2025 BASIC INSTITUTE

APRIL 27 - MAY 2 • COMFORT INN & SUITES • MT. PLEASANT

Your Road to Success

MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL TREASURERS ASSOCIATION

Congratulations Graduates!

CLASS OF 2025

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Lake Charter Township
Basic 2

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City of Detroit
Basic 2

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Clinton Charter Twp.
Basic 1

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Addison Township
Basic 1

Katie Arendt
City of Owosso
Basic 1

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Village of Stockbridge
Basic 1

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Village of Dansville
Basic 2

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Village of Middleville
Basic 2

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Ch. Twp. of Long Lake
Basic 3

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City of Wayland
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City of Linden
Basic 1

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Orion Township
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Basic 1

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City of Pontiac
Basic 1

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Meridian Township
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City of Marquette
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Basic 2

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Basic 1

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Clinton Area Transit System
Basic 3

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Basic 3

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Basic 1

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Basic 3

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Basic 3

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Basic 1

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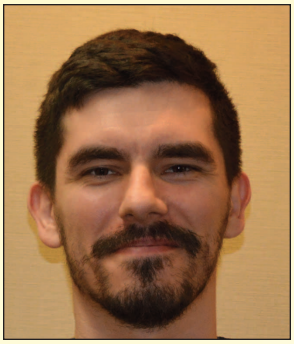
Davison Township
Basic 1

Madisen Hull
Grand Blanc Township
Basic 1

Matthew Igl
City of Ironwood
Basic 1

Sarah Iteen
Pere Marquette Ch. Twp.
Basic 2



Bruno Ivos
Cascade Ch. Township
Basic 2

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City of Walled Lake
Basic 3

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City of Melvindale
Basic 2

Mary Jevahirian
Bloomfield Township
Basic 2

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Rose Township
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City of Fremont
Basic 2

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Village of Three Oaks
Basic 1

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Otsego County
Basic 1

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Basic 1

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Whitewater Township
Basic 1

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Green Oak Ch. Township
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Pleasantview Township
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Green Oak Ch. Township
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Hamburg Township
Basic 2

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Dalton Township
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Sara Ranes
Delta Charter Township
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Basic 1

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Basic 2

Sherry Richmond
Vergennes Township
Basic 1

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City of Caro
Basic 1

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Village of Peck
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Holly Township
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Basic 1

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Basic 1

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Basic 3

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Basic 2

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City of Three Rivers
Basic 2

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Basic 1

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Basic 1

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Thomas Township
Basic 1

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Basic 3

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City of Scottville
Basic 1

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City of Charlotte
Basic 1

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Basic 2

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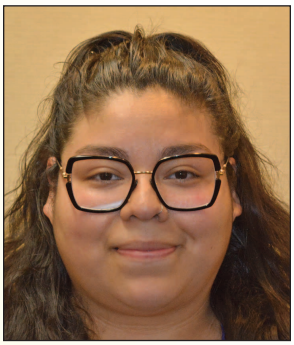
City of Hudsonville
Basic 2

Emilie Smith
Spring Lake Township
Basic 2

Lindsay Snabes
Bloomfield Township
Basic 2

Brittin Snyder-Shinabargar
Gratiot County
Basic 1



Dyanna Solis
Blendon Township
Basic 1

Sarah Sorensen
City of Rochester Hills
Basic 1

Kimberly Sparks
Rose Township
Basic 1

Patty Sperhake
City of Wakefield
Basic 2

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City of Saline
Basic 1

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City of Royal Oak
Basic 3

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City of Highland Park
Basic 1

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City of Dewitt
Basic 2

Amy Stothard
Frankenlust Township
Basic 2

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Village of Lake Orion
Basic 2

Shontae Stringfellow
City of Farmington Hills
Basic 2

Audra Strom
City of Grand Rapids
Basic 1

Nancy Strong
City of Kalamazoo
Basic 1

Lisa Sulfaro
Monroe Charter Twp.
Basic 1

Rebekkah Talmage
Pennfield Ch. Township
Basic 2

Cassidy Taylor
City of Litchfield
Basic 2

Crystal Thomas
City of Lansing
Basic 2

Darlene Thomas
Ionia County
Basic 3

Sarah Thornton
Oceola Township
Basic 3

Mateusz Tylecki
City of Grosse Pointe Park
Basic 2

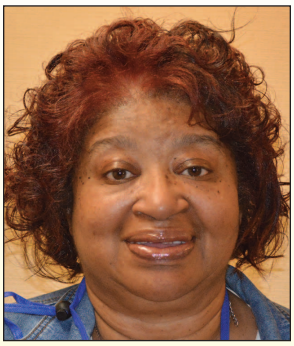
Joan van der Feyst
Port Huron Charter Twp.
Basic 3

Nicole Van Oort
City of East Lansing
Basic 1

Renee VanNortwick
City of Ludington
Basic 3

Jamie Vos
Northville Ch. Township
Basic 2

Jennifer Whiting
Albee Township
Basic 3



Karen Whitley
City of Pontiac
Basic 2

Amanda Wiersma
Ross Township
Basic 1

Denise Wilcox
Alamo Township
Basic 1

Jennifer Wilson
Bath Charter Township
Basic 2

Cheryl Witt
Raisin Charter Township
Basic 2

Dale Witt
Raisin Charter Township
Basic 2

Christopher Wright
City of Grand Rapids
Basic 3

Mike Yancho
Grand Blanc Charter Twp.
Basic 1

Samantha Zakovec
City of Bessemer
Basic 1

Ahas Ahead

Memorable A-Ha Moments from Last Year

"Addressing frustrated or angry customers and staff with positive body language and listening with compassion will improve the experience and outcome of the situation."

"What we learn at Basic Institute will be beneficial both now and far into the future."

"I never realized how easy or common fraud is. I never think about that being an issue in our office due to being friends with a lot of our staff, not having separation of duties, and I guess just trusting that it'll never happen; I clearly know now that it's not enough."

"There are so many things I can do to positively impact my township moving forward."

"The wealth of knowledge of the members of MMTA is the greatest value and I will both reach out for help and assist as I can as well."

"Keep up on networking; join the Listserv, reach out to people, join other associations."

"How much information your personal devices share if they connect to a network at work."

"Red flags should be investigated, but they don't necessarily mean that fraud is present."

"I learned something in every presentation that I didn't know I needed to know."

"I'm not alone in my journey! There are so many resources and people that I can get help from."

"Chat GPT! I finally have knowledge of what it is, how it works, and how to access it! I am excited to really dig in and use it in my position!"

"That we can put up to three mills without vote for road millage on our tax bills."

"I have learned so much in my three years at BASIC Institute, I am scared to think where I would be if I hadn't learned about MMTA."

"R and D doesn't mean research and development anymore. Rip off and duplicate!"

"Using AI in the workplace can make aspects of my job easier and more efficient."

"I understood a lot more of the presentation's material in my second year than my first."

"Review and update our Investment Policy, then get investing. We are doing a disservice to our residents by sitting on all of our cash in our local banks in checking account (YIKES)."

"Technology improvements: QR codes on bills, kiosks to pay, bilingual websites. All fantastic ideas!"

"The knowledge I received from every person presenting and how it taught me a bit more about my role going forward. There has been a lot of talk about investments, rates and the responsibility we hold to keep money safe and secure and it makes me want to go back to my municipality and truly dive into the Investment Policy!"

CLASS OF 2026

CLASS OF 2027

Julie
Davis Long

PROBLEM SO
PROBLEM MAN