Jones

Education Committee AGA MPGC
2025-2026 Program Year

Tell us a little about yourself and your current role within the government financial environment.

I am a CGFM and senior consultant at Deloitte LLP. I support the government financial environment at the Department of the Air Force with audit remediation, data analytics, and financial reporting.

How did you first get involved with AGA and the MPGC Chapter?

Our immediate past AGA MPGC President, Toyin, introduced me to this chapter, and the Education Committee during an AGA MPGC social event at Top Golf.

What motivated you to volunteer for the Education Committee? How long have you been serving on the committee?

I always wanted to get involved in AGA after I obtained my CGFM. One of my passions is volunteering; I volunteer at my church and with NABA as well. I've supported the Education Committee for 2 years.

Is there a recent training event that the committee hosted that you were excited about and if so, why?

We recently hosted our GAO Standards in Action event at the GAO Headquarters. The event was initially postponed due to the government shutdown. The excitement came when we still managed to get high participation both in person and virtually. It was great to see!

What topics or training areas do you believe are most valuable for government financial professionals right now?

Definitely internal controls. The government has a lot of responsibility to manage taxpayers' money and ensure business processes are functioning in a way that there is no fraud, waste and abuse resulting in auditable and reliable financial statements while enhancing the public's trust.

What do you enjoy doing when you're not working or volunteering with the chapter?

I enjoy binge watching tv shows and spending time with my 9-year-old son.

What's one fun fact about you that your colleagues might not know?

When I was 9 or 10 years old, I met LeBron James while visiting Cleveland. I still have his autograph stored in my mom's attic.

What are 3 things on your spring bucket list?

1) Finish reading "Stumbling into Success is Good, Having a Plan is Better" by Colin Duncan; 2) Travel to Aruba for vacation; 3) Spend more time outside enjoying warm weather

The AGA MPGC Chapter thanks Farryn for her dedication to advancing professional development and supporting the mission of the AGA.

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CORE COMPETENCIES

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- Grants Management Monitoring and Oversight
- Internal Controls Training and Assessment Support
- OMB Regulations & Compliance
- Internal Control Program (OMB A-123) Design, Implementation, and Monitoring
- Risk Monitoring and Mitigation Support
- Statistical Analysis and Data Analytics
- Trainings and Workshops for New Policies and Procedures (Directives & Instructions)



CORPORATE SNAPSHOT

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NAICS CODES: SINs: 541211, 541219
and 541611

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PDT 2026

First-Time Attendee Scholarship



AGA MPGC Chapter members are encouraged to apply for the Professional Development Training (PDT) 2026 First-Time Attendee Scholarship.

The scholarship includes:

- ✓ Complimentary PDT 2026 registration
- ✓ Four (4) nights of hotel accommodations

Eligibility:

- ✓ First-time PDT attendee and active AGA DC Chapter member.

Deadline to apply: March 31, 2026

Notification: Five recipients will be notified in April 2026.

PDT is a great opportunity to learn, network, and grow within the government financial management community.

Apply Here:

<https://lnkd.in/eMs72z3>

Advancing Knowledge Through Education

Continuing education is at the heart of AGA MPGC's mission. Our Education Committee is committed to providing high-quality learning opportunities that strengthen professional skills, expand knowledge, and foster meaningful connections across our community.

We are excited to share the lineup of CPE sessions and workshops planned for the rest of the program year. Mark your calendars and join us!

•Annual In-Person Spring Workshop & Networking Session

April 28, 2026;

8am – 5pm

United States Mint Office, DC.

Register [HERE](#)

Roundtable Discussion :Quality Assessment Challenges

May 8, 2026;

9am – 11:30am

WMATA, DC Office

Register [HERE](#)

Don't miss these opportunities to engage, learn, and grow with your peers in the profession. Together, we advance excellence in government financial management!



Upcoming MPGC AGA Events

Join us this season for a series of engaging events designed to connect, celebrate, and bring our community together.

Annual Crab Feast

Roll up your sleeves—this one's deliciously hands-on. Join colleagues for a classic Maryland crab feast packed with good food, cold drinks, and even better conversation. It's the perfect way to kick off the season and reconnect outside the office (and yes, things might get a little messy).

**May 13, 2026;
6 pm
The Bethesda Crab House 4958 Bethesda Avenue, MD 20814**

Register [HERE](#)



Baseball Game

Peanuts? Check. Cracker Jack? Optional. A great time with your AGA crew? Guaranteed. Head to Nationals Park for an afternoon of baseball, networking, and cheering on the home team. Bonus points if you snag a foul ball.

**May 30, 2026;
4:05 pm
Nationals Park 1500 South Capitol St SE, Washington, DC 20003**

Register [HERE](#)



Annual Awards Ceremony & Dinner Cruise (June 2026)

AGA MPG will host its Annual Awards Ceremony and Dinner Cruise in June 2026. Join us as we recognize outstanding achievements and contributions within the federal financial management community while enjoying an evening of networking and scenic views with colleagues and industry partners.

Additional details, including the date, venue, and registration information, will be announced soon.



Upcoming AGA National Events

In addition to our local programs, AGA National offers a variety of CPE sessions, conferences, and training opportunities throughout the year. These sessions provide access to national experts, innovative best practices, and networking with peers across the country.

Performance counts, 14 CPES!(Virtual)



May 5, 2026. Performance Counts is a virtual event that brings together government leaders and policy experts to discuss the evolving role of performance management and evidence-based decision-making in the public sector. Through a series of expert panels, the program explores current trends in performance management, insights into federal, state, and local spending, innovative uses of data and evidence in policymaking, and the growing maturity of data systems and data matching across government.

The event provides valuable perspectives on how data and evidence can improve policy outcomes, strengthen accountability, and support more informed decision-making across agencies.

Register [HERE](#)

Professional Development Training (PDT), 20 CPES!(Hybrid)

July 21-23, 2026. Professional Development Training (PDT) offers an opportunity to expand your knowledge through expert-led sessions focused on today's government financial management challenges. Attendees can connect with leaders across the profession and explore innovative solutions that strengthen government accountability, efficiency, and performance.

PDT 2026 will take place in Washington, D.C., with a virtual attendance option available.

Register [HERE](#)



Upcoming AGA National Events Cont.

AGA National Webinar Training Schedule

Stay sharp with AGA's upcoming webinars! Earn CPEs and stay ahead on key topics shaping government financial management.



Apr 15th, 2026, 2:00–3:50 PM ET

Ethics
(2 CPEs)

[Register HERE](#)



Apr 22nd, 2026, 2:00–3:50PM ET

Fraud and Data Analytics
(2 CPEs)

[Register HERE](#)



May 6th, 2026, 2:00–3:50PM ET

Risk Management
(2 CPEs)

[Register HERE](#)



May 13th, 2026, 2:00–3:15 PM ET

Members only Webinar
(1.5 CPEs)

[Register HERE](#)

Click [HERE](#) for AGA National's CPE calendar – a perfect way to complement your chapter learning and stay ahead in the profession!

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- Internal Control Support
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- Information Technology Governance
- Process Improvement
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Serving Our Community

As part of our commitment to giving back, AGA MPGC is proud to support meaningful initiatives that make a positive difference in our community. We invite you to join us at these upcoming opportunities to serve and inspire.

Volunteer at the Food For Families Program!

The Montgomery/Prince George's County Chapter of AGA is heading to the Manna Food Center Warehouse on Saturday, March 28, 2026 (10am–12pm) to support the Food for Families Program. This initiative distributes 45 pounds of food per family per month, helping households stretch their grocery budgets by over \$118.

To learn more about the program click [here](#).

Want to lend a hand? Here's what you need to know:

- Volunteers must be at least 11 years old.
- Middle schoolers: 1 adult for every 3 students.
- High schoolers: 1 adult for every 5 students.
- You'll need to be comfortable standing, reaching, and lifting up to 25 pounds.
- All volunteers must submit a Volunteer Agreement Form after registration, and those under 18 will need a parent or guardian's signature.

Register [HERE](#)

Saturday, March 28, 2026

Manna Food Center, Gaithersburg Warehouse ,
9311 Gaither Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
[Directions](#)



Serving Our Community Cont.

Volunteer at JA Finance Park

JA Finance Park® is Junior Achievement's capstone program for personal financial planning and career exploration. This program, comprising a curriculum and a simulation, helps students build a foundation on which they can make intelligent financial decisions that last a lifetime, including decisions related to income, expenses, savings, and credit.

This educator-led classroom curriculum culminates with a visit to JA Finance Park, a realistic on-site classroom, where students engage with volunteers and put into practice what they've learned by developing a personal budget.

Following participation in the program, students will be able to:

- Identify personal interests, skills, work preferences, and values.
- Identify career interests.
- Evaluate the risks and benefits of saving and investing.
- Evaluate risk and recognize insurance as a way to minimize it.
- Define taxes, explain their purpose, and understand how they affect everyone.
- Explain the advantages and disadvantages of using credit and debit cards.
- Explain who uses a budget and why.
- Identify the components of a successful budget.
- Create a successful budget using hypothetical life situations.

We hope our chapter members will join us at our upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Prince George's County, 960 Nalley Road, Landover, MD

- Thursday, March 26th from 9:15 am to 2:45 pm

Montgomery County, 12501 Dalewood Drive, Silver Spring, MD

- Thursday, April 30th from 8:30 am to 1:45 pm



Volunteer Registration Link: <http://agac.jagw.volunteerhub.com>

The JA volunteer registration system will send you a confirmation email when you sign up with the details including timing, location, and what to bring. You will also receive a reminder email in advance of your volunteer day.

Please sign up as soon as possible so JA knows how many volunteers to expect to ensure we have enough volunteers to support the students.

To get a feel for the JA Finance Park experience, [please watch this short video – enjoy!](#)

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Technology, tools, regulations, and standards – a lot has changed since Kearney & Company was founded in 1985. One thing that hasn't is our commitment to delivering quality services to clients while being a Best Place to Work for our team members. That dedication is what we're proud to carry on that legacy as we help build government work better.

JOIN US | careers.kpmg.com

AGA MPGC Calendar of Events

Below is a snapshot of upcoming AGA Montgomery/Prince George's Chapter events for the remainder of the 2025-2026 program year. We hope you'll join us for professional development, networking, community service, and social activities.

MARCH

- **Social Networking Event at Beat the Bomb**
- **JA Finance Park Community Service**
- **Manna Food Center Warehouse Community Service**
- **CGFM Celebration 2026 (In person)**



APRIL

- **Annual Government Financial Management Spring Workshop**
- **JA Finance Park Community Service**



MAY

- **Audit Quality Breakfast, WMATA, Washington DC**
- **Crab Feast & Networking Reception**
- **AGA Night at Nationals Park, DC**



JUNE

- **Annual Awards Ceremony Dinner Cruise**



Scan for Event Details & Registration >>>



Spring Farmers Market Guide

Spring is the perfect time to shop local and enjoy the season's freshest produce. Farmers markets across Prince George's and Montgomery County are reopening soon. Visiting your local market supports small farms, strengthens community and brings the freshest food straight to your table

What's in season this spring:

Early Spring

Asparagus

Radishes

Spinach

Arugula

Green onions

Lettuces



Late Spring

Strawberries

Rhubarb

Sugar snap peas

Baby carrots



Fresh Herbs

Chives

Mint

Dill

Parsley



Montgomery County

Bethesda Central Farm Market
Sundays, April – December, 9–1:30pm

Silver Spring Farmers Market
Saturdays, Year-round, 9 – 1pm

Takoma Park Farmers Market
Sundays, Year-round, 10–2pm

Kensington Farmers Market
Saturdays, April–November, 9–1pm

Pike Central Farmers Market
Saturdays, April – December, 9–1pm

Prince George's County

Riverdale Park

Thursdays, Year-round, 3–7pm

College Park Farmers Market
Saturdays, April – November, 8–1pm

Hollywood Farmers Market
Saturdays, April– November, 9–1pm

University of Maryland Farmers Market
Wednesdays, April – May, 11–3pm

Past Event Highlights

We're excited to share photos from some of the most impactful and memorable moments in AGA's history. Thank you to everyone who's been part of our journey. Your support has shaped these incredible experiences. Stay tuned for more updates as we continue building a bright future together!



*In December our chapter had the privilege of volunteering at the **Prince George's County, Junior Achievement, JA Finance Park** location. Our Past-President and Community Service Director, Freda Jackson, and Accountability Director, Brett Parris assisted in teaching financial literacy.*

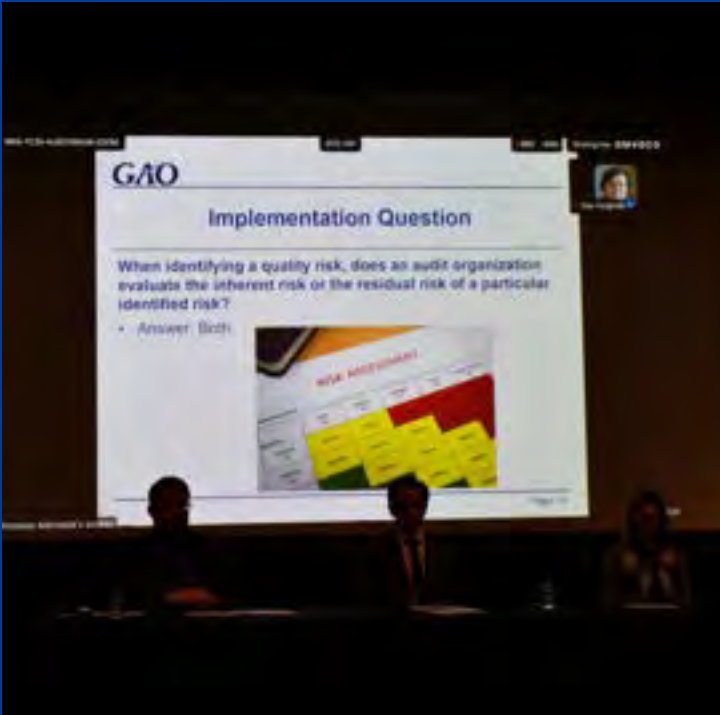
Past Event Highlights Cont.



Strengthening Accountability and Internal Controls in Today's Government Environment (Virtual Webinar), January 2026

This session brought together experts to discuss practical ways government agencies can enhance accountability and internal controls, ensuring stronger financial management and more transparent reporting.

Past Event Highlights Cont.



GAO Standards in Action: Fraud Risks and Audit Excellence, February 2026. Attendees gathered for a focused discussion on the 2024 Yellow Book update and the emerging expectations for embedding fraud risk management within government internal control frameworks.

Past Event Highlights Cont.



GAO Standards in Action: Fraud Risks and Audit Excellence, February 2026

Past Event Highlights Cont.



Past Event Highlights Cont.



The AGA Technology Transformation Summit, March 2026, brought together leaders and experts to explore how IT innovation, cybersecurity, workforce development, and cloud technologies are transforming mission delivery across government. As agencies navigate an increasingly digital landscape, leveraging modern solutions is more critical than ever to drive efficiency, security, and impactful outcomes.

*The event featured insightful discussions from **past AGA presidents** and distinguished speakers from **Kearney, RMA, and FASAB**, along with generous support from sponsors including **Kearney, TFC, and RMA**. This summit highlighted the power of collaboration and innovation in shaping the future of government financial management and operations.*

Past Event Highlights Cont.



AGA Technology Transformation Summit, March 2026

Past Event Highlights Cont.



Social Networking Event at Beat The Bomb, Washington DC, March 2026

Past Event Highlights Cont.



CGFM Celebration March 2026. We gathered at George Washington University for an engaging afternoon of connection and celebration at our CGFM Networking Event. Attendees had the opportunity to meet fellow professionals, exchange insights, and strengthen relationships within the federal financial management community. From meaningful conversations to new connections, the event highlighted the value of coming together to support and grow the CGFM network. Thank you to everyone who joined us and made the afternoon such a success—we're already looking forward to the next one.

Taste of Spring

Spring is knocking, bringing longer days, warmer weather and an abundance of fresh seasonal produce. It's the perfect time to enjoy light, vibrant meals packed with flavor and nutrients. This refreshing spring salad (recipe from the Food Network) highlights crisp greens, sweet berries and fresh herbs that celebrate the best of the season.

STRAWBERRY, FENNEL & ARUGULA SALAD

Ingredients:

- 1 large fennel bulb with fronds
- 3 ounces (about 4 cups) baby arugula
- 1 pint strawberries, hulled and quartered lengthwise
- 1 cup white balsamic vinegar
- 1 cup sliced almonds, toasted
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper



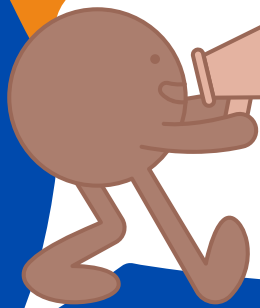
Directions:

1. Prep: Slice the fennel very thinly (use a mandoline if available). Roast nuts in a dry pan over low heat for 2-3 minutes.
2. Combine: In a large bowl, mix the arugula, shaved fennel, sliced strawberries, nuts, and any cheese or herbs.
3. Dress: Whisk dressing ingredients together, pour over the salad, and toss gently to combine just before serving to prevent wilting.



Recognition of
Excellence
2025

AGA Montgomery/Prince George's Chapter is proud to receive this Recognition of Excellence for the 2025-26 program year as reflected in our Citizen-Centric Report (CCR).



AGA COMMUNIQUE NEWS

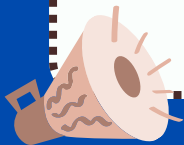


**ATTENTION
MEMBERS!**

WRITE FOR THE NEWSLETTER!

DO YOU...

DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN WRITING? DO YOU HAVE INSIGHTS TO SHARE ON GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND RELATED TOPICS? IF THE ANSWER IS YES TO EITHER OF THESE QUESTIONS, CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING TO THE AGA MPGC CHAPTER NEWSLETTER.



UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS

SUMMER ISSUE
JUNE 2026

FOR MORE INFO OR TO SUBMIT CONTENT:

NEWSLETTER@MARYLANDAGA.COM

Thanks for reading! We invite you to leave feedback about this newsletter [HERE](#).