



New businesses you should check out

A coworking space and a pizza joint are now within walking distance

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In the heart of the ever changing and constantly growing city of Atlanta, students at Georgia State are in a prime position to discover the newest, hippest businesses. Check out this new working space and pizza place.

A WORKING SPACE FOR WOMEN OF COLOR

Located next to Georgia State in Historic Fourth Ward, Monday & Co is a new, inclusive coworking space catered especially to creative black women in the Atlanta area.

Founded by Candice Vanwye, originally from a small, rural town in South Carolina, Monday & Co boasts a variety of features to help members

create content and gain exposure, including an outdoor area and office and studio spaces for recording podcasts, filming videos and taking photos.

"We have a lot of photo shoots in here," Vanwye said. "I came up with this idea because I've been working for myself since 2013, and I've always been a member of coworking spaces. Even more so female-oriented coworking spaces. But I always feel like I'm left out unless it's Black History month or unless it's Women's History month."

According to Vanwye, Monday & Co is her passion project. After feeling alienated from other traditional coworking spaces, she decided to create one that met her own needs, as well as the needs of many other creative, ambitious women.

"First of all, sometimes if you're a woman and you speak up in a male-dominated space they act like you're stupid," she said. "The reason I came up with this is that I just wanted a place that was cozy like this that didn't make anybody feel left out. So we can have everybody's pictures on the wall."

A similar motive inspired Vanwye's other business venture, an influencer agency for women of color called Brown Girl Bloggers, which "has served as a leading voice in the online community for [women of color] and has been able to foster the trust and respect of these influencers as well as their audiences." Through Brown Girl Bloggers, Vanwye "promotes, educates, and unites women of color in creative spaces."

Inclusivity is not the only draw to Monday & Co. Vanwye chose to open her workspace in the historic neighborhood of Fourth Ward, adjacent to not only Georgia State's campus but also the area where Martin Luther King Jr. grew up, an area brimming with history and inspiration. Vanwye loves the walkability and convenience of the neighborhood.

"I've definitely ordered Jeni's Ice Cream and Sublime Donuts," she said. "It's the American dream."

Those looking to collaborate on content should not feel intimidated walking into Monday & Co. The sense of community inside the space is palpable as murmurs of creatives working together on their art float through the airy space, which is flooded with natural

light. Vanwye emphasized that while the space is intended for black women, all are welcome.

"I know that the white people that do come in here are already going to come in with a level of respect for other cultures," she said. "Nobody is going to come in here if they don't want to smell people's food or listen to other types of music."

Monday & Co is a great space for those looking to elevate their content by drawing insight from other diverse, imaginative types.

"We listen to crazy music sometimes, or sometimes we'll have a Beyonce day and we'll be loud in here," Vanwye said. "But then we just get to work and it's so collaborative, too."

THE ONLY PIZZA IN SWEET AUBURN MARKET

Open for business starting April 1, Carlo's Pizza is soon to be Sweet Auburn Municipal Market's newest restaurant.

Located close to Georgia State at 209 Edgewood Ave. SE, the family owned and operated joint will be a convenient spot for students to curb their pizza cravings. Carlo's will boast "thin crust, light, bright, and refreshing sauce, and the highest grade of mozzarella cheese."

The operation is run by the Accardi brothers from Wildwood, New Jersey. The second oldest brother, Joe Accardi, said the inspiration for the business came from their late father, Carlo Samuel Accardi, who honored his own dad in the same sentimental way in 1985.

"Our dad owned a pizza place named after his dad in Wildwood, New Jersey," he said. "Carlo is the name of our dad. He actually passed just not quite a year ago. So, it just kind of felt right to open this up and the opportunity presented itself, and it kind of felt

meant to be."

Carlo's Pizza is bringing Italian cuisine back to Sweet Auburn Municipal Market. Pizza has been missing in the market ever since the closing of Three Cities Pizza, which served Detroit style pizza and scared pizza lovers after a failed health inspection in the fall of 2018. According to their page on the market's website, the Accardi brothers are hopeful that the restaurant could become "Atlanta's newest favorite pizza joint."

Carlo's Pizza rounds out the wide selection of restaurants within the marketplace. Georgia State students who thirst for a diverse array of choices will be pleased by the market's food offerings. Patrons at the market can experience everything from Venezuelan cuisine at Arepa Mia to Caribbean flavors at Afrodish.

Started under a large tent by farmers selling livestock and produce after the great Atlanta fire in 1917, the market is a historical landmark in the city of Atlanta where restaurants like Grindhouse Killer Burgers and Bell Street Burritos have distinguished themselves as well-known Atlanta staples. Just a short walk from campus, Georgia State students like sophomore Ethan Mudd head to the market for a breath of fresh air and great food.

"There are so many restaurants and shops, like how could you not love it," Mudd said.

Beyond restaurants, Sweet Auburn also offers retail shops, fresh meat and seafood markets, fresh produce markets and dessert shops. The market operates from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"I wish they were open later," Mudd said. "But it's like the best and closest place to get fresh produce."



This new creative workspace located in the heart of Downtown Atlanta is welcoming for working black women.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF
MONDAY & CO.

