

# 2026

# EVOLVE

## APR 21 - 23

## M IAMI



FONTAINEBLEAU



Miami Beach  
4441 Collins Avenue  
Miami Beach, FL 33140

## Empyrean at 20: The Next Era of Benefits Experience

### SHOW OVERVIEW

Welcome to EVOLVE26.

As Empyrean celebrates 20 years of partnership and innovation, we gather to explore what comes next. The next era of benefits will not be defined solely by technology alone, but by how seamlessly human connection and intelligent systems work together to support employees throughout their lives.

This milestone event is both a celebration and a forward-looking strategy session. Together, we will define the next era of benefits experience.

Over the next two days, HR and benefits leaders will:

- Explore emerging trends reshaping the benefits landscape
- Examine how technology and data enhance employee engagement
- Gain practical strategies to drive measurable outcomes
- Connect with peers navigating similar workforce challenges



Reminder:  
Get the Evolve App

EVOLVE



EMPYREAN

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

SHOW OVERVIEW	1
KEY CONTACTS	3
ATTIRE	4
ARRIVAL MAP	5
HOTEL INFORMATION	6
REGISTRATION	5
TUESDAY WELCOME & ACTIVITIES	7 - 8
WEDNESDAY CONFERENCE AGENDA	9 - 11
BREAKOUT SESSIONS	12
EVENING EVENTS	13
TRAVEL INFORMATION	14
HOTEL / RESORT INFORMATION	15 - 16
EMERGENCY INFORMATION	17



## KEY CONTACTS

Your Empyrean event team will be onsite throughout the experience.

### EVENT OWNER

**Desta Millner**  
651-734-8900  
dmillner@goempyrean.com

### EVENT PRODUCTION + LOGISTICS

**Jeff Jenkins**  
952-239-2722  
jjenkins@goempyrean.com

**Pinelopi Williams**  
859-797-4402  
pwiliams@goempyrean.com

*Additional staff members will be positioned throughout the hotel to assist with wayfinding and session transitions.*



## ATTIRE

We want this experience to feel relaxed and welcoming, so please don't overthink what to wear. These attire notes are suggestions, not expectations.

### Conference Sessions

Business casual. Meeting rooms may run cool; layers are recommended.

### Tuesday Welcome Reception – Tiki Theme

Resort chic. Miami-inspired colors and breathable fabrics encouraged.

### Wednesday Evening Event – “In Full Swing”

Elevated evening attire with a touch of vintage glamour.

### Beach Walk

Athletic wear and comfortable walking shoes.

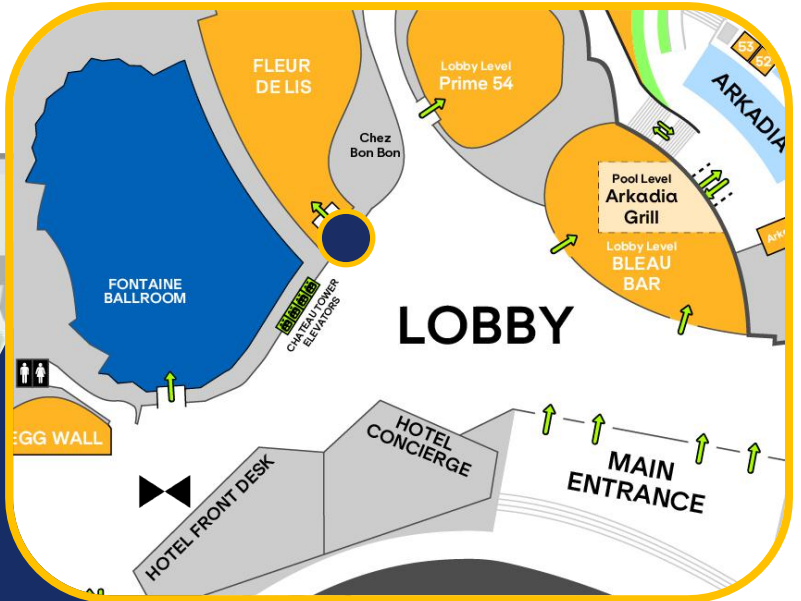
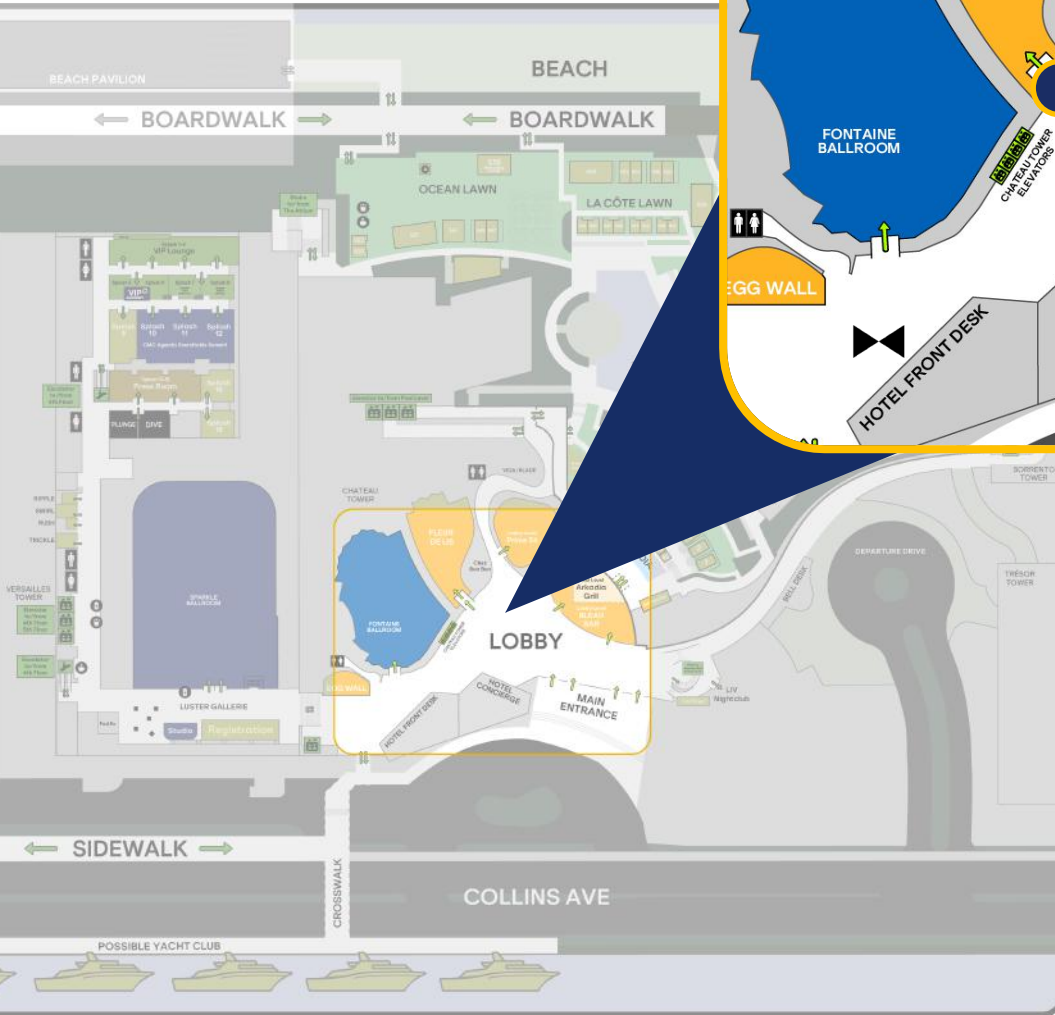
### Welcome Activities

- *Little Havana Tour*  
*Comfortable walking shoes*
- *Superblue*  
*Casual attire*
- *Pool Cabanas*  
*Resort casual; swimwear*
- *Cooking Class*  
*Closed-toe shoes recommended*

# ARRIVAL MAP



FONTAINEBLEAU



*Evolve Registration*



*Hotel Check-in*



## HOTEL INFORMATION



F O N T A I N E B L E A U

Fontainebleau Miami Beach  
4441 Collins Avenue  
Miami Beach, FL 33140

Check-in: 4:00 PM  
Check-out: 12:00 PM

Onsite dining, spa, and fitness facilities are available throughout your stay.

[See details at Fontainebleau FAQs](#)

## REGISTRATION

Registration opens Tuesday, April 21 at 10:00 AM outside the Fontaine Ballroom.

Staff will assist with badge pickup and directional guidance.

To keep your arrival seamless, you'll be able to check in to your room while collecting your badge, allowing you to skip the standard hotel check-in process.



### Fontainebleau Parking

- Valet Parking only.
- Hotel Guests: \$58 to \$73 per night, plus tax. Includes reentry privileges.





**TUESDAY, APRIL 21**

## **Arrival, Optional Activities & Welcome Reception**

Guests are encouraged to arrive by early afternoon to participate in optional welcome activities before the evening celebration.



**1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

Optional Welcome Activities

Additional details will be provided.

### **Taste Little Havana Food Tour**

Guided cultural exploration with transportation provided.

SPONSORED BY



### **Superblue Immersive Art Experience**

A multi-sensory art installation designed to spark creativity and connection.

### **Poolside Cabana Networking**

Relaxed, informal connection in a private cabana setting.

SPONSORED BY



### **Small Group Cooking Class**

A hands-on culinary experience hosted onsite at Fontainebleau.



## 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM

### Welcome Reception

Location: Tropez Lawn

Theme: Tiki

An outdoor welcome celebration featuring:

- Live guitarist and Cuban trio
- Lawn games
- Cocktails and curated dinner stations
- Opening remarks from Empyrean leadership
- Client longevity recognition

This vibrant Miami-inspired evening officially launches EVOLVE26.



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22**

## **Conference Day**

**6:30 AM**

### **Beach Walk**

Start the day with fresh ocean air, sunrise views, and informal networking.



---

**7:30 AM – 8:30 AM**

### **Breakfast**

Location: Fleur de Lis



**8:30 AM – 9:45 AM**

**Welcome & Keynote Address**

**Connected Leadership for the Next Era of Benefits  
Speaker: Collette Carlson**

As Empyrean celebrates 20 years, Collette Carlson explores why the future of benefits leadership is not only digital but deeply human.

Attendees will leave energized with tools to future-proof their teams in an evolving benefits landscape.

*Blending neuroscience, research, and real-world insight, she will provide practical strategies to:*

- *Build emotional agility*
- *Foster psychological safety*
- *Strengthen trust and accountability*
- *Lead effectively through complexity*

**9:45 AM – 10:30 AM**

**Empyrean at 20: Today, Tomorrow, and Beyond**

An executive leadership discussion featuring:



**Colleen Waymel**



**Keith Wilson**



**Kelly Clark**

*Moderated by Brian Caffarelli*

This session explores Empyrean’s evolution from enrollment-focused delivery to year-round, connected benefits experiences driven by technology, service excellence, and human-centered design.

---

**10:30 AM – 11:00 AM**

**Networking Break**

---

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**From Reactive to Proactive:  
Futureproofing Your Benefits Strategy**

A dynamic panel of consultants and clients exploring how organizations can shift from reactive adjustments to predictive, forward-thinking benefits strategies that drive measurable value.

---

**12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

**Lunch**

Location: Fleur de Lis





## 1:15 PM – 4:25 PM

### Afternoon Breakout Sessions

Location: Coastal Convention Center – Anchor Rooms

Session themes include:

- **Human Connection Meets Intelligent Automation**  
How Empyrean & Securian blends empathy with automation, showcases current AI capabilities, and previews roadmap innovations.
- **Empowering Employee Experience: ROI That Matters**  
Explore how organizations can quantify the impact of employee experience initiatives to demonstrate value, guide investment decisions, and drive measurable business outcomes.
- **Meeting rising expectations: Global design**  
Insights on the evolving role of benefits, global design trends, allowances, and how to build clarity and confidence across diverse workforces.
- **Personalization Without Friction**  
Hear from two organizations and discover how personalization at scale improves equity, boosts engagement, and supports predictable spending.
- **Ecosystem optimization**  
Explore how ecosystem optimization can unify platforms, partners, and data to create a more seamless, efficient, and connected benefits experience.
- **Innovation exchange for 2027 and beyond**  
Explore forward-looking ideas, emerging technologies, and bold strategies shaping the next wave of benefits innovation for 2027 and beyond.
- **The Power of Proactive Partnership**  
Discover how proactive partnership models enable organizations to anticipate needs, strengthen collaboration, and drive continuous value through more strategic, future-focused engagement.
- **HSAs as financial wellness engines**  
Explore how HSAs can empower employees to build long-term financial wellness by combining tax-advantaged savings, smart spending strategies, and investment opportunities.

Each breakout blends strategy, peer insight, and practical application.



## WEDNESDAY EVENING

### In Full Swing

6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Location: Fontaine Ballroom

An immersive evening inspired by vintage swing culture.

Featuring:

- Justin & The Swingbeats Trio and full band
- Live magician and mentalist
- Elevated dining experience

A celebratory close to Empyrean's 20-year milestone day.





## THURSDAY, APRIL 23

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Breakfast & Networking

A final opportunity to connect before departures.

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

Nearest Airports

Miami International Airport (MIA) 15 min

Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International (FLL) 30 min

Rideshare and taxi services readily available.





## FONTAINEBLEAU

### Miami Beach Resort Information

#### Resort Information

Since opening in 1954, Fontainebleau Miami Beach has stood as one of the most iconic and architecturally celebrated resorts in the world. Designed by legendary architect Morris Lapidus, the property blends historic glamour with modern luxury along the shores of the Atlantic Ocean.

Located in the heart of Mid-Beach, Fontainebleau offers sweeping ocean views, expansive pools, award-winning dining, and vibrant nightlife — creating an energy that is both inspiring and distinctly Miami. The resort’s signature design, oceanfront setting, and dynamic atmosphere make it the perfect backdrop for EVOLVE26 as we celebrate 20 years of Empyrean and look toward the next era of benefits experience.



## Information & Amenities

- **Guaranteed check-in is 4:00 PM**, check-out is 11:00 AM.
- **The Fontainebleau is located directly on Miami Beach** with private beach access for guests.
- **All guestrooms are non-smoking.** Designated smoking areas are available throughout the property.
- **Fitness Center:** The state-of-the-art facility offers strength training equipment, cardio machines, and wellness classes. Hours vary; please check with the concierge or front desk.
- **Lapis Spa:** A 40,000-square-foot luxury spa featuring hydrotherapy experiences, treatment rooms, and relaxation lounges. *Advance reservations recommended.*
- **Pool Experiences:** Multiple signature pools, private cabanas, and poolside service create a resort-style experience throughout the day.



## Dining Options

Fontainebleau is home to a diverse collection of renowned restaurants and lounges, including:

- **Hakkasan** – Modern Cantonese cuisine
- **Prime 54** – Classic steakhouse experience
- **Mirabella** – Coastal Italian dining
- **Vida** – Contemporary American fare
- **La Côte** – Mediterranean-inspired poolside dining
- **LIV Nightclub** – Iconic Miami nightlife experience

Room service is available for in-room dining.

Please refer to the in-room directory or hotel app for current hours.



## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Event staff will be available onsite throughout the program.

### Local Emergency Facilities

VENUE	ADDRESS	PHONE	DISTANCE
Mount Sinai Medical Center	4300 Alton Rd Miami Beach, FL 33140	(305) 674-2121	1.5 miles
Jackson Memorial Hospital	1611 NW 12th Ave Miami, FL 33136	(305) 585-1111	7.0 miles
Miami Beach Fire Department (Station 2)	2300 Pine Tree Dr Miami Beach, FL 33140	(305) 673-7120	1.2 miles
Walgreens (24 Hours)	7140 Collins Ave Miami Beach, FL 33141	(305) 868-6868	2.0 miles
Miami Beach Police Department	1100 Washington Ave Miami Beach, FL 33139	(305) 673-7900	3.5 miles

In case of emergency, dial 911.